



TEXICO CONFERENCE

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**  
**Revised - July 3, 2020**

After a number of weeks of overall decline in the number of active COVID-19 cases, several areas within our conference have recently experienced an increase in the daily tally of new cases. As it is our continuing desire that members throughout our conference be safe and well in this difficult season, we are sharing updated guidance relating to recommended practices. It is important that we not only be aware of these recommendations, but that each of us commit to applying them in all our church-related activities. Some of this information is more general in nature and applies to churches in both Texas and New Mexico, while other information reflects the most recent public health declarations and requirements that are specific to each state.

**General**

1. No one should attend a church event if they are sick or experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
2. Each person should determine whether it is safe for them to attend church events.
3. Members with health conditions that have been classified as being more vulnerable should consider remaining at home.
4. Anyone who has recently attended a church event, and is later tested positive, should notify the pastor or the head elder of their test results so that others who may have been in contact with that person can take appropriate steps.
5. Hand sanitizer should be made available and attendees should practice frequent hand washing.
6. Social distancing (6 feet) is required for seating areas and common areas.
7. Hugs and handshakes should be avoided until the coronavirus restrictions have been lifted.
8. Activities that bring people into close contact such as choirs, potlucks and foot-washing are not recommended at this time.

**New Mexico**

1. Churches are authorized to conduct 'in-person' worship services with a maximum attendance of 25% of the rated occupancy of the church facility.
2. On July 1, masks/facial coverings were made mandatory in all businesses and public gatherings with potential fines for violations.

**Texas**

1. Churches are authorized to conduct 'in-person' worship services without a specific limit on the number of attendees. However, the requirements of social distancing will limit the number of people who may be present while maintaining the required separation.
2. On July 2, masks/facial coverings were mandated on a statewide basis for all public spaces. However, the governor's order exempted "any person who is actively providing or obtaining access to religious worship, but wearing a face covering is strongly encouraged."

**Conclusion**

These guidelines may change as new statements are released by the governors or local authorities. Please consider this information to be very important as we seek to be responsible citizens and members of the Texico Conference Family of God. We continue to pray that God will protect, bless and provide for each of our members throughout this difficult time as we anxiously await His coming.

**Texico Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administration**

**Corrales, New Mexico**

**July 3, 2020**

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