

Helping your church respond to coronavirus

South Carolina Disaster Ministries and other conference leaders have gathered some helpful resources to help you and your church respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

FAQ

Should we cancel worship or other church activities?

The decision to cancel worship and other church activities should be made by local church leadership teams, in consultation with local health authorities. If you have live-streaming options, consider encouraging your most vulnerable members stay home and participate in worship online.

What if we suspect our congregation might have been exposed?

Contact local health officials, follow any instructions they give and notify your district superintendent.

Tips to keep your members safe



COMMUNION:

Avoid using intinction for communion. Use individual cups or provide prepackaged, individually wrapped Communion elements.



OFFERING:

Do not pass offering plates/baskets. Provide a way for people to drop their offerings in a basket in the sanctuary, narthex or other convenient area. Look into online giving and text message platforms as options for people to give.



REGISTRATION PADS:

Avoid passing registration pads. Set up an area where visitors can find information and ask questions.



GREETERS:

To help people avoid touching doors and handles, have greeters hold exterior doors open. Encourage members to forgo handshakes for a welcoming "Good morning!"



SANITATION:

Continue to sanitize and sterilize all spaces and remain diligent in wiping down counters, door knobs, mats, phones and toys as they are used.

More resources: umcsc.org/coronavirus