

Jamaica Union Conference
Office of the President

JAMAICA UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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August 7, 2020

TO BE READ IN ALL CHURCHES IN JAMAICA UNION CONFERENCE

RELEASE #4: COVID-19 Advisory

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Please take sincere greetings from the administration of Jamaica Union Conference.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our lives, and reports of recent days have highlighted the fact that we are still not “out of the woods”, and therefore we must be vigilant in ensuring that we adhere to the necessary protocols as outlined by the government. The spread of the last few days, which has resulted in two areas being quarantined, has been attributed to church-related activities.

It is important for us as a church organization to set the example, and as such, I wish to remind you of the following, as were outlined in previous Advisories:

1. Physical distancing rules to apply within the sanctuary or worship space. That is, 40 square feet per person. Therefore, the number of persons that will be permitted to worship in the sanctuary at any one time will be determined by the overall square footage of the main worship sanctuary or worship space. Everyone must stay at least 6 feet apart.
2. **Each person entering the church for worship must do a temperature check and hand sanitization prior to entry.**
3. Everyone must wear a mask in worship.
4. There should be no handshaking or embracing, and gathering at the entrance, gate, churchyard, annex, vestry etc. for meetings and/or greetings.
5. Air conditioning units must be turned off during worship.
6. Churches may consider more than one service for the day, however members attending one service must leave the sanctuary/compound before another set of members arrive.
 - A break period (of at least one hour) must be enforced after each service to allow for proper sanitization prior to the start of the next service.
7. Adequate water, soaps and hand sanitizers should be made available, in addition to gloves for persons handling tithes and offerings. Bathroom facilities must be properly sanitized.
8. Outside of regular church service, no other large gathering should be planned (evangelistic series, conventions, music days, rallies, pathfinder and youth-related outdoor activities etc.).



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9. Streaming of our services should be done to minimise large gathering, in addition to using other forms of technology for our evangelistic programmes and activities.
10. No Choir will be permitted to assemble in worship.
11. Elderly persons over the age of seventy-five (75) should stay home.
12. Potlucks are prohibited.
13. Members and guests who have returned to the island, must be quarantined for fourteen (14) days, and **must not** be accommodated at our services. However, after the period of quarantine they are welcome to attend our services.
14. Persons with cold, fever and flu-like symptoms must seek medical advice and stay home.

We would want to get back to “normal” as soon as possible, but we each must play our part, not just as it relates to our church services, but in every aspect of our activities. **FOLLOW THE PROTOCOLS AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO SO!**

“Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh, is there anything too hard for me?” (Jeremiah 32:27)

Your Brother in Christ

Everett E. Brown (Pastor)
President