



COVID-19

Pohnpei COVID-19 Task Force



Worship Gatherings Advisory

We are all probably aware of the threat posed by COVID-19 to all people, and the measures that the Pohnpei State Government is taking to stop the spread of the disease.

To ensure that worship services/gatherings are conducted according to established COVID-19 social/physical guidelines, the following directives must be enforced.

1. Keep worship spaces open for individual prayers.
2. Develop congregational seating plan that ensures physical distancing of at least 6 feet apart.
3. Install hand washing stations (provide water, soap and sanitizers) at strategic locations of worship buildings.
4. Discourage congregants from handshaking, and other signs of personal/communal expressions of affection by following the recommended 6 feet apart between congregants. Also, develop protocols for ushers and greeters that would allow for physical distancing.
5. Thoroughly sanitize all surfaces, especially those in high human-traffic areas. Develop protocol for real-time sanitizing to take place before and after service.
6. Encourage families to minimize the number of people who participate in funerals, weddings and dedications to only immediate family members.
7. Use available mass media and social media technologies to deliver services to members of the congregation.
8. Create emergency response committees within faith communities to monitor the situation and develop appropriate mitigation and response measures to safeguard the congregation.
9. Make plans for non-essential faith community staff to work from home. Make available hand washing stations for critical faith community staff who are required to report to work.

This Advisory is subject to change when new information becomes available.

