



SAFETY MEASURES TO COMBAT SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN KUSDA CHURCH

Covid-19 Response Committee Secretariat (CORCOS)



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

EFFECTIVE 20TH OCTOBER TO 20TH NOVEMBER 2020

STRATEGIC & BUDGETING COMMITTEE
KUSDA CHURCH

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Introduction

KUSDA Strategic and Budgeting Committee tasked a committee of 7 individuals to exhaust possible measures that would be put in place to help break the chain of transmission of Corona Virus Disease when normal church services resume. The members of this committee were:

1. Brian Onyango (Chairperson)- *Head Elder*
2. Jovin Odhiambo (Secretary) – *Elder*
3. John Nyambane – *Ass. Chairperson Church Investment and Development Committee*
4. Dennis Nduati – *Representative of Ministries Coordinators*
5. Everlyn Akello – *Church Treasurer*
6. Dr. Onsongo – *Chairperson Church Investment and Development Committee*
7. Pr. Ken Baraza – *Associate Chaplin*

The committee received proposals from various members, departments and health professionals and held successful meetings and identified various programs and sessions of the church that would be greatly affected by impact of the virus. These are, but not limited to;

1. Worship
2. Holy communion
3. Treasury
4. Child and child dedication
5. Communication
6. Sanitation
7. Deaconry and Ushery

In line with the programs mentioned above, the committee proposes the following measures to safeguard the congregants.

Worship Services

1. There will be 3 services during the Sabbath; 7-8 AM Prophecy class, 9-12 AM Morning Service, and 2-4 PM Afternoon Service.
2. Seating or standing of congregants in worship services will be at least 1.5 m (4 feet) apart.
3. The choristers at the pulpit shall not be more than 5 and there shall be no sharing of mics.
4. Wednesday and Friday vespers shall be held as from 6:50-8 PM.
5. All church departmental meetings, council meetings and church board to occur for maximum 2 hour on a need-basis.
6. All Church trainings will occur for a maximum of 2 hours. The Covid-19 Response committee will allocate such trainings specific times after necessary safety precautions have been implemented and assessed.
7. 500 congregants will be allowed for the Sabbath worship. This is 1/3 of KUSDA Capacity of 1500 as required by MOH guidelines.
8. Temporarily limit the sharing of frequently touched objects, such as hymn books, bulletins, prayer books or other items passed or shared among congregants, and encouraging congregants to bring their own such items. Also, photocopying or projecting songs, and texts using electronic means will be employed.
9. Physical contact (e.g. shaking hands, hugging) will strictly not be allowed. Instead, replace hugs and handshakes with greeting people at the entry to worship place with friendly words and smiles, a peace sign or using a greeting in sign language while maintaining physical distance.
10. All attendees who have an underlying heart-risk health conditions are advised stay home and watch the services online.
11. Those with exposure to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms as per government guidelines.
12. Any worshipper who has COVID-19 like symptoms (dry cough, sneezing, fever, difficulty in breathing...) should avoid attending worship services.
13. Congregants to sit with their family unit during the service.
14. Weddings in the church will be limited to persons not exceeding 200 inside the church as guided by MOH.
15. Audio and Video launches in the church are suspended.

16. All Social Sundays, Weekend Outreaches and Evangelistic Missions are suspended.

Communication

1. Communication department to post signs in highly visible locations (e.g at the entrance/exit, annex rooms, treasury room, kitchenette) that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs (such as by properly washing hands and properly wearing a cloth face covering).
2. Clearly labeled directives at the frequently accessed areas such as washrooms and the gathering hall.
3. The church to Include messages about behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the memos, website and any other communication reaching the comrades.
4. Each Member of the pulpit team to have a wireless microphone that will be replaced after the service. They will communicate to the congregants from their designated sitting point. Only the speaker and elder on duty to be allowed to use the podium at any particular service.
5. Choristers to have microphones on the stands all throughout the service. The microphone will be sanitized after every user.
6. Copies of hymns to be sang during the service to be photocopied for the choristers, the congregants to sing from flashed up hymns via the projector.
7. Congregants with hymn books, Bibles and lesson study guides to personalize the items. There shall be no sharing of such materials.
8. Communication desk to have only 3 individuals, to man the projector, the amplifier and studio. All the services to have one pianist.
9. The communication team to live stream the services through various KUSDA platforms.

Treasury

1. All offerings and tithes to be made via pay bill
2. If there has to be a collection, then a collection box to be made and everyone to bring their own offering to the collection box
3. When counting cash, the treasurers have to use gloves
4. Treasury to find a system to work with to avoid writing receipts

Child and Child Dedication

1. Children are allowed to come to church.
2. Parents to provide masks for children above 2 years old.
3. Children teachers are advised to source for ways of having a children's church to enable the children have an engaging fellowship.
4. All VBS and other child activities are currently suspended.
5. In special arrangements, Children may be dedicated.

Deaconry and Ushery

1. Congregants are advised to carry packed lunch. Deaconry and Ministries are allowed to prepare meals for visitors and those who will not be able/in a position to carry packed lunch. However, this will be done under strict COVID-19 guidelines and food safety measures.
2. Deaconry department will allocate adequate deacons and deaconesses for every service to assist in sanitizing seats, microphones, and any other tangible gadgets used during the services.
3. Ushers to Ensure no one enters the church without a mask and to Help out in seating arrangement
4. Ushers will be responsible for checking temperatures of those attending the services using the thermo-guns at entry points and directing them to the various hand washing points.
5. Ushery department will assign 2 ushers per church entry point to help in registering names of congregants and recording the measured temperatures against their names.

Holy Communion

1. There will be holy communion, prepared and served under strict COVID-19 measures.

Sanitation

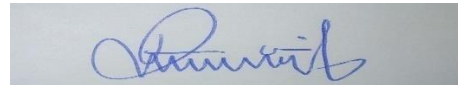
1. The church will be cleaned and disinfected weekly.
2. The church will have all sitting positions marked. Some chairs will be spread to the corridors.
3. Ensure that all the rooms in KUSDA are very clean throughout the week.
4. The church will purchase hand gloves for the personnel dusting and washing tables and pews.
5. Invest in sanitizing equipment and Sanitizers, for pulpit teams, Soap (liquid) for hand washing.
6. The wash rooms must be maintained and made clean with mirrors and proper painting. Toilets will be flushing well so that cleanliness is maintained. Additional water points to the washrooms. Storage Room, where the washing items will be placed has already been identified. All the repairs to be given priority.
7. All the entry points [gates], will be having water points and soaps for hand washing. All members should wash their hands and sanitize before they enter and leave church premises. Drainage of water from the washing points has been identified.

Note:

These guidelines will be reviewed periodically after every 30 days until normalcy is attained. Next review date is 20th November 2020. However, new measures from the university or the government will trigger immediate review at any time.



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Dr. Kigundu Ndwiga, *Chaplin*



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Brian Onyango, *Head Elder & Chairperson of the Committee*