

Evangelical Free Church of Australia

澳洲基督教播道會靈福堂

【Family Letter】



Statement on Coronavirus

In view of the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak (2019-nCoV), the Deacons Board met to discuss minimising risk to church members and friends during church gatherings. We welcome everyone to church, but safety of everyone is important. We implement various measures (some of which are noted below) based on love for one another and using government guidelines as reference. We also do not wish to cause unnecessary alarm or confusion.

- **Self-Quarantine and not attend church activities for 14 days if you:**
 - Have recently returned from China
 - Have had close contact with confirmed case of novel coronavirus
 - Have fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath
- Cantonese Children's Sunday School has been suspended until further notice.
- Boys Brigade has been suspended for February.
- Cantonese Outreach Ministry (Playgroup, Language Class, Evergreen Group, Table Tennis) and Mandarin Language Class will be suspended for one term.
- English ministries SWITCH and Kids Church will continue subject to above self-quarantine.
- Hand sanitizers will be provided at entrance and other suitable locations. We encourage everyone to use it.
- People serving at worship will be provided with mask and gloves.

- Pre-packed cup and bread will be used for Holy Communion at Cantonese services. Offertory bags will not be passed around in Cantonese services.
- Offerings will be collected at the entrance of auditorium after the service. We encourage the use of online banking.
- Shaking of hands and hugs will be avoided.
- Fellowship / Cell Group – each to decide how they want to modify (or cancel) their gatherings.

If you are very anxious about the possibility of coronavirus at church, it is okay to not attend church service or activities for now. We would encourage you to worship, read the bible and pray at home. We will strive to have recorded sermons on the church website as soon as possible.

We also ask everyone to follow general good hygiene practice:

- Cover mouth and nose if cough or sneeze
- Frequent handwashing (alcohol hand rub, or soap & water)

This is an evolving situation so we will be revising our approach as the circumstances change. We will continue to be guided by the Department of Health. For latest information, please visit their website <https://www.health.gov.au/>

Please keep this outbreak in your prayers. The holy Lord is our ultimate strength and haven of hope.

Deacons Board
2 February 2020