

ABCOTS Response to the NOVEL CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

1. Let us start with prayer for our Churches, its Leaders, and our Government Leaders. (I Timothy 2:1-2; II Chronicles 7:14).
2. Recognize this is a very serious time. The World Health Organization has made the assessment that COVID19 can be characterized as pandemic. It is a real threat to the health of our communities.
3. Let us begin to plan well and not panic while serving our congregations and communities. Make choices using good judgement giving thought to safety especially with regards to the more vulnerable congregants (sickly, elderly, etc.). (Proverbs 3:5-8;19-23)
4. Obey and observe all local, state, and federal prohibitions and regulations relating to a healthy response to this pandemic event. (Romans 13:1-5).
5. Practice good and careful hygiene; wash your hands often, use hand sanitizers.
6. Avoid crowds, large groups around traditional gathering places.
7. If you choose to continue corporate worship meetings cease the hugs, friendly kisses, and intimate contact. Choose the “fist bump”, folded arms and bow to greet fellow congregants.
8. Look for alternative ways to experience services, online, video, or Facebook. Remember we are still connected in spirit/heart and in mind.
9. Avoid the small ministry group gatherings where people may be in more intimate and in close proximity to each other; Bible Study, Auxiliary Meetings, Fellowship Meals and such.
10. Sanitize Ministry and Worship Spaces before and after use...using appropriate chemicals, supplies and thorough cleaning methods following manufacturers’ directions and guidelines always.
11. Consider suspending “Communion of the Lord’s Supper” for a period remembering the words of the Apostle Paul. (I Corinthians 11:26).
12. Seek correct information and updates, you may contact:
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention/Interim Guidance for Communities and Faith Leaders Tele: 800-232-4636 | Website: www.cdc.gov

Continue to be faithful, informed, and thoughtful. Freedom is being responsible, obedient, and demonstrating love always.

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