



Update: **26 October 20**

# COVID-19 Guidelines for Uniting Church congregations

[sa.uca.org.au/uniting-church-media-releases/covid-19-update](https://sa.uca.org.au/uniting-church-media-releases/covid-19-update)

According to the SA Government's Emergency Management (Public Activities-COVID-19) Direction 2020. **Churches are advised to take a cautious approach to reopening and only to proceed when all aspects are considered.**



Stay home if you have cold or flu symptoms



Wash hands and sanitise often



Vulnerable people\* to talk to their doctor about what is appropriate for them



All churches must have **Government of SA COVID-Safe Plan** (\$5000 fine applies).



**No max limit**

(provided appropriate space to adhere to physical distancing requirements)

one person per **2 sqm**



**1.5m** physical distancing



**Record of attendance** kept



**COVID Marshal** required

In-person **worship gathering**



one person per **2 sqm**

**Singing**



Up to congregation to decide

**Holy Communion**



**Strict guidelines** \*\*

**Baptism**



Allowed, **limit contact**

**Offering**



Online, one in service collection point

**Weddings/funerals**



**150 max**  
Contact tracing required

**Children/Youth ministry**



Allowed\*\*\*, **within gov guidelines**

**Fellowship/Bible study/other groups**



Allowed, sufficient spacing, adhere to hygiene & cleaning measures

**Other church events** (for e.g. camps)



Encouraged, **within gov guidelines**

**Hospitality**



Strict hygiene\*\*\*\*, **within gov guidelines**

**Hall hirers**



Calculate room capacity, need to see group's COVID-Safe Plan

**Emergency Food Relief**



Follow UnitingCare's protocol

**Op shop**



Record staff/volunteer attendance, record customers only where practicable in-line with Synod of SA guidance

**Cafes**



See SA Government Commercial directive and guidelines

**Hygiene / Cleaning** Multiple Events (on the same day)



Cleaning required between each use, hand sanitiser at door /common area

\* Vulnerable people are those over 70 years of age, those over 60 with a chronic health condition, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over 50 years of age with a chronic medical condition, and people with compromised immune systems. Synod Crisis Management Team (CMT) encourage church councils to carefully assess all vulnerable persons particularly in forward facing volunteer roles.

\*\* Individual cups and bread pieces/wafers; gloves to be worn by those preparing, congregation members to use hand sanitiser before receiving Holy Communion

\*\*\* Children and youth activities are encouraged when there is good planning, consistent with the guidelines. Playgroups can now open. Special attention should be paid to cleaning shared toys before and after activities. We encourage good hand hygiene practices.

\*\*\*\* Servers in the kitchen may serve individual plates of food to people sitting at tables in the hall. Drinks may be served from a servery but physical distancing still needs to be maintained. No sharing of food or beverages using shared/self/serve utensils. Food and drinks may be consumed standing outdoors.



### Contact your Presbyteries:

Wimala Presbytery ([wimala.secretary@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:wimala.secretary@sa.uca.org.au))  
Generate Presbytery ([generate.secretary@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:generate.secretary@sa.uca.org.au))  
Presbytery of Southern SA ([southern.secretary@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:southern.secretary@sa.uca.org.au))

### Contact Synod Office:

Rev Sue Page ([spage@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:spage@sa.uca.org.au))  
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