

IMPORTANT NEWS





COVID-19 UPDATE
March 24, 2020

Joseph S. Girdler, DMin
Superintendent,
KY Assemblies of God

COVID-19 Statement Update
Wednesday, March 25, 2020, 3:00PM, EST
By the Superintendent of the
Kentucky Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God

The Assemblies of God are a people of faith and prayer. Exodus 15:26 declares, ...for I am the Lord that healeth thee. Jeremiah 30:17 declares, ... But I will restore you to health and heal all your wounds, declares the Lord. And, the Psalmist offered in Ps. 30:2, O Lord my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me. We join with Americans and those around the world in prayer for the nations.

In consideration of Governor Beshear's latest declaration (yesterday) that all non-life-supporting businesses be closed through April 7, and of Louisville Mayor, Greg Fisher's declaration extending the "state of emergency" for Louisville area metro-area gatherings until May 10:

- I have closed the KMN Offices and Camp Crestwood beginning tonight at 5pm until (presently) Wednesday, April 8, and our office staff and Executive Officers will now be working (as much as possible) REMOTELY until that time. There may be times when one person will be at the office to accommodate mail, fiscal needs, mailings, etc. but, the office itself is officially closed until that time.
- It is important to recognize that Remote office environments also raises issues for our churches, as well. I have had a number of pastors messaging and emailing questions related to how they perform even the basic Sunday morning on-line service ministry without help from a handful (less than 10) of their I.T. support in their church to set up cameras, etc. I suggest you limit your total team to less than 10 including music, video, camera, etc. And, when you post photos on social media, make sure you send correct messages in your visuals, assuring your photos/visuals do not include multiple people. Have only one person on the photo at a time, when possible. Further, practice social distancing in all instances.
- The KMN Office does have a remote cell phone (502-689-5912). Administrative Assistant, Jackie Tank will have this cell phone with her remotely to continue to receive your calls and inquiries during regularly scheduled office hours (9AM - 4:30PM EST). We can as mentioned function remotely from our Network office and will be able to accommodate your standard calls and questions, emails, and inquiries.

RE: DISTRICT COUNCIL / NETWORK CONFERENCE / APRIL 27-28, Crown Plaza Louisville:

1. As of this morning, Wednesday, March 25, I have released our guest speaker, Dr. Melissa Alfaro from her obligations and commitments. I am working with her to reschedule her for an upcoming District Council in the next few years to come.

2. I am instructing all Department Heads to now cancel all out of town guests scheduled for your/their District Council events/speaking engagements.
3. Bro. Holder is working diligently with Crown Plaza Hotel associates regarding contractual agreements and rescheduling options.
4. The 86th Annual Network Conference / KY District Council scheduled for April 27-28 has been cancelled and as soon as we know of rescheduling options the Network will be informed. Ministers will receive a notice in the mail regarding this matter within days of this posting.

From a Network, Departmental, Sectional, and local church level please cancel or postpone until further notice any scheduled public events/gatherings.

To Clarify: Our initial communication from two weeks ago was that we hoped to return to public services in our church buildings on Palm Sunday, April 5. That will now not occur in Kentucky, as the Governor and White House have both extended closures of public gatherings. It continues to be a fluid situation nationally. We all are navigating this together and daily information changes, as you are well aware. Could we be meeting together on Easter? Personally, doubtful. We will have to inform our people to be flexible as you lead them, daily following the updated directives and guidelines of the CDC, the KY Governor's office, and the White House.

I am beyond proud of you regarding your leadership during this unique hour in our nation's history. God is using you. Lead with hope. Lead with faith. Lead with wisdom. We will continue to communicate as often and as efficiently as possible.

This is important to us. We care about you. Our nation is going through a crisis and we recognize you may be experiencing challenging times.

*If you are a KYAG credentialed minister and you, an immediate family member, or a fellow minister in our Fellowship have experienced severe illness, hospitalization, or the loss of a loved one to which we should be informed, please call the remote cell phone listed above or our main office number, 502-241-7111, and leave a detailed message. A member of our team will respond as promptly as possible.

For Christ, and our Church,

Sincerely,

Pastor Joe
Joseph S. Girdler, D.Min
Superintendent / Kentucky Assemblies of God