

October 4, 2020

Arthur U. San Agustin, MHR
Acting Director
Department of Public Health and Social Services:
Government of Guam
US Territory of Guam, USA

Subject: Grace Baptist Church – Guam
COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

Dear Sir:

We have developed and are submitting this plan in compliance and in support of the implementation of Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) Guidance Memo 2020-040 concerning minimum requirements for places of worship to minimize the spread of COVID19 at Grace Baptist Church.

This is designed with basic concepts primarily to our church's health protection and other health needs.

Grace Baptist Church Plan

This church is committed to providing a safe and healthy facility for our staff, members, including visitors. This plan is developed in response to the COVID 19 pandemic

to ensure that we implement strategies and procedures to preserve public health. It is expected that the entire church has a role in implementing this plan to mitigate the transmission of COVID -19 within our facility, premises, and our community. Therefore, all persons in our facility will be warned and expected to comply with all aspects of this plan. The church leadership has full support in enforcing the provisions of this policy.

This plan has been developed with church staff and its members.

Guidance and requirements from the Department of Public Health & Social Services US Territory of Guam have been incorporated into the plan as mandatory including:



Our religious services occurring indoors are limited to 25% of church facility occupancy load.

We have provided physical distancing guides, such as markings on floors and walkways and signs on walls to ensure that staff, congregants and visitors remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and at other times.

We have also provided hygiene, cleaning, hand sanitizers, face masks, gloves, and other disinfecting materials as

congregants come into the facility which is located at a table near the church entrance;

Wearing of face masks is mandatory: No face masks, No entry;

We have a scanner to perform scanning and strict compliance of each person that enters the building. This will enable us prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;



We make sure the controls for social distancing is in place;



We implement housekeeping, including cleaning, disinfection and decontamination of chairs, pews, pulpit, microphones, podium, and other furnitures before and after religious services;



We provide communications and training to staff and church members while on site to make sure the plan is implemented accordingly.

We have also established one way routes, i.e., 1 Way for “Entrance” door sign and 1 Way for “Exit” door sign and have 6 feet seat distancing markings and tapes on the floors

This preparedness plan also assumes the following:

1. Grace Baptist Church – Guam will from time to time follow directives and guidance from the governor, Governor Lou Leon Guerrero, Governor, US Territory of Guam, and Department of Public Health & Social Services.
2. The COVID19 situation will evolve and Grace Baptist Church will remain adaptable and alert to our changing environment.
3. Those functions that can practically stay at home to complete work will do so until Grace Baptist Church – Guam is fully opened to minimize large gatherings.

Grace Baptist Church will adjust accordingly based on DPHSS-Guam's guidance and local circumstances.



We may cancel or postpone facility onsite activities if and when the local government orders for communities to stay at home due to the spread of the Covid 19 disease in the community and hospitalization increases.



Worship services will be moved to social media (FB, Zoom, Whatsapp, etc) in compliance with any DPHSS new directives to stay home.



Events and other activities are postponed and all participants notified.

Office functions are limited to essential operations.

Church staff and leadership teams of no more than 3 might consider meeting in person while wearing face masks, use disinfectants and sanitizers and maintaining social distancing, or better yet continue meeting online.

- Communion may be offered in accordance with the department of public health and social services' guidance.

Tithes/Offerings:

Congregants will put their tithes and offering on a designated box and ushers will collect such offerings wearing gloves and face masks.

- No fellowship/social hour will be scheduled during and after the worship service. People are encouraged to leave the building after the service.

- High risk individuals and those with underlying conditions, whether staffs and volunteers are urged to shelter in place.

Social distancing and public health practices (e.g. wearing face masks) will be strictly implemented while at church

and in community ministry, as is recommended in public spaces.

Sincerely,

Elmer Q. Pascua, Pastor
Grace Baptist Church

Cc: GBC
GBC Secretary and Treasurer