

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND THE CHURCH

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can be transmitted from person to person. It is caused by a virus that can also live on surfaces near where an infected person has coughed, sneezed or exhaled. It has spread throughout the world in the first quarter of 2020, causing illness, and, in some cases, death. Its effects in various countries and localities have ranged from cancelations of public gatherings, to limits or bans on travel, to drops in financial markets. Like other organizations, churches must take appropriate health precautions. We also have a special responsibility to care for members and neighbors. This web page contains information that all settings of the United Church of Christ – local churches, associations, conferences and national ministries – have contributed to and may find useful. Resources also come from our ecumenical partners and respected health organizations.

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header1)

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header7)

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header2)

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header3)

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header4)

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header5)

(https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus#header6)

Helping Churches Respond

This section contains:

- Helping Churches Respond Immediately
- How to Offer Worship Online
- Lessons on Ministry during a Disaster
- Suggestions for Talking to Children

Help for Churches in Responding Immediately

Coping with Coronavirus

(https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/covid-19) Resources from the World Council of Churches, a worldwide fellowship of churches, with members in more than 110 countries.CARES Act Resources

Worship, Music, Copyright

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E_RKfy_VOzelb5jbXV7UW5ytjmil-_Md-W0H8UaRlaM/edit?ts=5e66621c)(Google Docs)
A broad list of tips and suggestions from UCC Justice and Local Church Ministries, ranging from liturgical resources to copyright info. to links to recorded videoconferences

Resources from the Minnesota Conference Regarding How to Move Forward

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1591128198/FI 1591128198)

MESA Revised Guidelines for Committees on Ministry in a Pandemic Season

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xT-

mUfFjc1dNrzFg6avggBy8TiMO5nvomj7kqykmS80/edit?usp=sharing) (Google Docs)

offers general resources, special notes for Fitness Reviews, Members in Discernment, and Ministers in Specialized Settings.

Pastoral Ministry Beginnings and Endings in a Pandemic Season

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yC6-

UZmS1RRmdM9RZ2Ym7rjXg79VAMmEVFrtL9opUSA/edit?usp=sharing) (Google Docs)

offers some notes for ministers and congregations beginning and ending ministry during this season.

Conducting a Pastoral Search in a Pandemic Season

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oQNyYdBTr0mlh5tY0xh2jlFk1w37nnxU1pyH7eCi1A4/edit?usp=sharing) (Google Docs)

offers tools and practical tips for search committees seeking pastoral leadership during this time.

Health and Wholeness in the Midst of COVID-19

(https://www.ucc.org/health_and_wholeness_in_the_midst_of_covid_19) A compilation of ministry care and support resources

Pastoral Care for Grieving Families

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sdalu3udRXIadlo9A_E0J2URF0EqzXHAFlQUhXI_esY/edit?usp=sharing)(Google Docs)

Some considered thoughts from the United Church of Christ, National Setting, 2030 clergy network, Cohort, and digital pastors.

Flier / bulletin insert: Coronavirus and the Church

(https://www.uccfiles.com/pdf/Coronavirus-and-the-Church-Bulletin-3.10.2020-Update.pdf) (PDF)

From UCC Disaster Ministries

Pandemic Preparations Checklist (http://sneucc-

email.brtapp.com/files/files/documentsenvironmentalministries/pandemic+preparations+checklist.pdf.) (PDF) By the Disaster Resource and Response Team, Southern New England Conference, UCC.

CDC Guide to Cleaning (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html)

Cleaning and disinfection recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control

Ideas for Home Church Groups

(https://www.christianitytoday.com/assets/22480.pdf) (PDF) From Wellesley (Mass.) Congregational Church, UCC

Memo on Communion Precautions

(https://www.sneucc.org/files/websites/sne/Contagion+guidelines+-+Methodist++(1).pdf) (PDF) By the Metro Boston Hope District of the New England Conference, United Methodist Church

A Concise Coronavirus Guide for Churches

(https://subscribe.christianitytoday.com/pubs/L2/TDY/corona-virus-page.jsp? null=249078&cds_mag_code=TDY&id=1583785924170&lsid=30691532041085908&vid=1&cds_page_id=249078&landing-

page&utm_source=cltupdate&utm_medium=Newsletter&utm_term=21432237&utm_content=701403540&utm_call Free Coronavirus guide for churches from Christianity Today

Guidance for Congregations

(https://www.sneucc.org/files/websites/sne/preparedness_for_pandemics.pdf) (PDF) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Guidance for Churches (https://www.wichurches.org/2020/02/28/flu-season-the-coronavirus-and-the-church/) from the Wisconsin Council of Churches

How to Offer Worship Online

Advice on Online Worship

(https://www.sneucc.org/files/files/documentsecumenicalinterfaith/marcia+mcfee.pdf) (PDF)

From Marcia McFee of Worship Design Studio

COVID-19 Lockdown: Creating Live-streamed Worship in 3 Days

(http://hackingchristianity.net/2020/03/covid-19-lockdown-creating-live-streamed-worship-in-3-days.html)
From the website Hacking Christianity

Lessons on Ministry during a Disaster

A Connecticut pastor shares his experiences

(https://www.sneucc.org/blogdetail/lessons-from-ministry-in-the-midst-of-adisaster-13533736?fbclid=IwAR2Ac00NQMjvzgVmu96IS7WXjPZaHPunI-JWwZhFoF_nT41D3CngWxy-uWU)
Blog Post from Matt Crebbin

Suggestions for Talking to Children

"Children are impacted by moments like these," says the Rev. Don Remick, one of the UCC Southern New England Conference's bridge Conference ministers. "Even if they aren't watching the news, they're picking it up. And they're picking up the stress of their parents, teachers, family and classmates. You can do a lot to reduce their stress and remove their fears." He suggests:

Resources for Talking with Kids about COVID-19 (https://wasbha.org/resources-for-talking-with-kids-about-outbreak-covid-19/)
From the Washington School-Based Health Alliance, Seattle

Talking to Kids about the Coronavirus (https://childmind.org/article/talking-to-kids-about-the-coronavirus/)
From the Child Mind Institute

Resources for Individuals and Families

(https://www.sneucc.org/followingadisasterresourcesforfamilies)
With links to tips from FEMA, the Red Cross, Mr. Rogers and others, via the UCC Southern New England Conference website

Stewardship

This section contains:

• Fundraising Tips for Churches

Fundraising Tips for Churches

Extravagant Generosity - Considerations for Congregations During the

Pandemic

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24942/attachments/original/1585852634

_Considerations_for_Congregations_During_the_Pandemic.docx?1585852634)

(DOCX)

This section contains:

- From the United Church of Christ Office of General Counsel
- CARES Act Resources

From the United Church of Christ Office of General Counsel

CARES Act For Churches

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1588621761 1588621761) (May 4, 2020)

Unemployment for Church Workers

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1587065500 (April 15, 2020)

Families First Coronavirus Response Act

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1585588014 1585588014) (March 30, 2020)

Families First Coronavirus Response Act Summary

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1585588010 1585588010) (March 30, 2020)

If you are in need of a letter proving that your church is included in the federal group tax exemption of the United Church of Christ, please contact Cindy Gaffney via email at gaffneyc@ucc.org (mailto:gaffneyc@ucc.org)

CARES Act Resources

Churches are eligible to apply for forgivable small business loans under the Paycheck Protection Program of the CARES Act. These forgivable loans provide assistance in meeting payroll and other needs over a specified period of time. Churches should contact lenders directly. Participating lenders can be found at www.sba.gov, along with further information about the program. The following resources may be useful:

Paycheck Protection Program Borrower Information Sheet

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24942/attachments/original/1585853950/P 1585853950)

Q&A on Coronavirus Response Recovery Bill

(https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases? id=F85A3E6B-1FDA-4F73-92A0-587015A47E4C#UNEMPLOYMENTINSURANCE)

Analysis of CARES Act by National Council of Nonprofits

(https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/trends-policy-issues/initial-analysis-of-the-coronavirus-aid-relief-and-economic-security-act-cares)

From Church Leaders

This section contains:

- Conversations with John Dorhauer
- Statements by Church Leaders

Conversations with John Dorhauer

John's Conversations with Church Leaders: A YouTube playlist

Statements by Church Leaders

UCC Officers urge Churches to continue virtual worship

(https://www.ucc.org/news_commentary_we_are_with_you_04282020) (April 28, 2020)

A Report and Commentary by Global Ministries Area Executives

(https://www.globalministries.org/covid_19_area_exec_report) (April 20, 2020)

UCC National Response to Racism and Xenophobia

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1586456885/U 1586456885) (April 9, 2020)

From the A message from the General Minister and President

(https://www.ucc.org/news_covid19_message_from_gmp_dorhauer_03232020)

(March 18, 2020)

From the **World Council of Churches** (https://www.uccfiles.com/pdf/World-Council-of-Churches-Pastoral-Letter-Covid-19.pdf) (March 18, 2020)

From the Southwest Conference UCC to churches

(http://www.swcucc.org/conference-office-blog/2020/3/17/covid-19-recommendation-part-2-from-southwest-conference-minister-rev-dr-bill-lyons) (March 17, 2020)

From the Officers of the United Church of Christ

(https://www.ucc.org/news_statement_ucc_national_leadership_speaks_out_about_church_response_to_coronavir (March 13, 2020)

From the **World Council of Churches** (https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/wcc-takes-strong-measures-to-protect-from-coronavirus) (March 13, 2020)

From the Maine Conference (https://www.maineucc.org/blog-post/a-pastoral-letter-the-maine-conference-and-coronavirus/) (March 13, 2020)

From the **Massachusetts Council of Churches** (https://app.robly.com/archive? id=785fcd839dc1734c04e847684c9f443d&v=true&fbclid=IwAR3CzD2-6kiYcIVvUTOiq2cPGFJNSdTkawpRrSmPAmMiSu599-L1RSxcUOc) (March 12, 2020)

From the **Heartland Conference UCC** (http://www.heartlanducc.org/all-project-list/covid-19-letter/) to churches (March 12,2020)

From the North California Nevada Conference Minister

(https://ncnc.dreamhosters.com/2020/03/12/lets-talk-about-deep-breaths/) (March 12, 2020)

From the Minnesota Conference UCC to churches

(https://www.sneucc.org/files/files/documentsecumenicalinterfaith/minnesota+conference+ucc+3-11-2020+note+to+churches.pdf) (March 11, 2020)

From the Southeast Conference UCC to churches

(https://www.secucc.org/2020/03/11/covid-19-and-planning-ahead/)(March 11, 2020)

From the Penn Central Conference UCC to churches

(https://myemail.constantcontact.com/COVID-19---Worship.html? soid=1100360207489&aid=YQSQZTY4_Ac) (March 11, 2020)

From the **Pacific Northwest Conference, UCC**

(https://www.sneucc.org/files/files/documentsecumenicalinterfaith/pacific+northwest+conference+ucc.pdf) (March 7, 2020)

From the Rev. Traci Blackmon, UCC Associate General Minister

(https://www.ucc.org/traci_blackmon_word_on_coronavirus) (Feb. 28, 2020)

Clergy Self Care

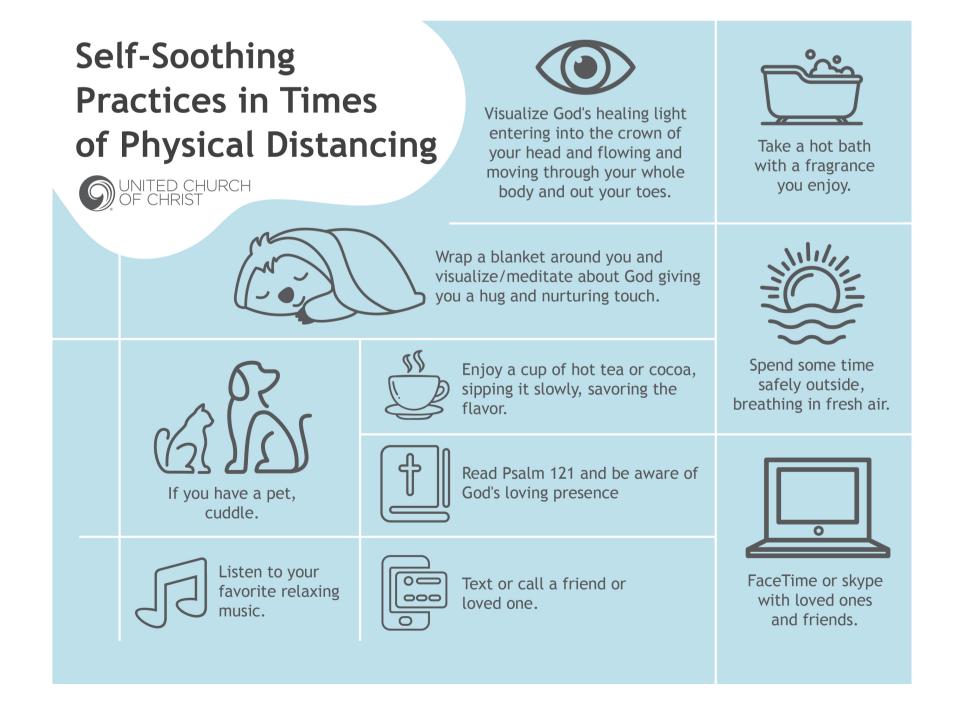
This section contains:

- Self-Soothing Practices in Times of Physical Distancing
- Community Care Space

Self-Soothing Practices in Times of Physical Distancing

Right-click and select 'Save As' to save this image to your computer.

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24942/attachments/original/1585842281/Secovid.jpg?1585842281)



Community Care Space: a YouTube Playlist

The Community Care Space is part of the United Church of Christ's Health and Wholeness Advocacy Ministry. For more information, contact Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund, Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice at lunds@ucc.org.

UCC News and Daily Briefings

This section contains:

- UCC News
- UCC Daily Briefings

UCC News

California church caring for, feeding newcomers aided by disaster relief grant (/news_california_church_caring_for_feeding_newcomers_aided_by_disaster_relief_grant_07162020)

Jul 17, 2020

Migrant mothers volunteer daily at a California church to prepare hot meals that provide nourishment and a taste of home to many of their neighbors, aided by a grant from UCC Disaster Ministries.

Cleveland congregation's \$100 bills create a ripple effect during coronavirus (/news_cleveland_congregation_s_100_bills_create_a_ripple_effect_during_coronavirus_07082020)

Jul 10, 2020

What would you do if your pastor handed you \$100 and told you to give it away any way you choose? Churchgoers in Cleveland had to wrestle with that decision, complicated by the coronavirus.

'Fight the righteous fight from the heart,' Sen. Warren urges UCC webinar audience

(/news_fight_the_righteous_fight_from_the_heart_sen_warren_urges_ucc_webinar_audience_07102020) Jul 10, 2020

Speaking to a capacity crowd of 1,000 United Church of Christ webinar viewers July 9, U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren recalled her days as a Sunday School teacher, asked people to pray for her and urged them to tell elected officials to back legislation to protect voters and essential pandemic workers.

Love thy neighbor: Food collection, distribution ministries pick up as pandemic surges

(/news_love_thy_neighbor_food_collection_distribution_ministries_pick_up_as_pandemic_surges_07072020)
Jul 07, 2020

United Church of Christ congregations from coast to coast are finding ways to fill the gaps the coronavirus pandemic is creating in their communities. Many of those ministries revolve around food.

As COVID cuts in-person voter activism, UCC 'Our Faith, Our Vote' goes digital (/news_as_covid_cuts_in_person_voter_activism_ucc_our_faith_our_vote_goes_digital_06292020) Jun 29, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is preventing the usual in-person voter registration, mobilization and education work that many churches do in a general election year. So the United Church of Christ's Our Faith, Our Vote (https://www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote) program is offering new ways to help people do that work online.

A million tune in as Poor People's Campaign refuses to 'demand too little' (/news_a_million_tune_in_as_poor_people_s_campaign_refuses_to_demand_too_little_06232020) Jun 23, 2020

Repeating the word "now," scores of people took to computer and TV screens June 20-21 instead of marching in Washington, D.C. Featured in the Poor People's Campaign (https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/)'s "digital justice gathering, (https://www.june2020.org/)" they called on America to take up an economic vision inspired by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and "invest in the welfare of all."

UCC Officers: Racism is a pandemic that has plagued U.S. far too long (/news_commentary_ucc_officers_racism_is_a_pandemic_that_has_plagued_us_far_too_long_06122020) Jun 14, 2020

The National Officers of the United Church of Christ call out the racial and ethnic disparities, perpetuated by public policies, that we the people need to change.

'Stories, songs, solutions' will highlight Poor People's Campaign online event June 20

(/news_stories_songs_solutions_will_highlight_poor_people_s_campaign_online_event_june_20_06122020) Jun 12, 2020

The speakers in a June 9 United Church of Christ webinar (https://youtu.be/UHiUTW-jH9k) said they get that some Christians feel sad and frozen in the face of today's police violence, coronavirus and other problems – but then offered them a way to turn those emotions into action. The Poor People's Campaign (https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/)'s planned mass assembly

(https://www.ucc.org/news_new_poor_people_s_campaign_urges_churches_others_to_rally_in_d_c_june_20_01302 on Saturday, June 20, has moved online

(https://www.ucc.org/news_poor_people_s_campaign_cannot_be_silent_june_20_march_moves_online_05212020) People can register here (https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/june2020/).

Juneteenth observances invite entire UCC to recall slavery's end, commit to action

(/news_juneteenth_observances_invite_entire_ucc_to_recall_slavery_s_end_commit_to_action_06102020) Jun 10, 2020

Ministries of the United Church of Christ are inviting members and friends of the denomination to take part on Friday, June 19, in virtual commemorations of the official end of slavery in the United States and to use the occasion to join a long-term antiracist movement.

Atlanta church consults its doctors about returning to in-person worship (/news_atlanta_church_consults_its_doctors_about_returning_to_in_person_worship_06082020) Jun 08, 2020

Doctors and scientists who belong to Virginia-Highland Church (https://www.vhchurch.org) in Atlanta are "not in a hurry to return to in-person worship" and have recommended masks and other coronavirus precautions when the congregation eventually reopens its building – including changes in seating, music, childcare, the offering, Communion, cleaning and more.

UCC Daily Briefings

Sickle-Cell Disease Increases COVID-19 Risks (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_66) Jul 15, 2020

People with Sickle Cell Disease are now on the list for increased risk for severe complications from COVID-19. This is according to health experts, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which added Sickle Cell Disease to the high risk list on June 25. A genetically inherited blood disorder, Sickle Cell Disease most commonly affects Black people.

As Mask Ordinances Proliferate, So Do Mask Myths (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_65) Jul 13, 2020

More than 20 states have now issued orders requiring people to wear face masks in public to help limit the spread of COVID-19 as the numbers of new COVID-19 infections surge to record heights in parts of the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on April 3 recommended the public wear masks. So why do people still resist wearing of face masks?

COVID-19 recovery not as simple as once thought (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_64)

Jul 10, 2020

Now that doctors worldwide have several months of experience treating patients with COVID-19, patterns are emerging giving clues about how the illness manifests itself. Doctors are seeing more patients with rapid, unexpected development of severe symptoms that have returned (and are worse), lasting for weeks with seemingly no end in sight.

New data on COVID-19's disproportionate impact by race (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_63) Jul 08, 2020

New COVID-19 data from the Centers for Disease Control reveal continued deep disparities by race throughout hundreds of counties in urban, suburban and rural areas and across all age groups. Blacks and Hispanics are three times as likely to be infected with COVID-19 and two times more likely than whites to die from it.

Are 5G Networks Spreading the Coronavirus? (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_62) Jul 06, 2020

Are 5G networks spreading the coronavirus that causes COVID-19? NO! This is a myth! You need to come into contact physically with the coronavirus to become infected by it. The electromagnetic fields from 5G cannot carry viruses, so they cannot bring you into contact with the virus. Separate fact from fiction - read today's briefing!

Left Behind? Persons with Disabilities and COVID-19 (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_61) Jul 01, 2020

For people with disabilities, achieving health equity is an uphill battle even apart from COVID-19. But the pandemic is shining a light on the dangerous reality of medical discrimination for many people with disabilities in need of healthcare.

Repeal the ACA?! Doom for Many, Especially in Pandemic (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_60) Jun 29, 2020

The Trump Administration has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to repeal the entire Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). If this law is repealed, 23.3 million Americans will lose their health coverage, according to a new analysis by the Center for

American Progress - about 3 million (15 percent) more people than was forecast before the COVID-19 pandemic. 130 million Americans with pre-existing conditions would lose the ACA's protections - and a COVID-19 diagnosis could be considered a pre-existing condition, leading to higher premiums or denial of health insurance coverage.

COVID-19 and America's Hired Farmworkers (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_59) Jun 26, 2020

America's 2.5 million hired farmworkers – the people who harvest the food that goes on our tables - constitute yet another group of mostly brown or Black people considered "essential workers" yet treated as expendable by state and federal officials in the COVID-19 pandemic.

Black Men Fear Wearing a Mask More than Getting COVID-19 (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_58) Jun 24, 2020

When the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued guidelines in early March asking people to wear masks to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus, the question for many Black men was not where to get a mask or which kind. It was: How do I cover my face and not get shot?

COVID-19 and Millennials (/daily_covid_19_brief_issue_57) Jun 22, 2020

Are young adults among the people in your life who are feeling invulnerable to COVID-19, leaving their face masks and hand sanitizers at home and neglecting social distancing? Here's why they should rethink that – and why Millennials need to get on the front lines of urging their generation and younger to take COVID-19 seriously.

General Resources

This section contains:

- General Resources and Separating Fact from Fiction
- Avoiding Scams

General Resources - and Separating Fact from Fiction

CDC Coronavirus Web Page (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

Regularly updated information and tips from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control

WHO Coronavirus Web Page (https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)

Regularly updated information and tips from the World Health Organization

A Family Doctor Helps Separate Fact from Fiction (https://www.swhealth.org/dr-peter-lin-breaks-down-information-on-coronavirus-covid-19/)(video)
In this 5-minute video from Colorado's Southwest Health System, Dr. Peter Lin explains how the coronavirus spreads, how to minimize transmission and who's at risk

Human Rights Campaign We Are Here - Trans/Gender Nonconforming Community

(https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/pages/24945/attachments/original/1590072323/U 1590072323)(pdf)

by Carmarion D. Anderson

What This Doctor Wants Us to Know About Our Fears Regarding Coronavirus

(https://thriveglobal.com/stories/doctor-coronavirus-fear-advice-societal-well-being/?utm_source=Newsletter_General&utm_medium=Thrive) (March 11, 2020) An article by Dr. Abdu Sharkaway, an infectious disease specialist, via Thrive Global

Resisting the Pandemic of Prejudice (https://www.search-

institute.org/relationships-during-coronavirus/?

utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Blog%20post%2031120&utm_content=Blog%20post%2031120+CID_f278df2 By Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Vice President of Research and Development, the Search Institute

Faith, Common Sense and Reducing Panic

(https://www.sneucc.org/blogdetail/13265266) (Feb. 12, 2020) By Deborah Ringen, Transitional Minister of Health and Wellness, Southern New England Conference, UCC

Handwashing: Clean Hands Save Lives

(https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html)
All about clean hands, from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control

Hand Hygiene Website (https://www.henrythehand.com/)

From the Henry the Hand Foundation, devoted to promoting "Four Principles of Hand Awareness"

Hand Sanitizer Recipe (https://www.syracuse.com/health/2020/03/coronavirus-supplies-how-to-make-hand-sanitizer-with-ingredients-you-have-at-home.html) How to make hand sanitizer with ingredients in the home, via Syracuse.com

When a person who is a confirmed COVID-19 case has been in the facility, regardless of community transmission

(https://www.syracuse.com/health/2020/03/coronavirus-supplies-how-to-make-hand-sanitizer-with-ingredients-you-have-at-home.html)
Shared by a Conference Disaster Coordinator and by Barbara Baylor

The impact of COVID-19 on persons with disabilities

(https://bridgingthegap-project.eu/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-people-with-disabilities/)

Safe grocery shopping

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjDuwc9KBps)

Avoiding Scams

"Another danger of pandemics is people taking advantage," says the Rev. Don Remick, one of the UCC Southern New England Conference's bridge Conference ministers. He lists these possible scams to watch out for:

- Phishing emails from cyber-criminals posing as reputed organizations like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the World Health Organization (WHO). These emails contain a malicious file attachment that claims to be useful information about coronavirus. When the unsuspecting victim opens the attachment, malware is installed on their PC.
- Phishing emails prompting the recipient to enter their login credentials into a web site to access information about coronavirus. Once entered, the login credentials are stolen by the threat actors.
- Fraudulent charities that use legitimate social media sites to ask for donations for charitable causes related to the virus.
- Non-Delivery Frauds fraudulent advertisements for medical supplies such as medical masks, gloves, disinfectants, etc. The fraudulent company will ask for upfront payment and will never deliver the ordered products. Be cautious when ordering such supplies online.



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