

RELIGIONS ARE "ESSENTIAL"

Responsible prevention practices are essential for a trouble-free opening of all houses of worship, a multi-faith coalition of religious leaders state.

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, May 26, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- With the White House asserting this week that governors should classify houses of worship as "essential" and permit them to reopen, religious leaders from the International Multi-Faith Coalition (IMFC) urge responsible adoption of guidelines to ensure the physical as well as the spiritual health of those they serve.



The consensus is that all houses of worship should review and understand the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance for Communities of Faith

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/faith-based.html>) adopt them to ensure

trouble-free opening and to keep their parishioners safe and well. CDC offers general considerations to help communities of faith discern how best to practice their beliefs while keeping their staff and congregations safe.

“

Our spiritual well being depends on responsible prevention practices.”

Rev. Susan Taylor

“We believe one of the most important points is to educate the religious communities on the proper precautions to

take while practicing their faith, as well as in daily life,” said Bishop Craig A. Worsham, President of the IMFC. “The role we play as houses of worship in times of crisis cannot be underestimated.”

Bishop Worsham added, “I firmly believe that the choice and time frame in which to re-open the sanctuaries for worship services rest with the senior leadership of the local assemblies. Many of the houses of worship across our city indeed have been providing essential services to the community-at-large such as but not limited to: Emergency food & clothing, housing, and testing.”

Several churches have already implemented necessary measures and made resource centers available for their religious communities. One example is the Islamic Center of Southern California which has a Covid-19 Resources section of their website at www.islamiccenter.com/covid19, with information on how to stay well and healthy.

The First African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church has also created resources for this purpose at www.famechurch.org/updates.html.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles also has a Federation Crisis Resources section at www.jewishla.org seeking to educate and there are many more.

The Church of Scientology has a [How to Stay Well Resource Center](#) where people can study, download, print and share booklets, signs and videos on basic prevention principles to keep themselves and others well.

Key recommendations to ensure the reopening houses of worship occur without a hitch include:

- 1) Taking the temperature of clergy and parishioners when entering. If anyone has a temperature or has been exposed to someone who has been ill or has symptoms, they should return home and isolate themselves.
- 2) All churches should make sanitizers readily available for their parishioners throughout their quarters.
- 3) They should follow any regulations on the number of people who may congregate and follow social distancing in events and religious practice.
- 4) The wearing of mask and gloves while inside the house of worship is highly recommended.
- 5) Houses of worship should sanitize their quarters frequently to keep it as germ-free as



Many faiths have been educating their communities about staying safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, like this Scientology volunteer who is distributing "Stay Well" educational booklets to essential businesses to distribute to their customers.



□The Church of Scientology National Affairs Office, Washington, DC

possible.

“We are dedicated to making this transition work. Our congregations need our help now and we must provide that help safely to care for body and soul,” said Bishop Worsham.

Echoing the message of responsible prevention practices for houses of worship as areas of the country reopen, the [Church of Scientology National Affairs Office](#) in Washington, DC, and its volunteers continued their outreach around the city sharing the educational material of the church’s Resource Center. Rev. Susan Taylor, National Public Affairs Director, said, “Here in Washington, DC, our city has not yet met the criteria for reopening but all are preparing for the day in the near future when we can start our phase one. We join with others not only here in Washington but around the country in doing all we can to be sure that we move through our reopening phases safely. Our spiritual well being depends on responsible prevention practices.”

The Church of Scientology National Affairs Office is located in Washington, DC, in the historic Fraser Mansion.

Rev. Susan Taylor
National Affairs Office
+1 202-667-6404
[email us here](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/517916278>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2020 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.