



Updated COVID-19 Statement – South Central Conference!

April 11, 2022 | Nashville, TN | South Central Conference

The South Central Conference administration again would like to thank the pastors and church leaders of each South Central church, company, and group for their part in staying safe over the last 26 months as the world dealt with the COVID-19 virus by keeping the sickness and death rate low among our membership.

The Conference **Emergency Response Team (ERT)** recently recommended that churches are free to self-govern under the following guidelines:

- Churches will be allowed to meet at 80% capacity
- Churches will be allowed to relax the mask mandate (i.e. encouraged but not required)
- Temperature taking will be encouraged but not required
- Social distancing is encouraged but not required (i.e. people can fellowship, shake hands, hug, etc....at their own comfort level)
- Sanitizing will still be required
- Contact tracing is encouraged however churches no longer must report weekly attendance numbers to the conference office
- Fellowship meals will be allowed at 50% capacity inside (reservations required like the church was), up to 100% outside
- Individuals who are sick or symptomatic should not attend services/programs or if they start feeling sick need to leave immediately
- Children/Youth/other programs are allowed to meet in person under the above-mentioned guidelines

We encourage our members to continue to wear face masks, practice social distancing, and consider responsible vaccination.

South Central Conference's administration and or executive committee reserves the right to rescind any and or all recommendations in this document at any time.

Recognizing the fluid nature of the virus, the South Central Conference administration will continue to monitor the situation and share updates at appropriate times. The safety of our employees, staff, students, and constituents remains our highest priority.

We join you in staying prayerful and being adherent to the counsel found in God's word, *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."* *Philippians 4:6 NIV*

South Central Conference headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee serves as the regional office of the Seventh-day Adventist church serving Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and counties of the state of Florida west of the Apalachicola River. South Central comprises more than 28,000 members in 149 congregations and is one of the eight conferences located in the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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