
***To the congregation of Brisbane Christian Fellowship
– from the Presbytery:***

Easing of restrictions for Queensland

From **6am AEST Thursday 15 April 2021** restrictions have eased across the state:

Movement and gathering

- Gatherings at private residences (homes and accommodation) are limited to 100 people in total.
- There is no limit to the number of people that can gather in outdoor public spaces.
- Queenslanders can travel anywhere within the state, or outside of Queensland that is not a declared hotspot.

Face masks

- Face mask wearing is only mandatory in certain settings.
- You must wear your mask when at an airport or on a domestic or international flight departing or arriving in Queensland.
- While not mandatory, you are strongly encouraged to:
 - carry a mask with you at all times when you leave home
 - wear a mask when travelling on public transport, in a taxi
 - or rideshare or in shopping centres
 - wear a mask in any indoor or outdoor space when physical distancing is not possible.

For your reference, the current restrictions applicable to all of Queensland are available on the Queensland Government website via the following links:

- <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/urgent-covid-19-update#easing-of-restrictions-qld>
- <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/mandatory-masks>
 - <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/mandatory-masks>
- <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/movements-gatherings>
 - <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/movement-gathering-direction>

We will continue to monitor the situation and will communicate further if there are any updates from the Queensland Government which impact upon our gatherings.

Immediate implications for our gatherings under the current restrictions –

Under the current occupant density limit of one person per 2 square metres, the BCF Auditorium is permitted to have up to 876 people inside the building.

This means that our congregation may continue to meet for our single Communion / Agape meal fellowship gathering each Sunday, from 9:30am to 12:30pm.

Communion / Agape meal

Please continue to be diligent to observe the requirements of the COVID Safe Plan.

- ***Worship and Body ministry (indoors)***
 - **Households** may sit together. Seating is permitted in every row. Please maintain a minimum distance of a one-seat gap between households
 - **Choir and Orchestra**
 - **Seating** arrangements are set out in the document ***Map AUD Choir & Orchestra seating Plan E (1 person per 2 sqm).pdf***, which can be found on the *Weekly Life* page of Lampstand.
 - **Instrument cases** are to be left in the room adjacent to the bookshop foyer – accessed from the foyer via the double doors.
 - **Rosters & Contact Tracing**
 - Please check your Lampstand roster after 5:00pm every Friday (as the rosters may change up to this time).
 - To RSVP and to confirm your attendance and participation for the coming weekend, please change your tag to green.
 - If you are unable to attend the service, please turn your tag red.
 - The Lampstand communion roster will assist with the COVID regulations of contact tracing. If you have not ticked your tag on Lampstand and are attending the service, please fill in a Contact Tracing form and place it in the Forms box.
- ***BYO morning tea (outdoors)***
 - Please come prepared to participate in a BYO morning tea as part of our agape meal fellowship.
 - Note that it is still *recommended* that you maintain 1.5m distance from other people to the extent possible. It will be important to keep this in mind and observe COVID-safe practices during the time of our agape fellowship over morning tea.

- **Agape Fellowship (*in homes*)**

- In addition to fellowship over morning tea on the Samford premises, everyone is exhorted to continue to fellowship over an agape meal in homes. Please take initiative to organise this for yourself and your household.
- Our priority is to continue *steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers*. Act 2:42. As we meet in this way, we are giving ourselves to reclaim our Sundays from all other initiatives, so that we may fellowship in one accord, praising God and eating our food with gladness and simplicity of heart. Act 2:46-47. Eph 5:15-16.
- This time of agape fellowship will include elements of prayer, testimony, and fellowship in the Word. You may also choose to take the opportunity together, to watch the *apostles' fellowship teaching Word* from the presbytery, which is available via Lampstand under the *Communion / Apostles Fellowship* page.

Prayer gatherings (Fridays)

- According to the invitation by specific firstfruits households to gather to their homes for prayer, usually from 6am to 7am each Friday, prayer gatherings may continue within the current limit of up to 100 people in homes and public spaces. Note that this number is the total number of people permitted at any one home and includes those who live there. Connection via Zoom or other video conferencing facilities remains an option. Please communicate directly with the individual hosting households for specific details and arrangements.

House-to-House Agape Fellowship (Wednesdays)

- According to the invitation by specific firstfruits households for house-to-house agape fellowship in their homes on Wednesday evenings, these fellowship gatherings may continue in line with the current restrictions. Please communicate directly with the individual hosting households for specific details and arrangements.

Announcements

- Please read the *Weekly Life* notices about our upcoming planned program, found on Lampstand under the *Weekly Life* page.

We continue to remind you of the Queensland Government Health advice to the whole community –

Health advice

To prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home if you are sick
- If you have any [COVID-19 symptoms](#), no matter how mild, [get tested](#)
- Stay 1.5 metres away from other people—think two big steps
- Wash your hands with soap and water, or hand sanitiser
- Leave a location if it is crowded.

If you have any concerns about your health, contact your doctor or contact [13 HEALTH \(13 43 25 84\)](#).

On behalf of the Presbytery and BCF,



Bruce Hamilton.

At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Victor Hall received advice with respect to interfacing with the relevant authorities in matters pertaining to COVID restrictions. In his capacity as overseer, in relation to the presbytery, and as president of Brisbane Christian Fellowship Inc. (BCF), in relation to the executive of the management committee, he asked Bruce Hamilton to be the point of contact with the Queensland Government, on behalf of the presbytery and BCF.

The 'New NORMAL'

<https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/how-you-can-help-keep-queensland-covid-safe>



Maintain physical distancing (1.5m)



Wear a mask when distancing is not possible (particularly in enclosed spaces)



Maintain good hand hygiene



Stay at home when sick



Collection of contact details to allow for effective contact tracing



Rapidly responding to outbreaks



Travel restrictions from hot spots



COVID Safe Plan or Checklist in place