



Seventh-day Adventist Church

Dear brothers and sisters,

Due to the corona virus pandemic, the federal government and the German federal states have taken additional measures. The objective is to slow down the spread of infections caused by the virus as well as to protect groups of people who are particularly at risk.

For this reason, we, as Board Members of the North German Union (NDV in its German acronym) and the South German Union (SDV in its German acronym), feel compelled to act responsibly in relation to the spread of the coronavirus. Thus, after intense deliberations and reaching unanimous conclusions, we decided to take **the following measures to be applied immediately until the end of April:**

1. Basically, we **recommend** our conferences, churches, brothers and sisters not to hold open worship services to the public or large events. However, in case churches with fewer than 100 members decide to do so, such services should be held only after a consultation with local health authorities. Instead, the use of our TV and internet programs should be encouraged.
2. On the part of the unions, **the following events have been altered:**

Date	Event	Indication
16-18.03.2020	Departmentals Meeting NDV/SDV	Cancelled
24.03.2020	Union Administrative Meeting NDV/SDV	Will be conducted (video conference)
21-28.03.2020	Week of Prayer for the Youths NDV/SDV	Not advisable as a big church event
8-13.04.2020	Eastern Camp Meeting in Friedensau	Cancelled
19.04.2020	Departmentals Meeting SDV	Cancelled
20.04.2020	Cosulting Meeting SDV-Hansa/NiB	Will be conducted (face-to-face)
21.04.2020	Union Administrative Meeting NDV/SDV	Will be conducted (video conference)
23.04.202	Consulting Meeting NDV-BMW	Will be conducted (face-to-face)
26.04.2020	Departmentals Meeting NDV	Cancelled
28-29.04.2020	Unon Administrative Meeting SDV	Cancelled
4-5.05.2020	Work Meeting for the data protection officers	Will be decided on April 15th
5-6.05.2020	Secretaries Meeting NDV/SDV	Will be decided on April 15th
12.05.2020	Union Meeting NDV/SDV	Will be conducted (video conference)
15-17.05.2020	Weekend with Heather-Dawn Small	Cancelled
29.05-01.06.2020	ChriSTA-Camp 2020	Cancelled



3. All meetings that can be carried out digitally must be conducted through the available technical possibilities.
4. In case the employees in our offices are affected by the closure of schools or other related issues, we **recommend** applying a generous rule towards them. The possibility of working from home (Homeoffice) must be used.
5. Basically, our union offices will continue working. In the event that the situation worsens, we will act accordingly.
6. We are aware that many, especially older people or people living alone may be left out of "social care." For this reason, we **recommend** that pastors along with deacons take special care of the needs of this group of people.
7. To find out the probability of risk exposure, we refer you to the following document from the Robert-Koch-Institut (in German):
https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Risiko_Grossveranstaltungen.pdf?__blob=publicationFile
8. The decisions of public authorities must be definitely implemented.

These measures and recommendations should take **effect immediately until the end of April**. As Union Board Members we will continually assess the situation and publish new information. On our homepage www.adventisten.de, you will find current information on this subject and how it affects our church.

We know that, despite various critical situations, we are under the protection of God. United in prayer we lean on the words of 2 Timothy 1: 7, which assures us that we do not live in a "spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind".

The Board Members of the Northern and Southern German Union of the Seventh-day Adventist Church