

Tenth Pastoral Letter to the Wesley Church Family on current Covid-19 situation (08 October 2021)

By Rev Raymond Fong, Pastor-in-Charge



Dear Wesleyans,

May God's peace guard your hearts in our Lord Jesus in this challenging and uncertain season. I pray for God's grace and strength to be with you as we persevere together through these challenging times.

We are aware of a recent Straits Times report on 4 Oct 2021 about a grandmother who has been hospitalised because of taking ivermectin. This happened because friends in her church had urged her not to get vaccinated with particular vaccines as they held the view that these were against God.

(<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/grandmother-hospitalised-after-taking-ivermectin-to-protect-herself-against-covid-19>)

While we should respect the strong convictions of some not to be vaccinated, or who have preferences for certain vaccines, we also strongly urge against any reliance on hearsay/unproven remedies. Let us also be mindful not to spread unproven theories. Please seek medical advice before administering any form of unapproved medical self-protection against Covid-19. For example, ivermectin is a prescription-only drug not approved by Health Sciences Authority for use in the prevention or treatment of Covid-19. Unauthorised sale and distribution of such medicine is illegal.

(<https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/details/ivermectin-advisory>)

Let me encourage you, where your health permits, to consider vaccination as a way of protecting yourself and your loved ones against Covid-19. Our Bishop, Rev Dr Gordon Wong has encouraged us to be vaccinated for the sake of our neighbours and fellow Singaporeans.

(https://wesleymc.org/images/COVID-19/mcs/LOVING%20OUR%20NEIGHBOUR_THE%20VACCINATION%20PROGRAMME.pdf)

I also seek your kind understanding to comply with our requirement of Antigen Rapid Testing for certain groups of volunteers who serve on site in order to promote health and safety. This is in line with the national efforts to slow the transmission of Covid-19. I know this will inconvenience some of us but let us continue to give our Lord a costly sacrifice in our service to Him.

Finally, for those who are 60 and above, given the current situation, it will be prudent not to attend our on-site services for the time being in the best interests of your health and well-being. Please continue to join our **Worship From Home (WFH)** Zoom community (www.wesley.sg/WFH) or our online services (www.wesleymc.org/online-worship). Please call the church office if you need prayer and help, and we will do our best to assist.

Take good care. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Persevering with you,

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