



27 October 2020

WIN Norway members and families

In connection with the recent government announcement on stricter health and safety measures, the leaders of WIN Norway have made decision **to do on line meeting via zoom effective immediately until the end of November 2020. This includes all small group meetings and Sunday services.** After which period, we will evaluate the situation and update with any changes following government directives.

WIN Norway proactively takes part and demonstrate that we are on the frontlines of preventing the further spread of the virus in Stavanger. We acknowledge that this decision may have some negative effect on the spiritual and emotional aspects of some individuals and groups especially during this cold and dark winter season. But we believe that this is crucial in seriously considering the health, safety and protection of our members, their families, and their workplace.

We continually appeal to everyone to always be calm but proactive and keep in mind the following:

- Let us always look after one another. Strengthen our small groups and accountability partnerships.
- Follow the health and safety measures.
- Keep yourself and your family healthy.
- Minimize personal contact and travelling only to necessary.
- Be mindful and be careful with sharing any information on social media or messages. If you think that the information is useful and helpful, verify first that it is from an official source, such as Regjeringen.no; FHI; Stavanger Kommune; WHO, for ex.
- Always check our website and social media pages for updates.

Most importantly, let us not get tired of praying and interceding. Nothing is impossible with our God. **Let us overflow with hope; keeping our focus on God's promises everyday!**

References :

Link to Government announcement

<https://www.regjeringen.no/no/aktuelt/nye-nasjonale-innstramminger/id2776995/?fbclid=IwAR1A1ASMSiQB5qKlIJgJjQfgjeKZAfQV1qXUuVRXRczsrdwzRGo4nHnNfdc>

Summary of some points relevant for the church members.

(Unofficial translation to English)

National measures

- The following national measures will take effect at midnight, the night before Wednesday 28 October.
- All measures will last until early December.
- In private homes, gardens or cabins, one should not have more than 5 guests in addition to household members. If all the guests are from the same household, there can be several. This means that two families can meet even if they have many children.
- The restriction that you should not have more than 5 guests does not apply to kindergarten or primary school groups. Children and young people who are in the same group in kindergarten or primary school are exempted from the distance requirement for events.
- We recommend that everyone be with fewer people in social gatherings, for a shorter time and not with too many different people during a week.
- Private gatherings in a public place or in rented or borrowed premises shall have a limit of a maximum of 50 participants.
- The government proposes to strengthen the municipalities in terms of control over compliance with the rules for events, restaurants and employees.

Quarantine rules

- The government will tighten the current rules for labor immigration
- Foreign workers from what the EU calls red countries will no longer be exempted from the quarantine obligation. They can thus not start working until the quarantine period of 10 days has been completed. This change will not take effect until midnight on Saturday 31 October. The change has no retroactive effect.
- Other employees can still be quarantined. But here the rules are also tightened: Employees who have the leisure quarantine must be tested every three days and be accommodated in private rooms for the first ten days in the country. It is also made clear that the employer must facilitate distance to others when one is in the leisure quarantine. This change will take effect at midnight on Wednesday 28 October. The changes do not have retroactive effect.

Local measures that municipalities with high infection should consider implementing

- The number of contacts during a week should not exceed 10 people in social gatherings in addition to household members and kindergarten and primary school groups.
- Mandatory face masks should be introduced for all public transport to / from / in the region.
- Mandatory face mask should be introduced indoors in public places (shops, malls) where it is not possible to maintain at least 1 meter distance.
- Mandatory face masks indoors at restaurants should be introduced for all employees and guests in all situations where you do not sit at a table.
- A ban should be introduced against admission to nightclubs after kl. 22:00.
- Prohibitions should be introduced against more than 20 participants at indoor events without fixed seats (normally 200).
- An order should be issued for a home office for employees with tasks that do not require physical attendance throughout / part of the working week.
- Encouragement should be given to the use of digital distance education for students where this is practically feasible.