

March 15, 2020

Dear Tucson Johrei Members:

The mission of Johrei Fellowship is to help create a better world for everyone by raising people's spiritual vibrations. The ultimate goal is Paradise on Earth, in which disease, conflict, and poverty will disappear and a world of truth, virtue, and beauty will come into being in balance with material civilization.

In alignment with our mission, and after long and careful deliberation, we have decided to close the Johrei Center for at least three weeks, beginning tomorrow, March 16, and depending on rapidly changing circumstances.

As many of you know, the world is currently in the midst of a global pandemic, known as Coronavirus (COVID-19). Today there is one active case in Pima County, and 12 presumed cases in the State of Arizona. Only 183 people in the state have been tested. For comparison, just two and a half weeks ago, the State of California reported its first case of community spread COVID-19. Today, there are 421 confirmed cases in California; yesterday there were 369. In addition, health experts believe that the availability of testing would reveal many more active cases. It is likely that our community will begin seeing many more cases of COVID-19 in the coming weeks and months and this will require a measured, sustained response.

As a county public health officer said “The only way to slow the spread ... in the light of having community transmission is to have everything in our society grind to a halt for an extended period of time, as you have seen done in other countries. All actions have consequences.” The burdens on our healthcare systems are unprecedented, and we all have a responsibility to each other to do what we can to stop the spread of COVID-19.











Please know that at this time we are not aware of any members who have tested positive for COVID-19. However, we feel that given what we know, it is imperative that we do our part in protecting our members and the larger community.

We understand that members consider Johrei Fellowship to be an essential part of their spiritual health and well-being. We view this difficult situation as an opportunity to help create Paradise on Earth by proactively caring for our community.

During our closure, please remember that you are trained to give yourself Johrei, as Meishu-sama did daily; this is a great opportunity to offer Johrei in person to family members as you are able, or to offer distance Johrei as you see fit. We will also be making arrangements for people to receive or exchange distance Johrei by calling the center at 520-299-5670. Offerings will be presented daily by the center head, and the gratitude service will still be conducted by the center head. We may arrange for the service to be attended electronically. We encourage you to reach out to each other and to read Meishu-sama's teachings for comfort and inspiration. During the interim the center will be deep cleaned; even if you have a key, please do not enter the building so as to avoid contamination. This is crucial. You may be asymptomatic and still carry the virus.

This is a constantly evolving situation, and we will continue to follow information from local and federal health officials. We will continue evaluating all options, and will happily reopen our doors to members and our community when we can be assured that our gathering will not place any member of our community at risk.

During this unprecedented time, we encourage all Johrei members to take care of themselves, physical and spiritually. Please stay home as much as possible to keep yourself, your loved ones and other community member safe. Please follow the CDC guidelines for protective measures: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>. You may also find the below information helpful.

Symptoms	Coronavirus Symptoms range from mild to severe	Cold Gradual onset of symptoms	Flu Abrupt onset of symptoms
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 Cough	Common* (usually dry)	Mild	Common* (usually dry)
 Sneezing	No	Common	No
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for children
 Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Love & Light,
 Johrei Fellowship
 Tucson Center Coordinating Committee