

Please be aware of the following regarding a spurious “Pandemic” e-mail being circulated.

Dr. Susan Puls issued the following disclaimer regarding the pandemic rumor being spread:

In about October 2008, there was a probably well intentioned but totally misleading and false e-mail spread around the “LDS Internet” network to thousands of people from someone who had been to one of my talks. Unfortunately, it was full of misquotes, half truths, and just plain falsehoods. It supported a fear based preparedness which is not a true and correct principle as you are aware. And it spread like wildfire. For 6 weeks I dealt with the fallout from this e-mail until the pandemic preparedness talks ended in order to end the controversy and falsehoods. I do not work for the Church. I am not a cardiologist or an infectious disease specialist. I am a volunteer and do participate in the pandemic preparedness committee.

No one knows when there will be a pandemic or how severe it will be. The world health experts agree there will be a pandemic but no one knows when. It will be like a hurricane in category. It can be from a mild one (category I) or severe (category V). That is also unknown. The specific disease that will cause it is also unknown.

Please help by having anyone you know who sent that e-mail around, send this disclaimer forward and help stop that e-mail. Be a cause for truth by sending this note instead.

Please refer to the pandemic fact sheets on the provident living website (www.providentliving.org). These were created specifically to provide information on pandemic preparedness. If you need a presentation on the subject of pandemic, may I suggest that you have someone from your local health department give you a presentation and keep current with www.cdc.gov for correct information?

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PANDEMIC RUMOR

About a month ago a seminar was put on by Dr. Susan Puls, who is a cardiologist appointed by the First Presidency of the LDS Church as the head of the church's pandemic committee. She said she was not an expert on pandemics as this was not her specialty, but in the two years she's been in her position, is fast becoming her specialty. She now works for the church on a full-time basis working on planning for the pandemic and trying to get the word out to as many church members as possible. There were about 1,400 people at the Saturday all-day seminar.

In her capacity, she works with the governor's pandemic committee and the federal pandemic planning agency. She also said a pandemic is coming—not “maybe” but is DEFINITELY coming. She says the pandemic is expected within the next two years but she personally believes it will be “sooner rather than later.” The various groups (CDC, WHO, etc.) do not know what the pandemic will be but “first among their list of suspects is the avian bird flu. It's only one mutation away from being easily transmitted from birds to humans and from human to human.”

She said the World Health Organization expects 40% of the world population to become sick. Of those who become sick, they expect 50% will die. If you do the math—there are over 6 billion people on the earth today—that puts the death rate at over 1.4 billion people—and she says these deaths will happen over only a 3 to 4 month period of time.

Dr. Puls related that when the pandemic hits the U.S., mandatory quarantine's of all infected and NON-INFECTED peoples will occur within the first 48 hours. Only emergency personnel (Dr's, nurses, firemen, police, national guardsmen, etc.) will be allowed to leave their homes—not even to go to the store, etc. This quarantine will last during the duration of the “pandemic cycle” which will last approximately three months.

Her main point was that everyone will need a *MINIMUM of 3 months supply of food at home* as the governments of the world will be overwhelmed within the first week and cannot be counted on to provide food, medical help, etc.

She only briefly spoke on the “social disruption” that will occur and did not go into any detail about what plans may, or may not exist, to deal with this. However—think about this—if your neighbors (both those you know and strangers) run out of food and are starving how might they react? Then think of all the individuals who already live outside of the law and are only “controlled” by our current legal system. How might they react when law enforcement becomes ineffectual due to illness among the ranks and those who abandon their jobs to stay home and protect their own families. Ditto for the National Guard and our own military.

This isn't to scare anyone—just to provide a “heads up” as “to be forewarned is to be forearmed.”

<http://providentliving.org/content/display/0,11666,8041-1-4414-1,00.html>

The government also had a website: <http://www.pandemicflugov/plan/tab3.html>