

Dear Friends,

It is with sadness that we have heard that worship services in our churches will not be taking place for the time being. All our meetings, fellowship groups and community events are also being suspended. This is in line with Government guidance.

For a while, we may not be able to do the things we usually do in the way that we usually do them. This does not mean that our work is stopping. We are just going to have to find different ways of worshipping God, caring for one another and being good neighbours to those in need. Please keep your eyes on the website for some of the ideas about how we might do that.

Maybe one of the most helpful things that many of us can do is to pick up the telephone and give someone a call. People are likely to be feeling some loneliness and maybe a little fear and may well appreciate a chat and a listening ear.

When the actor JK Simmons won an Oscar for his performance in the film Whiplash, he used his speech to urge people to ring their parents. He said, "If you're lucky enough to have a parent or two alive on this planet, call them. Don't text. Don't email. Call them on the phone. Tell them you love them, and thank them, and listen to them for as long as they want to talk to you." As he wanted people to make time for their relatives, so maybe part of our work is to make time for those in our church family and to give them a call.

We'd love to hear your thoughts, stories and prayers and may be able to include some of them on the website. So, please share them and look out for new contributions.

God bless you,

Tony