

14th March 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Hadleigh Baptist Church,

As a leadership team, we feel it is right to keep you updated about our response to the present Covid-19 situation. We want to ensure that everyone who attends Hadleigh Baptist Church is kept as safe as realistically possible. This is not because we are fearful about the situation but because we care for one another. This means that we are going to follow advice from government and other relevant agencies.

Church Practices

We ask that until informed otherwise, everyone follows these guidelines:-

- Please follow all government advice regarding handwashing and self-isolation.
- On arrival at church we will not be shaking hands but we will still be extending a warm welcome to everyone who attends church.
- Hand-sanitiser will be available at the door on arrival, we ask you to make use of this.
- There will be no refreshments served.
- We will not be passing round collection bags, there will be baskets provided at the back of church instead.
- We are not planning to share communion for the next few weeks and will review how we serve communion at the relevant time.

Pastoral Care

Over the next few weeks some people may be self-isolating, potentially infected or fearful of attending services. We want to care for you regardless of your reason for not attending church. We would like to remind you that our services are livestreamed on YouTube and via the church website, please follow this link:-
hadleighchurch.co.uk/teaching/live-stream/.

We also want to ensure that everyone is cared for appropriately. This will mean that if someone is self-isolating they won't receive a personal visit but will be supported through various means of communication, and where it is necessary, by providing practical support (i.e. collecting groceries/prescriptions etc).

Please be aware there is a church mobile number that we ask you to use if you have a need at this time, this will ensure that the pastoral care team can organise help where it is appropriate. The mobile number is 07443 036491. This is not intended to replace the ongoing care that occurs naturally within the fellowship and small groups, we ask you to continue to care for one another, this is intended to supplement existing care. Also, please remember to make use of the prayer circle for any prayer requests.

We do ask you to take note of people who may not be attending services at the moment and encourage you to contact them to help them feel connected and to spiritually care for one another.

Lastly, we ask you to remain prayerful at this time and to take opportunities to show those outside of church the care and concern that Christ would want us to show them. While things may be difficult for our country for a while, there may be unusual opportunities to love our neighbours and our community.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:6-7

With Love

Chris, Graham and the deacons