

# COVID-19

Statement to circuit meeting,

14 March 2020

Connexion has not yet told us to stop meeting. Unless it does, we will act as follows:

- Before the start of the service, and after it's finished, we will wipe down hard surfaces with anti-bacterial wipes or cloths
- We will not shake hands but will find other ways of greeting each other, when we arrive and leave, and if we are sharing the Peace
- If possible, we will use a projector rather than hymn books or notice sheets
- We will follow Government advice about handwashing, and coughing/sneezing into a disposable tissue, or our sleeve, and then disposing of the tissue appropriately.

# What about Communion?

- To prepare for Communion, one person with disposable gloves or well-washed or sanitised hands will cut up the bread
- At Communion, the bread will be given out by one person who has just washed/sanitised their hands
- We will each take our small glass of wine from the tray
- No church should use a chalice
- Pour away wine from unused glasses – don't put it back in the bottle.

# What about fellowship events?

- Those preparing food should use disposable gloves
- Wash your hands before and after, or use sanitiser gel
- Think very carefully about how to maintain good hygiene and avoid providing food on shared plates (biscuits)

# What about meetings?

- Is this meeting really necessary? Or could it be postponed?
- This is especially important if most or all of the members are older.

# What if we feel unwell?

**STAY AT HOME!**

(even if you're the preacher).

You can watch a live streamed service from Wesley's Chapel at 11:00 on Sundays.

The circuit staff have agreed to take it in turns to provide a full order of service including a written reflection. This will be available on the circuit website if it becomes impossible to provide preachers for every appointment.

# What if others are unwell?

## STAY IN TOUCH!

- Make 'pastoral visits' by phone
- If someone is self-isolating, check what extra help they might need (drop off some shopping?)
- Pray for each other.

# What if we have underlying health conditions?

Older members and those with medical conditions causing weaker health and greater vulnerability should consider not attending church for the time being if they're worried about infection. This is an act of mutual care and concern, and is not a desire that people 'give up' church.

# What if someone in church is diagnosed with COVID-19?

The Public Health England Local Health Protection Team should contact the minister to discuss the case, identify people who have been in contact and advise on any necessary actions or precautions.