



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update - 27th March 2020

Hello Church Family

I pray and trust for God's blessing upon you and His protection over you. I really miss meeting together and catching up at various times. But we will continue on as needed. I hope to send an email every week. Lots to share at times but I don't want to keep flooding your inbox. Hopefully as things settle into a rhythm they will become far more succinct. **Can I ask you to have a cup of coffee in hand as you read it through to the end - information is really important just now.**

Please call me or one of the other pastors or leaders if you have a need or a question. We would love to hear from you. If you know of others in need please let us know. Once things settle and we get on top of the changes, we hope to start a "ring around" and talk with each of you.

Worship Service

Counting down on our website to start this Sunday at 9am – then available anytime. Meeting as family on Sunday morning will be a good long term blessing. If you go to *Find the podcast* and use *Listen on our web page*, there are also questions/notes attached to this email if you want to download prior.

Why not suggest to your neighbour and friends to watch the service. More than likely they'll ask you how you are using your time at home. Take the opportunity to point them in God's direction. I realise they can watch services all over the world, but if they connect to VPBC we can continue the relationship when things return to normal. It may give them a link to call someone if they are in trouble. Offers of help will be a practical outreach that will appeal to many. Pray for any opportunity to share.

Help Register

There is a time coming when people may need some practical help. If you are concerned and have limited access to family or friends please send an email to the office and register. If you would like someone to call you within an agreed time frame, please email. If on the other hand you are available to help practically, deliver goods or call someone to check they are ok - please email the office. The need is not there yet, however, this could change quickly and it would be good to be prepared.

New Exciting Opportunity

Even if there is a total lockdown, we are still able to enjoy fellowship. Zoom technology will enable new and existing groups to meet together over the internet. Pastor Sean will be the go to man for advice and help. He will assist anyone in setting it up. If you have a device and the internet - you're in. You can see and hear each other and share together. Some are using it already and it is great. Can I say with restrictions being long term, everyone will enjoy this opportunity. Again – invite friends/neighbours to join the group. If they have any spiritual desire small group chats will be effective. More info and insights included in the notices during Sunday's service.

Giving

I have been reluctant to mention this as I know the church is always very faithful and there is a lot to deal with at the moment. However, many have asked about this. Our website offers two secure ways to give.

Children's Resources (from Deb Vine)

Victory Kids have been working behind the scenes to get some exciting online options with curriculum, crafts, family activities and discussions. There will be a video lesson that you can watch online from our website, with activities, curriculum, crafts, activities and discussion points for your family. The way to use these are varied; use them separately each weeknight for fun home activities or put them together for family devotions at any time or home church on a Sunday morning. Join the Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date. (*Victory Kids VPBC*)

Church Resources

If you know people who do not have access to the internet. Please ask them to give me a call. Church updates and Sundays service DVD will be available. Call the office for details.

Starting Monday there is a 14 day Easter daily devotion on our website supplied by John Sweetman from the Baptist Union. Enjoy !

Online Resources

YouVersion is a very good Bible app. They also have a children's version which is worth checking out. They are encouraging prayer during this time and if you go to <https://blog.youversion.com/category/prayer> you will find specific prayers for these days.

Prayer Points

- Tom's family - Katie's heart surgery was very successful - all going well - but infection is the danger
- Spiritual awakening at all levels (personal/church/community)
- Political/Heath leaders – seek God's healing touch and His compassion in sourcing a vaccine.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (MSG)

God appeared to Solomon that very night and said, "I accept your prayer; yes, I have chosen this place as a temple for sacrifice, a house of worship. If I ever shut off the supply of rain from the skies or order the locusts to eat the crops or send a plague on my people, and my people, my God-defined people, respond by humbling themselves, praying, seeking my presence, and turning their backs on their wicked lives, I'll be there ready for you: I'll listen from heaven, forgive their sins, and restore their land to health