

Dear Church Family,

Following the recent Government advice and meetings of the Leadership Team this week we are writing to let you know that we have taken the difficult decision to suspend all church activities for at least the next 4 weeks both at the Centre and in home-based 'Life Groups'.

This is in line with major church denominations in the UK such as the Church of England, The Methodist Church and the Baptist Church as well as many other local congregations.

We will monitor and review the situation during this period and keep you informed as things develop.

We are actively looking at ways of maintaining contact, pastoral support and community.

Please make sure that you let us know if you are self-isolating or otherwise need help or support

These are some key phone numbers if you need to get in touch:

Church Office	- 01772 816727 (Monday-Friday, 09:00 - 14:30)
Linda	- 07732 074420
Mark	- 07526 989665
Steve	- 07484 268297

We will use the church website and/or Facebook page to post the latest information, links to helpful resources and audio or video messages. Here is the direct link to the Weekly News page of our website.

[https://www.hbcconline.co.uk/Groups/322119/Hesketh\\_Bank\\_Christian/About\\_Us/Weekly\\_News\\_Sheet/Weekly\\_News\\_Sheet.aspx](https://www.hbcconline.co.uk/Groups/322119/Hesketh_Bank_Christian/About_Us/Weekly_News_Sheet/Weekly_News_Sheet.aspx)

Here is a link to our Facebook page. You can view this even if you are not signed up to Facebook yourself. Once you are on the page, just click on 'Posts' down the left hand side to see the latest news.

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/category/Religious-Center/Hesketh-Bank-Christian-Centre-137989929662209/>

We are also looking at ways we can work with the other churches in our area to provide practical support in our communities of Hesketh Bank and Tarleton.

Please stay in contact with members of the groups to which you are connected whether through Facebook, WhatsApp or telephone and please share any creative ideas you might have to keep people in touch with each other.

A number of larger churches or organisations in the country have a lot of recorded talks on their websites which anyone can access. For example the home of the Alpha Course, Holy Trinity Brompton, has an archive of Sunday Talks which can be accessed via this link. <https://www.htb.org/sunday-talks>

New Wine talks can be found here - <https://www.new-wine.org/resources/podcast>

Greenbelt Media archives can be found here - <https://www.greenbelt.org.uk/talks-archive/>

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued the following statement and we invite you to join in with the day of prayer and action they have called.

*“We have called, along with our fellow church leaders, for a day of prayer and action this coming Sunday - Mothering Sunday (22nd March). Mothering Sunday has always been both a day of celebration for many and a sensitive and emotional day for some.*

*Wherever you are this Sunday please do join in this day of prayer and action and remember especially those who are sick or anxious, and all involved in our Health Service.*

*As one action, we are calling on everyone to place a lighted candle in their window at 7.00 p.m. as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished.”*

We pray for you all, that the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)

The Leadership Team & Trustees. 18.03.2020