

## Teddington Baptist Church: News Update

Monday 22 March 2020 pm

The church office is now closed and staff are working from home wherever possible. You can still leave messages on our answerphone (020 8977 8000) or email us on [office@teddingtonbaptist.org.uk](mailto:office@teddingtonbaptist.org.uk).

Colin

Friday 19 March 2020 pm

The office is still open weekday mornings but otherwise the premises are closed and all activities whether organised by the church or others have been suspended until further notice. Notes & Notes for this weekend has already been circulated by email.

An online service will be prepared for each Sunday with links from the website to an order of service and a video sermon. Links to the material will be posted on the homepage of the website ([www.teddingtonbaptist.org.uk](http://www.teddingtonbaptist.org.uk)) each Saturday ready for the following day.

Colin

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Wednesday 18 March 2020 am

Until further notice, all family and children's activities organised by the church are now suspended in response to Covid-19. This includes, Open Door, Busy Bees, Teatime Special, 4-Youth, Re-Wired and WLTD0.

Oliver

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Tuesday 17 March 2020 pm

The Baptist Union has advised all gatherings should not now take place. This means the Church Meeting and AGM planned for 18 March 2020 have been postponed until further notice.

John and Oliver

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Tuesday 17 March 2020 am

The Leadership Team met last night to decide how we should respond as a church to the presence of Covid-19.

The situation is fluid but, as the recommendation at the moment is for all non-essential contact to be avoided, we have agreed not to hold a service on Sunday. We do plan to record something and details of how you can view that will come out over the next few days.

We would suggest that all Lifegroups cease meeting until the government has advised that it is safe to do so.

We want to encourage people to remain in contact with each other and would ask that you continue to phone/email/skype and encourage one another. We will try and use the website/Facebook etc a bit more to help us feel we belong over the time we are apart. It is vital that we keep communicating. We plan to assign everyone to a Lifegroup and suggest that people pair up/triplet up etc so that we can particularly pray for and encourage one another. If you have never belonged to a Lifegroup we are doing it this way so that it is easier to organise. It may be an opportunity to start talking to someone really interesting that you have never talked to before! Watch this space.... The onus should not fall on the Lifegroup leader, everyone should use their initiative.

Some have already offered to help those in need. Thank you. We hope the above will identify any need, which may not be immediate, but be required over time. Keep praying - it would be great if no-one was infected!

The churches in Teddington are planning to offer the community help. If you are free to distribute cards at the end of the week that would be great. There are several other ways of getting involved including Richmond and Hampton Local Authority (See their website)

At the present moment the building is open and operating normally until we are told that schools have been ordered to shut. If you need to contact us you can do that through the office.

May the perfect love of God keep you in his peace

Love in Christ

John