



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Friends

Like you, we have been following the COVID-19/CoronaVirus pandemic as it has spread across the world. As a result, nationally, we have been asked to avoid any unnecessary social contact.

Whilst we appreciate that it will be extremely disappointing to many of you, we have had to make the decision to **suspend all our activities in our building** until we are advised that it is safe to meet again. Please see more detailed advice from The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters. Whilst we are not able to meet together, we are endeavouring to put the following measures in place so that we can still be in contact:

- We will endeavour to 'post' something on-line each Sunday morning. There is also a library of Staple Hill meetings on Sound Cloud, which are readily accessible if this is not possible. Go to our website www.staplehillsa.uk and click on the 'live recordings' link on the front page.
- We will continue to send out weekly notices, which will be posted on-line as usual. Initially, we will also commit to sending this out by Royal Mail or by hand to those who do not have internet. Paul Heath will be producing these notices and if you have anything to include please send to this email address staplehillbulletin@gmail.com. We will keep in touch by email and post updates on facebook, if we do not have your email address, then please let us have it.
- It is our intention that a member of the pastoral care team will telephone everyone who is part of our Sunday fellowship on a weekly basis. Our community care team will be in contact with our 'wish you were here' fellowship. But please phone each other and stay in touch.
- The prayer network will operate throughout, which will allow us to pray specifically and purposefully for people and situations as they arise. The email address for this is staplehillprayers@gmail.com. Please send any prayer requests or news of answered prayer to this email as often as you like. If you are not registered with our prayer network then just send an email to this address asking to be included.
- For those of you who receive the Salvation Army papers, we will endeavour to 'drop these' through your letter box from time to time.
- Whilst we are not facilitating our community programme, we are hoping to expand our food store to a food parcel service, meeting the needs of those who are experiencing health, social or financial difficulties. We are talking with our local councillors and other local agencies hoping that this will be a coordinated initiative. Within the constraints of 'social distancing' we may need some help with this.

The situation is very fluid, and some of the above could be dependent on our health, although as a team of believers, we should be able to maintain most of these suggestions. If you feel that you can help in any way, please contact us.

We are deeply sorry that we have had to take this course of action, but ask for your understanding, prayers, along with continuing to express concern and love for those within our fellowship. We will try to respond, to any situations, but please remain in contact. A couple of verses:

“The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.”
(Nahum 1:7)

May God continue to bless us as we explore different ways of doing church. Please support each other by phoning others when you can.

With Love

Colin & Nicola



Use these details to keep in touch:

Corps email: contactstaplehill@gmail.com

Colin's email: colin.hylton-jones@salvationarmy.org.uk

Nicola's email: nicola.hylton-jones@salvationarmy.org

Prayer Network email: staplehillprayers@gmail.com

Bulletin email: staplehillbulletin@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/staplehillsa

Website: www.staplehillsa.uk

Hall Phone Number: 0117 956 9733

Quarters Phone Number: 0117 956 5232