

Dear friends and members,
We are thrilled that you want to join together in worship back in our building, even in these difficult times. As you will have guessed, we have had to make various adjustments to the way we 'do' church in order to keep each other safe during this pandemic. First remember that the Church of Christ is the people, not the building, and we are still maintaining fellowship in other ways including weekly housegroups, Facebook video messages and Zoom gatherings - the reopening of the church building is only one way of joining with the fellowship.

Please read the following guidance regarding attending the service before you arrive and ensure that anyone attending with you is also aware of this guidance and the importance of keeping to it. You don't have to write them on your door posts, but please make effort to follow them!

NHS track and trace

The trustees of BMC have a legal duty to comply with the NHS track and trace scheme. In order to do so, whilst keeping to GDPR (data protection law), we are asking you to email your expression of interest to attend Sunday service at BMC,

along with a list of all people in your household who will be joining with you and a telephone number on which you can be contacted. This will be kept on file for a period of three weeks in case you need to be contacted by NHS track and trace; by requesting to attend a BMC service please be aware you are also consenting to this. If you are unable to email then you can text or ring Ben Fell on 07732953407.

PPE

We encourage you to bring your own PPE to the service (hand sanitiser, face covering etc.) for both your protection and of those you come close to. There will also be sanitiser stations located throughout BMC and single-use face masks available on entry to those who want to wear them but come without their own.

Updates

These guidelines will be amended in accordance with government guidelines and any such updates will be sent out weekly. The main projector screen will display this guidance along with any updates and the website will also have up to date guidance available 24/7.

Arrival

Please arrive in good time before the start of the service. Upon arrival there will be limited queuing spaces and people will be escorted by a steward to their pre-planned seating in the sanctuary, relating to your household size. Each attendee's temperature will be checked using a contact-free forehead thermometer to ensure everyone in the building is free from fever. You will be asked to proceed directly to your seats upon entry to the building and we ask that you sanitise your hands upon entry. Bibles and notice sheets will not be given out however both will be displayed on the screen.

Exit

At the end of the service, a steward will direct you out of the sanctuary the main exit at foyer, household by household; this will ensure that there are no bottlenecks near doorways. Please bear with the stewards during this process.

Covid-19 symptoms.

In the unlikely event that you or anyone in your household displays symptoms of Covid-19 during the service then please return home

immediately and contact NHS 111 for testing. If you are unable to return home immediately then please proceed instead to the prayer room whilst arrangements are made.

Thank you for bearing with us at this difficult time. If you have any questions, concerns or comments then please get in touch.

Book now for next week!

To express your intention to attend please email bmcliveservices@yahoo.com or text 07732953407. If you cannot email or text then please ring 07732953407 to book in. When booking please give your name, address and phone number and names of anyone attending with you (or people who may attend who are part of your 'bubble'). This will help the stewards plan effectively. If you would like to attend every week then simply state this in the message and then you won't have to email each time.

Children

Children are always welcome at BMC and this hasn't changed. If you are bringing kids then please be aware that you will all need to remain seated together to enable the required spacings in the building. The church's shared toys will not be available however you are welcome to bring toys from home, as required. Please note that (at least initially) there will not be a Junior Church within the service and the stairs will be closed off; this will be reviewed in due course and we will keep you updated with any changes.

Offerings

If you would like to make an offering to the work and ministries of the church then please make this by bank transfer where possible (contact Tim Preece for details), although the box between the double doors is still available for cash/cheque offerings if preferred.

Singing

Unfortunately singing isn't yet allowed within the building as a congregation. Again we will update you when this changes.

Toilets

The toilets will be available for use with additional hand and forearm sanitisers. Please recognise that there are lots of things to touch when going to the toilet; if you can wait until you get home then this will reduce risks. There will also be a one in-one out policy; the foyer steward will assist in managing this.

Tea/coffee

The kitchen will remain closed at the time being and so refreshments will not be served at the service. This will remain under review; we understand that chatting over a brew and a biscuit is an important part of our fellowship and hope to update on this soon.