

Cornerstone Christian Fellowship

Church Reopening Sunday 13th June

A song of David for going up to the Temple.

Oh, how wonderful, how pleasing it is when God's people all come together as one! It is like the sweet-smelling oil that is poured over the high priest's head, that runs down his beard flowing over his robes.

It is like a gentle rain from Mount Hermon falling on Mount Zion.

It is there that the Lord has promised his blessing of eternal life. Psalm 133

The leadership have decided on Sunday 13th June as a start date for reopening as it is the first Sunday after the 7th June when Scotland will be moving to Tier 1 restrictions. Under Tier 1 the whole church will be allowed to gather in the building (without having to book and reserve a place) and 8 people from 3 households are allowed sit together (under 12's do not count).

All the required risk assessments will be in place ready for a safe reopening. Track & Trace and wearing masks will still be required and there will be no congregational singing, but we will be able to have tea/ coffee afterwards. There are less restrictions for children and the different ministry overseers for these groups are already preparing for their groups returning.

Due to the extra preparation required for a Sunday set up, it would be helpful if a team could be formed to have all the required elements in place. We are likely to be setting up the hall on a Saturday

afternoon, so if you are willing to help with this set up and/or be part of a team on a Sunday to help follow practices required, could you please contact me?

I hope, like me, you are looking forward to sharing fellowship together again. For those who are still a bit unsure, please be assured that we are following all the protocols that have been set out for our safety.

May God bless you as we anticipate joining together in His presence.

Alan <><



Sunday 13th June

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

Psalm 122 : 1

Questionnaire

Here is a summary of feedback from the questionnaire. Thank you to all who responded.

Question 1 What are your thoughts on using Zoom for our Sunday service?

The majority of people who attend zoom are appreciating it under the present circumstances. It still allows for some interaction, although everyone is still missing being able to meet in person.

Having the message recorded for Facebook has been appreciated by those not using zoom.

Question 2 Is there an alternative you would suggest?

Most are content with zoom with some suggestions of using breakout rooms or using Microsoft Teams, (several people already use for work). In the main zoom is the preferred option rather than a pre-recorded service.

Question 3 Do you have any suggestions to keep our children involved.

Zoom again is the preferred option, but difficulties arise when another screen is required at home (if using breakout rooms for kids). Also children are already using a lot of screen time with schoolwork so posting activities out is an alternative to an online activity like Zoom. It was suggested that the first 10 minutes of service could be for the kids.

Question 4 Would you be happy to allow your child (Bible club age group) access to Microsoft teams (same as school) or zoom for youth meetings?

All the responses were from people who do not have kids in Bible Club although a few grandparents thought using Microsoft Teams would help as children are already familiar with it through schoolwork. **Qu. 5 What has helped keep your faith sustained during the lockdown?**

Lots of very positive responses to this. The majority of people are managing to sustain their faith through their own personal study, some have actually enjoyed the extra time to read/study, The Bible app has been popular, as has listening to praise & worship. A large number indicated that they have appreciated all the different contact they have received from various members of the church during the lockdown, letters, flowers, prayers, emails and phone calls have been a real lifeline. Walking has helped some appreciate God's creation and getting out more than they normally would.

The House Groups have helped many, and the smaller numbers on zoom have allowed for more interaction than is possible on a Sunday.

Love Fund

This fund was originally set up to make funds available to help support those in need within our own church. On most occasions it was financial gifts although there have been purchases of household items or bills being paid direct, dependant on the circumstances.

There is a team of three who are responsible for the distribution of this fund, Robert Taggart, Irene Barr and Susan Thompson. As a pastor I may suggest names to this team of any needs that I am aware of, but I do not make any decisions about the giving, that is the responsibility of the team and of course part of their remit is to ensure the fund is used wisely (it does not include holidays, lol).

All information is kept completely confidential to the team and the receiver of any support given. Over the years there wasn't a lot of needs within the fellowship that required this support (I'm grateful that many needs were being met by individuals within the fellowship) so the Love Fund now includes giving to needs outside of fellowship under 'Missions'. This could be local, national or international on behalf of the fellowship.

The contribution from fellowship funds is £100 each month to this ministry.

If you have a need or aware of one, please contact any of the love fund team.

I hope this helps us understand that you are contributing to the needs of others via your offering and supporting this ministry.

Alan

