

COVID-19 Response, March 26th 2020

Dear Chroma family,

We want to update you on the changes that we're implementing in response to the Covid 19 situation in the UK. Here is the practical information about how we're doing church right now.

Public gatherings - Due to recent government guidelines, all open public gatherings both large and small are suspended until further notice. We are permitted to perform a Sunday act of worship and deliver an online service which will take place at **10.30am every Sunday**. We will live stream this via our [YouTube channel](#). Please do also sign up to all our social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)) to stay up to date with what's happening at Chroma.

Children & Youth - In addition, we have a separate [House of Heroes Facebook group](#) for kids' resources and devotionals and a [Chroma Youth Instagram](#) to help our young people connect into community online. If you'd like to ask a specific question regarding our Children's ministry please contact simon@chroma.church or if it's regarding Youth, please contact amelia@chroma.church.

Pastoral needs - At present our offices are closed, however the pastoral team are still working remotely. If you have specific pastoral needs, please contact natalie@chroma.church and one of our Pastors will be in touch. If you have an urgent need, please call 0116 319 1514.

Freedom Centre - We are offering [Liebust ministry](#) sessions online via video calling. Email freedomcentre@chroma.church to request an appointment.

Prayer - For prayer requests, please contact natalie@chroma.church.

Groups online - A number of our groups are still meeting online, if you would like to connect with a group please contact rachel@chroma.church.

Foodbank - Currently this can continue with more stringent measures to both protect our team and clients. A point of prayer is that we are able to source food, as supermarkets are restricting the number of items that can be purchased at one time. If you can help us please let Maddie know by emailing her at maddie@chroma.church.

Stories, testimonies, photos – During this time where we cannot meet together, it has been so encouraging to hear stories and testimonies. Please do continue to send them in by tagging Chroma Church on social media, or by emailing natalie@chroma.church if you are happy for those to be shared with the wider community.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please do feel free to send us a message.

Pastoral response from Steve & Juliet

Times of trouble and uncertainty always bring out the best in the church, because we are a people of hope. Our 'hope' and 'trust' are in the Lord. The Psalms tell us again and again, to 'Trust the Lord...' and we know that Jesus has a plan of salvation for his people.

However, when we say trust, we in no way want to minimise the challenges we all face. The scale and impact of these challenges will be vastly different for each person as we consider them across our church family. For some of us there are health concerns, for others it might be financial, and job security is a threat to many. For those who are self-employed or who lead businesses the future is unknown.

In addition to this many in our community working on the front line in the police, local government, the care sector or the NHS, you are working harder than ever under very difficult circumstances.

There is not one person in our community who is not affected, we each face our own challenges. We want to say that we love you, are praying for you and are cheering you on at this time. Let us encourage you again to TRUST the Lord as God's people.

Ps 20:7 *Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.*

This verse has taken a whole new meaning in the last few weeks as our very nation has been shaken. In these times of challenge, we want to encourage you all to remember the promises and comforts of God's word, looking to the rock that is higher (Psalm 61:2). God promises us:

- The hairs on your head are numbered (Lk 12:7)
- Your times are in His hands (Ps 31:15)
- Jehovah Rapha, I am the Lord that heals (Ex 15:26)
- Jehovah Rohi – The Lord is my Shepherd (Ps 23)
- Elohim – He is the all-powerful God (Deut 10:17)

This is why we can look to heaven and put our trust in Jesus...

These times bring out the best in the church because of the hope we carry. When the church was scattered in the New Testament, the people found a way and worshipped God in their homes: people were healed and saved, miracles happened, and the church grew. As difficult as this situation is, we know that God turns all things for good. He always has a plan and it is His plan that we are all invited to partner with today.

As we worship in our homes and look out for those around us, let us remind you of the verse God gave us when we changed our name to Chroma Church:

You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven. Matthew 5: 14-16

We love you all dearly,

Steve and Juliet