



Hi Church,

We really hope this email finds you and yours well. It has been a couple of weeks since we last contacted you, so we hope you find the following information helpful.

Firstly, thank you for sharing and inviting your friends and family to Freedom Church. We've been so encouraged to hear beautiful stories of people who haven't been to Church before, starting to discover a new faith in the middle of this challenging time. We've started connecting with lots of people who haven't (or wouldn't) come to Church normally, so please keep praying for this (and them) and keep inviting and sharing – we really have no idea how God might be using this time for His kingdom through our community. A couple of other updates for you:

We have recently made the difficult decision to postpone the Church Weekend 2020 until 2021, for a number of carefully thought out reasons. Although we can arrange refunds if needed, anyone who has purchased tickets already will have those tickets honoured in 2021. We will confirm the 2021 dates as soon as we are able to – hopefully in the next month. In light of the natural disappointment of this, we are hoping to still organise a "Big Afternoon" of activities, ice-creams, fun and food for all the Freedom Church family to enjoy on the 5th of September (subject to restrictions being lifted) somewhere local – please save the date – more information will be provided nearer the time.

We've also been thinking about The Big Week, including the Freedom Kids Holiday Club. We are still quietly hopeful that these will go ahead, but obviously we won't be able to confirm or cancel these events until nearer the time. To this end, we haven't released ticket sales yet. Please watch this space and continue to pray for the team trying to work out what preparations should/should not be done right now.

Also, we are so grateful to our wonderful team of Connect Group Leaders who have done an amazing job of helping their groups transform into online communities, continuing to lead in this challenging time. We're really eager to provide opportunities for anyone who wants to participate in an online community to do so, and to this end, we will be creating new online Connect Groups once there is sufficient demand. Soon, we are aiming (between the whole staff team) to phone every person/family in our Church to see how you are getting on, but if you want to get involved in an online community before this then simply email pastoral@freedomchurch.uk and we will get you connected.

We've heard lots of you tell us how valuable you've found the 8:30am weekday prayer times, and it's been great to have so many different members of the community involved. To build on this, we are continuing to work on the plans for the next week of Prayer and Fasting. In the middle of this turbulent time, we feel convicted that it is more important than ever to commit to this community wide call to prayer. This will be taking place in the last full week of April – more information to follow.

Thanks for taking the time to digest this information. For any more information, or to join us online, just head to our website (www.freedomchurch.uk). Please know that we are praying that you would know God close to you today – may He bless you and all you turn your hand to.

Stay Safe.

Tim