





<u>Hub Church Leaders' statement following Boris Johnson's communication to the nation today</u> - 16 March 2020 -

The Hub leaders have reluctantly decided that, in response to the latest communication from the government, we must pause our Sunday gatherings with immediate effect, until further notice. The government have specifically listed pubs, clubs and theatres as examples of gatherings that must cease. Our Sunday gatherings clearly fit into that size category, and so we feel we sadly have little choice other than to pause meeting in this way.

A more difficult decision has been whether to pause smaller gatherings such as small groups, prayer meetings and youth/children's gatherings. One could argue that the government advice is less clear with regards to these kinds of meetings. We have discussed this at length and do feel we need to pause these for this week, whilst we consider the full implications. To be clear, that means tomorrow morning's prayer gathering, Tuesday's youth gathering and Friday's 'Explosion of the Bible' and youth event have all been paused. We will communicate further by the end of the week.

Going forwards, we want to explore how we can safely meet together, if possible. We are working on a plan to ensure we can stay in contact and support each other. We are especially thinking of a plan for the most vulnerable in our community. We will continue to monitor the government's plans and advice. As we can all appreciate, this is an ever-changing situation and we will stay in contact with regular updates.

We serve a God who is able to work in any situation; let's press into prayer and stand with each other in these challenging days.

With much love & every blessing,

Andy, Margie, Phil, Sophie, Robin, Rhoda, Farayi, Dan *Hub Community Church Leadership Team*