

The Methodist Church
Marlborough Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 3XQ

The Minister
The Revd Rosemary Fletcher
9 Allandale
St Albans, AL3 4NG
01727 857826
rosemary.fletcher@methodist.org.uk

Senior Steward
Mrs Janis Gilbert
25 Carlisle Avenue
St Albans, AL3 5LX
01727 857402
janis.idgconsultants@talktalk.net

19th August 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Marlborough Road Methodist Church,

We are delighted to announce that the Managing Trustees (the Church Council) of Marlborough Road Methodist Church meeting on 17th August 2020 have agreed to re-open the Church building for private prayers on Sunday 23rd August from 4pm to 6pm and then for worship every Sunday from Sunday 30th August 2020 at 10.30am. This meeting took place following a lot of hard work and detailed preparation from the MRMC Covid-19 group (listed below) and we are grateful to them.

There will of course be a number of differences from what we are used to so please read these important details:

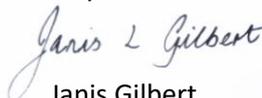
1. Please stay at home if you have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of/change to sense of smell or taste).
2. Everyone is welcome but please be aware of the government guidance relating to vulnerable people.
3. Because of social distancing, we have to limit the number of people coming to worship. Please therefore email Helen Paustian (paustian.helen@gmail.com) or phone (01727 837371) by 6pm on the Saturday before the Sunday if you would like to come to worship. Please include a phone number in your email so that we can confirm if space is available or offer an alternative date.
4. Please observe social distancing and be guided by the welcomers / marshals & signs.
5. The wearing of a face covering to a place of worship is now mandatory, except for those who are exempt.
6. Both the front door and ramp may be used for entry and exit but please ensure that you maintain social distancing at all times.
7. Please use the hand sanitizer on entry to the building and on exit.
8. We would like to record your name (and contact details if necessary) for the Test & Trace service but this is only kept for the specified time of 21 days and is not compulsory.
9. Chairs have been spaced out and some are in pairs. You may sit together only with someone from your own household or bubble. Once seated you must not move to another seat.
10. Presently there will be no singing during the service, although we will be able to listen to some of our musicians and read the words of the hymns.
11. For the time being, there will be no after service chat or refreshments and we ask you to bring your own water if you think you might need it. Toilets will be available, but please ensure that you maintain social distancing in the corridor as best as you can as you approach and leave the toilets.
12. Currently there will be no special provision for children, although they are welcome to accompany their parents to the service and Happy Bags will be available. We will update you on this provision next month.
13. We are continuing to provide the Circuit Service so that those who are unable to join us may still be able to enjoy a service at home.
14. If you have any notices to be read out, these must be given to Janis Gilbert (Senior Steward) the day before. We will not be able to have last minute notices.
15. You are reminded that you can only give lifts to those in your household or bubble.
16. These details and many more measures have been put in place for your safety. Although things will seem far from normal, we will be able to adjust and improve our experience as time goes by and we become used to our new way of worshipping. Worship services will now be 30 – 45 minutes in length.
17. There will be an opportunity for you to give your offerings to the Church as you leave worship.

Our plans for opening follow the carrying out of a Risk Assessment and the preparation of an Action Plan, both of which are on the MRMC website (<http://www.mrmc.org.uk>) and will be updated when regulations change or when deemed necessary. We are adhering to all guidelines and regulations as found on the Government and Methodist websites: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> and <https://www.methodist.org.uk>

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you need any clarification.



Rosemary Fletcher
(Minister in Pastoral Charge)



Janis Gilbert
(Senior Steward)

The Methodist Church
Marlborough Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 3XQ

The Minister
The Revd Rosemary Fletcher
9 Allandale
St Albans, AL3 4NG
01727 857826
rosemary.fletcher@methodist.org.uk

Senior Steward
Mrs Janis Gilbert
25 Carlisle Avenue
St Albans, AL3 5LX
01727 857402
janis.idgconsultants@talktalk.net

The members of the MRMC Covid-19 Group are

Rosemary Fletcher (Chair)
Ian Gilbert
Janis Gilbert
Andrew Johnstone
Catherine Meredith
Idy Osibodu
Helen Paustian
James Rowley (Secretary)
Mike Scorer

Judith Head (Safeguarding Officer for MRMC) was an adviser and consultant to the group

This group has been given the authority by the Church Council to continue to meet and update guidelines in response to changing regulations as deemed necessary.