

## E-News

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020



Dear HCBCites,

Things are moving fast with respect to government regulations to contain the COVID 19 virus. As you will be aware, today the Prime Minister raised the alert level to Level 3, and moving to Level 4 within 48 hours. We are all required to stay within our homes as much as possible.

As a consequence, all services and events at HCBC are now curtailed until further notice, including:

- Sunday morning services – at HCBC and Te Whanau Putahi
- “Top Shelf” service on Sunday evenings
- “Upstairs Church” service on Wednesday night
- All Life Group gatherings (under the auspices of HCBC)
- “Flourish” ladies group on Wednesday night
- Intercessors Prayer Group (Monday mornings)
- Youth Ministry events
- “Dine @ Noon” on Thursday lunchtime
- Badminton on Wednesday night

These are truly troubling times and we look to the Lord to guide us and help us hang together even in a social-distancing context. The HCBC staff will be continuing to work, but primarily from home and using electronic-conference media. We will continue to be available to you as much as ever, but by the medium of email, txt messaging and phone calls.

Please, please do not hesitate to make contact if there is anything we can assist with – large or small – as we are still very much a family that cares and works together. If you do not have contact details for myself and John Lockley, please note the following:

Brian Winslade:	E: <a href="mailto:bwinslade@hcbc.nz">bwinslade@hcbc.nz</a> or <a href="mailto:brian.winslade@gmail.com">brian.winslade@gmail.com</a>
	P: 021-419 521
John Lockley	E: <a href="mailto:jlockley@hcbc.nz">jlockley@hcbc.nz</a>
	P: 027-274 2193

The following upcoming events have obviously been either cancelled or postponed:

1. The Garage Sale – planned for Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March
2. The Alpha Course – due to start this Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March
3. The HCBC AGM – planned for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Please look often on the HCBC website ([www.hcbc.nz](http://www.hcbc.nz)) for updating information. It is also our plan to continue to produce a downloadable service/programme for Sunday's (accessible from 6:00am on Sundays – along with the podcast of the sermon). You will be able to access the Sunday programme via the HCBC website – simply click on the red button entitled “Hamilton Central – Virtual.” Better still, subscribe to the HCBC YouTube channel and you will receive notification of when the recorded programme is available.

Obviously, our plan to have small home-based gatherings on Sunday mornings now has to be curtailed. Thank you to those who had volunteered to host these gatherings.

People have also been asking how they can continue to give to the Lord's work through our church. You'll appreciate that this will be vital for the church to survive this period to meet our fixed costs and without the need to reduce staffing. On the home page of the website is a red button entitled "giving" that, when clicked, shows how bank-to-bank giving can occur. We continue to trust the Lord in providing for the church and its ongoing ministries.

Just how long we are required to stay in our homes is uncertain. These are uncharted waters. But we know we will come through this and in the fullness of time life will return to normal. Continue to pray for one another and to stay in phone contact as much as possible. Take comfort from the fact that none of this takes God by surprise and that he is there to call upon in our uncertainty.

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7)

Blessings on you

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Winslade". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Brian Winslade  
Senior Pastor