

LETTER TO CONGREGATION

Dear Friends

It's some weeks since we last wrote, things are moving on and the Christmas season has already started! Sunday congregations have been steadily increasing and we have welcomed new people to Church. A number of groups within the Church have now been meeting for several weeks.

Given the new Government restrictions resulting from the Omicron variant and concerns expressed to us by some members of the fellowship, we feel it right to ask those attending Sunday worship to follow this guidance. Please wear a face covering at all times when on Church premises, including when sitting and singing. We know that some would prefer not to, but we ask that everyone does so for the well-being and reassurance of others. This request applies to high school age children also please. Please continue to be sensitive in face to face conversations with others and before sitting close or hugging. Do ask someone if they are comfortable first before making physical contact. Sanitiser and masks will continue to be available at the door and there will be adequate ventilation.

We are also asking that, as a general rule, face coverings are worn for other Church activities and we are requesting organisation and group leaders to strongly encourage people to do so, including high school age children, except where clearly inappropriate.

These measures will be in force until the end of the Christmas season only and we will then review them in the light of the ongoing situation. We will be having a maximum of 100 seats available in the Church from the Family Service on December 12th through to Boxing Day to allow better spacing and so that people do not feel hesitant or uncomfortable entering the Church. For the Candlelight Carol Service at 4.30pm on December 19th, we will arrange a relay of the service in the Loaves and Fishes. We would encourage Church members to move there before the service if necessary to allow our welcome visitors to sit in Church. No refreshments will be served this year. Leaflets will be available for distribution on the estates this Sunday.

Thank you for your understanding of the need for these steps and we look forward very much to welcoming you and your families to our services over the Christmas period.

With our love in Christ

Iain and the Deacons