## **Church Update – July 2020**

In the government's recent announcements about the easing of the lockdown, they included the option of church buildings being able to re-open for worship services from 4<sup>th</sup> July.

However, in much the same way that not all businesses have physically re-opened on the precise date that they have legally been allowed to, so not all churches will be able to either.

At PBC, we are not in a position to open our doors for services or other activities just yet. There are many complex factors involved in both safely running events in our building, and having the meaningful interaction that we wish to have when we come together.

Therefore, as the guidelines are so new, and some things are still unclear, we cannot rush this process, but must work out what can be done and in an order of priority. Guidelines also may change and make meeting easier, but even this is difficult to predict.

So, at present, we are continuing our online services, as well as online prayer for those who can and wish to join us. We know, for example, that having services online, and providing DVDs for those without internet, means that no-one is excluded from being able to engage in this way.

In addition, there are ways for people to meet up personally to encourage each other: for friendship, discussion, watching online services, Bible study and prayer. These include small groups of people outside, and from 4<sup>th</sup> July, two households within the same house – all subject to social distancing.

We will update you more when things develop and any changes are made.

We're praying for you.

God bless
Dave, Rob and Steve
(PBC elders and trustees)