

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTICE\*\***

Dear Church,

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, the Trustees at Junction 10 called an emergency meeting on Monday 16th March to discuss our options. We then learned that the Prime Minister was going to make a statement to the country at 5pm the same day. Some Churches had cancelled Sunday gatherings from 15th March, and it was also a reluctant option under prayerful consideration for us. However, the announcement by the Prime Minister, and further comments in the House of Commons from the Health Secretary Matt Hancock effectively made the decision for us.

It is with regret we have to announce the Church at Junction 10 will not be meeting at Grace Academy for at least the next two Sundays. We will continue to monitor the situation before deciding whether we are able to resume services at Grace Academy. Having made this decision, today we received an email from our denomination Assemblies of God GB recommending local churches follow the Government's advice, and cancel gatherings.

This is an unprecedented, rapidly developing situation creating numerous challenges for all aspects of society, and the decision to cancel Sunday gatherings was unthinkable just a few weeks ago.

We want to reassure you, this was not a decision made out of fear; we have every confidence and hope in our Heavenly Father for this and every situation. However it is prudent, as well as reputationally important, that we do our utmost to adhere to national guidelines regarding Coronavirus. Westminster is not restricting worship nor indeed freedom of religion. Instead, the leaders of the nation are seeking to curtail the spread of COVID-19.

Work is underway so we can stream a service on Sunday morning for you to join with online – we will give more details once confirmed. Efforts are also now going into making the most of iKnow, WhatsApp, streaming and online services for prayer, and Journey Groups etc, bear with us as we explore the best methods for continued connectivity. We are also looking at how we can best support those most impacted through social distancing and having to self-isolate or quarantine.

The cancellation of Sunday gatherings is an extreme measure and in some ways upsetting, but perhaps a timely reminder for us that as Christians our focus shouldn't solely be on our times of gathered worship. Let's take this opportunity to demonstrate the love of God to those in most need at this time – those who can offer to go shopping for those who can't.

We must also pray. Pray that our online service is seen by people who would not have walked into church, pray for our national leaders, the medical professionals, those suffering with the virus, the most vulnerable, and please continue to pray for the leadership of Junction 10. Our God will not be stopped because Sunday services are cancelled.

If you are not signed up to iKnow, please email [thechurch@junction10.com](mailto:thechurch@junction10.com) requesting access so you receive the latest information straight into your Inbox.

We look forward to you joining us online Sunday morning.

Every Blessing  
Rachel, Kevin & Joe

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13