

Twinned with the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone

27-01-2021

Dear friends,

Chair of District/Superintendent Revd Richard Hall MA

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It now seems likely that the island will be able to return to something like normal from Monday February 1st.

For us this means the following:

- Churches can resume normal activities, bookings etc. from Monday.
- Public worship can recommence from Sunday Feb 7th with the proviso that where individual churches choose to delay until the 14th this is acceptable. There are a number of churches with CPs on the 7th who may find it necessary to delay by a week. If you have a preacher planned for the 7th and choose not to meet you must let the preacher and your minister know.
- The provision of hand sanitiser at all entrances is still required.
- Please resume the practice of keeping a log of those attending for the first month.
- Space should be allocated, where possible, for anyone who wants to attend but maintain social distancing.

It has been our practice, in many places, for communion to be administered on a help yourself basis so that you take the bread and wine without the person distributing touching it. The best advice we now have is that the safest way of distribution is for those serving the bread and wine to use hand sanitiser immediately before the distribution and then distribute in the normal way. This avoids multiple hands touching the bread and the glasses.

There will still be some who cannot attend for various reasons and, therefore, we will be maintaining our online presence for the time being.

All the above is subject to there being no further cases between now and Monday. Please watch the news as our government has the final say on the lifting of lockdown.

Yours,

Richal Hell

As the Methodist Church in the Isle of Man we are called to love and serve in response to God's love in Jesus.

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