

What will MRBC look like after lockdown?

The aim of this questionnaire is to help us think about what the church will be like as lockdown eases and eventually ends. There are two extreme scenarios to bear in mind:

1. Worst case – no vaccine and no treatment are found, and coronavirus remains a threat
2. Best case – vaccine and treatments are developed, and coronavirus is no longer a threat

You don't have to answer all the questions, answer those you can. Please return the questionnaire by Friday 3rd July, details of how to do that are on the bottom of the next page.

'Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.' (Matthew 9:17)

The Lockdown and Me

'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.' (Colossians 4:2)

For personal reflection – there is no need to feed back your thoughts in this section:

1. How has the lockdown experience impacted my walk with the Lord?
2. What areas of my life has God been refining?
3. What habits have I begun that I want to continue?

The Lockdown and Our Church

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.' (Matthew 11:28-30)

1. What have you missed the most about church?
2. Are there any things you've felt relieved to stop doing, things that you won't miss?
3. What kinds of support and activities are the church providing in person and online?
4. What has been good about how we have done things?

Church as Lockdown Eases and Ends

*'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and
streams in the wasteland.'* (Isaiah 43:18-19)

1. Are there things we were doing before lockdown that should not be restarted?
2. Are there things we have started doing in lockdown that should continue?
3. Are there new things that God is calling us to start?
4. A lot of people are now familiar with connecting online – could we use this new way of meeting in church life?
5. What may be the enduring pastoral needs caused by lockdown – economic, emotional, spiritual, medical – that we will need to respond to?
6. How can we share the gospel with people in this new context?
7. What would make you feel safe coming to a church service?

Additional Thoughts And Questions

Please return the questionnaire by Friday 3rd July by email or post.

Email: steve.lineham@btinternet.com - you don't have to return the whole form, you can list section heading and question numbers and give your answers

By post to: 16 Old Hall Close, Felixstowe, IP11 9PQ

With acknowledgements to Hope15:13 church for the original questionnaire.