

Dear Northfield Family

As our country prepares to go into lockdown as a step towards slowing the Coronavirus pandemic that is sweeping the globe, we would like to let you know where we stand, and what is happening at Northfield.

Like the rest of the country, we will also be shutting down our campus until further notice. But we truly believe - as leadership and staff - that ministry has to continue in this time, even though it needs to look very different. We are called for such a time as this! When life is uncertain, we need *more* worship, *more* community, *more* unity, *more* care for the vulnerable, and *more* involvement. Now, more than ever before, we are reminded that Church is not about the building. Church is people, worshipping and serving our God who is in control, and whose presence is with us no matter where we are.

As such, we have decided to focus on three aspects of the life of Northfield in this season: Worship Services, Congregational Care, and Mission and Outreach.

#### *Worship Services:*

- We will be pre-recording services for the next 3 Sundays, as well as a Good Friday service. These services will include a live worship team and a sermon. Because we want the children to know that they are part of this journey with us, there will also be an object lesson included especially for them.
- These services will be broadcast on Sundays and Good Friday at 8am, through our social media and other online platforms. These sermons will also be available in a written and audio format for those who don't have an abundance of data.
- We will also be releasing a short devotional video every night during Holy Week, which will be a short reflection from one of the Ministers and a song from one of our worship teams. We will be releasing these every night of Holy Week at 6:30pm on YouTube and Facebook, to encourage people to join in collective worship, even though we are physically separate.
- In addition to this, we will be sending out a devotional every day to encourage people to connect with God, as well as a Wednesday worship moment at noon, and a Thursday prayer moment at noon. Please look out for all of these moments of digital worship and connection.
- Links will be communicated widely as they become available, through email, WhatsApp, and on our social platforms.
- The youth and young adult ministries will be connecting with their groups intentionally twice a week with some form of input or communication, so that they feel cared for and connected.



**THE JOURNEY OF JESUS**

Holy Week  
**PALM SUNDAY**  
5 April | 8am

**MONDAY - THURSDAY (TENEBRAE)**  
6 - 9 April | 6:30pm

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
10 April | 8am

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
12 April | 8am

We have gone digital for all our services due to the lockdown.  
Check out our social media channels for online sermon options.

Pray at noon  
wherever you are

#WednesdayWorship

#### *Congregational Care:*

- We are in the process of creating Connect Care groups, where we are asking various staff and volunteers to take on a group of 10 to 20 people to connect with, and care for, in this season. They are asked to phone or message each individual once a week in this time, so

that people who are vulnerable or who live alone have personalised care contact from someone at Northfield once a week.

- If there are pastoral or practical concerns, the shepherds of these groups will forward the information to Jackie Leschinsky, who will forward it to someone who may be able to help.
- This is a new initiative and we are asking you to get involved and to be a shepherd in this time of shut down.

Northfield is launching a CONNECT CARE GROUPS ministry to ensure that we as a community stay in regular contact with each other and in particular with those who are aged, vulnerable and living on their own.

If you would like to be part of this unique team who will be tasked to reach out to a small group of people via text or telephone calls, please contact Jackie Leschinsky on 0834545142 or jackiel@nfm.org.za

If you or someone you know would like to have one of our CONNECT CARE GROUPS stay in regular contact with you during the lockdown season via text or telephone calls, please contact Jackie Leschinsky on 0834545142 or jackiel@nfm.org.za

EFT Details  
Northfield Methodist Church  
Standard Bank  
Account Number: 02 105 9446  
Branch Code: 013 042  
Email proof of payment: finance@nfm.org.za

Snap Scan

### Stay Connected

- This will not be the last time we connect with you. We will continue to communicate with you, and hear from you – even during lockdown.
- Our phone lines will be redirected, and someone will handle phone calls that come to our office line during office hours at 0101400210.
- We have a Northfield Whatsapp number for queries at 0790490409.
- You can email Jackie Hayter at [jackie@nfm.org.za](mailto:jackie@nfm.org.za) for information, prayer requests, or any other need, or to be placed on the email list.
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NorthfieldMethodistChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/NorthfieldMethodistChurch/)
- YouTube: [www.youtube.com/northfieldmethodistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/northfieldmethodistchurch)
- Instagram: [www.instagram.com/NorthfieldChurch](https://www.instagram.com/NorthfieldChurch)
- Website: [www.northfield.co.za](http://www.northfield.co.za)

### Mission and Outreach:

The Mission Department at Northfield is working very hard to partner with Government officials and the Army, in order to become an emergency food distribution point. We are still working on the logistics of all of this and we will send more information about this way forward when plans become finalised.

We are humbled and blessed by the team here at Northfield. Every staff member has done more than they are called to do, and have helped each other out. The staff are volunteering across ministries and everyone is trying to do their bit. It is moving to see the unity, care, compassion, passion and genuine love for Jesus in the people here at Northfield.

Last Sunday's scripture for our services was Romans 8:35, and we would like to remind you of this today: - *"Who could ever separate us from the endless love of God's Anointed One? Absolutely no one! For nothing in the universe has the power to diminish his love toward us. Troubles, pressures, and problems are unable to come between us and heaven's love. What about persecutions, deprivations, dangers, and death threats? No, for they are all impotent to hinder omnipotent love"* (TPT).

I believe, in this season, as Northfield, that we do what we can, as well as we can, for as long as we can.

Love and blessings,  
Louise and Team Northfield

