

Dear Northfield Family

I hope and pray that you are doing well.

We started our new sermon series two weeks ago. I am overwhelmed with how the grace of God goes before us. We planned these sermon themes last year in October, and they couldn't have been more relevant for us today. Our new sermon series is 'What About The Church?', and we are preaching this in a time where we explore how to engage in ways of worship and connection differently to how we ever have before.

The team at Northfield have been exploring different ways to connect and worship. Unfortunately a lot of what we are doing is still limited to online resources. We struggle with the fact that this means that a large number of our congregation are not able to be part of what we are doing. However, I thought that I would let you know about some of our new developments, so that you can find ways to plug in where you can.

We continue our online services through various platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, with lower in data audio versions of our sermons available on our website and on Spotify. The main points of the sermon are posted on Twitter.

We continue our midweek worship moment every Wednesday at 12pm with our '#WednesdayWorship' feature, as well as a children's ministry video every Saturday as 'Kidstown in Lockdown'. You can find these on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram. In addition to this we have our daily devotions available Monday to Saturday on Facebook and Instagram, and you can download the entire booklet from our website. We have a 'Pray@Noon' feature on Facebook on Thursdays. You can also find our CreationCare ministry on Facebook. We hope and pray that these resources have been helpful and have allowed you to feel connected to Northfield even though we are separated.

We are also excited to say that we have a number of other ministries which have been able to go online. The Saturday Men's Group meet every Saturday morning, bright and early. Every week we have a different 'guest speaker' from around South Africa, as well as a group discussion around the topic presented by the speaker. As well as a lot of laughter.

Every Second Saturday we have a women's meeting via Zoom. This is part of a bigger ministry for women that we have launched, called the Flourish Women's Ministry. As part of this ministry we have a WhatsApp group as well as a Facebook group. It has been amazing to connect with the women of Northfield in a different way, and we look forward to this ministry continuing long past lockdown.

An exciting development is that we have taken our confirmation classes online as well. We have a number of Confirmands who have asked to continue the confirmation programme for 2020. As such we have taken our confirmation classes to an online platform. We record videos that are sent to different confirmation WhatsApp groups and then the group leaders lead online discussions based on the video inputs. It has been incredible to watch as the confirmation leaders have stepped up their facilitation of the groups in such an unusual way.

We also have a NFMC Marketplace Ministry, where we are equipping business people with various inputs; informational, inspirational and challenging. There is a Facebook group for those who are interested in joining this group.

There are various other ministries, support groups, as well as a number of small groups that meet online.



In addition to these online ministries, we continue with the mission work which has been such a blessing in this season. I am continually humbled by this hard working, dedicated, and compassionate team of people. I am also deeply moved by everyone's generosity towards the mission work at Northfield.

Our coffee shop has been offering 'Mom's Night Off' takeaways on Fridays. You place your order on a Thursday for collection on Friday afternoon.

We are also excited to say that we have been able to put various measures in place to have a limited number of face-to-face meetings with people who need pastoral conversations. We follow strict regulations and procedures in order to try our best at limiting the risk of transmissions.

These are just some of the ways that we at Northfield are trying to connect with each other, and worship God. If you have been unable to connect with us online, please let us know. The office phone is still working, or you can respond to this email, and we will see what kind of plan we can make to include as many people as possible. It is our heart's desire to worship God, care for the vulnerable, and connect with each other.

Love and Blessings
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Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/northfieldvoice/>

Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/show/2N25hbFsCsMVXzwBxSMrK0?si=p5Wt_rWYTCGCsSw5wePaXw