



ASSEMBLIES OF GOD  
GREAT BRITAIN

## National Leadership Update (18/3/20)

We certainly live in unprecedented days. I am praying for God's peace, presence and Divine wisdom to be with you in this season.

This update is to inform you of the following:

1. Recommendations regarding church gatherings
2. Recommendations regarding church finances
3. Update on National Conference
4. Mattersey Bible College
5. England Area days
6. Invitation to National Day of Prayer

### 1. Recommendations regarding church gatherings.

Yesterday in Westminster the Prime Minister advised that the nation should limit social contact in groups. Then at night, the question was raised in Parliament: "What about religious gatherings of people?" The local church is one of the largest national gatherings of people every weekend. 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. We recommend that every local church follows the advice of the Government at this time and does not gather.

For those who do not have the capacity to run Church online, may we encourage you to join with a church online that does?

Over the next few days, we will be posting some "How to" guides on the AoG Intranet regarding gathering as the Church online, social action initiatives & useful online discipleship tools.

My local Church and many others already have services online, so we will also be posting links on the intranet to some of these gatherings.

### 2. Recommendations regarding church finances

Some church financial consultants have recommended that churches plan for a worst-case scenario of up to a 50% drop in Sunday "on the day" tithes and offerings. I know many will

feel this is a faithless act, however shrewd budgeting plans for a worst-case while at the same time faith believes for over and above.

### 3. Update on National Conference

As you will be aware, the National Conference is in less than two months. We are currently in discussion about this and aim to have a decision about the conference to you by Friday. At this moment, if the current guidelines are extended, we may be postponing our national conference to later in the year. We will confirm on Friday.

### 4. Mattersey Bible College

We have today actioned the closure of the college's residential provision, although lectures will continue for all students via our online platform. We will review this again after the Easter break.

### 5. Area, Zone & Hub Events

England's Area Days were due to run on Saturday 28th March. Hub events have been scheduled locally across Scotland, Wales and England. We are obviously, in the light of government recommendations, cancelling these events. However, we want to invite everyone to join us online for a 1-hour gathering, celebrating who we are as AoG and encouraging one another in this season. Look out for more details and the invite coming to your inbox over the next few days.

### 6. National Day of Prayer

It is vital in this season that we press into God for a breakthrough. We are joining with Churches Together in England in calling all Churches to a day of prayer this Sunday. Let us join together, Wales, Scotland and England, to pray for God to move miraculously. Feel free to choose how you lead your Church in prayer. Let's activate over 600 churches in AoG; we know we worship a God who can hear our prayers and heal our land of this virus.

This Friday evening from 19:00 -20:00 I, along with the NLT, will be hosting a Facebook live conversation about how we are working with our local churches to be the Church in this season. We will be sending links out through all of our Social Media platforms.

We are standing with you, believing that our Churches will see unprecedented growth in this season.

Standing with you



Glyn  
National  
AoG GB

Barrett  
Leader

