

Requests have started flowing in for a limited return to small group gatherings at St Peter's. The elders, Brenton, and I met yesterday to discuss a few things and it was decided that due to the number of control requirements as per the bishops' advice, we will not return to formal activities until further notice, which will include larger numbers and fewer restrictions. I will forward this same advice to the African Pentecostal Church as well.

There are simply too many compliance requirements to meet including: one point of entry and a different point of exit from the building, signing in and out with contact information for contact tracing (using your own pen), extensive signage, social distancing marked out on the floor, regular hand sanitisation, and thorough cleaning and sanitisation of all surfaces after each use. I trust that you will understand and support these measures.

It was decided that the welfare shed can re-open with strict social distancing and sanitisation. In my time at St Peter's I have observed that as the weather becomes more inclement and colder, the welfare shed and servants have indeed provided an essential service to many people, providing extremely cheap and sometimes free warm clothing and bedding to the most vulnerable people in our community. This is to be highly commended and encouraged to continue.

Please know that I too am suffering from not being able to gather for worship and fellowship as we are used to, and I pray that we are able to commence some measure of return as soon as it is safe to do so. I have been making visits when requested and I unhappily inform you of the impending departure of our Sister, Tina Turvey for heavenly comfort. Tina is surrounded by a number of her family members and has reached a point of being unresponsive. Please pray for them.

I thank you, Saints, for all you have been doing for each other, for standing strong in faith and love, and for persevering as St Paul puts it. Continue to uphold each other, our Synod, pastors, bishops, and government in prayer and thanksgiving, and give glory to God for his goodness, kindness, love, grace, peace, and mercy to all of humanity.

God bless you all and keep you to life everlasting,

Pastor Greg and family.