

ULVERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

23rd March 2020

UCare - taking opportunities to encourage and support.

Navigating a way to care

Can we care for and support each other now that we are more physically distant from each other?

At UBC we have spoken of U Care as the ministry of mutual care and support that takes place through the whole UBC community.

This care and support takes place at a number of levels:

- Community gathering
- Life Groups
- The Pastoral Care Team

Our gatherings on Sunday are a way to celebrate God's good news and to support each other in everything we do and say. This is not the only way we gather at UBC. There is also Life Groups and other weekly groups such as Craft Group or Youth Group. We are being challenged to navigate other ways to support each other now we are not meeting on Sunday and in normal weekly groups.

This can be a great opportunity to find out what it means to be church together and to discover other ways that help us to love and care for one another.

In Acts 8:1-8 we see how the church was sometimes scattered but that this was God's opportunity to fulfil what was promised of their witness in Acts 1:8.

To meet the challenge we are calling on us all to seek for God's kingdom in new ways, to put Jesus first in our lives, to pray continually & to remain in connection with others.

We want to emphasise the following points as a way of staying connected:

- to use the telephone as a regular point of contact (think of it as our church-wide 'telecare' ministry)
- to reach out to those in your usual weekly groups
- to extend your reach to others you would like to encourage and support
- to refer the needs of people to the pastoral care team.

The Pastoral Care team will focus on people who are sick or isolated. That will be their 'Care Circle' (see below).

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Telecare Follow Up: 'Care Circles'

At the end is a form for you to use in connecting with others.

We are asking that each of us call or make contact with the person / family who is next on your list in your Care Circle in Week 1, then in week 2, the next person down the list and so on.

We suggest that you keep this list in your church directory so it remains confidential, and for your own record, please tick the box once you have made contact.

When the last person in your Care Circle is reached the process can be repeated. We will conclude the care circles when this period of heightened illness has passed.

Should you become aware during your conversation of a significant need please ask for permission to refer the need to the Pastoral Care Team or the person's Life Group Leader.

Suggestions for care conversations

Support or referral of practical needs. Sharing events of the week. Offering to pray. Stories of God's blessing and leading – there will be many stories of how God leads us in difficult times.

Many of you already do this with friends at UBC and share on the telephone. Keep going! For all of us, just remember to listen, to pray and to encourage.

We don't have to solve everyone's problems for them. We are all the better to support each other in looking to God & to staying connected.

Some Care Circle Groups (please use the form below):

Your Life Group

Other Groups e.g. Youth, Young Adults, Craft, Seniors

Ministry Team Leaders/Life Group Leaders

People not in a Life Group/Sick People Please refer needs to the Pastoral Care Team

Aged Care Homes Pastoral Care Team and others.

Please advise us if you would like to make connections in any of these areas.

Contact details: Pastoral Care Team c/- Ken on his mobile or kcollyer@ub.church or the Church Office on 64256306.

U L V E R S T O N E

BAPTIST



CHURCH

Care Circle								
People/Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.								
2.								
3.								
4.								
5.								
6.								
7.								
8.								