

Churches Together Notice

The local community have approached the churches in Maldon to help with the response to the Coronavirus. They have specifically asked us to help with preparing and possibly distributing food parcels for those finding them unable to shop or, due to closure of business/no work etc, in financial difficulty. This is above and beyond the ongoing service by the Food Pantry at Maldon Elim, **which is still open.**

Volunteers from the churches are invited to help at the emergency food drop point and distribution centre

The Salvation Army has already purchased bulk quantities of rice and pasta and delivery of this is imminent with further supplies of tinned goods to follow on as soon as we can get it to us. **We are looking for anyone who is willing and able to help us set up The Salvation Army hall as a drop point and distribution centre for this food response as soon as possible.**

Help that is needed urgently includes:

1 - Any volunteers we may have who would be willing to assist in accepting food donations or sorting food donations Volunteers from churches will need to contact their respective church leader who can verify and refer through to Jon at the salvation Army. This is a verification step to ensure all church volunteers are indeed that. Steps are being taken to ensure that volunteers will be working as safely as possible at the Salvation Army, in line with the government advice.

2 - If we have any stores of tinned goods that can be used immediately while we wait for deliveries to arrive, please can these be dropped at the Salvation Army in Wantz Road.

3- Plastic food bags/Tupperware that can be used for the distribution of rice and pasta and other dried foods are needed – again please drop at the salvation Army.

4- We are hoping that there will be additional funds supplied by local government and through donations by the CVS. Any financial donations to the Salvation Army will allow more food to be purchased, on top of grants from local and national government

Volunteers from beyond the church should contact **Maldon CVS on 01621 851997**. This number will ensure that all data that is needed is captured in a safe and secure way and is also available to those of us directly involved in the response so that we can access the requests for help.

There is a dedicated Facebook page that is verified and is going to be used as the main source of information where possible. This is found at https://www.facebook.com/essexcoronavirusaction/?epa=SEARCH_BOX if we can signpost to this in our online activities we will be pointing our people to a reliable source of information and will be hopefully helping to tackle the huge amounts of dis-information that are currently out there.

Above and through all of this we welcome your prayer support as we seek to serve our community as the church of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the churches in Maldon

Contact details for emergency food centre: Lieutenant Jon Doyle
The Salvation Army, Maldon Corps, 12 Wantz Road, Maldon, CM9 5DE
www.salvationarmy.org.uk/maldon