

Dear Churches,

A Happy Easter to you All!

Just an update on what is going on in Pakistan... I have applied for a 3 month extension visa to give more time to get a flight as it seemed better to wait rather than to try for the limited places on flights, which keep getting cancelled, and arrive having to find somewhere for 2 weeks quarantine. I hope to come back in July, whether the situation has improved or not! I was planning on returning at the beginning of May when my visa ran out, but had to cancel a teacher training programme in Tank School and a holiday in the mountains because of travel restrictions due to the virus.

Here, most people in our area are staying in, and outbreaks tend to be in places where people have arrived in the last 8 weeks or so from abroad. We don't know the extent of the problem as it is difficult to record. All schools, offices and places of worship are closed. We have on-line services in many churches. It is difficult for the children not at school as they don't have internet access and it is not possible to get work to all of them.

Our church here where I live has started a food delivery service, funded by local donations and from my friends in UK. The youth group enjoy buying and packing the things and distributing them. This is all done on a voluntary basis.

Please also pray that the corona virus doesn't come to the poorer areas of Lahore as it is not possible for people to self-isolate with 5 or more people to a room, shared facilities, not enough running water to constantly wash hands or money to buy sanitizers, masks etc. No gardens, toys or craft materials for children either.

So we all continue to pray for the World and for the medical staff and all those at risk.

Rachel

*(Our Mission Partner in Pakistan)*