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Date: 23rd March 2020

Dear Bishop, District Elder, Pastor, Departmental Leader

Re: National Events and the Coronavirus

Bibleway Churches UK – BCYM Youth Congress: 11 April 2020

Bibleway Churches UK Worldwide Convocation: 23rd – 25th May 2020

Holy greetings to you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that you are richly blessed of the Lord.

I am writing to you in connection with the coronavirus/Covid19 and the above national events. As you will be aware this disease is a serious worldwide pandemic. It is impacting every area of life including the church. The Government recently introduced national guidance on the closure of socialising venues. This also extends to places of worship. It also restricts gathering of large numbers of people. The aim of this is to minimise the spread of the virus and protect the most vulnerable. (those over 70 years, those with underlying health conditions of any age. etc).

These restrictions are expected to last 12 weeks (3 months). The situation is to be reviewed monthly by the government and the necessary guidance provided. It is

important to note that this is a changing situation. Updated information can be found on www.Gov.UK.

This directly affects our forthcoming Youth congress and National convention. Bearing this in mind a meeting was held on the 21st March 2020 of the Pastors and Leaders to discuss the matter and hear their views. After careful consideration and prayer, we have taken the decision **to cancel** these events for 2020. We will however consider digital options with the relevant officers and the possibility of delivering an alternative.

This has been a difficult decision to make and is done with the wellbeing of everyone in mind; you, your family, friends and the community. We encourage you to work with us to continue the work of the church albeit differently in these challenging times.

We will use this time to progress the planning for next year which will be our 60th year convention. We ask for your cooperation in making this a great occasion.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Apostle McIntosh or me.

Yours in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Copeland', with a small flourish at the end.

**Diocesan Bishop E Copeland
Bibleway Churches UK**

C N McIntosh

**Apostle C McIntosh
Bibleway Churches UK**