



LINCOLN STREET
Lawrence Hill
Bristol BS5 0BJ

Tel: 0117 955 5606

manager@methodist-centre.org.uk

Opening times

Please note that currently the centre is only open on a Monday and Tuesday 11am – 12:30pm (staff are on site from 9am if you would like to drop items of need off).

Street Folk

Our shop is currently still closed whilst we work at making this safe for staff and visitors of the shop – please note that we will not be taking any donations for the shop at the centre at present – more news on when the shop opening again will be found on the website when this is available.

PPE

If anyone would like to support with providing any PPE equipment such as disposable gloves and masks, hand sanitiser etc. these would be greatly appreciated as we look to possibly open the centre in a new way moving into the winter period (if we are still faced with the Covid19 crisis)

Items of need

Shampoo & Conditioner
Shower Gel
Shaving Foam
Deodorant (spray or roll-on)
Washing Powder
Disposable Masks and Gloves (PPE items)
Baby Wipes
Socks and Pants (pants small, medium and large)
Hand sanitizer
Sleeping bags
Pop up tents

Food

Tinned Stewing Steak
Tinned Corned Beef
Tinned Potatoes
Tinned Minced Beef
Curry Sauces
Sugar
Crisps
Chocolate bars
Soft Drinks (cans or bottles / flavoured water)



Summer 2020



At these challenging and difficult times, we thought it best to keep you all abreast of what we are doing here at The Bristol Methodist Centre.

You would not be mistaken thinking that this update comes to you from some dystopian near future. We are living in very uncertain times at the moment and you honestly couldn't make this stuff up.

The pandemic (Covid19) has dealt a huge blow to our guests. The homeless are the most vulnerable in these circumstances and personally I feel that they have been overlooked during this time leaving many on the streets to fend for themselves and unable to isolate due to having nowhere safe to do so. Some have been put up in hotels and fed, but to me it all seems short term and they have not even begun to look into what happens to these vulnerable people when the hotels ship them back out onto the streets (in July) – where is the intervention? The help and support? There is a discussion to have somewhere around the fact we could find accommodation for the homeless during this crisis, so why can't we find a place for them afterwards! It's a difficult situation and our guests will have to muddle on as they are used to once this charity that has been offered has stopped and they are deemed *not worthy* again of this intervention in the coming weeks or months.

Well with my semi-rant over. What are we doing? Well, we have been busy here at The Methodist Centre running relief days for our guests. We are open on Monday and Tuesday's between the hours of 11am – 12:30pm where we are providing our guests a door service, they can come to the door during this time and collect freshly prepared food, other essentials such as

personal cleaning items, drinks, rucksacks, clothing, tents and sleeping bags if needed and we continue to speak with them and continue our ongoing relationship building. We are serving between 60-80 people a day (on average) and helping them stay fed and clean during this most difficult of times.

But it is not over yet, there is still a long way to go before we can draw a line under Covid19 and life will continue into a new normal for quite some time. We still need your help and support, now more than ever. With the churches being closed and social distancing and isolation being enforced we have been slowly running out of resources, both in terms of items (*food and resources*) and charitable giving (*with churches closed there have been not many offerings coming in that we are used to*) so this is a call for support, to help those who are the most vulnerable. If you can support us please do, you can now (*under government guidelines – which are subject to change*) drop off items of need at the centre – please drop these off anytime between 9am – 12:30pm Monday and Tuesdays (*there is no one on site during the times we are closed and I wouldn't want you having a wasted journey*).

We need your support, our guests need your support and now is the time to come together to continue the great work that The Bristol Methodist Centre is doing now and into this uncertain future we find ourselves in, thank you!

We are also looking at plans on how to open our doors to guests as we work through this strange new world, and we will continue to serve this community as best we can during these troubling days!

Ross Centre Manager