



CHEAP STREET CHURCH

To know the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit and with Jesus as our teacher to show and share our faith

Minister

The Revd Duncan Goldie
01935 812916

The Prayer Ring

is available for an urgent need or situation. Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin
Eirwen Cox 01935 815960
Penny Gardner 01935 389153
Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662

Church Secretary

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NEWSLETTER

14th January 2021



Good Afternoon.

The New Year is well under way and I have mixed feelings about it so far. We started with news that the vaccine for COVID is being rolled out. In fact, here in the second week many of you have already received it. How good is that!

It was Geoff's birthday yesterday. He said he doesn't feel old but the figures tell us otherwise. The good thing about his getting so old is that he is moving up the list for the vaccine!

I was pretty horrified by last week's events in Washington DC. (My home town.) It is pretty hard to accept the violent behaviour. But it does make me pause to think about what was actually said that instigated the actions of so many people. I wondered about the words that come out of my mouth. Do I exaggerate for a reaction? Is that acceptable? The Bible makes lots of references to the power of the tongue. Examples - James 3: 1-18; Matthew 23: 1-39.

Judith wrote to me last week and instead of writing what she does she draws something she sees each day. How wonderful. I look forward to the day I can see her sketch pad. And Finally! Last Sunday many of us were able to come together on zoom for a Cheap

bb Street Service. I think Duncan will understand when I say the best part of the service was being able to see each other! Geoff suggests that a Zoom coffee morning might be a possibility we could consider. (His sister-in-law in B'ham takes part in one) If you have trouble accessing some of the links please let me know. I sometimes have trouble including them in the text. I can send them another way.

Please keep safe.

With love,

Penny

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

By Jackie Bullen

Are you a butterfly?

I have to admit, that's a strange question, but I found myself saying to someone the other day that I felt rather like a butterfly at the moment – always flitting from one job to another, and at the end of the day feeling that I haven't achieved anything. I wonder if you sometimes feel like that.

Since we're unable to do those things that used to regulate our days and weeks, we're stuck at home wondering how we're going to fill the day. Maybe there's something we ought to concentrate on, but find it difficult to motivate ourselves?

Since last March we, as a church, have been unable to perform so many of the outreach activities which were a regular part of our church life, and who knows how long it will be before we can get going again. Even the new plans for setting up the shop can't be implemented until lock-down comes to an end, which is so disappointing. We were

hoping to progress the idea of linking in to the charity, Acts 435, which I've mentioned several times in the past, but the time has not been right to do so.

But perhaps just as the butterfly flitting from plant to plant brings about new birth, we too, as we flit from one activity to another, may be able to spread the love of Christ to those with whom we come in contact, so that they, too, may receive new birth.

NIV UK Acts 1:7-8

“It is not for you to know the times or seasons the Father has set by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Two verses from Singing the Faith, No. 618 – Sacred the body God has created.

Love respects persons, bodies and boundaries.

Love does not batter, neglect, or abuse.

Love touches gently, never coercing.

Love leaves the other with power to choose.

Holy of holies, God ever loving,
Make us your temples; indwell all we do.
May we be careful, tender and caring,
So may our bodies give honour to you.

Ruth C. Duck (b. 1947)

May the Lord bless us and keep us as we walk with Him through this challenging time. Amen

PASTORAL

The latest news on Barbara is that she is improving gradually every day, and last week she had a couple of expeditions in her wheelchair!! Barbara's recovery will take some months and we continue to send our love and prayers to her and the family.

We are sad to say goodbye to Kevin and Kate Fisher who are moving today to be close to their grandchildren. We wish them all the best in their new home.

Perhaps we should say prayers for all the doctors, nurses and all who work in our hospitals and surgeries throughout the

country, for all they are enduring during this third wave of Covid 19.

Finally,.let us pray for each other, keep in touch with our Cheap Street Church Family and Stay Safe
With love and prayers.

Eirwen.

Belated Birthday Greetings.

Happy Birthday to Geoff Gardner for yesterday January 12th, with love and best wishes from all at Cheap Street Church.

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

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Whenever and wherever we pray in the silence of our hearts, we are part of a rich and powerful fellowship, which serves to sustain everyone in our Church Family. Anyone can join the prayer group by just praying.

We hold in prayer Barbara and Dennis Porter; Eileen Higgins's son Robert and his wife Dawn; Clive and Jill Turner and Ellie and Sophie; Yve and Ken Ackroyd and all the family; Janet Baker; Martin Heal; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; Eileen Higgins; Alex Palmer; Peter and Marjorie Kett.

We continue to remember the families of those who have died recently: Derek Hayward, Ron Dolling, Charles Pennington, Gill Hunt, John Hooper, Hilda Clarke, John Green, Graham Pennington and Brian Crew

In this strange time, when lots of time is being spent considering important decisions for all of us at Cheap Street Church, please pray for: all on our Church Council at the moment, And of course our minister Duncan. We should also remember all those getting their heads around the technology needed to broadcast our services on Sunday. They are trying hard to be all inclusive.

Thank you.

PRAYERS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Kenya: Even though Kenya is a majority-Christian country, many Christian communities are affected by persecution. Al-Shabaab is a growing presence in the counties bordering Somalia and monitors, attacks and intimidates Christians. Believers from a Muslim background in the north-east and coastal regions live under constant threat of attack – even from their closest relatives. Organised corruption and crime is a serious problem; co-opted officials turn a blind eye to the activities of persecutors, which encourages further acts of persecution.

Lord Jesus, please draw near to our brothers and sisters in Kenya who need your healing power and presence. Strengthen believers to be witnesses for You in their communities. May You turn the hearts of those intent on harm away from violence and hatred towards Your love, mercy and forgiveness. Amen

Letters

Dear all,

I thought as the weather is not so nice and the evenings are still a little long and dark, you might **enjoy listening to stories**, rather than having to read yourselves. Below is a link to an English learner website with **audiobooks**.(original text!) It is **free and easy to use**.

When you click on the link, you get 5 categories:

classic novels novels novellas
short stories listen&read

You click on the category you want. Say 'classic novels'. A book (Jane Austin) appears. Scroll down and you see a long list of book titles. Click on the title you want. The title page of the book appears with a synopsis of what the book is about. If you like it, click on the arrow "go to book index", then click on chapter 1. You can choose between faster / slower listening speed at the top. When the chapter is finished, just scroll down and click on 'next chapter'.

<http://esl-bits.net/>

I think it is a lovely treat to listen to a story. I hope you like it.
Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards,
Ruth

My mother Renee Bennett from St John's Almshouse has been a member of your congregation and also receives your newsletter. Due to her health mum has moved to Bristol on the 4th January. Her new address is Room 66, Garden House, Cote Lane, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, BS9 3TW
Tel: 0117 9198722

If any of your congregation would like to stay in touch with mum she is happy for them to have her details. If they are writing to mum I would suggest they include their contact details so that mum can communicate with them.

Please do contact me if you have any queries.
Kind regards,
Lyn

Our daughter, Juliet (who lives in North Yorkshire), sent us this photo of her first hug of the year. She says she is not as big as she looks - she is wearing six layers of warm clothing!



Raymond

STAMPS

Just a note for the news :- Michael and Hilary have received a thank you letter from the Leprosy Mission for the last batch of stamps we sent last Autumn.

Please keep collecting for this worthy cause. Let us have the stamps when we can get together again. Remember just a quarter of an inch of paper round them please to keep the postage costs down. Many Thanks,
Michael and Hilary Brown

VACCINE SCAM

Please be alert around scam text messages/cold calls telling you that you are eligible for a Covid vaccine, do not provide your payment details or any personal details in links attached. When your GP contacts you about the vaccine, they will not ask for payment!

The NHS will never ask you for banking details, passwords, or Pin numbers and these should serve as instant red flags.

KNITTING

Praise God, Margaret Walker is still the wonderful leader for our knitting group. She wishes for us all to know there is a need for any wools you may have to spare; anybody willing to knit? Anyone willing to sew up the blankets? Anyone to knit little jumpers? Please get in touch. She would be very pleased to hear from you, and roll on the time when we see the Knitting Group in the hall again!

Colleen

CHURCH MEETING

There have been developments regarding the position of Church Treasurer and we shall need to take these forward at a Church Meeting. This will be held by Zoom on Thursday January 28th at 7:00pm and will be the main item on the agenda.

Time: Jan 28, 2021 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 932 8112 1411

Passcode: 200583

THE MINISTER'S THOUGHTS FOR THIS COMING WEEK

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 17th January 2021 Epiphany 2.

Psalms 139, 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51.

Psalms 139 is one of my favourite Psalms

because it speaks of a God who knows us better than we know ourselves; a God who we can be honest with and who will be honest with us; and a God who when He speaks to us, in whatever way God asks something of us, knows exactly what He is doing even if we feel He might have asked the wrong person. Samuel knows someone is speaking to him but does not know who, even though he has lived at the centre of the worship of God in Israel at that time. It is the priest Eli that realises that it is God who is speaking to Samuel. And it is Eli who encourages Samuel to say faithfully all that God has given him to say even though it is a message that is not easy for Eli to hear.

Nathanael in our reading from John is invited by Philip to go meet and discover who Jesus is only to find that Jesus already knows all about him. Like Philip, Nathanael is invited to accept Jesus into his life and to follow where Jesus will lead him in his life. The invite is no accident; Jesus knows who Nathanael is and what he can be asked to do.

Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, is encouraging his readers to be ready to hear and respond to God speaking to them by living their lives in the correct way. In this current time of the Covid pandemic it is important that we do seek to do what is right to protect others and ourselves from the virus. This is why our coming together to worship God and our meetings will have to remain on zoom for the time being, as we seek to hear what God is saying to each one of us.

Hymn Singing The Faith 663. I, the Lord of sea and sky, [Click here](#)

Duncan

Order of Zoom Service – 3.00 pm Sunday

Notices Welcome & Call to Worship. Isaiah 60:1. music. Singing the Faith 6. Father we love You,

Prayer

Readings 1 Samuel 3:1-21. John 1:43-51.

Sermon (reference above)

What do the readings say to you?

Music. Singing the Faith 673. Will you come and follow me,

Prayers

Music Singing the Faith 470. Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,

Benediction

NEW POEM

Lockdown does have some advantages! It has given Sue Bradshaw (Jackie Bullen's daughter) time to turn her thoughts into poetry again. Christine Rogers enjoyed her latest poem so much that she asked if we could include it in our Newsletter. Sue replied that she would be honoured if we did so.

JESUS THE INFLUENCER

So how would a modern day Jesus appear
And how would he make himself known?
Imagine his profile page if you dare.
Do you think he'd be glued to his phone?

He'd set up a twitter account I expect
And tweet about all sorts of things.
Disciples re-tweeting and spreading the word
A bit like an angel with wings.

He'd put things on Facebook and people
could share
They wouldn't take long to go viral.
The good news passed on to the world in a
flash
A bit like a book called "The Bible".

His Linked-in account I'd be eager to see
Endorsements would come from his boss,
Promoting transferable skills to the world,
A bit like he did on the Cross.

So how is it possible back in the day
When internet wasn't around
That Jesus has influenced millions of us
His love and his light we have found.

ALTERNATIVE SUNDAY WORSHIP

SHERBORNE ABBEY -The Abbey Services are also suspended until it is safe to come together in worship.

Radio 4: 8.10 am – I will sing with the Spirit
[Sunday Worship](#) From All Saints Leighton Buzzard with Alexander, BBC Radio 2 Young Chorister of the Year 2020.

URC resources: [click here](#). The digital edition of the URC monthly magazine Reform is on free access during the lockdown: [click here](#).

URC: [daily devotions and a Sunday service](#) ([click here to subscribe](#)).

There are a lot more resources on the Methodist Church Web page.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

The newsletter is compiled by Penny Gardner or George Faris so please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:
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