

HANHAM METHODIST CHURCH



Life ahead seems very uncertain at the moment, we are easing out of lockdown and yet the virus is still out there filling us with the fear of catching it. I am sure many of us are concerned that there may be another lockdown, possibly sooner rather than later. We wonder what the “new normal” will look like and what can we learn from this experience. We also want to look forward to better things and I know some of us have been able to see our grandchildren - a long awaited joy and pleasure. This uncertain future and these mixed feelings can bring on even more anxiety but we have a God who gives us reassurance. Philippians 4:6 says “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. If we can pray about these things that make us anxious and leave the problem with God this can ease our anxieties.

We all want to get back to some kind of normality but that is not going to happen for some time, in fact it seems strange to be waiting on the Prime Minister’s decision that it would be safe to sing in church, to be able to shake hands or to hug. This is a very strange world at the moment. However making things better is not just waiting for things to pass or waiting on someone else’s decision. We can change how we feel about things ourselves. We can wait for a phone call or we could go and pick up the phone to someone else; we could be bored or we could take up a new hobby. We could sit inside or we could sit in the garden or go for a distanced walk. We could moan about things or we could be thankful for the good things in our lives.

I was looking at some Bible notes earlier in the week and what was said encouraged me and I trust it will do the same for you.

“While we are waiting for things to change, God is working, Jesus said ‘My Father is always at His work’ (John 5:17 NIV). In our waiting room the sign might read “Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10) You can be still because He is active, resting because He is at work. So if we offer Him our prayers about our anxieties we can rest knowing that God is busy”.

Let’s all be encouraged that God knows what we are going through, that we have friends we can chat with on the phone, or distantly meet up with, that the virus is not so prevalent as it was and that we have hope in God and if anyone is struggling I encourage you to pick up the phone and talk to someone.

This newsletter (for want of a better name) was started as a way to keep us all in touch with one another, to provide that link between us - so that we don’t feel so isolated and it is the one thing we all have access to and for now, this has to be our smile, our handshake and our hug.

Joan

JMA, Home Missions and Network Boxes

As it is now July, and coming to the end of the financial year, I would like to collect all the above boxes for emptying, in the next couple of weeks. This will enable me to forward much needed funds to continue Mission work at home and abroad. Would box holders please contact me to arrange either collection or delivery.

Thank you all for your continued support and I hope that everyone stays safe and well”

Best Wishes

Janet Morgan. Tel. 9616623



Greetings

Pam B was talking to Paul Hardy recently and he sends good wishes to you all.

Questionnaire

Please remember to return your questionnaire by the 3rd August.

Gift Day

I am delighted to report that the Gift Day total to date now stands at £5152. Again my thanks to everyone who contributed in such a generous way to this tremendous effort.



The new offering envelopes will be here shortly and I will endeavour to get them delivered in time for the new Methodist year. If you would prefer to pay direct into the churches Bank account I can give you the necessary details.

Tim Lansdown.
Treasurer

Poem

The cruise industry has taken a bashing during the pandemic and this has inspired me to write this poem (tongue in cheek may I say). For clarification, the last ship we went on had the latest tracking and personal communication system called medallion class which enabled passengers to, among many other things, order drinks and open doors. Every passenger had a medallion which they carried at all times.

I'LL NEVER AGAIN

I'll never again go cruising on the briny sea
I'll never again go cruising, it's not now the thing for me
I'll never again see my cabin with it's bathroom of fibre glass
I'll never again get free laundry 'cos I travel elitist class
I'll never again go cruising to a Carib Isle
I'll never again board the tender, queueing in single file
I'll never again demand a table for two when we dine at night
I'll never again remember port's left and starboard's right
I'll never again use my medallion to order drinks and open a door
I'll never again remind my wife we're on a deck and not a floor
I'll never again look forward to that magical day when we unpack our belongings before we sail away
If ever again i go sailing, great risks I'll refuse to take
If ever again I go sailing, it'll be on Portsmouth's boating lake
JHL



Please continue in prayer for those who are unwell, for our church and that a vaccine will soon be found for Covid 19.



LET'S CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER

FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM