



16th August 2020

The **Methodist Church**

South Warwickshire Circuit

Registered charity no. 1154830

Hello!

Every year, since I was four years old, this point in August has seen my annual stationery stock check and procurement. It has always felt important to face the new school/academic/Connexional year with fresh supplies of pens, notebooks, and occasionally a new bag to put them in. This year I have branched out with a new array of inks for my fountain pens, including majestic purple and chocolate brown.

For over forty years, I have been part of institutions that have begun their year on the first day of September rather than January. This year is different for all the reasons we already know, so whilst I have done my usual re-stock, I don't yet know what life beyond 1st September will require in terms of stationery.

We have become so used to the great Church machine spluttering back into life and carrying us through the normal round of meetings and festivals, we hardly give it a second thought. Now, circumstance is forcing us to reflect on what we would have done, but cannot. I pray our disappointment will be tinged with hope because we have been given a rare opportunity to really think about what we have been doing up to now. I am certain that, as we begin a new Methodist year, the Spirit is giving us fresh insight and wisdom, and guiding us into new and refreshed patterns of Christian life and service.

Sam McBratney

Reminder: Dial – a – Prayer, Methodist Church

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Sunday Worship and Daily Prayers

There are plenty of opportunities to join in worship if you have the internet. We are encouraging everyone to link up with the live stream worship being offered by the Birmingham District via FaceBook on Sunday mornings at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Birminghammethodistdistrict/live>

Change of YouTube account:

Please note, the Circuit now has its own YouTube account (it's no longer piggy-backing off Peter's), which means that the URL has changed. Please access the YouTube video by clicking the following link or typing it into your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzyDSCOYMtQvpCroUvvxjE93MqkTWQomY>

In addition, we will be offering services online on the Circuit's own FaceBook page or via the Website:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SW.Methodist/>

Website: www.methodist-swc.org.uk

A full text of this service is available at this FaceBook link and on the website, and is being sent by post to all those people who do not use the Internet so they can join in too. These worship opportunities will be available and sent to you every Sunday. We will be offering worship in a similar way each Sunday as the health crisis continues.

TV & radio opportunities for worship:

Radio 4, Sunday Worship, Sunday 8:10am,

Radio 4 Long Wave, Daily Service, 9.45am Mon-Fri,

Radio 3, Choral Evensong, Sunday 3pm.

BBC 1, Sunday Worship, Sunday 10.45am,

BBC 1, Songs of Praise, Sunday 1:15pm

(The times of the TV services can alter, please check the times)

Daily prayers at 10am are led by members of the circuit via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/328494818> Please contact Michael Sharman on 07412 401988 if you'd like help getting in.

Pastoral Support

A reminder that if you are in pastoral need of any kind please contact your own Minister direct by email or phone. We may also be able to arrange practical help with shopping and so on. Our details are below.

If in any doubt, please contact Rev. Audrey Simpson and she will link you up with help locally to you.

Rev. Barbara Greenwood	01926 740846	barbara.greenwood@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Audrey Simpson	01789 267971	revaes@gmail.com ,
Rev. Jeongsook Kim	07741 461060	revjeongsook@gmail.com ,
Chris Flood	07772 292033	chrisflood_erniescheu@hotmail.com ,
Rev. Jemima Strain	07969 345389	jemima.strain@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Sam McBratney	07706 586860	s.mcbratney@methodist.org.uk ,
Rev. Richard Wilde	07971 218356	revrichardwilde@gmail.com ,

Keep safe. Keep caring. Keep praying. With every blessing to you and yours.

The Ministers and Stewards of the South Warwickshire Methodist Circuit of Churches