19th July 2020



South Warwickshire Circuit Registered charity no. 1154830

"I thank God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you" Philippians 1:3-4

Dear friends,

This is my last contribution to the weekly pastoral letters and my last word to you before I move to pastures new. First, I'd ask that you continue to pray for Rev. Dr. Iain Ballard and his family as they prepare to move to South Warwickshire. As you know Iain will be the new Superintendent here starting on the 1st September. Iain brings many gifts and much experience to the Circuit and I know that you will all give him every support in his ministry here.

Second, I'd be pleased to hear that the Circuit continues to have a special care for those who cannot attend church due to infirmity or fear. That your welcome will be inclusive and to all no matter their station or position in life. God welcomes all and we must do no less in his name.

Third and last, be kind to one another and so fulfil our calling as followers of Jesus. Forgive one another and look for reconciliation and seek peace.

I can't improve on the words of St. Paul to the church at Philippi, words that I hold in my heart and mind as I pray for you all.

"I thank God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the One who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my trials and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God." Philippians 1.3-11

Sunday Worship and Daily Prayers Sunday Worship:

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 10:30

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

This Sunday, the District Service will include 'goodbyes' to Rev Peter Powers

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

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=142865293925553&id=110929903785759

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9E0b5XWCv-SB0co6kiL5AyIbMJ77Q MN

This service is also available on the Circuit's website: www.methodist-swc.org.uk

A full text of this service is also available at this FaceBook link and is being sent by post to all those people who do not use the Internet so they can join in too. These two 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 (These are the usual times for the services, but they do alter sometimes.)

Daily prayers

Daily at 10am these are led by members of the circuit via zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/328494818

Please contact Michael Sharman on 07818 118979 if you'd like help getting in

Reminder: Dial – a – Prayer, Methodist Church

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514 Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

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,
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Rev. Jeongsook Kim	07741 461060	revjeongsook@gmail.com,
Chris Flood	07772 292033	<pre>chrisflood_erniescheu@hotmail.com,</pre>
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,
Rev. Peter Powers	07941 328155	revpeter.mwc@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