



NEWSLETTER

March 2021

FROM THE MINISTER'S STUDY

Dear Friends,

As I wrote this article, as part of my District responsibilities, I was taking part in the regional probationers' retreat, which was held virtually on Zoom. We spent time reflecting on the Beatitudes from Matthew 5 and in the session that I led, I indicated that "inheriting the earth" often made me reflect on what it means to know life in all its fullness.

Lent during a pandemic is perhaps a good time to think about this phrase. The coronavirus crisis certainly reminds us that we will all have up and downs in our lives, and a life in all its fullness will apply equally to both. And the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem and the cross certainly illuminates that in our discipleship, a life in all its fullness will not always be an easy road.

In the conversation that followed, someone also made the crucial point that a life in all its fullness did not mean a life full to the brim. I know after a year of isolation for so many people, many might long for business and the opportunities that might start to reappear when the restrictions change. But I wonder if having an enforced dislocation from the life we knew last March is an opportunity for us all to reflect once again on what Jesus had in mind us when he said "I have come, so you may have life, life to the full".

Love, peace and joy

Andrew



MINISTER

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SENIOR STEWARDS

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ZOOM SERVICES

Our Zoom services will continue in March at 11.30am each Sunday.
All are welcome to join us.

March 7 th	Rev. David Speed
March 14 th	Dr. Cathy Milne
March 21 st	Mr. David Blount
March 28 th	Mrs. Susan Johnson

The number for all Zoom services will be
Meeting ID: 885 5454 1347 Passcode: 067087

LENT MEDITATIONS

As we still cannot meet in person this Lent we invite you to join us on Zoom for a series of weekly meditations. The meditations that we held during Advent proved to be very popular, so we do hope that as many members and friends as possible will also be able to join us during Lent.

The dates are	
Tuesday March 2 nd	John Wilson
Tuesday March 9 th	Steve Corah
Tuesday March 16 th	Susan Johnson
Tuesday March 23 rd	Margaret Sendall

Starting **at 7.00pm**

The Zoom login will be
Meeting ID 859 1523 9443 Password 509386



Please submit any items for the April newsletter by email to
Nuthall@NNEMethodist.org.uk
by **Sunday March 21st**. Thank you.

NUTHALL NEWS

PRAYER STREETS

Please remember the residents of the following streets in your prayers. Our friends at St. Patrick's Church and the churches in Kimberley are joining with us in this activity. The streets in italics are in Kimberley.

March	7 th	Laurel Crescent & Lovell Close <i>Digby Street & Coatsby Road</i>
	14 th	Maple Drive & Larkfield Road <i>Bassett Close & Ruislip Close</i>
	21 st	Assarts Road & Little Holland Gardens <i>Almond Close & Tewkesbury Drive</i>
	28 th	Boden Drive, Atkinson Gardens & Oakash Court <i>Kimberley Close & Spring Hill</i>

PAUSE FOR PRAYER

Each Wednesday **at 10.00am** a small group of people from Nuthall meet on Zoom to spend half an hour in prayer. **(Please note change of time)** We open with a song video followed by a reading, short reflection or prayer then for the rest of the time people say prayers out loud or just listen and pray silently.

There is no pressure to speak and it is also fine to turn off your video if you prefer to do that. It is a time of peaceful reflection and anyone is welcome to join us, either regularly or whenever you feel you would like to be there.

The Zoom meeting number is 487 834 971; a password is not required.

If you need any more information contact Gail Brockway or Cathy Milne.

EASTER POSTERS

Many thanks to those of you who have submitted 'blue' or 'green' pictures to help with the background for our planned Easter poster. Work is progressing well with the design – Rev. Barbara hopes to have it ready for printing by mid March.

As with the Christmas posters, we would like to encourage as many of you as possible to display one of the posters in your window or garden. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring the Easter message of hope and renewal to the residents of Kimberley and Nuthall as they pass our homes.

Please let Margaret Sendall know if you would like a poster.

Thank you.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – FRIDAY MARCH 5TH

Each year World Day of Prayer focuses on a different country, this year it is Vanuatu.

Vanuatu is an island nation, comprised of 80 islands in the South Pacific. Although they have had only one case of Covid 19 to date, they are badly affected by the reduction in tourism to their islands.

The prayer below has been written by one of the members of the national committee from Vanuatu who have prepared resources for the World Day of Prayer. Although we are not able to meet in person for the annual service, we can still pray in safety in our own homes.

Coconut Prayer

Praying while looking at a coconut from that life giving tree.

Its water refreshes, Lord refresh us in your love.

Its inner flesh feeds, Lord feed us in your love.

Its oil is nourishing, Lord nourish us in your love.

Its coir from the shell can be woven, Lord wrap us around in your love.

Its leaves and trunk can build good houses, Lord build in us the knowledge of your love.

So, we here on earth can be witness to your love,

Given to us through your life - giving tree, the cross. Amen.

(Christine Miles)

CHURCH WINDOWS

I am sure everyone will agree that the different church window displays have brightened up daily walks for lots of people. We are now planning to have a spring display which will gradually grow over the next few months. We are hoping to involve lots of different groups in this and will be in touch with Sunday school children and the Brigades shortly. If anyone else would like to be involved then please draw / paint / collage a flower. This can be of any type but roughly the size of an A4 piece of paper and flat enough to be able to be fastened to the window on the decorated side. Flowers can be dropped off at either the Bales or Blounts houses or collection can be arranged. If you need address details or would prefer to send a picture of your art work digitally please contact Kathryn.



BESTWOOD & BULWELL FOODBANK

Thank you to everyone for your continuing support for the Foodbank – both in the form of food and monetary donations. During the past few weeks Doug and Margaret have taken the following gifts:



January 5 th	73 items + £30 + 6 packs of 40 nappies
January 19 th	164 items + £70 + 3 packs of 40 nappies
February 2 nd	193 items + £13
February 16 th	154 items + £40

The food bank still needs our generous giving during this lockdown, and the usual donation points are still open on Mondays and Thursdays. Many, many thanks.

40 Days - 40 Items for the Foodbank

At the recent Church Council we discussed how we could further help the Food Bank. It was suggested that during Lent we put an item in a box for the forty days and then donate it to the Food Bank. It may be nice as well as the normal items to include some Easter treats for the children in the box.

The boxes need to be delivered to either Doug and Margaret Waldram or Janet and John Wilson by Thursday March 25th in order to be in time for Easter. If you need someone to come and collect your box please let Doug or John know and this can be arranged.

We hope as many people as possible will take part in this venture.

Thank you

CALLING ALL JMA COLLECTORS!

We do hope that you are still continuing to collect money for Junior Mission for All (JMA). Hopefully by now your box will be bulging! If you would like to have it emptied please could you kindly drop it round to either of us. Alternatively, Margaret will be pleased to come and fetch it from you – just give a ring.

Many thanks for your continued support for this vital work both at home and overseas.

Marjorie Silverton and Margaret Sendall (JMA Secretaries)

LYNN AND DAVID ARE WALKING FOR WATER

Each day during Lent Lynn and David are walking 10000 steps to support the Cafod campaign to provide clean water for communities which don't have access to something we all take for granted. They would welcome your prayers for encouragement (and good weather!) and if you are able and willing to sponsor them then please follow this link;

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/teams/david-and-lynn>

Thank you

KIMBERLEY & NUTHALL PRAYER WALK

With longer daylight hours, and hopefully better weather, next month you are invited to participate in a prayer walk taking in many locations in Nuthall and Kimberley. The full route is approximately 10km (6 miles). Depending on your fitness and ability, walk all of it or choose a shorter section.

If you are unable to walk it physically, please do a virtual walk and picture the route in your mind and stop off at each point. The idea is to stop and reflect at each point on the walk and say an appropriate prayer. Some suggestions are provided but please tailor your prayers to your personal situation.

For the route, please see the separate sheet.

Please remember that due to current Government restrictions you must either walk alone, with members of your household or bubble, or with your 'exercise buddy'.

CHRISTIAN AID

The ground breaking work of Christian Aid began in 1945 when they were founded by British and Irish churches to help refugees following the Second World War. For the last 75 years they have provided humanitarian relief and long term development support

for poor communities worldwide. They have constantly highlighted suffering, tackled injustice and championed people's rights.

At Nuthall Methodist Church we have regularly supported the work of Christian Aid. If you feel able to donate to them this year it can be done through their website at www.christianaid.org.uk. If you are unable to donate in this way but would still like to make a donation please contact Val Stone. Thank you for your support.



During the last year, I have made £1,000 for Christian Aid (when everyone has paid up!) by selling cards. I have in stock:- birthday, special birthdays (18, 21 and all that end in a zero), bereavement, thinking of you, anniversary, special anniversaries (silver, ruby, gold and diamond) new home, retirement, get well, congratulations, new baby, thank you and children of all ages. I can make Easter cards for those that want them. All 75 pence, and all the money goes to Christian Aid. All cards **wanted** (especially new baby, new grandparents, 90th birthday and new home at the moment). If we're not in, leave them in the porch – we aren't going away!

Sales from the doorstep - Janet Wilson

ECOCHURCH

We have exciting news and lots to tell you this month!

Firstly, we now have solar panels installed on the roof of church. These are due to be connected very soon and then we can start to produce our own electricity from solar power! This is a huge step forward in trying to reduce our carbon footprint as a church. We are really grateful to the property and finance committee for moving this project forward during lockdown and thanks in particular to David Blount for all the work he has done in sorting this out.

Secondly, Fairtrade fortnight runs from 22nd February to 7th March this year. The Fairtrade foundation are running a FREE online festival with lots of activities, on-line events hosted by celebrities, information and recipes. You can learn all about Fairtrade, its links to climate change and social justice. It looks great! Check out the line-up on www.fairtrade.org.uk/choose-the-world-you-want.

During Lent, rather than giving something up this year, how about taking up some life-affirming steps to respond to the injustice of climate change? Here are some suggestions from Tearfund which can be done even in lockdown!

- Eat seasonally
- Buy nothing new
- Green your energy
- Adopt new walking or cycling habits

The resources from the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) living lent campaign <https://livinglent.org> that ran last year, exploring climate change are also available. These give lots of ideas of how we can make small positive steps to our lifestyles.

Finally, if you are planning on buying Easter eggs this year, there are several Fairtrade options available in local supermarkets. In addition, the Meaningful chocolate company are again producing a Fairtrade Easter egg which contains a booklet with the story of Easter, is palm oil free, has plastic free packaging and supports local charities. It is available in some supermarkets but also for order via <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk>.