

Weekly Notes for Sunday 26 July 2020

Hello everyone,

I do hope you have had a good week. I know some are managing to get away for a few days, others are staying put for the moment, and it seems there's a run on new grandchildren! What a blessing!

In the background, there's a lot happening to support the work of SFC ...

APPEAL

Attached to this email you will find some appeal information about the vent tower that sits on the church roof. Please read this – this is an appeal to raise money for some much-needed repair work to the church roof. A Gift Aid form is included. If you are able to help please return the completed form (paper or email) to me (Maggie) or Lynne.

SPECIAL REQUEST

The service on Sunday 16th August will be a special service led by the Elders and will be Songs of Praise. So, we are asking you to email me (Maggie) with the name of your favourite hymn and a few words about why it is your favourite. And if you are willing to say those words yourself during the Zoom service. If speaking like that isn't your thing, please don't worry – one of the elders could speak on your behalf instead.

Please email by 4th August. We're hoping for a really good mix of hymns & songs!

PRAYER REQUESTS

The funeral of Joyce Pamela Mascall takes place at Sawston Free Church on Tuesday 28th July. Please pray for Joyce's family as they mourn their loss.

Please remember in your prayers those who are still not back at work since the lockdown started in March. For them there is a lot of uncertainty about when and if they return to work – a huge amount of worry and stress.

Gordon and Rosemary thank you for your prayers for their son and his family, whose younger daughter was born on Wednesday, weighing in at 8 lb 4 ounces. The proud parents have yet to decide on her name. Mother and child are in hospital as they both recover.

Please continue to pray for Gordon and Rosemary's new granddaughter and her parents.

Please do remember to let me know of any prayer requests.

WORSHIP

Tomorrow's Zoom service is Go4th. Please be ready with your wine and bread or substitute. All are welcome to take part. Like before, if you need the link or login details, please call Maggie and please be aware that the full (audio & visual) recording of this service will appear on our church website. Please try to join Zoom before 10.30am to get settled in.

August services (via zoom) ...

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 2 August | With St Mary's (Zoom) for Rev Alan Partridge's last service before he retires |
| 9 August | TBC |
| 16 August | Songs of Praise– you choose the hymns! |
| 23 August | Go4th |
| 30 August | Rev Paul Whittle |

Please let me(Maggie) know if you know someone who doesn't have access to the internet who would like a transcript printed from the zoom services. We currently deliver paper copies to 5 people.

ONLINE

Don't forget there is a really rich selection of resources on line as highlighted in previous emails - children's activities and worship, church virtual services, book recommendations, Paul Whittle's blog, the URC websites, some wonderful Christian music & songs on YouTube, prayers focussing on Coronavirus, etc. Have a browse – www.urch.org.uk & www.urch-eastern.org.uk.

A PRAYER FROM AUSTRALIA

O loving God, we pray that you will give us courage and wisdom
as we face the hard realities which confront us
in life around the world today.

May those with gifts for human help and hope
discover ways which help us
to end the threatening infections of coronavirus
and restore our lives to a new day.

Give to us, we pray, a profound sense of creative community,
as we care for each other,
especially those who are most vulnerable.

Hold us in your arms, like a loving parent would,
as we journey into the future.

Call us towards deeper faith, O Christ,
believing that you are with us.

And lift our hearts, O Holy Spirit
as we face each moment. **Amen.**

Revd. Dorothy McRae-McMahon, South Sydney Uniting Church

Please remember to share this email with others you know who don't receive email.

Stay safe and keep well everyone! And thank you so much again for your ongoing support.

Maggie

XX