

Weekly Notes for Sunday 13 September 2020

Hello everyone,

I hope you have had a good week and you're enjoying the nicer warm weather. I have lots to tell you so please keep reading to the end ...

FLOWERS

Have you looked at the front church glass doors when you're passing? You will have noticed flowers or a plant – many thanks to everyone involved with that whether they are buying plants or flowers and/or arranging them, your efforts are very much appreciated.

This week there was a new volunteer – Abbie! I am told she and Rosemary had a delightful time arranging flowers. Abbie's efforts are at the front of church alongside a beautiful plant from Linda Moxon – do have a look when you pass by. Abbie, thank you so much for your energy and enthusiasm – so much appreciated! 😊 (see photo on the homepage.)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to hold Julie and her wider family in your prayers whilst they prepare for her Mum's funeral later this month.

And as you will know, Tony Moss broke his hip on Sunday and had to go through a high risk op, and he lived to tell the tale! Your prayers and good wishes have been gratefully received but Tony, his doctors, nurses and of course Pam and family very much need us to continue to pray for them as he faces a very challenging recovery.

Hazel broke her wrist recently – please pray for Hazel and Frank as she deals with another broken bone and we pray that her lively fighting spirit keeps her going through to a full recovery.

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

WORSHIP

The Elders met this week and had a long discussion about whether it's time yet to go back into our church building for Sunday worship. There were many factors to consider – everyone's safety, social distancing, hygiene, limited numbers, not allowed to sing, etc. We felt the best way forward is to do a trial service as a one off which will be 'live' Sunday worship at church alongside using Zoom at the same time. That way we should be able to include everyone. We will need to have a booking system to keep a check on numbers but more on that later. We plan to do this trial on Sunday 4th October at 3pm with Rev Paul Whittle. *That is the same day as the Sawston Fun Run which will be in the morning with 100 runners but lots of spectators social distanced along the route. So that's why we're going for 3pm.* Paul Whittle will explain more tomorrow morning. But please remember it's on 4th October at 3pm zoom & at church. After that we will be looking for your feedback and then the Elders will review that and make a decision about whether to make it a regular thing or hold off for a bit longer.

FYI, alongside that, Elders also looked at lettings in detail, but more updates on that next week.

Tomorrow's service is with Rev Paul Whittle. It's the usual link. If you need it, please email Maggie. **AND PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE FULL (AUDIO & VISUAL) RECORDING OF THIS SERVICE WILL APPEAR ON OUR CHURCH WEBSITE.**

September services (via zoom)

13 September	Rev Paul Whittle (Holy Communion)
20 September	Rev Deborah McVey
27 September	Go4th

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.

A Note from David Lloyd

After the service last Sunday morning I had a couple of emails from different people expressing their appreciation (and to offer one or two tips). Thank you, these meant a lot! It is very difficult to get an idea of people's reactions through the screen, it feels like you are talking too much and everyone is too polite to say anything. I would like to encourage this to happen more? Honest thanks if it is deserved, but also honest (kindly phrased!) advice or even a question on some theological point!

God Bless, David

VENT TOWER APPEAL

Thank you so much for your donations to this appeal. You have been very generous and so too has the Synod with their grant. It's been quite overwhelming! We have raised the money required to go ahead with the work! We will let you know when we have a confirmed date for that work but we are hoping it will be late ish October. **THANK YOU AGAIN!**

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.urc.org.uk & www.urc-eastern.org.uk.

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

Stay safe and keep well everyone! And be kind to each other.

Maggie

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