

Weekly Notes for Sunday 22 August 2021

Hello everyone,

I do hope you are enjoying a good summer.

Matthew and I have just returned from a week away seeing my side of the family in Glasgow. Was so lovely to be back after a huge long gap because of Covid-19. Lots of reminiscing, lots of hills, lots of rain! 😊

We returned on Wednesday, then on Thursday I started a new job as office administrator at the Eastern Synod Office in Whittlesford!! I will be working weekdays 0930 to 1400. So please be nice to me whilst I am settling into my new job and routine. It's a very exciting step for me.

As a reminder, our rules on Sunday mornings in church are ...

- wash hands
- wear masks at all times unless speaking from the front
- keep distanced – the elders will assist you with seating
- no tea/coffee
- no "mingling"

Singing will be allowed but only behind masks. And if you want to have a chat with someone, please go outside into the fresh air where it is safer.

It is really important that we all follow these rules to keep safe.

The Elders will be reviewing these precautions when they next meet at the beginning of September.

Please read through all of this email – there is important information not to be missed including a change in the day/date of Church Meetings.

Best wishes,

Maggie

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for Revs Lythan and Phil Nevard, as they return from their holiday in Wales and prepare for their Induction Services and their new roles.

Please remember the Zoom team in your prayers as they continue to work hard on improving the zoom side of our services.

We were pleased to welcome 4 mums with pre-crawling babies to the first very happy **Coffee Chat & Baby** session on Wednesday 11th. Please pray for the SFC volunteers and those who attend.

And please pray for the Go4th team as they return 'Live' in tomorrow's service.

WORSHIP

Tomorrow morning's service is Go4th!! Live!!

For all service, if staying at home, it's the usual link for zoom.

Future Services – in church and via Zoom

29 August 10.30am	Rev Dr Mike Wilson (<i>Phil preaching at Whittlesford</i>)
5 September 10.30am	Rev Phil Nevard's Induction Service
12 September 10.30am	Ben Palmer (<i>Phil preaching at Castle Camps - TBC</i>)
19 September 10.30am	Rev Phil Nevard <i>with Holy Communion</i>
26 September 10.30am	Go4th (<i>Phil preaching at Whittlesford</i>)

There's a big birthday at SFC tomorrow/Sunday 22 August. Betty will be 90 years old!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BETTY FROM US ALL!

You have a very special place in our hearts and it's such a thrill to see you achieve such a momentous age! Have a lovely day!

SAVE THE DATE

Rev Phil Nevard's Induction to Sawston Free Church, Castle Camps URC & Whittlesford URC

Sunday 5 September 10.30am at Sawston Free Church

followed by refreshments provided by Footprints Café

Please reply to your invitation TODAY.

Confirming the numbers in church now will enable us to get the chairs spaced appropriately and helps the café in their planning.

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#### Cream Tea fundraiser for Christian Aid

Saturday 11 September 2.30 – 5pm

in the Challis Gardens

Mary has emailed an appeal for help with this – home baked cakes, scones, cupcakes, cake stands, cash for cream & jam. Please support this very worthy fundraising event.

Please remember to buy your tickets from Pam or Mary!

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#### CHURCH MEETINGS - change of day/date

Just to let you know that Church Meetings are moving to the SECOND WEDNESDAY every other month – so that's

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Wed 8th Sep 21  | 7.30pm |
| Wed 10th Nov 21 | 7.30pm |

Wed 12th Jan 22      7.30pm  
Wed 9th Mar 22      7.30pm  
Wed 11th May 22     7.30pm  
Wed 13th Jul 22     7.30pm

*FYI, Elders meetings are moving to the first Wednesday of every month except August.*

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## BABY HATS

Latest bundle of 118 red or yellow or green "traffic lights" baby hats was delivered to The Rosie Hospital this week, making a total of 507 since March lovingly knitted by our Sawston group. Please contact Rosemary Heald if you would like more information.

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## A prayer for Afghanistan

The Prophet says, You know the plans I have for you, says the Lord; plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to offer you hope and a future.

Gracious and holy God,

We come to you with the situation in Afghanistan heavy on our hearts. It is a situation so complicated, and so fast moving, that it is difficult for us to know what to say or how to think.

We hold before you the people of the country, those who stay and those who flee; those living with terror and afraid for the future; those who, because of this latest turn of events, will never be able to live the fullness of life that is your purpose. We hold all this before you.

We hold open to you the future: the world leaders with a role in shaping what happens next; the many who are becoming refugees and the people who will be called upon to offer them safety and a future; the impact of these local events on our world story. We hold all this open to you.

We hold in your love all those known to us whose lives have been bound up in the recent story of Afghanistan. We think of all those who have served there in our Armed Forces, those who were injured and those who did not return. We hold in our hearts all those for whom this is a time of special grieving and confusion, and those who minister to them. We hold all these in your love.

Rock of ages, at this difficult time we lean into your timelessness.

Turn us, and all people, to your good purposes for your world. Grant courage and wisdom, hope and a future.

Amen

*Barbara Easton, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference*

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

Keep safe and look after yourselves.

Maggie XX