



TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH  
WOKING  
Weekly Newsletter  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Whilst we are not meeting face to face as a church community, if you would like to continue to make a regular financial contribution, such as you would in the weekly Collection, please contact me and I will give you our bank details. You can also find them in the 5<sup>th</sup> April issue of this newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this issue. I am looking at ways in which I can make it more interactive. The Team also want to know if it is being received by people on our physical mailing list, and whether those of you who receive it electronically can read it comfortably on your devices, and most importantly whether it helps everyone engender a sense of our Community. Please let us have your thoughts, by email, by phone or by post. Thank you.  
*Daniela*

**Message from Rev Jackie Case**

Dear Friends,  
Another week has passed living under the restrictions of what has come to be called "the new normal". For some of us life is less restricted than for others, and my heart goes out especially to those of you who are unable to go out each day or to enjoy the beauties of nature as it reflects the new life of Eastertide. It seems to me that the natural world is making the most of this temporary withdrawal of human presence which usually tends to overwhelm all in its path. The flock of sparrows nesting in my hedge swoop into the garden each day to pick up seeds and insects and enjoy a dust bath; the lack of traffic noise makes it possible to hear more clearly the cries of the red kites hovering above the estate where I live;

there are bumble bees nesting under my compost bin!

We are all using our time differently depending on our circumstances, our skills, and interests. Let us not just wait passively for this to be over but try to use the time and even the challenges to deepen our spirituality, to learn and reflect upon our place in God's world and God's place in our lives. Let us continue to be thankful for the blessings and opportunities that come our way; to be prayerful and supportive of those working on the 'frontline', mourning the loss of loved ones, worrying about jobs and income; to be responsibly practical and thoughtful towards those feeling most isolated and alone. For thus we continue to share the love of God and to witness to our risen Lord.

Regards  
Jackie

**Message from the leadership team**

As we move into week 5 of The Lockdown and Social Distancing, we begin to wonder how long will it go on for? It becomes more of a strain as it goes on as we wonder how to fill in our day. Someone I was talking to the other day said she had run out of weeds to dig out of the garden! On the other hand, I sometimes think that with all this time available I could do this or that or the other and then at the end of the day, just wonder what I have achieved today.

With 2 of us in the house, we are company for each other, but I am well aware through conversations I have had, just how easy it is to feel isolated at the moment, particularly if you are living alone. I hope that we will all remember that one of the main strengths of Trinity is that we care very well for each other. Through our pastoral workers and the pastoral visitors who are making many more phone calls than usual, through our worship opportunities using Zoom, new but quite simple to use technology, but I know that is not the same as popping in to Trinity for a chat or meeting neighbours in the local shops. So, if you are feeling lonely or have a need of someone to help with shopping or collecting medication, just ask by ringing

Daniela on the office line (which has been diverted to her), and she will be able to make some sort of arrangement.

Like Ruth, I saw Pete Greig leading devotions at Spring Harvest last week and he talked about how Jesus must have felt alone and afraid in the Garden of Gethsemane, just as some of us feel now and Pete encouraged us to create a familiar structure to our days, to think of our 3 closest friends as Jesus had done, and speak openly to them about how we feel. Then when we are feeling vulnerable, be honest about that and remember the wonderful goodness of God; that might be hard now, but better times are coming. In the meantime, God bless you.

*John Nelson*



A blessing arrived through our letterbox this morning! Two carefully drawn and coloured rainbows came to brighten our day. They were sent to us by four-year-twins who are our friends in a small Welsh village.

Tragically their father died very suddenly two months ago.

We are handing the blessing on by putting the rainbows in our big window to be a blessing to all the folk of Lych Way.

Two little people, whose lives have just been altered for ever, drew pictures for us. We were so touched.

*Elaine Slatter*

Joyce Nelson has written a piece for us about **the arrival of a card...**

As many of you know, John's Dad died on 4th April. Sunday 5th April (Easter Day) was our Wedding Anniversary. The previous Thursday, a card arrived through the post, which I thought must be an Anniversary card, so I didn't open it.

When I came downstairs that Sunday morning, the sun was streaming into the garden and I opened the card, to find that it wasn't an Anniversary card, but an

Easter card, sent by my BSF leader. It showed an empty tomb, from which you looked out at 3 empty crosses with the words HE IS RISEN.

The words inside the card were from 1 Peter 1 v3:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Even though I was sad and upset, I had such a feeling of peace and joy and hope, as if God was saying that all was well with Dad. Death only leads to new life.

I could have opened that envelope when the card arrived, but something stopped me. If I had, it wouldn't have spoken to me the way it did that day.

Isn't God's timing perfect?

*Joyce Nelson*

#### **A Word in Season 5: In the Garden**

*I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses and the voice I hear falling on my ear; the love of God discloses. For God walks with me and talks with me and tells me I am his own and the joy we share as we tarry there none other has ever known. (C. Austin Miles)*

Many of us have the joy (and privilege) of a garden and during this time of Self-Isolation have found more time to work in and enjoy it.

I have only been a gardener for four years. Christine loved the garden and spent many hours planning, sowing, tending and reaping beds and pots. We did discuss ideas and I was 'allowed' to mow the small front and back lawns! Since she died, I have been learning by experience – the best way in many respects. Although she too is a gardening novice, Dan has become a gardening buddy with some new ideas.

Early on in self-isolation I started to strip the ivy off the back fence and supporting brick column. It took quite a while but eventually I got down to a substantial root ball under the fence. Dan and I agreed there were two tasks to undertake together over recent weekends: remove that root ball and remove the stump of the

buddleia that Christine and I had planted nearly 30 years ago, and which had been slowing dying.

We started on the Buddleia and as Dan pulled on it, and I pushed, it moved, then more or less fell over. It was so rotten that it had almost disintegrated and within an hour it was gone, and the site cleared, tidied up and prepared for planting.

With that encouraging experience we approached the ivy root with confidence. We were aware that it would probably be more difficult than the buddleia. We thought at least two, perhaps three hours. How wrong we were...

Late yesterday afternoon after two and a half days working on it, we finally cut through the last root stem and it came away in my hand! What a struggle but we had a great feeling of satisfaction having completed our task. With much lighter hearts and relieved muscles, we cleaned up and prepared the site for new planting.

These experiences in many ways reflect some of the difficulties of self-isolation - sometimes it goes well and we feel in a good frame of mind, but sometimes it is really difficult and we struggle but we know that in the end it will change. God has not forgotten us and we can trust our Lord to be with us, giving us hope and strength for the future.

*Graham Warr*

In response to Valerie Slyfield's Browning poem, Daphne Lander has this week tried her hand at a parody of a poem.

The below is (as Daphne says - with apologies to Henry Reed!) her take on his poem '**Naming of Parts**'.

In the original, Reed is describing an Army sergeant explaining the parts of a gun to recruits. As you will see, Daphne changes it for NHS ICU staff with Matron explaining the kit...

*Today we have counting the masks,  
Yesterday, scrubs, and tomorrow morning  
we shall have some more. Who knows?  
But today, today we have counting the  
masks.*

*Japonica glistens like coral in all of the  
neighbouring gardens*

*And today we have counting the masks.*

*This is the upper mask tie. And this is the  
lower mask tie, which use you will see  
When you are given your masks. And this  
is the mask itself*

*Which in your case you have not got.*

*The branches hold in the gardens their  
silent, eloquent gestures,*

*Which in our case we have not got.*

*This is the visor, which is always released  
with an easy flick of the thumb.*

*And please do not let me see anyone using  
their fingers even in gloves.*

*You can do it quite easy if you have any  
strength in your thumb. The blossoms  
Are fragile, and motionless, never letting  
anyone see*

*Any of them using their finger.*

*And this you can see is the scrub.*

*The purpose of this is to cover you up as  
you see. You can pull it off*

*By moving rapidly backwards and forwards:*

*We call this easing the scrub*

*And rapidly backwards and forwards the  
early bees are assaulting and fumbling the  
flowers:*

*They call it easing the shrubs.*

*They call it easing the scrubs: it is  
perfectly easy if you have any strength in  
your thumb:*

*Like the cap and the visor and the masks:  
which in our case we have not got.*

*And the almond blossom silent in all of the  
gardens and the bees going backwards and  
forwards*

*For today we are counting the masks.*

*Daphne Lander*

### **When life gives you lemons...**



This week I was fortunate enough to secure a home delivery of food.

An item on my list was one lemon.

My delivery arrived, I was charged for one lemon, but they delivered TWELVE! They won't take items back once they have been put on your doorstep, so what do I do with eleven lemons (I've only enough flour for

about 2 lemon drizzle cakes, and then I'd have to eat them).

Answers on a post card please!

*Jean Normington*

### Quiz Corner

Here are the answers to Valerie Slyfield's cookery quiz from last week:

- How is steak tartare cooked?

*It is served raw.*

- What is beef fillet cooked in pastry called?

*Beef Wellington*

- What is a scotch bonnet?

*A chilli pepper*

- What is the main ingredient of baba ghanoush?

*Aubergine*

- From what is Welsh laver bread made?

*Seaweed*

- What is the name of the ice cream dessert which is encased in meringue?

*Baked Alaska*

- Which daytime cookery show was initially presented by Fern Britton and then Ainsley Harriot?

*Ready, Steady, Cook*

- Which TV chef became famous for always cooking with a glass of wine in his hand?

*Keith Floyd*

- Basil, garlic, grated hard cheese, and pine nuts are the main ingredient in which popular sauce or paste?

*Pesto*

- Which food can be oyster, chestnut and shitake?

*Mushroom*

The theme for the quiz Valerie has set this week is all about the name John.

Good luck!

1. Found fame cast as "Basil"?
2. Australian classic Guitarist born 1941?
3. American singer and songwriter, real name Henry, John, Deutschedorff. Killed when his private plane crashed?
4. Game of Thrones, Jon - - - - ?.
5. Assassinated American president?
6. Actor, John, 1904 - 2000. Real name Sir Arthur - - - - - .?

7. Asks the questions in Mastermind?

8. Who reigned from 1199 - 1216?

9. He was married to Hatti Jacques for 18 years?

10. Real name Reginald, Kenneth, Dwight 9 months older than me?

11. Cowboy star, real name Marion Morrison?

12. One of a group founded in Liverpool?

13. Archbishop of York?

14. Sir John - - - - President of Surrey Cricket Club?

15. Star of the film "Grease"?

16. Found fame in "Strictly Come Dancing," has a military surname?

17. Retired actor aged 82, likes to use another form of John. Starred in "The Bucket List"?

18. Late minister at Trinity Methodist, with a clerical surname?

19. Prolific Methodist hymn writer?

20. The author of "Pilgrim's Progress"?

*Valerie Slyfield*

### Heard on the radio

Is a Locksmith a key worker?

*Jean Normington*

### Prince Louis on his 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday this week, making a rainbow picture with his handprints!



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