



CHEAP STREET CHURCH

To know the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit and with Jesus as our teacher to show and share our faith

Minister

The Revd Duncan Goldie
01935 812916

The Prayer Ring

is available for an urgent need or situation. Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin
Eirwen Cox 01935 815960
Penny Gardner 01935 389153
Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662

Church Secretary

Sue Way
01935 804553

NEWSLETTER

2ND JULY 2020



Bob Dylan's 1964 song - "The Times They Are A-Changin'" became an anthem for anti-establishment people. Some of the lyrics are based on the Civil Rights movement in the US at that time. I couldn't help thinking how relevant this is to us today. Having put our lives on hold for 3 months and then recently observing the growth of Black Lives Matter, we are emerging again, into a changing world. Do you want to be part of the change and have a say? Or are you happy to say nothing and just grumble because things are not as they once were. As church leaders consider how to reopen the churches they are asking you to play a part. What an exciting opportunity. I hope we all use this chance to think about what is important to us and express our thoughts. God Bless You.
Penny

Thought For The Day

By Don Farquharson

The Bamboo

He had been carefully planted and now stood tall in his Masters garden
In fact he was now the tallest tree in the forest and stood strait and upright.
He was overjoyed when the breezes rustled his leaves so they sang songs of praises to his Master
He thought how the other trees envied him
Then horror. One day one of the Masters servants arrived with a saw in his hand. Oh the pain as it was used at his base and he found himself flat on the ground. His beautiful branches were cut off and he was now naked to the world. He could no longer wave and sing. Worse was to follow because he found himself thrown on a heap with others in a clearing. He suffered in the blazing summer sun. He became dry and wizened. He felt sad rejected and worthless. Then one day the servant returned with his knife and he found himself split in two down his entire length. How are the mighty fallen.

It was again some time before he found himself lifted and carried to a bank between two of His Masters fields.

He noticed another of his brothers joined to him at his head. Then another at his feet.

He lay there wondering what was happening when one day he felt cool water passing over his head and along down over his feet. He couldn't see but it ran to the field below.

He had been chosen to be part of the irrigation channel bringing water from above so the fruits and vegetables in the lower fields could flourish.

He could not supply the water but without his help it could not reach the field below.

How he rejoiced again that he was part of the Masters plan. He was a channel of His love.

It reminds me of the words in our Covenant service." I willingly offer all I have and am to serve you as and where you choose"

And Make me a channel of your love

We will be in a different climate in the months ahead.

May we be ready for what opportunities arise.

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

Whenever and wherever we pray in the silence of our hearts, we are part of a rich and powerful fellowship, which serves to sustain everyone in our Church Family. Anyone can join the prayer group by just praying.

We continue to pray for all those who are in special need: John Green; Paul Wilkins; Martin Heal; Helen Winkworth and her family; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; Gill Hunt; Kathy Crew; Clive and Jill Turner, Ellie and Sophie; Janet Dolling and her family; Judith Hayward and her family; Eileen Higgins; Janet Baker; Alex Palmer.

Sarah Choi whose mother is seriously ill in hospital. Sarah is in an airport hotel in Seoul in 14 days quarantine before she can see her mum. I am sure she would love your prayers and messages.

Cath Adam



Pastoral.

A belated Happy Birthday to Ken Bonney who celebrated his birthday last Saturday 27th June and I'm sure Ken won't mind if I say that he has reached the wonderful age of 98 years. Love and best wishes from us all.

Myra Heard who is now living at Eastbury House is very happy and enjoying life very much. Last week she attended an Art class (even though she can hardly see, and she certainly can't read) which she thoroughly enjoyed. They have lots going on with some activity every day and she loves participating. Myra misses the church very much and will be back as soon as she can. She is most grateful for your cards and phone calls and sends her love. Another amazing member of our Church Family. We all send you our love and best wishes.

We also send our love and prayers to our Church family members who are continuing with hospital tests and treatment at home.

Clive Turner is still at the Knoll in Yeovil and desperately wants to come home but of course at the moment that is still not possible. We send our love and prayers to Clive Jill, Sophie and Ellie.

Love and prayers to you all.

Eirwen

PRAYERS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Prayers for the persecuted church: Laos is ruled by the Communist party, and Christianity is treated as a hostile Western threat. Christians must be extremely careful to stay on the good side of the Communist authorities. House churches are considered 'illegal' gatherings and must operate in secret. Let us pray that God will encourage and strengthen believers from a Buddhist background; for a breakthrough in the country's leadership and that they will encounter God's love. Also for opportunities for Christians to share their faith. Amen.

HOPE FOR AFRICA

Dear Jackie and all at Cheap Street Church,

We have today received in the post a cheque for £1075.50 for Hope in Africa, and send you our heartfelt thanks for your generosity.

Our African brothers and sisters are really helping their communities with the funds that we have been able to send them during this highly challenging time in their countries with the Corona virus pandemic.

Thank you so much.

Kind Regards and God's blessings,

Michelle and Matthew

Trials and Tribulations

Dear Lord. My hair is such a mess that I might cover all the mirrors in the house so I won't be able to see myself. I'm not vain – nothing to be vain about - but even if I wear a hat I look like a frightened witch who has lost her broomstick. I need a hairdresser. A friend tells me that his hair is nearly down to his shoulders. I've promised to buy him a ribbon to tie it in a ponytail.

He was amused - I think.

In the beginning eggs flew off the shelves. Then it was self-raising flour. One could get it from the internet at £10 a bag but I was not prepared to pay that much. Last week it was caster sugar. I managed to get some and bought beetroot to make a beetroot cake before I remembered that it needed cocoa. Cocoa has gone with the wind.

I usually buy batteries from a man on the market. He hasn't appeared for months. In March my watch stopped, short. In April the kitchen timer pinged its last and since May the kitchen clock has stayed at ten to three. I never know what the time is. Lord, life is sometimes quite confusing. I often don't know what day of the week it is and when I look for the date in the newspaper I am not sure if I am looking at yesterday's paper.

It is good to see the family on Zoom and Facebook but I want to give them a cuddle. Three family birthdays this month and no get-together.

Lord, when will the churches open? Even if it is only for quiet prayer? We could keep social distance and manage without singing. Streaming church services is all very well but it isn't the same. Yes, I know that the church building is not the Church. I've said it often enough but nevertheless the building is a special place. I miss being part the church family, worshipping together.

Dear Lord, forgive me for troubling you with these trivialities. I know that they are negligible compared to the tribulations of others. Their tribulations are huge and may go on for a long time. Please give them strength, courage and hope. Guide us all Lord. I promise to try to be positive. Amen.

Barbara

A Poem for July

HOPE

As I look into the future
I hope for peace
Peace of mind
Peace of man
Peace of the Spirit.
I hope for more love of God
For in this lies the hope of mankind.
God is love
God is everything
Life is God's great gift to man.
Hope is the wanting of a better future
Of a richer meaning of what love is all
About.
I need You
You need me
We need each other.
Children need hope
To feel there is a better life
For now and for their future
We need hope to survive
The blows of life.

Flora Parham

The Ministers Thoughts for This Coming Week

From Duncan

Lectionary Readings for week beginning 5th July 2020.

Psalm 45, Genesis 24: 34-67, Romans 7: 15-25a, Matthew 11: 16-19 & 25-30.

If you have ever been on a walking and camping holiday where you have to carry everything, then the choice of rucksack, how it fits you and how it distributes the weight you are carrying, becomes very important. Small adjustments can make a big difference as to how long you can wear the rucksack, and what load you can carry.

In our reading from Matthew Jesus says "Come to me all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you." "For the yoke I will give you is easy and the load I will put on you is light." As a carpenter by trade, Jesus would have made and fitted many yokes to oxen used to pull ploughs. The small adjustments to each yoke, to fit the individual animals would make a big difference as to how hard the task of ploughing would be for them. Jesus is saying that his yoke for us, is individually fitted to us and to what Jesus asks of us.

In Romans, Paul wrestles with what it is that controls his actions. Is it sin or the law that acts as a yoke that controls his actions? Ultimately it is a different yoke, that of a life controlled by God and the Holy Spirit, that is required. A yoke of gentleness and humility in spirit, which means that with Covid 19 we will wear masks because it helps others to stay well, and we will seek to build a more just society, building on the step forwards taken in the past.

Hymn Singing The Faith 440. Amazing grace,
how sweet the sound,

Abbey re-opening

We know that many of you have been eagerly waiting to be allowed back into the Abbey. We are pleased to say that it will be re-opening for private prayer on Thursday 2nd July between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm. Thereafter it will be open on Mondays and Thursdays between those times, again for private prayer. Safety measures for distancing and hygiene will be in place, and there will be staff to supervise the arrangements and assist you.

David Ferguson and Jonathan Rodd, Churchwardens
Charles Mitchell-Innes, Chaplain to the Abbey

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Radio 4: 8.10 am – Speaking into Troubled Times with The Revd Lucy Winkett, Rector of St James's Church, Piccadilly: [Click Here](#)

Methodist resources: [click here](#).

URC resources: [click here](#). The digital edition of the URC monthly magazine *Reform* is on free access during the lockdown: [click here](#).

URC: [daily devotions and a Sunday service \(click here to subscribe\)](#).

SHERBORNE ABBEY

Our friends in the Abbey are considering how to open their church for private prayer. There is more information on their website: [click for the Abbey](#). You can also see their pewsheets and click on to their recorded weekly eucharist.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

The newsletter is compiled by Penny Gardner or George Faris so please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:

Penny Gardner pennylgardner@gmail.com 01935 389153 and to George Faris gfaris48@gmail.com 01935 420258

