



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

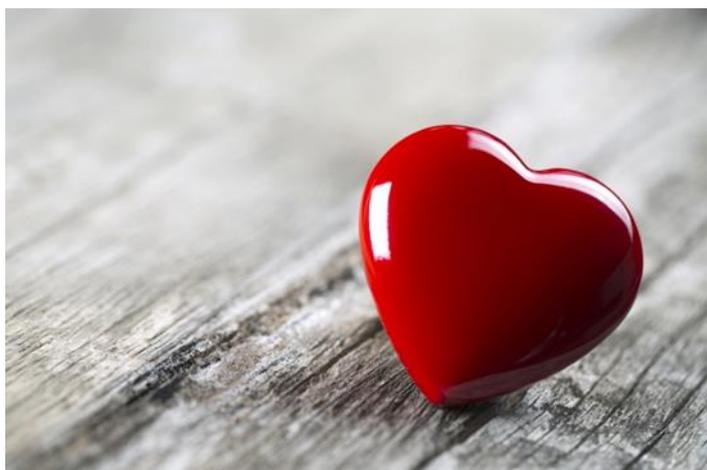
is available for an urgent need or situation. Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin
Eirwen Cox 01935 815960
Penny Gardner 01935 389153
Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662

Church Secretary

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NEWSLETTER

11th February 2021



I woke up this morning to Radio 4's Today programme and an interview with a lawyer in America who pressed the wrong button when he was on Zoom and turned himself into a cat. (Well, the image of a cat) The lawyer was making his case before a judge in court and had to explain to the judge that in fact he was not a cat, he had just pressed the wrong button. It was all quite silly but this conversation became an internet sensation. I have just listened to it and am still laughing as I write this. It is so good to laugh and be silly in these very difficult times.

I have been reminded that Sunday is Valentine's Day. Many of us do not have friends, lovers or family with us to share the love. So, why not have a day of being kind towards yourselves. I have also been reminded of Jesus's command to "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." In this time of lockdown we have lots of time to contemplate our lives and I think we can be quite hard on ourselves. So why not make yourself the object of your love. The Buddhists call it the Loving Kindness Practice

1. Begin by focusing your thoughts and

bb wishing yourself love and kindness by repeating "May I be happy, may I be well, and may I be at ease."

2. Next, think about people you love and interact with, then repeat, "May you be happy, may you be well, may you be at ease."

Remember your important part of Jesus' Command.

Happy Valentine's Day!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY 10 Feb 2021

Lynn Heaton

I want to start by saying a big THANK YOU to all of you who have prayed for my brother-in-law Lewis. After losing his Mum and needing alternative accommodation, he has now got it! The perfect place has been offered to him and will be available at the end of this month! My mother-in-law, Iris, who has recently passed away, was someone who always had some project, business idea, or big plan of some kind or another, whirring away in her mind. Maybe she regretted that she didn't achieve some of the things she set out to do, but I thought it was interesting, the conclusion she came to in the end. She said "I am very proud of my grandchildren and all they have achieved in their different ways. But what I am most proud of is that they are kind. And being kind is the most important thing of all."

At the end of the day, it's all about who we are, and how we positively relate to others. Not about what we do or achieve for ourselves. So maybe we should ask ourselves, who are we? When we strip away all the façade and all those trappings that the

world thinks are so important. Even the things that Christians may think are important, like record of church attendance, or what we've done that makes us look good and feel better. We aren't supposed to be living for ourselves are we, after all?

Who are we?

With everything stripped away it is possible to see a view of ourselves in a relationship with God. He doesn't want us to wait till we die! He wants us to get to see that now. We are spiritual beings, not just human beings, and I think we often forget that. We get too wrapped up in the expectations and pressures of life, and all the time our spiritual self is there often smothered and limited by the stuff of life. When we die all that stuff will be gone and we will be free. But we have access to that freedom now. Not able to experience it all the time, but maybe in those times when we let go and really let ourselves rest in God. He wants to show us so much, especially how much he loves us, and we have to give him a chance to do that.

The hymn I have chosen for Iris's funeral next Tuesday is "For the beauty of the Earth". The John Rutter version with the Cambridge Singers. It speaks of God's creation, God's love, and our love for each other.

Maybe sometime today you could find a little piece of God's creation to focus on and lose yourself in that place of wonder. Don't try to use words. Let yourself just "be" in that perfect place with God.

Bible reading Hebrews 8 v 10-12

PASTORAL

Hello everyone,

The latest up-date on Barbara who is still in hospital. She is making gradual progress and this week has started walking a little everyday, with the aid of a Zimmer frame. She had hoped to be transferred to the Willows for recuperation but is quite happy to be leaving hospital and going instead to Ferndale Lodge Care Home in Gillingham. This transfer will take place on Sunday. We send Barbara our best wishes, with love and prayers from all at Cheap Street Church.

Kevin and Malcolm Hooper have both had health problems during the last two weeks. We send them both our best wishes for a good recovery

Good News at last! Eileen's daughter - in-law Dawn, left hospital this week having recovered from Covid-19. Eileen, Dawn and her husband Robert thank everyone in Cheap Street Church for their prayers, which sustained them during a very worrying time.

Birthday Greetings.

Happy Birthday to Audrey Robson on Valentine's Day, Sunday 14th February. Love and best wishes from all at Cheap Street Church.

Love and prayers to you all and stay safe. Eirwen.

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

The Prayer Ring is available for an urgent need or situation. Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin:
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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.

At this time let's remember Sharon Hooper and all the teachers who are teaching under adverse conditions in the classroom and from home.

We hold in prayer Barbara and Dennis Porter; Eileen Higgins's son Robert and his wife Dawn; Clive and Jill Turner and Ellie and Sophie; Yve and Ken Ackroyd and all the family; Janet Baker; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; Eileen Higgins; Alex Palmer; Peter and Marjorie Kett.

We continue to remember the families of those who have died recently: Derek Hayward, Ron Dolling, Charles Pennington, Gill Hunt, John Hooper, Hilda Clarke, John Green, Graham Pennington and Brian Crew

In this strange time, when lots of time is being spent considering important decisions for all of us at Cheap Street Church, please pray for: all on our Church Council at the moment, And of course our minister Duncan. We should also remember all those getting their heads around the technology needed to

broadcast our services on Sunday. They are trying hard to be all inclusive. Thank you.

PRAYERS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Once again, after North Korea, **Afghanistan** is no. 2 on the Open Doors 2021 World Watch List. It's very hard to know precisely how many Christians there are in Afghanistan, because they must keep their faith completely secret – but only a small number from a population of over 38 million. It is impossible to live openly as a Christian in Afghanistan. Leaving Islam is considered shameful, and Christian converts face dire consequences if their new faith is discovered. Either they have to flee the country or they will be killed. If a Christian's family discovers they have converted, their family, clan or tribe has to save its 'honour' by disowning the believer, or even killing them. Christians from a Muslim background can also be sectioned in a psychiatric hospital, because leaving Islam is considered a sign of insanity. Let us Pray: Dear Lord, please protect the small number of Christians among the millions of people who live in Afghanistan. Thank You that, despite their small number, they have discovered the greatest love in the world. Please keep showing them Your wisdom, mercy and comfort, and give opportunities for believers to meet together, despite the opposition. Amen..

LETTERS

From Cath Adam's friend, Cathy, who distributed the collected gifts–

When I took the gifts up on Thursday, the ITU staff were in tears at the kindness shown by you and your friends! It was so moving to see the ITU staff on Thursday - I couldn't wait to tell you. The nursing sister in charge said they'd had a very difficult morning and this made all the difference.

9th February 2021 5th Stakeholder update: COVID-19 vaccination programme in Dorset

Dear Patient,

This is a further update on the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Dorset. We hope you find these updates have been helpful. We

will share more about the programme as soon as we are able. Do let us know if you have questions or feedback about this update by contacting us here:

communications@dorsetccg.nhs.uk

Our NHS staff are working tirelessly to deliver the vaccine to the most vulnerable and maximise the use of the vaccine. Vaccination services have a backup list of people who still need a first dose that they can invite at short notice to take up any missed appointments.

We would urge everyone with an appointment to do everything they can to attend the appointment they have made and if you cannot attend let the clinic know as soon as you can so that the appointment can be reallocated to someone else who needs the vaccine.

Summary - On Track - The last few weeks have seen an immense effort to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine programme – thanks to the monumental work efforts of everyone involved we continue to be on track. When will people get their jab? We are delivering the vaccine in line with the national guidance issued by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation.

We will continue to work with partners as further guidance and information becomes available. The vaccine programme in Dorset is on a clear upward trajectory – thanks to everyone who is working so hard to make it happen.

From Roger Marsh, Chair, Patient Participation Group

Valentine's day is when we share good wishes with those we love and sometimes with those we don't know.

For the past 12 months the 150 members of staff at the Yeatman Hospital have worked tirelessly to meet all the COVID-19 challenges, and to deliver outstanding care to their patients.

For this Valentine's day we invite you reach out to them with a virtual Valentine's greeting to show your appreciation for their hard work and dedication.

The staff at the Yeatman Hospital are always there for us – let us show that we are there for them. If you wish to send a message to the

staff of the Yeatman Hospital can you please use this link:
<https://friendsoftheyeatman.org.uk/valentines/>

THE MINISTER'S THOUGHTS FOR THIS COMING WEEK

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 14th February 2021 Epiphany 6.

Psalm 50:1-6 & 20, 2 Kings 2:1-12, 1 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9.

We all, on occasions, see things we never thought we would see; a year and half ago we would not have thought that we would all be wearing masks, keeping our distance, meeting on zoom, with our church buildings along with other venues where we would meet together standing empty. There are things which we hope to see and do again soon but we are not sure when we will. In the readings from 2 Kings, Elisha, who is the one designated to succeed Elijah, sees the departure of Elijah being taken unto heaven; it is not something he wants to see, but something he will see because of his loyalty to God and Elijah. Elisha knows what is going to happen without being told and is in no mood to talk about it.

In our reading from Mark we, along with Peter, James and John, are given a sight of who Jesus is. A sight that we do not normally expect to see. It is a vision of Jesus that has to be seen in the light of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is an aspect of Jesus that is always present but not normally seen, but it is one that God has chosen to be shown to all of us.

The Transfiguration is not how we normally see or are shown Jesus, but is a picture that we need to keep, together with the Jesus we see as a part of everyday life.

Hymn Singing The Faith 333. Majesty, Worship His Majesty; [You Tube](#)

ALTERNATIVE SUNDAY WORSHIP

SHERBORNE ABBEY -The Abbey Services are also suspended until it is safe to come together in worship.

Radio 4: 8.10 am – **Facets of Love Sunday Worship** 'This is love'. Those are the words of John, the 'beloved disciple' - seeing out his latter years with the congregation of his beloved church in Ephesus. St John himself does not leave it undefined. With Baptist Minister the Revd Richard Littledale. Reading: 1 John 4: 7 – 21. Producer: Andrew Earis

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 \(click here to subscribe\)](#).

There are a lot more resources on the Methodist Church Web page.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

The newsletter is compiled by Penny Gardner or Ruth Rogerson so please send contributions by midday Wednesday to:
Penny Gardner pennylgardner@gmail.com
01935 389153 and to
Ruth Rogerson rogersonruth@gmail.com
01935 813498

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