



## 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

Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662  
lemoignanjan@yahoo.co.uk

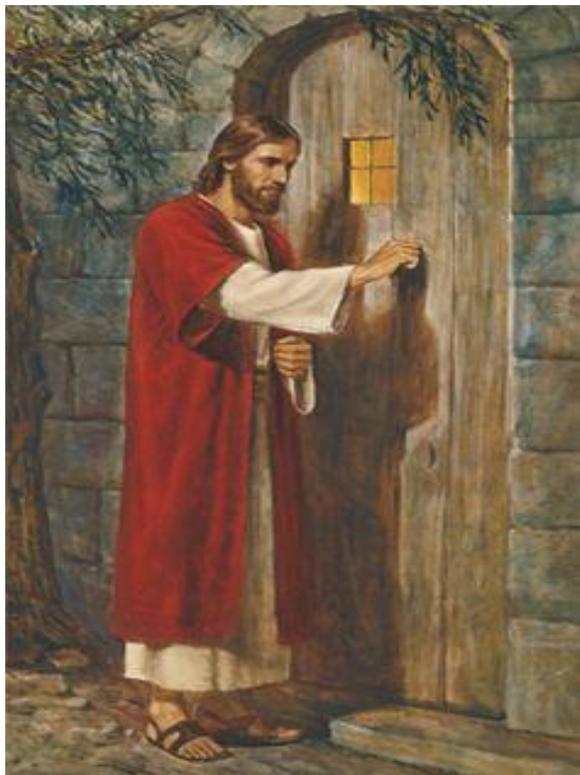
## NEWSLETTER

8 April 2021

There is so much Good News in this Newsletter! Even our Pastoral Leader has only good news to report. I wish you well for this coming week. Go safely as you step out into shops and meet up with friends.

Many Blessings to you.

Penny



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

8<sup>th</sup> April 2021

By Christina Le Moignan

### Doors Unlocked

The President of the Methodist Conference

bb writes a regular column for the Methodist Recorder. This year's President, the Revd Richard Teal, wrote last week about Christ's appearance to the disciples on the first Easter Sunday evening, when they were hiding in a locked room from the Jewish authorities, frightened about what might happen to them as known friends of Jesus.. (The story can be found in John's gospel, ch. 20, vv. 19-23.) 'Locked doors are nothing to him', wrote Mr Teal in a memorable phrase, 'so why should fear conquer?'

Locked doors are becoming a thing of the past for us, we hope, as vaccines offer us the prospect of a safe opening up of shops and meeting-places. Of course we must go cautiously, and we have probably all voiced our disapproval of people who have rushed into large gatherings with no social distancing. The corona virus hasn't gone away, and we are right to fear it. But there is an opposite danger, particularly, perhaps, for those of us who are older - that we shall be *too* cautious, We may not want to go out, because although it may be safe to do so, we shall not *feel* safe. We may, in effect, end up by locking ourselves in.

Jesus never wants us to be afraid (except of cutting ourselves off from God); and if we will open the door to him, then he will help us unlock the doors we need to unlock in our present situation in order to regain as full and normal a life as possible. But for this to happen, we must choose to open the door to Jesus. He came through a locked door to the first disciples, because he knew that they would be glad to see him. Much more normally he waits to be invited. Even though

he longs to be part of our lives, and to share his gifts with us, he does not normally come to us unless we ask him to. You may know the picture by Holman Hunt of Jesus standing outside someone's door waiting for admission. *But there is no handle on the outside.* The person inside has to open the door. 'Listen', says Jesus in Revelation ch. 3, v. 20. 'I am standing at the door, knocking; I will come in to you and eat with you and you with me.' He wants that, more than we can easily believe. But it is we who have to open the door.

Readings: John 20:19-23; Revelation 3:20 (and read from v. 14 to see that Jesus doesn't have to approve of us before he wants to share our lives).

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help us to open the door into our lives to you. And please may we see, and do, the things that will help other people open their doors to you.

Hymns: Singing the Faith 303 – I know that my Redeemer lives [Click Here](#)

Methodist Hymn Book 472 – Come in, O come! The door stands open now [Words and music](#)

## FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

It was lovely to meet again in the church to worship God and celebrate Easter Sunday together, 44 of us in all, but we did remember those of our number for whom this was not possible. As you know, for the rest of this month we shall be having 3.00pm Zoom services on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, with the order of service and Duncan's message in the newsletter. On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> we shall be back in the church, when Martin Heal will lead the service. We have arranged to hold our delayed Covenant service on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, and further decisions about our worship will be made by the Church Council on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Prayer Day last Tuesday. Please continue to pray as we come out of lockdown, and

especially now for The Pod and all who will be actively in running it. The Pod signs are lovely and the windows invite people to come in. We are so grateful to Lynn for her vision for this and for all the hard work she, and others, have put in to get to this stage. If all goes to plan, The Pod will open on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April. We are delighted that there will be an official opening with the Mayor on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am. A day to celebrate!

Janet

## PASTORAL

### Birthdays

Jane Billington celebrates her birthday Monday 12th April.

Best wishes Jane, from us all at Cheap Street Church.



With love and prayers to you all.  
Eirwen

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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.

We hold in prayer Cathy Crew; Barbara and Dennis Porter; Tom Carmichael; Clive and Jill Turner and Ellie and Sophie; Yve and Ken

Ackroyd and all the family; Janet Baker; Phyllis Batchelor; Duncan's mother; 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 Penlington 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**

Iran - You're in the middle of a church service, when suddenly the door bursts open. Armed guards arrest you, and you face a long prison sentence, some people suffer flogging.

Your charge? Crimes against national security. Just for worshipping Jesus. Some believers were among the thousands of inmates released from prison during measures to combat the spread of Covid-19 - however, other Christians remained in jail and the sentencing of Christians continues. But Christians in Iran remain faithful.

Let us pray for Christians in isolation to have access to online resources and other believers; that Christians imprisoned for their faith will know God's comfort, and that the Iranian government would listen to those who advocate for the rights of Christians. Amen.

### **Books for The Pod**

If anyone has any Christian books they would like to donate to The Pod project, please let me know and I can pick them up from you this week. They will need to be in good condition. If you would like to write a short review for any of them before you pass them on, that

would be great! Many thanks, Lynn 01963 251747

### **LETTERS**

#### **SHARING SOMETHING**

Here is this morning's reading from "Jesus Calling", which is written by Sarah Young who recorded what she felt Jesus was saying to her, and I was inspired to pass it on:

"...The Garden was filled with luscious, desirable fruits, but Eve focused on the one fruit she couldn't have rather than being thankful for the many good things freely available. This negative focus darkened her mind and she succumbed to temptation. When you focus on what you don't have or on situations that displease you, your mind also becomes darkened. You take for granted life, salvation, sunshine, flowers, and countless other gifts from me. You look for what is wrong and refuse to enjoy life until that is "fixed".

When you approach me with thanksgiving, **THE LIGHT OF MY PRESENCE POURS INTO YOU, TRANSFORMING YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH.** Walk in the light with Me by practicing the discipline of thanksgiving." (Her bible reference is 1John 1 v 7)

This is a thought that is helping me today. I know how this works, because God put in my mind the chorus "Give thanks with a grateful heart" at the time of my son's accident 10 years ago, and it helped me! Sometimes I forget Jesus is on the boat with me. Like the woman in the crowd who needed healing, I need to come to him really acknowledging just who he is, and trusting his power and loving care.

Lynn Heaton

Dear Friends

Thank you for all your prayers, phone calls, cards and gifts. It has been a long 5 months: two falls, Covid, hospital and care home in Gillingham. I have appreciated the NHS, the doctors, nurses and physios. The time has not been wasted. In many ways it has been a learning experience: patience, understanding of the needs of other....Barbara

## ZOOM SERVICE

11th April 2021 3:00pm Easter 2.

### Notices

Welcome & Call to Worship. Ephesians 1:18,19.

Music. Singing the Faith 304. Jesus is risen, alleluia!

### Prayer

Readings 1 John 1:1-2:2. John 20:19-31.

### Sermon

What do the readings say to you?

Music. Singing the Faith 297. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing,

### Prayers

Music. Singing the Faith 151. This is the day,

### Benediction

## THE MINISTER'S THOUGHTS FOR THIS COMING WEEK

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 11th April 2021 Easter 2.

Psalm 133, Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31.

Thomas seems to be the type of person who will tell you exactly how he sees something, not the type that will just go along with what everyone else says. When I was at University in Cardiff as an engineering student I shared a flat with a number of people including an applied psychology student; on one occasion he had a series of tests which he had to get people to complete, including to say which line was the longest whilst the results of where others had ticked could be seen. The idea was to see how many went with what they saw or others had said. Being engineering students we did not go with what others had apparently decided, and the results of his tests showed less of tendency to go along with others than had been expected. So perhaps Thomas may be the right type of

person to be an engineer.

Thomas does receive the proof he asks for and has the encounter with Jesus his fellow disciples have already had. It is an encounter with the risen Jesus that changes us, not the same as Thomas or anyone else but is that encounter which makes the difference. It is what enables us to seek to live our lives guided by God's love, as it did for those mentioned in Acts and the church to which John is writing in his letter. It is not about outward actions or going along with everyone else, or about being unable to make mistakes, but about being true to the risen Jesus. Joseph / Barnabas, in the sale of a field and the giving of the money to the Apostles to distribute, is true in his action and words to his faith. Ananias and Sapphira who follow on from this week's reading are not.

In our life of faith we need to seek to be true to the risen Jesus in all we do.

Hymn Singing The Faith 297. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing, [Click Here](#)

Duncan

## ALTERNATIVE SUNDAY WORSHIP

SHERBORNE ABBEY –Is now open on Sundays

Radio 4: 8.10 am – Exploring the rich story of the Road to Emmaus for Low Sunday, with Rev Philip Blackledge and Claire Nicholson of Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church, Melrose. with a sermon from this year's winner of the national 'Theology Slam' competition. Service led by Methodist minister Revd Dr Calvin Samuel. [Sunday Service](#)

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:  
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01935 389153 and to  
Ruth Rogerson [rogersonruth@gmail.com](mailto:rogersonruth@gmail.com)  
01935 813498