

## Histon Methodist Church Notices

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

#### **Services that we can all take part in:-**

8.00 am Sunday service on Radio Cambridgeshire.

8.10am Sunday worship on Radio 4

BBC 1 Songs of Praise. (check TV guide for times)

*This week we pray for Rosemary and Mary and all in their pastoral groups.*

#### **New Church Recipe Book for 2020.**

A church recipe book was created in the year 2000 and has been used often by many people in the church. Given it is now 20 years since publication it is time for a new one! We have all been in lockdown over the past few months so will have lots of recipes we have revisited. Sue Watson has agreed to pull together and publish the next version called 'Lockdown Treats'. Please can you send your recipes that you would like included in the book directly to Sue Watson via email (or to Rosemary). Recipes can be for anything at all, breakfasts, lunches, dinners, cakes and biscuits - the more the merrier so don't be shy if you want to include more than one.

Tropic Tea at 3pm. August 18th.

My daughter Rachel Darby works for Tropic they make Organic hair and skin products from natural ingredients. A Green company who also raise money for good causes. Rachel would like to invite you to a Zoom 'Teatime' where she informs, includes a few games and shows us some of the products.

Come along there is no pressure to buy but any who do the Commission will be donated to Church funds. It's always a good event. One or two of you have been to a previous face to face evening before.

Details of Zoom Id.etc from Julia Daft nearer the date. Tropic Tea at 3pm. Aug 18th Get the teapots ready.

## Emerging from Covid lockdown:

The stewards' planning for this is well underway. However, as has been observed in other contexts, emerging from lockdown is much more complicated than entering it!

We are progressing with:

Drafting risk assessments – these cover general building management procedures and many categories of use – including different types of worship/services, plus some different groups of users/hirers of our buildings (requiring individual discussions with the various hirers.)

What are the practical implications of opening up the church for worship?

Following The Methodist Church guidelines for opening up for worship we had drawn up the plan below:-

Many details are still to be finalised, but it is already possible to make some definite statements about how worship /services will look when we initially resume. Some key points are:

- Capacity limit of 20 plus 5 (minister, organist, AV operator + 2 Stewards) – with social distancing guidelines being observed. This means that: We will have to control attendance – which may require an advance booking process.
- The service would be only 30 minutes long. **Depending on demand we may have to consider 2 separate services**, one at 10.30 and one at 12 noon.
- **No singing is possible** – but an organist can play, and we will be able to use recorded music and video clips, as we already do.
- We will try and have the words of hymns on the screen, but if you need a hymn book you will need to bring your own copy.
- We will only use the foyer entrance.
- Hand sanitiser must be used when entering church.

- We will need to maintain a register of all those attending each worship/service (in the event that “track and trace” need that information).
- **Face coverings must be worn at all times in church.**
- You will be shown to your seat and asked to stay there until directed when to leave.
- If you need it, you will need to bring your own bottle of water.
- **No tea/coffee will be served after worship.**

### Disguised Blessings

Generous God, I am thankful for:

The taxes I pay because that means I am employed or receiving a generous pension.

The mess to clean up after a party because that means I have been surrounded by friends.

The clothes that fit too snugly because it means I have enough to eat.

My shadow who watches me at work in the garden because it means I am out in the sunshine.

A lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means that I have a home.

All the complaining I hear about the Government because it means we have freedom of speech.

The space that I find at the far end of the car park because it means that I am capable of walking.

The person behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.

The piles of laundry and ironing because it means I have clothes to wear.

Weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been busy.

The alarm that goes off early in the morning because it means that I am alive.

For all your many blessings, especially those that come to us in disguise we thank you, Lord God. Amen

Sent in by Vera (given to her by a dearly loved former minister).

A prayer written by Mark Greene, a Jewish Christian

May the Father who loves you,  
The son who sends you,  
The spirit who empowers you,  
Be with you and bless you,  
Wherever you are, whatever you do,  
Whoever you are with,  
To his praise and glory.

This week's saying:

*What lies behind and before you are tiny matters compared to what lies within you.*

Thank you to all our contributors. If anyone would like to write an article for a future issue please let me know.

John (on behalf of the stewards).