

Bethel News March 2021

As you all know the outside of the church has been painted but although we have someone willing to paint the inside of the building he is unable to start work at the moment.

Our young people continue to meet on Zoom for Brigade on Monday evenings and then on Tuesday evenings there is band on Zoom. The band evening is shared with members of the Salvation Army in Jersey – something we would never have experienced had it not been for Zoom becoming a part of our lives!

There is also a weekly quiz on Friday evenings on Zoom so if you do have access to the internet and would like to join the fun please ask. Recently, on alternate Sunday mornings there is an opportunity to come together for Church and Chat. Again, please ask for more details if you would like to join although details for that are on the front of the service sheets. Please ask if you have a computer and would like to try using Zoom – it's not that difficult and does open up many opportunities to see friends and have a chat.

We are very grateful to Jo Poynter who produces a weekly service for us which can be viewed at :www.mbccs.co.uk This is also printed and delivered each week, if you don't already receive a copy but would like one then please let Maggie know (875711) and we will add you to the list.

News from our many friends:

Rev Nigel Lindsay stays in touch with invitations to the services at his two churches. On the 4th Sunday at 6pm he has a discussion service with a visiting speaker which is usually led by Nigel and one of his congregation. Please let Maggie know if you would like details – Nigel's church always make me very welcome and would be pleased to see more folk from Bethel joining them. Pastor Sue Wade sent us all a hug recently- there was a rhyme which said that she was sending the hug to remind us all how much she cares about us.

Jenny Thompson phoned last week, we had a lovely chat. She is keeping well and so is Mark but I think Jenny is really missing being out and about at the various churches where she preaches. She was able to preach at a small Anglican church in Maidstone but the current lockdown stopped that. She does have a YouTube channel if you want to see her (needs a computer of course)!

Island News:

Churches Together in Sheppey have a monthly prayer meeting (on Zoom) on the first Wednesday in the month at 7pm. Please let Maggie know if you would like the details or have any particular prayer requests.

The **Community Warden** has contacted all the churches to remind us that she is available to help where necessary .Her name is Jackie Swan and her phone number is: 07811 271304. I know that she is happy to help with a variety of problems so please do give her a call if you need any help.

The Food Bank continues to work from Holy Trinity Church, Sheerness. The Food Bank has a collection box in Tesco and Morrisons if you would like to contribute if you are able to go shopping. There is a separate report on the Food Bank attached to this newsheet..

There are many alternatives to the computer for Sunday services:

BBCRadio Kent at 8am on Sunday

Sheppey FM at 10am on Sunday

Of course Songs of Praise on BBC 1

Please let me know if you find anything else, I'm sure there will be lots more as Easter approaches!



Please pray for:

- We give thanks for the vaccine and are grateful that many of our Bethel folk have been able to have their first dose.
- We give thanks for those who have been able to have surgery and pray for their recovery.
- We pray for those in our fellowship who have health problems, those who are waiting for the results of tests and for those who have surgery and treatment planned. We think too of those who are feeling lonely and isolated and pray that we will be able to support them as much as we possibly can.
- We pray for our young people as they return to school – for their safety and for the safety of those who teach them. We are thankful for those who lead our young people at Bethel and pray that they will know the Lord's guidance for the future.
- We pray that at Bethel we will be able to make the correct decisions for the future re-opening of our church.
- We pray that we will all learn patience in these times!
- We pray for our country, giving thanks for all those working so hard in the NHS, care homes and the other key workers. We think of those who have lost loved ones and pray that they will be comforted.
- We pray for those in authority in our country and the wider world, for correct decisions to be made for the future.

