

It was good to see so many of you at the service on 1 August which was led for us by Rev Nigel Lindsay. Nigel had a few days holiday on Sheppey, enjoyed walking to Leysdown and also to Sheerness. He was very grateful for the gift of cash which we gave him which he says will come in very useful. At the moment he is travelling around saying farewell to his many friends and will be staying with his sister near Oxford before flying out to Grenada on 25 August. Please pray that all will go well in this next few days, that there will be no last minute obstacles and that he will have a good, safe journey. He will probably need to isolate for a few days when he arrives in Grenada but I'm sure that will be a helpful time for him to spend time preparing for this new challenge.

Brigade had an excellent Activity week at the end of July following on from their Presentation Evening when the young people received their badges and awards.

Morning services will resume on Sunday 5 September at 11am It's been quite difficult finding people to lead those services but as time goes on it should become easier. The following plans are now confirmed:

5 September	Maggie Mancktelow
12 September	Phyllicia Poynter
19 September	Jim Manley
26 September	Harvest Festival with the Deacons
3 October	Olive Long
10 October	Howard Bunting
17 October	Jenny Thompson

That's as far as I can tell you at the moment, I'm waiting to hear back from people who I have emailed.

Date for your diary:

Saturday 4 September we are having a church cleaning day to get the building cleaned and ready for activities to start again. **All are welcome so please come along even if you can only spare a little time!**

Craft club will begin meeting again from Wednesday 15 September, 130 – 330pm.

Dancercise will be back on 8 September and **Zumba** on 9 September.

All the other groups which meet at Bethel have been contacted so they know that they can start using the premises when they are ready.

Please pray for:

- 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 in September. 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 enjoy worshipping together again and we pray especially for any new friends joining us. We pray too for those who won't be able to come back to church, may we be able to support them at this time.
- We pray for Nigel as he prepares to leave the UK for pastures new. May the Lord bless him and guide him as he makes his final preparations. We pray too for the churches he is leaving in London, that they will be able to continue the work which Nigel started.
- We give thanks for the Sheppey Community Bus and pray that as it launches in September that all will go well and the necessary funding be found.
- 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 the people of Plymouth after the recent atrocity there and for those who are trying to support all who are grieving.
- We pray for those in authority in our country and the wider world, for correct decisions to be made for the future.
- We pray for the current situation in Afghanistan, for the safety of those caught up in the hostilities and for wisdom for world leaders to know the best solution.
- For the people of Haiti after the recent earthquake, for those who have lost loved ones and for those who are injured. May the right help be there for all.
- Lastly, we pray for ourselves, that we may continue to grow in our love for the Lord Jesus and to serve Him in whatever ways He asks.

