

Welcome to the latest news from Bethel. As you will see from the Sunday service details it's becoming difficult to find visiting speakers to come and lead our services but the Wednesday fellowship group have been filling the gap really well – I'm sure that like me you all find their services excellent.

**Sunday Services at 11am**

|                |               |                   |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Sunday 8 May   | Church Parade | Miss P Poynter    |
| Sunday 15 May  |               | Rev Chris Shipley |
| Sunday 22 May  |               | Mrs J Thompson    |
| Sunday 29 May  |               | Rev Sue Wade      |
| Sunday 5 June  |               | Mrs M Mancktelow  |
| Sunday 12 June | Communion     | Mrs M Mancktelow  |
| Sunday 19 June |               | TBA               |
| Sunday 26 June |               | Mrs J Thompson    |
| Sunday 3 July  |               | TBA               |
| Sunday 10 July | Church Parade | Mrs S Potipher    |
|                | Anniversary   |                   |

**News of Nigel:** I've recently had a Zoom call with Nigel, set up by the church in Wimbledon. I did send an invitation out to Bethel members but there was no interest. From what he says, life in Grenada, is very challenging for him and these Zoom calls are a way for him to talk his problems through. He would be happy to see any of you on Zoom so please let me know if you would like to join a call with him and I will set it up with him.

**Fundraising**

It was good to see many familiar faces at the jumble sale on Saturday 30 April and we raised approximately £300. As always after a jumble sale there were a lot of unsold goods to be dealt with. This time all the clothes were collected by the Salvation Army, some stuff to the Bus Shelter project and other bits and bobs to the charity shops.

**Dates for your diaries:** Bible Society Strawberry tea will be on Saturday 2 July in Ann's garden at Halfway. Please look out for further details on that.

**Craft Club** are meeting again on Wednesday afternoons from 1.30 – 3.30. Their next meeting will be on Wednesday 18 May. Please contact Jane Freeman on 01795 875401 for more details.

**Monday 6 June** is a very special day for Thelma and Alan Pagett – Ralph as they will be celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. As you know they now live in Somerset but they are returning to Sheppey for their celebrations. They will be bringing lots of family and friends with them for their special weekend so it will be good to meet friends old and new. They are hoping that their friends Kath and Brian will join us for the weekend. You might remember Kath as the author of the book “2020, a year like no other” which many of you will have had. All are welcome to the service on Monday 6 June at 3.30pm

On a sadder note, many of you will know that Hazel Bailey passed away on Wednesday 13 April after a short illness. Hazel died at home with all her family looking after her which is what she wanted. The service to celebrate Hazel’s life will take place at Bethel on Friday 20 May at 1130am to be followed by committal at the Garden of England Crematorium, Bobbing. All are welcome to join us in celebrating Hazel’s life.

**Please pray for:**

- For any of our fellowship who are unwell, or waiting for medical appointments.
- For those who are mourning the loss of loved ones, especially for Hazel’s family and friends.
- For our young people and those who lead them.
- For the various groups who meet at Bethel – may they benefit from the use of the building and see something of the love of God while they are with us.
- For our Island and the work of the Food banks and the Support Bus.
- For each church on Sheppey – may we all serve our communities well.
- For Nado, the young girl we support, via Compassion, in Togo.
- For Marlon, the young man who we sponsored for many years.
- For Nigel who continues to serve the church in Grenada. For his safety and continued good health in his challenging work.
- For our country, for wisdom for those in authority.
- For the world situation, especially those who are living with war and violence. We think especially of the people of Ukraine and Russia – that a peaceful solution may be found to the current crisis.
- Lastly for ourselves, that we may continue to grow in faith and in knowledge of the Lord Jesus,