



Irthlingborough Methodist Church

A warm welcome is extended to all

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Special notices:

Good Morning and I hope you are all staying well. The sun is shining this morning although it was a little fresh when I was out for my walk earlier. The lakes and meadows are beautiful and George the deer and I had another little conversation! I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Staying in touch:

Our FaceBook page continues to reach out to those in our community.

The church phone is available to leave a message if you need to have a chat and one of our pastoral leaders will get back to you (don't forget to leave a number!). The phone is set up for remote access to the messages. The number is at the top of this newsletter.

Lots of lovely contributions for the newsletter this morning which means you will be saved from the ramblings of my brain!

Worship and Prayer:

You will find that I have attached the service sheet for Sunday to this email. Both will also be available on the website. We wish Rev'd Kim a very happy couple of weeks off – some sea air and relaxation are in order. This morning we have a letter from Ruth as our Senior Steward about worship in our building.

Dear Friends,

I am writing as Senior Steward for IMC in an attempt to keep you all up-to-date with the Covid Secure guidelines we are following in relation to making our building a safe place in which to resume Sunday worship.

Church stewards met with Rev. Kim last week and we are now beginning to put measures in place by setting up a Covid Secure Task Force. This will be led by our Property Secretary, Karen Ellis and she will be supported by Matt Watters, Jamie Poole, Kathleen Whittaker and myself, Ruth Rollings.

The group will create a full Covid secure Risk Assessment for our chapel and begin looking at how we might make things work to ensure everyone's safety.

However - we have some way to go yet!

Our building is currently unable to open for various reasons. One reason being that we must wait for any guidance from the Methodist Conference which has recently met. They will offer us further instruction and information.

Also, as you will be aware, as you enter any building a one-way system must be in place. It is currently a requirement that everyone enters through one door and exits through another, thus avoiding crossover and contamination.

Unfortunately at Irthlingborough all of our access, with the exception of the main doors, will involve steps. Therefore, our lovely chapel is currently deemed unsuitable for worship (just for now).

Many other restrictions will be 'flagged up' as we progress.

So - to cut this long story short - we are working towards, hopefully, re-opening our building for the FIRST SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER in time for the new Methodist year.

It is hoped that at least one of our Circuit buildings will be able to open before this to offer a service of worship for us all during the week. Sunday services on 'Zoom' will continue for the foreseeable future.

I have tried not to use the word 'Church' too much. We have a building where we meet as a church but, all of us as Christians, are God's Church in action.

We will endeavour to keep you informed as the future unfolds.

May God bless you all and keep you safe.

Family news:

Susan Knights has been getting creative! She writes: Today in a work meeting we were asked to do draw our boat in the storm that is the pandemic with our personal experience. It proved really helpful for us to reflect on our personal journey so far and which direction we want for our covid recovery to go. This was my picture.



Blessings

Wendy