



# Irthlingborough Methodist Church

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Good Morning everyone. We have had a mixed week weather wise but I hope you have all managed to get out for some fresh air. I have been very lazy and have been enjoying the tennis on the television in the afternoons..... Whilst knitting of course. One day I even did some cycling on my exercise bike whilst watching but kept stopping when it got exciting! You will be pleased to know that our tree came down successfully and just in time apparently as it was rotten and may have blown over at any time.....something to be said for taking action.

## **Staying in touch:**

Our FaceBook page continues to reach out to those in our community. It is a great way to keep in touch with what is happening and to receive uplifting messages. Thank you to Sophie, Jamie and Ruth for all that they do with this.

I shall be checking the church phone periodically so if you need a chat with one of our pastoral leaders please do leave your name and phone number and I can arrange for someone to call you.

Thank you to those who have submitted items for the newsletter. Please keep them coming!

## **Worship and Prayer:**

I have been beavering away, working on an Advent project for the fence at Wellingborough Methodist Church. We now have 25 pictures printed A3 size, laminated and ready for one to go up each day during Advent. I have a team standing by to make the journeys to the church to ensure this gets done. It has been a strange thing to work on as we would normally do this sort of thing after much discussion, a meeting of the Mission and Outreach team, and a morning together getting everything sorted. This year, it has been me and my dining table largely. I felt quite sad that the element of working as a team seemed to be missing. Then I stopped to think. Two friends had taken time to listen to my ideas and give me their blessing. Another friend lent me her A3 laminator (collected at a distance from her doorstep and with the opportunity for a little chat), an email sent out to plead for assistance in putting the pictures up has brought 9 helpers out of the woodwork. The pictures themselves were sent to me by email via Jill Marsh (District Mission Enabler) from someone in another district. WOW! It was a timely reminder that although we may appear to be on our own, God has us surrounded by love, care and support. And with that knowledge we venture forth into our time of preparation for Christmas Day, a time to rejoice in all that He has done for us. My hope for our project at Wellingborough is that people passing by to and from the shop or to and from school will notice the new picture going up each day and be curious. I shall also be popping a Christmas story and a poem on the fence (yet more teamwork, permission for their use given from yet someone else with a lot of talent). We shall wait and see what impact this will have on our local community. So, I encourage you to keep going. We may be doing things very differently but God is still with us, showing His love through our friends and family, encouraging us to continue to spread the Good News of the Gospel message with all we can and in any way we can. All I need to do now is do a delivery round to the doorsteps of those who have offered their services.....

## **Family news:**

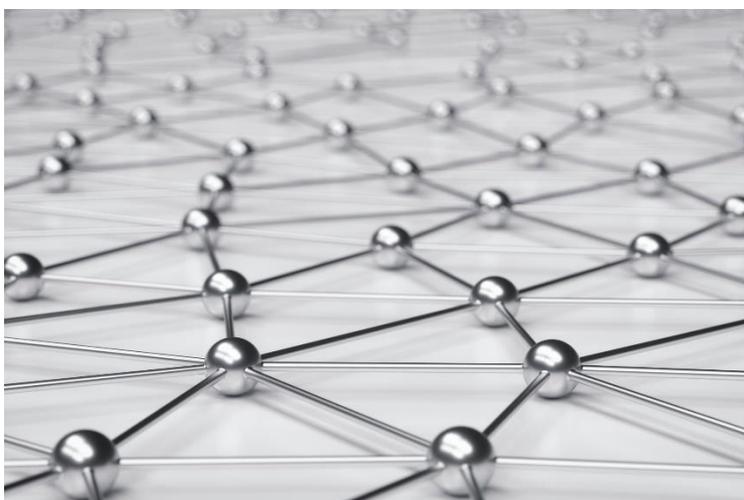
Tomorrow (Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>) will be the next zoom coffee morning hosted by Kathleen. Hopefully you have all had your invites but if not, please make contact with Kathleen who will be able to give you the information you need.

Ruth M has sent the following information:

Probably many of you have really missed Irthlingborough Christian Aid not being able to hold their **Annual Book Sale**. However, never fear **the books are still here!** Like many things this year, Irthlingborough Annual Book Sale has gone virtual. Alan, Jane, Mary and Rachel have been busy compiling a list of books people have kindly donated. If you have books to donate or want to have an up-to-date list of the books available to buy, then please contact Alan Mayes on 01933 650369 or Mary Burdett on 01933 650581. Feel free to pass the word around to local friends.

You will be glad to hear that the work to maintain the building continues and this week we have had all the fire extinguishers serviced!

Wendy



Interesting picture showing how we all interconnect to get the job done!