



Nene Valley Methodist Circuit

**Planting Faith,
Nurturing Disciples,
Growing God's Kingdom**

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Dear Friends

We start the New Year with the news that we have been placed into a Tier 4 area with government guidance that we are to "Stay at Home". In discussion with the Circuit Leadership Team Reverend Lesley has instructed that across our Circuit our buildings must once more be closed to in person worship and we will obviously keep everyone informed with developments as the weeks go by.

I know that this will be a blow to some of us, and a relief to others, and can I assure you that whatever your personal view this decision was not taken lightly or easily, nor in a vacuum as hospitals, schools and other facilities around our circuit are also responding to the challenges that Tier 4 brings. Whilst preaching in the churches I was aware of the long and hard work that went into making buildings as secure as possible, and I especially want to thank our stewards for ensuring that the Risk Assessments were followed to the best of our abilities; it is not an easy task asking people to not mingle, especially when our concern is for each other's wellbeing.

Whilst our building maybe closed, let us not close ourselves to God's spirit moving among us or to each other, and again I want to say thank you to those who are ensuring that our pastoral connections are sustained in a myriad of ways with online worship, coffee mornings and bible studies, through phone calls and food deliveries as well as the continued circulation of the weekly circuit printed worship resources.

I leave you with a prayer written by The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler who is the Secretary of the Methodist Conference under the theme **In Time of Disappointment.**

Loving God, in our fear, in our grief, in our disappointment, may we know that you are with us,
And as we heed the call to remain in our homes, help us there to serve you faithfully,
That others might know of Immanuel, God with us.

Amen.

Rev'd Kim Shorley

Nene Valley Circuit Minister

Pastoral charge at Irthlingborough including Yelden, Raunds, Wellingborough & Wollaston.

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Content is updated weekly on Thursday afternoon