



Irthlingborough Methodist Church

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Good morning everyone. I hope you have all been enjoying the sunshine, although I must admit it has been a little close and humid for my liking!

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.

The church phone will be checked on Tuesday and Friday mornings when I am here. Please do leave a message if you need help with anything or need information from me.

Please consider if you have anything you can submit for the newsletter.....!

Worship and Prayer:

Sunday 13th June: 10.30am service led by Mrs Doreen Ingram

The regular house group and prayer meetings are continuing on zoom. Please contact either Barbara or Ruth R if you would like to drop in online.

Streets for Prayer: Please pray this week for all the residents of Noble Avenue, Palmer Avenue and The Shortlands.

Sunday 20th June: 10.30am service led by Rev'd Michael Langstaff

Church news:

Worship Leaders:

Have you ever thought you might like to lead our congregation in Worship? Is it something you would consider exploring? If so, please contact Rev'd Lesley to find out more. Worship Leader training is being offered across the Circuit this autumn which involves a weekly session over a 6-week period.

Meeting Dates:

Tuesday 15th June: 10am. Events team will meet in the Goliath Hall (socially distanced) to discuss the way forward. Whilst realising that a weekday day-time meeting excludes any of our members who are currently working, any suggestions for discussion at the meeting or offers of help with events are always gratefully received. Please speak to Kathleen W (email: ronandkathleen@btinternet.com). This date has been chosen as - hopefully - the Prime Minister will announce on Monday 14th June whether or not we will be released from all restrictions on 21st June as anticipated.

The kitchen is closed at the moment so please bring your own drink if you would like to.

Thank you.

Library services: Irthlingborough Library offer a service where they will deliver books to your home if you are housebound. If you or somebody you know would like to make use of this service, please get someone to drop your name and phone number into the library and they will call you to make arrangements with you. The lady at the library in charge of this service is called Ruth (yes, another one!) She is a lovely Christian lady who is very willing to help.

Property Committee: The committee have met this week. If you would like to know what is happening with regarding our building, please speak to one of the committee or contact Wendy who will be able to update you on the work that has been happening.

Thought of the Day:

This week I have been thinking about expecting the unexpected.... This follows a conversation with a friend whose husband has unfortunately lost his father this week. She was saying that she has no idea how he will respond to this loss. I know from personal experience that all we can do is prepare to expect the unexpected when it comes to grieving. Everyone is different and will react in their own way. There is no time scale to the process either and it is often not the big anniversaries that have an effect as you are prepared in some way for those, but the little things that catch us unawares.

Then I started contemplating our journey with Christ. I don't know about you, but sometimes I feel very settled, and our week follows a steady routine of bible reading, prayer and worship. But if you look into the life of Jesus, perhaps we should be more open to expecting the unexpected. Nothing He did seemed to fit a pattern or become routine and boring. I wonder what the world would look like if we all started expecting to see something different, became more open to change and yes prepared ourselves for the unexpected?

I share with you the last verse of hymn 251 from Singing the Faith:

Jesus Christ is calling,
Calling in the streets.
'Who will join my journey?
I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus,
Let my fears be few:
Walk one step before me;
I will follow you.