

## Circuit Pastoral Newsletter from Rev'd Liz Harris, February 2021

Hello friends!

It's my turn to write the monthly Circuit Pastoral Letter, which will hopefully reach everyone in our congregations, and others in our communities. Greetings from all of the Circuit Leadership Team.

**God is present with us always**, and we are the church wherever we are – showing God's love through our words and actions. There is certainly plenty of upheaval in our world at the moment, and despite the big challenges we face, such as the impact of Covid, Brexit, and world politics, there is good reason for hope. It's wonderful to see God's love being put into practice through some of the many acts of kindness in our local congregations and communities, as people donate to Foodbanks and Community Food Larders, as neighbours support each other with the delivery of shopping or prescriptions, as friends wave to each other through windows, or send cards or flowers to those who are isolated. We keep in touch and support each other through our personal and pastoral connections, we pray, and read the Bible at home, we worship together through the 'Worship at Home' resources, weekly service sheets and online acts of worship, and can each reflect on our own walk of faith. Whilst this time has brought us many challenges, it has also offered us some new opportunities. Let's hold all of these things before God, as we ask him to lead us.

### Prayer

*Compassionate and ever-present God,  
thank you for being with us  
throughout the Covid 19 pandemic.  
As we look to the future, we continue  
to pray for a sense of holy calm.  
Give us wisdom as we discern  
the way forward in our Circuit,  
and in local congregations.  
Give us compassion for our neighbours,  
strength to support each other,  
and faith to trust in you.  
May we continue to know  
your presence and your peace,  
today and always.  
We pray in the name of your son,  
Jesus Christ, Amen.*

**God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore, we will not fear,  
though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the  
heart of the sea; though its waters  
roar and foam, though the  
mountains tremble with its tumult.**  
(Psalm 46 verse 1-3)

## A Methodist Way of Life

**The calling of the Methodist Church is to  
respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and  
to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.**

As far as we are able, with God's help:

### Worship

- We will pray daily.
- We will worship with others regularly.
- We will look and listen for God in Scripture, and the world.

### Learning and Caring

- We will care for ourselves and those around us.
- We will learn more about our faith.
- We will practise hospitality and generosity.

### Service

- We will help people in our communities and beyond.
- We will care for creation and all God's gifts.
- We will challenge injustice.

### Evangelism

- We will speak of the love of God.
- We will live in a way that draws others to Jesus.
- We will share our faith with others.

**May we be a blessing within and beyond God's Church,  
for the transformation of the world.**

## When will our churches be open again?

Actually, our churches have always been open, it's just the buildings that are closed. We are the church, and we continue with our journey of faith, as highlighted in 'A Methodist Way of Life'. Please do continue to support your local church financially if you are able; churches are missing their usual regular income from offerings, gifts and fund-raising, but still have financial commitments. If you're not sure how to do this, please get in touch with your treasurer, church steward or Minister.

## Even though we currently can't gather in person for services, events and meetings, there is plenty going on; and it's all part of our offering of worship to God –

- ✓ Ministers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and Musicians are providing worship resources, online services and reflections (with wonderful contributions from many other people, thank you!)
- ✓ Church Stewards and Treasurers are working behind the scenes to maintain our church buildings.
- ✓ Many people are offering pastoral care and support in our communities.
- ✓ The Circuit Leadership Team are working hard to maintain the life of our Circuit.
- ✓ Online meetings are happening regularly, at both Circuit and local church level (if you'd like to join one of these, but are unsure how to do so, please get in touch and we'll help you):
  - Bible studies & discussions
  - Coffee mornings
  - Prayer groups
  - Craft Group
  - Circuit Prayer Meeting
  - Circuit Leadership Team
  - Staff Meetings
  - The Circuit Meeting
  - Local Preachers & Worship Leaders
  - Local Church Stewards' meetings etc.
- ✓ For those who are unable to get online, DVDs and paper resources are also available, and we can keep in touch by phone, or by writing.

If you would like some form of contact or pastoral support, please contact one of the Ministers, Church Stewards, or your local Pastoral Team. We are here for you.

We do try to keep in touch with everyone, but occasionally we need a little reminder!

## Additional information, helpful advice and resources

- ✓ **F&G Circuit YouTube Channel** - here you'll find our online Worship at Home Services & Wednesday Worship. The videos are also now available on DVD for those who are not online; please contact Chris Trewern if you would like to access these. (We can also loan you a DVD player if required).  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSZkv-Db2MFXsQEzhra0azw>
- ✓ **F&G Circuit Facebook page** – here you'll find news about life throughout our Circuit.  
<https://www.facebook.com/Falmouth-and-Gwennap-Methodist-Circuit-126416989738/>
- ✓ **F&G Circuit website** here you'll find links and information about our Circuit.  
<https://www.fandgmc.org.uk>
- ✓ **The Methodist Church in Britain** - here you can find helpful information and resources, including updates about how the Methodist Church in Britain is responding to Covid 19.  
<https://www.methodist.org.uk>

## Contact Details

Please feel free to contact us as required:

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