

Dear Church Friends,

Warmest greetings to you all, and I do hope and pray this email finds you and your families keeping well.

I was thinking about this newsletter while walking Magnus earlier today, and asking God what I should write (apart from the necessary notices!). I think this might be what I am supposed to say, after having had 3 unexpected chats with different church friends this morning...

The current circumstances would seem to be a very different experience for people. For many of us, it is quite a scary time. For others, especially those dealing with illness and loss, it can be devastating. Some are working incredibly hard to look after the rest of us, and might feel exhausted. Others are exhausted by home-schooling! Others find it all very unsettling, and it can be hard to find peace and happiness. Yet for some, the enforced time to be still has brought many blessings as well as trials – yet they might then also feel guilty about feeling happy when others are struggling! Many people might feel a range of all of the above and more!

I just wanted to say, however you are feeling or coping (or not coping) at this time, please do know that the church is here for you. Each of you should have contact with either a homegroup or someone who has committed to phoning you regularly (if you wish). If you are not receiving such support, and would like it, please do get in touch with either me or Jonathan Ford. We don't want anyone to feel alone through this time.

And, even though the world around us seems so uncertain and fragile, GOD is still the same. I have found it quite hard to pray at times during this lockdown; hard to know where to start or to even feel God near at times. But I was reminded last week that even just being still with God is prayer. Prayers don't have to be formal and eloquent to count. God knows each of us, He knows where we're at and how we're feeling, and He loves each of us very dearly.

Notices this week....

Thy Kingdom Come

The 10-day period of prayer finishes this coming Pentecost Sunday 31st May. Jonathan Ford has been out and about delivering "Thy Kingdom Come" maps to our church children and he still has some left over. They provide lots of fun activities for families or individuals – if you would like one, please let Jonathan know.

If you are able, please join us for our live service this Sunday at 10:30am. Just click on this link to get you there!

<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchmoretonhall/live>

The service is also available afterwards on the church website or church Facebook page.

Photographs

You may have seen the lovely photo collections that Jonathan Corwin kindly puts together for our services. This Sunday, we would like to show ways that church members have been creative during lockdown. This could be paintings, artwork, craft, cooking, gardening – anything creative! Moreover, if anyone would still like to contribute family or garden photos, these would most welcome too, and we might be able to use them in future weeks. Please email any contributions to Jonathan Corwin j@corwin.co.uk.

Thank you

Thank you so much to everyone who is supporting others in the church family at this time. Whether in large or small ways – it is very much appreciated and makes such a difference 😊 Thank you all.

Special thanks to Jonathan Ford for his continued hard work leading, pastoring and teaching the church through this time, and to Jonathan Corwin for all his hard work behind the scenes with services and wise support with church admin tasks.

That's it for this week!

God bless you all lots – I pray You'll know a special reminder of His unique love & care for you this week xx

With love

Heather

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