



Borrowwash, Draycott and Spondon

Bulletin 1

23rd March 2020

Dear Friends

During this time when Coronavirus is effecting every part of our lives, we want to continue to communicate with you; to share information about the things we are doing as a church, and offer resources that will help us worship and remain connected with one another during this time of 'Social Distancing'

One of the ways we will do this is by publishing this newsheet on a regular basis. It will be posted on our church websites, emailed to those who have given us permission to use their email addresses, and placed on our external Church Noticeboards, where these exist. We are also asking our Pastoral visitors to share the information on the sheet with those who cannot access it any other way.

If you have information we can include on the sheet, please let one of us have it.

Colin Emerson
Judith Neal

Keep In touch with one another

We may not be able to meet with each other face to face, but we can still use the telephone, along with emails and social media to keep in touch.

You could make your phone call more of an occasion by turning it into a "Tea and Telephone" or "Phone and Prayer" or even the perennial old favourite "Knit and Knatter", though how you hold the phone at the same time as knitting...

We all need to hear friendly voices, the local news—there is more than Coronavirus to talk about, like family updates. So go on, pick up the phone and make that call.

Keeping in Touch with you

There are 3 ways we want to keep in touch with you.

Pastoral visitors. They will be checking in with you regularly, by phone.

Church and Circuit Websites. please visit them at least weekly

Email. We want to send this bulletin and other resources out electronically to as many as possible. Please email Colin, if you are willing for us to contact you by this means.

Keep in touch with Colin and Judith

We are not going anywhere, but there again none of us are! **We will be here for you**

We understand that this time is going to be difficult for all of us. We understand that there will be times when you might feel lonely, isolated and low. We understand that those times might come at any time, day or night—that suddenly you have a need to talk, to know that you are not alone in the world. **We are not going anywhere. We will be here for you** day or night

Please don't think that you are being a nuisance or that we won't want to hear your problems, we are here to share your burden, to listen and to pray.

Colin's contact details:

Phone: 01332 670587

Mobile: 07842 042168

Email: minister@kawenata.co.uk

Judith's contact details:

Phone: 01332 832108

Email: Judith.neal.layworker@outlook.com

We are going nowhere. We will be here for you

Keeping Safe

Keeping Safe, and keeping one another safe, is the top priority for each one of us at this time. Here are some ways in which we can do this.

Follow Government guidance

The government is working with the country's top advisors to determine how to handle this crisis. The advice they are offering is to ensure that most people will be kept safe from the worst effects of Coronavirus.

Whenever we step outside the house, or into someone else's, we need to ask two simple questions - **What effect could I be having on this person, if by any chance I have the virus?** and **What effect *could* visiting this person have on me if they have the virus?** **Social distancing** and **Isolation** are both inconveniences, but they are inconveniences that will help keep us and those we care about safe.

Don't forget your personal security

Sadly, the Coronavirus has provided an opportunity for unscrupulous people to take advantage of the more vulnerable. To put this another way, **not everyone offering help is doing so for your benefit!** This is a sad fact of daily life that we are all too aware of with new scams being dreamt up everyday. The Methodist Church has produced the following guidance to help us protect ourselves.

- ◆ Do not allow strangers into your home, even if they claim to be part of a Community Support Scheme. Check with the scheme first (not using the phone number supplied by your 'visitor')
- ◆ Do not pay for shopping in advance
- ◆ Pay for your shopping deliveries by:
 - ◇ Bank transfer if you are online or a family member can arrange this for you
 - ◇ Telephone banking – this can be arranged by phoning the number on the back of your bank card
 - ◇ Cheque



Closing Thoughts

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you ... Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." John 14:27

These are words that Jesus spoke to his disciples as he was preparing them for strange and uncertain times, a time when they would see him no more. He is saying to them, have peace, all will be well. Do not be anxious for I am still with you. If you trust in me you will know my peace which comes from my Father.

Jesus speaks the same words to us. He seeks to assure us that we can lay down our anxieties; that we do not need to be swamped by fear. For we can have the peace of knowing that God is with us, God is in control and with God all will be well.

Almighty God, I ask that you would take from me all fear and anxiety, that I might not be overwhelmed by that of which I have no control. Instead, Father, I ask that you would fill me with that deep peace that comes not from the world, but through knowing you. In you I put my trust this day and every day. Amen.