



**FREE phone lines for prayers and news from the Methodist Church**

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Content is updated weekly on Thursday afternoon

Also starting this week is Daily Hope—offering music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services, at the end of a telephone line. The service has been primarily set up to support those, especially the elderly, who are unable to join online church services.

**The free national line is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044.**



**THEIR HEARTS ARE STEADFAST TRUSTING IN THE LORD**



God of love and light,  
In this time of fear, give us your peace.  
In this time of isolation, give us your presence.  
In this time of sickness, give us your healing.  
In this time of uncertainty, give us your wisdom.  
In this time of darkness, shine your light upon us all.  
In Jesus' name, amen.

(Gideon Heugh, Tearfund)

We have received a donation of £1000 from the solicitors managing the estate of Marjory Dickinson. This is a lovely gesture and much appreciated.

**Thank you** to those who have given financially to the church in recent weeks. If you would like to do so, then there are several ways to give, (we still have bills to pay!)

- 1) by bank transfer to **20-69-85 40594741**
- 2) pay in at your bank to the above account or
- 3) send a cheque, payable to Central Methodist Church to the church, Lune Street Preston PR1 2NL where I will collect it.

Thanks Paul



# Church Chat Weekly

1/5/20

## Week 6 of "stay at home"

The baking this week continued with more home baking—no wonder there's a shortage of flour! Starring a polenta, almond and lemon cake from Ruth, a delicious looking



Friday afternoon high tea with Olwen and Bill, and Maureens tempting lemon meringue pie. Also on a sweet note we've had a chocolate bar quiz where we



had to identify 20 bars of chocolate. That was tough! This last week also saw 12 months since Paul set off on his walk to Rome (how time flies!) The CofE launched a hymn number request hotline too—but hey, we have Pete and Maureen every day, which is appreciated by all. Sara had us laughing with a



video of her counting to 10 but missing out number 7 as she doesn't like it, and we've seen Joshua trying out his new bike.



Simon has also been upcycling for a change and building garden gadgets. Phew! What a busy week!



I have been in isolation for seven

days which has been a very strange experience.

I didn't expect to get coronavirus. For much of the first three days

I slept. A new experience as I just don't sleep in the daytime. But I slept all night and still needed two additional naps through the day.

I coughed, I struggled with a temperature and I ached all over, like I had been run over by a bus, maybe that's why I slept so much. I am lucky because I have family who brought me food and drink. Sara started to refer to me as 'mummy upstairs' which shows how adaptable little ones can be.

These words in Psalm 121 helped me a great deal. They helped me to remember that my help comes from God. He helped me bear with the separation and the sense of guilt that Alison was left doing all the work. He was present in that time even though it was hard for me to focus.

As we face our seventh week of lockdown and separation we need to remember that God is with us. We don't know when we might come together as church family, but I do know God is with us as we wait and find new ways to be church.

Take care everyone and stay well  
Every Blessing  
Rev Barbara

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

**My help comes from the LORD,**

who made heaven & earth.



-Psalm 121:1-2

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