



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

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.



On Tuesday the first rose opened on the arbour in my garden reminding me of this beautiful verse----



**It is only a tiny rosebud-
A flower of God's design;
But I cannot open the petals
With these clumsy hand of mine.
For the pathway that lies before me
My Heavenly Father knows-
I'll trust Him to unfold the moments
Just as He unfolds the rose.**

As we come through this difficult time continue to believe and pray and soon we to will open like the rose and live again. Stay safe *Valerie*



I need to social distance myself from my refrigerator so I can flatten my curve.



Church Chat Weekly

8/5/20



Week 7 Stay Home Stay Safe!

Well, not quite the VE day celebrations that we thought we would be enjoying! I hope you have put your bunting up!



Not much evidence of baking this week, in fact only Chelsea seemed to have been baking! Let's hope



there is more this week to enjoy!

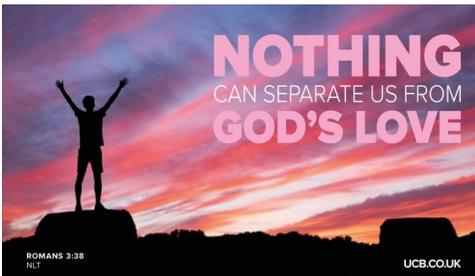
A big shout out to this weeks Birthdays! First of all a Happy Birthday to Edward Swindlehurst who

turns 21 on Sunday! Ed's working on a farm in Shrewsbury at the moment and we send our best wishes to him! Congratulations also to Kate Johnstone! Happy Birthday Kate!



Any other birthdays I should know about?

Lastly, churches around the world have contributed to a song called The Blessing, if you have internet access look on YouTube for it at <https://youtu.be/PUtl3mNj5U>



That's it for this week!

Pictures, emails and texts are welcome for next weeks newsletter! Paul



Hello all!

I have been asked to write a short piece again, and I am doing so on yet another beautiful afternoon during this strange period of our lives. Just through our Whatsapp group, never mind contact from other sources, we are receiving numerous pieces of information daily: videos to make us cry with laughter and pain, images to uplift and entertain, news to keep us close to each other.

Then there is what we watch and listen to 'officially': daily government briefings, endless Covid 19 coverage, often mixed messages from experts, comparisons with other countries round the world, praise for successes, criticisms for what we've done badly.... frankly I find it overwhelming at times and want to retreat into a book, a jigsaw, crashing on my drum kit, chatting aimlessly with friends or just switching off in front of mindless TV. And I find it all too easy to start feeling I am not doing enough to support others at this time, in the face of such amazing dedication, skill and generosity amongst friends and the wider community.

I have been concerned for my 94 year old dad and his insistence from the very start that 'he is fine': he shops safely according to the guidance and I 'do not need to worry!' The last time I tried to gently influence him to stop going out, he replied, totally calmly, "Ruth, I am at perfect peace ... under the blood of the Lamb."

I am not suggesting we are somehow protected from harm thanks to our faith and I don't think he was either, but in the midst of the chaos of our emotions in this lockdown, it's a powerful and sustaining thought I offer to you all on his behalf.

God bless, Ruth

Contact Barbara Pettitt on 07784 791287

www.CentralMethodist.org.uk

editor@centralmethodist.org.uk