**Newington Methodist Church**

*Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT*

**News and views for the week commencing 11th April 2021**

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| The church building remains closed in April and until Pentecost.   |  |

**Notices**

* **Sunday on-line service at 10:30am** will be led by Rev Tony Graff. The service can be found on YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH5znujO50U

* **Newington social catch-up before the service at 9am** online using Zoom at: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4628098433

(meeting ID 462 809 8433) … or join by telephone: 020 3481 5237; when requested enter meeting ID 462 809 8433 followed by #; press # again when asked for a participant ID

* **Next Sunday on-line service 18th April 10:30 am** will be led by Rev Robin Selmes &St. Lukes Methodist Church
* **Sittingbourne Sunday morning service, 10:30 am. Booking is in place at: Paul Skip at** paul@greenapplegraphics.co.uk or phone the minister 07504840781
* **We are still looking for some help with these positions:**  assistant to Letting officer, Cleaning the church premises. If you have any ideas please contact the minister.

**Coffee Morning: thank** you all for joining in the coffee morning last Saturday. We missed some as it was a special time at Easter and people had families around or other commitments. We were delighted to have Margaret C. joining us for the first time.

**Data Protection:** Thank you all for returning the Data protection forms back. If you still have not done so, please send your form ASAP. Thank you

**Holy week and Easter display** at the church building. We had a positive response from people and we thank Bernard for this witness to the community.

**Other activities you can join in during the week via Zoom**

* **Bible study** – our sessions will, start again from 13th April 2pm. Do join us if you want to study and discuss the theme. We will be searching scriptures about the Holy Spirit. [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83665077649?pwd=SzQyQjZnTGRxeFNEOUUxMENla1d3Zz09#success](#success)
* **Prayer and Share** 9:30 am led by Elena Markova (every first and third Friday of the month)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87438656633?pwd=QUNhNWVjZHBQTUF5am1YMy9xTjhZZz09

**The reflection for this week has been done by Gillian Collins and you can find it in a separate attachment.**

**Prayer** *(taken from Methodist church website)*

We pray for our world, for countries ravaged by war and natural disasters. We pray for those countries struggling with Covid who have little or no vaccines.

We pray for our country, for those making decisions, give them wisdom and courage to act wisely. We pray for those who are on the frontline, who are exhausted from the effects of the pandemic, give them rest.

We pray for the bereaved, especially those who haven’t been able to grieve with or for loved ones. We pray for those still struggling with illness and weariness. We think of those who are anxious and afraid to go out, those who have been isolated for so long and those who are lonely.

We pray for our churches, some open, some still worshipping in other ways, help us to go forward in the way you lead us, not to just return to what we have always done.

We pray for ourselves, that we don’t need a sign to believe in you, that we trust you to supply everything we need in our lives. Through our risen, redeeming Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**People and places for prayer**

* John G. is back from hospital, recovering slowly
* Val Trice is back from the care home, she feels much better
* Beryl and Peter W.
* Peter R. and his treatment from the cyst on his leg
* Mavis R friend’s husband who has been diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour. J&C. K
* We remember our friends who have died and their loved ones: Audrey, Margaret S.

**A message from St Mary ChoE, Amanda**

As churches, we wish to enable our community to give thanks in prayer for Prince Philip and pray for the Queen and all who  mourn his loss, and to reflect on a long life, well lived, and so our churches will be open over the course of the weekend to enable that. Please feel free to spread information about the opening times as widely as you are able.

The opening times are as follows: Newington: Saturday, 10-4, Sunday after the 10am service until 4pm

You may like to use the following prayer, from the Church of England:

God of our lives,

we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip,

for his love of our country and for his devotion to duty.

We entrust him now to your love and mercy,

through our redeemer Jesus Christ.

Amen.

In normal circumstances, our churches would have invited people to sign a book condolence; in the current circumstances, that is not possible, so the Church of England is inviting people to sign an online book of condolence at https://www.churchofengland.org/remembering-his-royal-highness-prince-philip

Every blessing

Amanda

*Please send news, prayer requests and any other contributions for inclusion in the weekly newsletter to* *robert.zachar@gmail.com*

***Bank details for Offerings****:*

Newington Methodist Church, HSBC Sittingbourne.  Sort Code 40 – 42 – 04,  Account 70614696.

If you prefer to send a cheque contact our church treasurer Chris Ch.