GREASBY

METHODIST

CHURCH

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**Notices for Sunday 21st February 2021.**

**Sunday 21st February.**

10.45am. Mrs. Judith Stelfox. (Zoom service).

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP.**

Normally a warm welcome would be extended in the name of Jesus to everyone at Church, however, at present all services are on zoom and if you are interested in joining us please phone or email the Church office.

**Prayer.**

*Grant us, O God, a greater obedience to your will, a more fervent love for our neighbor and a stronger thirst for your word; through Christ our Lord. Amen. (William Tyndale (c.1494 – 1536)*

**Sunday 28th February.**

10.45am. Rev. Charles New. (Zoom service).



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 5TH MARCH 2021**

This year the service has been prepared by Christian women of Vanuatu – an archipelago of 80 islands 2000 miles east of Australia. The prayer focus is on their people, a developing nation with many challenges. The theme explored this year is ‘Built on a strong Foundation’, the bible reading being Matthew 7:24-27, ‘build your house on the rock’.

However, having spoken to the representatives from St. John’s Church and Our Lady of Pity Church, it was strongly felt that it was not wise to hold a service in Greasby this year. For people with online access, there will be services on Youtube (eg. [www.nestonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.nestonparishchurch.org.uk) then follow the links for World Day of Prayer. It will be available from 9am on 5th March. Further information can be found on [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk).

For anyone interested, I have lots of the service booklets I would really like to give away. As well as the service, the booklets contain interesting information about Vanuatu. They are available for collection from the church entrance/office or you may contact me on 678 1481 and I will do my very best to get one (or more) to you.

The WDoP are concerned about the offering as they always like to give grants to many worthy causes each year and the Day of Prayer is their only source of income. If you would like to give a donation, please do so directly either via the website or by sending a cheque (made payable to WDP) to: World Day of Prayer, Commercial Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2RR. For people able to Gift Aid, please complete the envelope supplied with the service booklet and send to WDP as above.

Most important of all, please remember to pray for the people of Vanuatu on Friday 5th March, at any time of the day bearing in mind Christians across the world will be praying all day starting in the East and ending in the West.

**Roberta Gray**



**DISCIPLESHIP AND FELLOWSHIP DAY**

**SATURDAY 24TH APRIL 2021**

We are looking forward to the next Discipleship Day on Saturday 24th April, 10.00 - 3.30pm when Mark Thomas will be leading on the theme ***Defending the Faith.***

***Always be ready to give an answer***

1 Peter 3 v13-17

The aim of the day is to introduce disciples of Jesus to the study of Apologetics. By the end of the day we will be able to give a reasoned argument for the existence of God, the divine nature of Jesus Christ and the authenticity and authority of the Bible. It promises to be an exciting day of learning through discussion, reflection and fellowship with one another and will include refreshments and a light lunch. It is inappropriate to try to run such an event on zoom, therefore if it is not possible to meet here at church, the event will be postponed. Please keep the date free and plan to join us if you are able

**Sue Elliott**



**HOUSEGROUP LED BY JUDITH STELFOX**

Nine of us meet via Zoom on a Thursday morning every other week between 10.45am and 12noon. Following completion of the Bible course this week we started to look at the subject of Unanswered Prayer. Produced by 24/7 Prayer it is based on Pete Greig’s book “God on Mute”. There are five sessions the first one entitled “Engaging the Silence” gave us an introduction to the following four questions based on the four days of Easter.

**Maundy Thursday “How” “How am I going to get through this?”**

**Good Friday “Why” “Why aren’t my prayers working?”**

**Easter Saturday “Where” Where is God when heaven is silent?”**

**Easter Sunday “When” “When will my prayers be answered?**

Each session is made up of a video followed by discussion and prayer.

**Judith Stelfox**

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**HOUSEGROUPS/BIBLE STUDY**

We are proposing to start another house group which will be run by Paul and Yangsun. It is proposed to meet on Monday evenings at 7.00pm starting Monday 22nd February led by Paul and repeated on Saturday 27th February at 10.00am led by Yangsun. The study will be based on Hebrews and uses the For Everyone bible study guide – Hebrews by Tom Wright. The introduction and questions will be shared prior to each session. However, for anyone wishing to purchase the book it is available from SPCK (ISBN: 9780281063796) published 2010. The group will take place on Zoom until we can meet again in person. If you are interested in joining this study please contact the church office for more details.

**Paul Boardman**

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**PRAY WITHOUT CEASING 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (ESV)**

Even though we cannot gather physically together we can pray together in the Holy Spirit. I would like to invite you to join me in corporate prayers at 8.30-9.00 every morning, from the comfort of your home

The Methodist Prayer Handbook suggest we focus prayers on

* The Church worldwide, our country and local
* The Nations and their leaders
* As well as concerns for friends, family, neighbours and ourselves. You may wish to focus on the prayer needs within the weekly newssheet at this time

**Yangsun Yi**

**OASIS WEDNESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY**

This week Rev Yangsun Yi talked to us about the meaning of a friend. We discussed what friendship meant to us individually. Yangsun then gave us the dictionary definition before playing the hymn 'What a friend we have in Jesus' and telling us the history of this hymn that started as a poem 'Pray without ceasing' by Joseph Scriven. Yangsun then talked about the different meanings of the times 'friend' is mentioned in the bible, particularly in the New Testament when used by Jesus. She ended by telling us that Jesus, by His grace, called us to be His friend and as such we are called to share confidences with God and possessions with those in need.

Next Wednesday Mrs Judith Stelfox will be sharing with us. Please join us if you are able to do so by contacting the church office.

**Sue Farrelly**

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

I will be hosting a Bereavement Support Group on Zoom, for anyone who may be interested in joining me. It will start on Friday 5th March, at 3.30pm, and thereafter, on the first and third Fridays of the month. Please contact me on 633 2753 for joining details.

**Yangsun Yi**



**A GOOD READ**

The book I have chosen to recommend is called ‘Chosen’. This is an autobiography by Michele Guinness who is married to an Anglican Vicar, Peter, a great, great grandson of Guinness the brewer. Michele tells the story of her Jewish upbringing, her feelings of needing something more, her introduction to Christianity, her confusion of being both Jewish and a Christian, her family difficulties of entering a Christian marriage and then becoming a vicar’s wife. This book is both informative and somewhat amusing!



For people who are interested in Bible study but prefer something not too deep, I would like to recommend ‘The One-Stop Bible Atlas’ by Nick Page. This is more than an atlas. It goes through the Bible in chronological order, giving an overview of key events, not too much text, lots of diagrams and pictures as well as maps. I have found it very helpful and refer to it often. ISBN: 978-0-7459-5352-6

 **Roberta Gray**

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

Wirral Working Together aims to educate and encourage local people to Stop the Block by not pouring fats, oils and grease down the sink, and not flushing items like wet wipes down the loo. United Utilities are currently running a campaign in Greasby and Moreton. Pouring and flushing the wrong things can create a congealed mass known as a fatberg, which clogs up pipes, drains and sewers. During times of heavy rainfall, these fatbergs can block drains and sewers cause untreated sewage to flood into homes and gardens – causing huge expense. They want to raise awareness to try to stop blockages happening in homes, gardens, streets and our local beauty spots. Please share the message with friends and neighbours

**Sue Elliott**

***PRAYER NEEDS 21st February. 2021***

*While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” (Mathew 17:5)*

**PEOPLE :**

We give thanks that the vaccine has now been delivered to the majority in the country, in the first 4 age groups, and now working through group 5. The new cases are decreasing day by day, but we must still remain very cautious. The country awaits the Prime Minister’s announcement on Monday evening, for the proposed Road Map out of lockdown.

Lord, we pray that the lower numbers of Covid cases, will in time, lesson the burden on the exhausted NHS staff, and our hospitals will be able to take patients who have been waiting so long for their operations, many in considerable pain.

A Blessing from the Holy Island of Lindisfarne.

Lord, be a bright flame before us

Be a guiding star above us

Be a smooth path beneath us

Be a kindly shepherd behind us. Amen.

**READINGS 21st February. 2021**

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|  |  | Reading | Hymn | Psalm |
| Sunday | 21st | Ezekiel 20: 33-44  | StF43 | Ps144 |
| Monday | 22nd | Ezekiel 33:30-33  | StF438 | Ps146 |
| Tuesday | 23rd | Mathew 17: 1-9  | StF259  | Ps99 |
| Wednesday | 24th | Ezekiel 34:1-16 | StF479 | Ps145:8-21 |
| Thursday | 25th | Ezekiel 34:17-24  | StF481  | Ps145:8-21 |
| Friday | 26th | Ezekiel 34:17-24  | StF481  | Ps145:8-21 |
| Saturday | 27th | Ezekiel 37:14-28  | StF350 | Ps150 |

**AND….*JUST FOR FUN!***

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail.

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough.

"You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."
"Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked.
Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door?
They're hushers."

**Privacy notice**

We have a TMCP (Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes) compliant privacy notice available on our website greasbymethodistchurch.org.uk

A paper copy is available on the notice board and can be provided upon request from any steward.