



# LINK UP!

[The Lord] said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you." 2 Corinthians 12:9

## Points for Prayer

Let's pray for:

- \* Those working on producing vaccines and tests in the fight against Covid-19
- \* Families who have lost loved ones at this time
- \* Easter next week! For services on TV, radio, online, in print and over the phone - may more and more people come to know the God who loves them

## Longfleet 'At Home'!

As many of you know, we've now got a YouTube channel, where I'll be posting a 20 minute message from the Bible and a prayer every Sunday, called 'Longfleet At Home'. Check it out on our website, [www.longfleetbaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.longfleetbaptistchurch.co.uk), under the "Scattered Church" tab. Or look us up on YouTube! If you don't have access to the internet, don't worry I'll do a transcript of the reflection to go with the printed newsletter you receive in the post.

“

If I choose to hide you away, it is for a reason. I have brought you to this place. Drink in the silence. Seek solitude. Listen to the silence. It will teach you. It will build strength. Let others share it with you. It is little to be found elsewhere. Silence will speak more to you in a day than the world of voices can teach you in a lifetime. Find silence. Find solitude—and having discovered her riches, bind her to your heart. Frances J. Roberts

Northumbria Community  
*Celtic Daily Prayer*

#kindlequotes

## Simply be!

*Dear church family*

This week, I have been reflecting on how much we can allow the structure of our lives and the regular activities in which we participate to define who we are. I don't think we realise how much our identity is bound up in the things we do until we cannot do them for whatever reason, and until the structure of our lives changes, as it has for all of us at the moment. But there is good news! Jesus died to save us from our sins, which means that in Him, we are enough! We cannot earn His love, so take this opportunity to simply be in God's presence. The above poem popped up in my readings today - ideal for us in lockdown!

Keep trusting! With love, your Pastor,

*Suzie* x

**WhatsApp Prayer**

Ever prayed with a group of people via text message and shared photos, whilst sitting in your own home? Carri has set up a fantastic prayer group via the mobile app, WhatsApp, connecting up every Weds night at 8pm. So if you have a mobile, and are on WhatsApp, why not let me or Carri know, and Carri will add you to the group!

**LADIES CONTACT GROUP**

Harold Wilson (former Prime Minister) said “A week is a long time in politics” . We never thought that just one week on from the Contact 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we would be thrown into unprecedented situations. During subsequent days we have had to close all our Church activities, take hand washing more seriously, and isolate ourselves particularly if we fall within the ‘special’ categories the Prime Minister has outlined.

Perhaps we should try to think about the times of blessing we have had as a Church, and as a group. On our anniversary, we thanked God for His faithfulness to us all over the past years. It was 60 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> March the Church Meeting agreed that a small group of ladies could begin a group specifically for

ladies on a Tuesday evening. Throughout the 60 years of its existence there have only been 2 leaders, myself and Joan Grover the founder. Joan led Contact for 45 years steering us from the ‘swinging’ 60s into 2005. Joan was assisted by her team and we remembered particularly Gladys Wilkins and Rita Clark. It was also a pleasure to see Linda Jefferies, another founder member present in church for the service.

The following is an extract from the Group’s presentation at the anniversary and gives a tribute to Joan and her work of those 45 years.

*Joan retired as leader in 2005 and died 7 years later. As a person, she had a great love for the Lord. She was a keen Photographer with a feeling for the countryside and wildlife. As a group we enjoyed evenings when Joan showed her photographs and talked about the various places she had visited. She was able to put names to all the wild flowers she photographed as well as the history of the buildings and places we were able to see. This made Joan’s death from dementia even harder to understand.*

Taking on the leadership after Joan was a privilege which I have felt throughout my 15 years. This is a lovely group of ladies. A group who take fellowship as a matter of day to day life and epitomise the spirit of our closing prayer ‘ being bound together by the unseen chain of God’s love’.



I received a lovely comment the other day. One of the members told me that she had always avoided doing things from the front until she started coming to Contact. This is the essence of the group. The willingness of the members to participate and support one another, each one special to God and doing their best to show His love to those with whom they have CONTACT, day by day.

Barbara Goose, 22.03.20