



Link Up!

'But now is the time to cast off and throw away all these rotten garments of anger, hatred, cursing and dirty language' Colossians 3:8

Notices

So folks don't forget that Suzie is on leave until 12th July and Jill is also taking some leave soon but if you do need to chat to someone then Austin and I will be around all the time Suzie is off duty.

Our Thursday Night In will still continue at 7pm on Thursdays and don't forget to use our new Zoom account log in. If you can't find it then give me a ring.

This Thursday, 2nd July, we will have one of our B.M.S. World Mission Partners joining us to tell us what is happening in the country in South East Asia where she works. If you join us later than 7.10pm she may already have started so join the room quietly please!

While Suzie is away she has a link on our You Tube channel to one of the SCBA ministers' reflections that they have been doing during lock down. They have been doing them weekly so you should also be able to look at their previous reflections too.

Don't forget to fill out and send back your questionnaires, even if you can't think of anything to say for some of the questions. We want to hear from everyone.



Dear Church Family,

As Suzie is on holiday for the next couple of weeks, I have offered to produce the weekly Link Up newsheet while she is off duty.

What have you been busy doing to keep yourself occupied during the 'lock down' and the continuing restrictions on normal activity which leave us with perhaps more time on our hands than we are used to? I've talked to some of you and I know that, like me, some of you have used the time to have a good clear out of those cupboards, drawers, sheds and garages that you have been meaning to do for a long while. I have gradually been sorting out and cleaning the cupboards in our kitchen and we've even managed to decorate it in the last few weeks too! It's quite surprising what items you find when you get everything out. Did I really need four trifle bowls or three quiche dishes? No, there's only so much trifle or quiche you can eat!

I don't seem to have been the only one in our neighbourhood clearing out either as, within a few weeks of lock down, I noticed, on my daily walk for exercise, that some houses in our area had boxes of stuff with labels saying 'help yourself' or something similar. So, I decided that I would see if I could get rid of some of my items too rather than wait for the charity shops to open. Three items

A Prayer

Each morning we wake, another day
Consumed by the news of the coronavirus.

Another day facing the same space, the same colours,

The same sounds. We crave for the difference we had

The freedom we are used to, and the people we met.

As the tears form, please Lord Jesus
Fill my uncertainties with peace and strength.

We have always needed it, but now we know it.

We pray for all who are facing isolation, hardship, hunger,

Fear or anxiety. Lord let them know that you are close,

And guide us, where we have time, energy, or resources,

To reach out and bring relief.

We should have always done this but now we know it.

We pray for all those who are sacrificing safety and comfort

So that others can be saved.

For doctors and nurses, and care workers

Fill them with your spirit and let them know

That they walk in your footsteps.

It should have always been this way, but now we feel it.

Through this time, help us to draw together in spirit,

Even while we are apart.

Help us to seek out the lost and the lonely,

And to know that in all circumstances, However dark things may seem,

We are loved and we are eternally safe.

Your love has always been like this, help us to know it.

We pray this in Jesus name, Amen

were taken over a weekend which means a bit less to take to charity.

It got me thinking about some of the other unwanted or unnecessary things we have in our lives that the Bible tells us we should get rid of. Peter, James & Paul in their letters tell their readers to get rid of things like Anger, Slander, Malice, Greed, Hypocrisy, Envy, Deceit and Bitterness, that Suzie mentioned in her You Tube talk last weekend. Perhaps you don't think any of those things are present in your life now you are a believer, but think about it, do you sometime envy others their nice possessions, or feel really angry with someone you work with, live with or live near. Do you sometimes get caught up in talking about someone where the conversation turns into a character assassination? So, while you have a bit more time to yourself at the moment, come before our heavenly Father and ask him to show you anything that He wants you to get rid of. Then commit yourself to doing something about it. Go on Help Yourself!

God bless

Janet

