



LINK UP!

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

2 Corinthians 13:17 (NIV)

BMS Covid 19 Appeal

Just to let you know, we have sent £200 from Longfleet's Emergency Relief Fund to the Baptist missionary organisation, BMS after they made a special appeal for India. We learned on Sunday morning in the online service that the BMS Disaster Fund was exhausted in response to the crisis in India, but friends in Nepal have now reached out as the Covid situation there is worsening by the day. A virtual offering was taken up on Sunday morning to help meet this need, and you can still contribute as individuals if you would like to. Click on the following link to find out more about how to give:

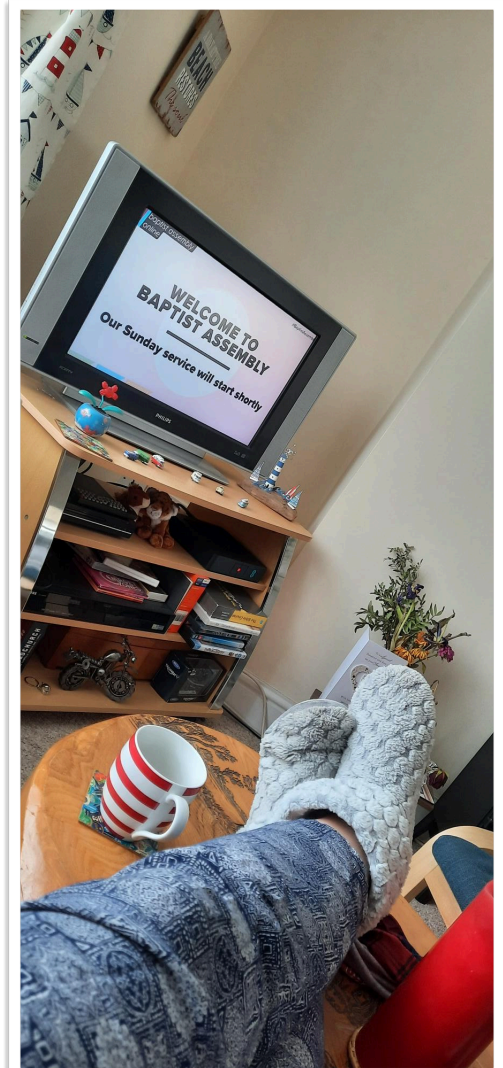
<https://covidfreeworld.org.uk/ba21/>

BU Assembly Links:

The Baptist Assembly 2021 has its own YouTube Channel, where you can find all the sessions from last week's Assembly....and you can find us new Fully Accredited Ministers too! There are 7 of us in our local Association - ministers, chaplains and pioneers - and you can see us all here (click on the SCBA logo below), talking about 1 highlight of our ministry so far and providing a prayer point too. I know I am speaking for all of us when I say we'd really value your prayers:

Dear church family,

This was the scene at our house on Sunday morning, as we waited for the online service to start which would include the commissioning of all those who, like me, have over the last year become Fully Accredited Ministers. I can't help but feel that, given the circumstances of the last year, it was really quite appropriate that I was being commissioned in my slippers, with a cup of coffee to hand! There was no handshake, no calling out of names and colleges of those who were being accredited, no going up to the stage as there would be in a normal Baptist Assembly - and yet, I found the whole service strangely moving, and Shane Claiborne's sermon utterly captivating and inspiring. I can really recommend you have a watch if you haven't already (I'll put the link in one of the grey columns on the left). The commissioning part itself was





And if you wanted to have a look at the service from Sunday, here's the link you'll need:



For Your Prayers:

- * Please remember all those who are bereaved and living with grief.
- * Pray for hospitality in Poole as cafes, restaurants and hotels reopen. We have heard that some are struggling to recruit staff amid continued concerns about Covid.
- * Please pray for those in their 20s and 30s who have not yet had the vaccine and who are worried that they might pick up the virus.
- * GIVE THANKS for the Holy Spirit! It's Pentecost on Sunday, when we celebrate the birth of the church through the coming of the Spirit. You can hear more about that in this week's online reflection (click on my picture !):



quite short, but powerful. Lynn Green, the General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, led us in the following dedication - and actually, I think it's a good one for all of us, not just ministers! Perhaps you could use these words as a guide to prayer and to rededicate your own life to God next time you are spending some quality time with the Lord!

Keep trusting!

With love, your Pastor

"Today we commit ourselves to being those who are led by the Spirit of God, seeking God's will and purpose; celebrating diversity, we will value, trust and respect one another in Christ; being serious about discipleship, we will embrace adventure and risk-taking faith in our faithful God; following the Servant King, we will be generous of spirit, encouraging and inspiring one another to be all that God created us to be; seeking God's kingdom, we will hunger and thirst after his righteousness, confronting evil and praying for the grace to live the life of God's coming Kingdom now.

These are our hopes and these are our clear intentions we hear your call and dedicate ourselves to you afresh. Amen."