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Sunday 28th June 2020

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Great Bible Best Bits



'For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.' 1 Corinthians 13: 12. This

is one of Ian Roberts' favourite scripture verses which is also part of the Bible reading for our worship today, and he shared the following words as part of his thoughts for the band devotions this week.

This poetic image of our view of God now & then in heaven explains the limitation of humanity to fully understand His Glory & that of Creation. Social distancing won't be a thing in Heaven!

Has the World of today lost this hope & image of Creation? The World of consumption & profit, treading over the fabric & pulse of Creation. Does humanity only look through the reflection of greed & selfish gain as the true goal? I hope & pray not. I hope from this time of common threat that a greater sense of compassion & equality will live on. I pray that the world does not simply resort back to the ways of destruction and instead see's value in good stewardship of God's Creation. Lockdown has brought different experiences for all, but in reflection, from our time in lockdown & on walks we have been has left with a sense of gratitude for family, friends, health & nature's beauty given by the grace of God.

Ian Roberts

STAPLE HILL HIGH STREET:

The following information has been received from South Gloucestershire Council:

Monday 29 June we will introduce a trial scheme, installing shuttle traffic signals on the High Street, reducing the carriageway space to one lane of traffic across the junction with Page Road. This will create additional space on the footpaths. Vehicle traffic will be separated from the wider walking and cycling areas with barriers. Parking bays on the north side of the High Street, a bus bay and the signal controlled crossing will be suspended.

Page Road will be closed to through traffic between the free car parks and there will be no direct access to the High Street for motor vehicles. We will signpost routes to free car parks on Page Road from the High Street.

To prevent congestion on nearby roads and improve access to the Bristol-Bath railway path for cyclists and pedestrians, we will close Signal Road and Charnell Road to through traffic from Monday 29 June.

We will monitor these changes for the first four weeks and listen to feedback. We are confident that the extra space in the High Street will support the local economy by giving customers space to shop with social distancing.

PRAYER NETWORK:

This week we have continued to pray for Jess who has bladder cancer and who was attending Southmead Hospital for further scans.

If you would like to join the prayer fellowship, please send an e-mail to staplehillprayers@gmail.com.

PLANS FOR THE SUMMER:

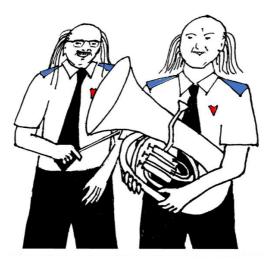
Over the last few months, I'm sure the word 'unprecedented' has been used more than ever before. Life has definitely been anything but normal, changes have come rapidly, and they continue to do so as lockdown begins to ease. Throughout this time the Mission Council has continued to meet (online) and Colin and I [Nicola] appreciate the support we have had from them and many others in what has been an extremely busy time. Although we have been unable to meet in the building we have been active as a church, with many people playing their part. The Church is not the building it is the people. Together we have developed our online worship, set up a regular foodbank, made music online, cared for each other with phone calls, texts and cards, shared in online quizzes, chatted in youth groups over zoom, had Lighthouse Club at home with the help of facebook, had primary resources delivered to our door (along with some sneaky sweets!), communicated with mailouts to those not online, and had an amazing time in Extra Slice Groups each week. But we still miss meeting together on Sunday don't we?

This week the Prime Minister announced that from 4th July places of worship could reopen for services subject to social distancing. The government have yet to publish details of this but it is expected that there will be many practical restrictions, including distancing and the absence of singing or brass playing. In recent weeks you have all had the opportunity to complete a 'Back to Church' Survey which has allowed us to gauge how people are feeling. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete this and we were delighted with 99 responses. The results were clear, the majority of you are not ready to worship in the building at present under these restrictions and would prefer to continue with online worship etc. We understand that the situation is constantly changing, but the Mission Council has made the decision to not resume worship in our building yet and we will review this again in a few weeks time.

In the meantime, we want to continue to be and do church outside of our building. Online Sunday worship will continue (and we will try to reach more of you who are not online by using DVDs etc.) and all the other

online activities will continue also. We will continue to deliver our mail out and our pastoral support of each other will go on. The Mission Council will continue to meet and review the situation as things change. If you have any concerns or questions then please do get in touch. Coming to this decision has not been easy and as lockdown eases we will have more decisions to make, so your continued support, encouragement and prayers are appreciated. Even in this situation we continue to be Local, Lively and Loving.

During the last few months our Extra Slice Groups have been essential to keep people connected and 'do church' together. Although we have a large number participating each week, I know there are still people out there who could take part - you really are missing out! As our building remains closed these groups become even more vital. They only take an hour of your week, you need very little technical expertise, you won't be asked to do anything you don't want to, there are several different options so there should be a time to suit you - in other words there's no reason why not - so please get in touch for more details - email nicola.hylton-jones@salvationarmy.org.uk or contactstaplehill@gmail.com.



BEFORE THE HAIRDRESSERS RE-OPEN!

PRAYER DIARY:

As a church, we know how important it is to uphold each other in prayer, so we invite you to pray for the following during this coming week.

29 th	Staple Hill Corps
30 th	Staple Hill Community
1 st	Paul & Roz C; Peter H; Bill & Freda M; Elaine & Peter R; Margaret S
2 nd	Hilton & Lilian B; Alison & Steve C; Colin & Nicola H-J; Carys & Senan H; Alan T
3 rd	Jim & Pat B; Mary, Peter & James J; Chris P; Megan B; June W; Viv W, Graham & Julie W
4 th	Mary Ba; Mark & Michelle D; Jess, Matt, Charlie & Harry J; Kay & Marc W; Cath & Marcus B
5 th	Hilary & Mike D; Ruby J; Sally P; Rebecca M; Claire, Michael & Naomi B

If we have inadvertently missed someone off the prayer diary, please let us know and we will correct the omission for next month.

FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN:

We have heard this week that June Wallington has temporarily moved to Warmley House Care home as part of her recovery following her hip replacement. Whilst there is no visiting, we continue to remember June in our prayers. We also remember other members of our fellowship who are also in care: Valerie Cuff, Ruby James and Hazel Leonard and who, likewise, have been unable to see their families. We pray that the Lord will continue to put his arms of love around them.

We do want everyone to have the opportunity to join in worship. Last week, I [Colin] asked that if you are unable to watch the meeting on-line, to contact me, as we are looking at alternative ways to get the meeting to you. I had very little response, so please, please contact me if this is you - we do not want you to miss out!

THE WEEK AHEAD:

All activities in our buildings continue to be suspended in line with government advice, but the following activities continue:

TODAY Sunday 28th June

from 10am Lighthouse Club Session available online (ages 7-11)

10am Youth Group meets online (ages 11+) from 11am Sunday Worship available online

'The Love Chapter' 1 Corinthians 13

4.30pm Under 16s Youth House Group meets online

Monday 29th June

11am - 12pm Food Parcels available at Hall 8pm Mission Council Meeting on-line

Tuesday 30th June

11am - 12pm Food Parcels available at Hall

Wednesday 1st July

2pm Extra Slice Group online
3.30pm Extra Slice Group online
7pm Extra Slice Group online
8.15pm Extra Slice Group online

Thursday 2nd July

11am - 12pm Food Parcels available at Hall 8.15pm Extra Slice Group online

Saturday 4th July

11am - 12pm Food Parcels available at Hall

Sunday 5th July

from 10am Lighthouse Club Session available online (ages 7-11)

10am Youth Group meets online (ages 11+) from 11am Sunday Worship available online

'Baby Moses' Exodus 2:1-10