

Prayer at the Heart



Please pray for:

Immediate needs 2 - 4 weeks

Rob and Moira Clark and family following the death of Ray. Freddie and Charlie Crocombe (grandchildren to Andrew's brother), in special care unit, both with respiratory problems and Freddie with erratic heartbeat too. Melissa Clackett whose health is deteriorating please pray for it to improve and for Isaac who started portage (help with speech, language and mobility) on 22 January for ongoing problems. Gill, as doctors strive to find her more suitable and effective drugs.

Continued prayers for Beth (Stan and Carol's daughter) as she undergoes chemotherapy. Pat Wade. Dorothy Vener. Bob Simmons. Debbie (Frances Crocker's daughter). Audrey (Porter) for continued healing of her back. During April we will be praying for those living in Applegarth Park, Seasalter Lane and Faversham Road..

Long term needs - up to 3 months

Daniel Hampton with Long Covid. Barry (Paula's brother-in-law) now at home but continuing to receive chemo for Mantles Lymphoma Cancer. Sheila Pearse. Joan Moss. Dennis Spinner, please pray for him to get strong and stay free from illness. Lise Jennings, for relief from pain.

Prayer Needs

Please contact: Carol Judge 277752; or David and Lynda Kemp 272470

We also have a Prayer Requests page on Facebook, please let us know if you would like your prayer needs to be posted there.

If you would like to contribute to these church notices; do please get in touch with me.

Please be aware when supplying contact information, this notice sheet is circulated physically and digitally via our website, social media and email. Paula. Email: deaneves@msn.com



Welcome to St Alphege, Seasalter

4 April 2021

Easter Day

Readings: Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18

He is risen!



Zoom Coffee after church...

From Easter Day we'll be pausing the Zoom 'after church coffee' we were holding at 11 each Sunday, mainly because logistics make it tricky to run it with services returning to the building.

However if there's a desire for a similar Zoom social in the week, or if someone else would like to set it up and host it on the Sunday and there's still enough demand for it, then please let me know and we'll try and get something organised.

It will be a while yet before we can serve post-service refreshments and linger for chat, prayer and fellowship in the building anyway. Love from Paulette

Move Up Sunday

Usually around this time of year we have what we call 'Move Up Sunday' - it's the time in the year when the oldest children of each of the Sunday groups in church move up to the next one. For those who are moving it can be a big deal - generally moving to a new regular room to meet in and with different leaders, and joining a group of older children they may not know as well.

For some it's a big change - as they move up into the youth group for the first time.

In pre-pandemic times, we would get the children, young people and their leaders to stand in the service and we would pray for them on Move Up Sunday before they go out to their groups.



Well last year we were all finding our feet with this novel thing called Lockdown, and this year things are different - all our youth and children's work has been online for the most part and organised differently from the in-church groups. And it will be a little while yet before any groups can start up in person in the way they did before.

It's also an opportunity for a fresh look at how some of the groups are organised. So I still want to invite you to pray especially for:

- For our children and young people, Georgina, Lise and Andrew and their ministry, and all who help with this work.
- For those who will be leaving the children's work and moving into the youth group this year,

For leaders, children and young people as we review our provision and make plans for the future and our journeying with God as a whole church community.

Love from Paulette



Stewardship envelopes are now available for the year from April 2021. If you have been regularly using envelopes over the past 18 months I will automatically renew them. I will leave the new ones at SCC for you to collect from Easter Sunday or (if they are not collected) we will try to drop them off to you.

If you would like to request a set of envelopes please let me know via email at cericharilaou@hotmail.com, by phone on 01227 274650, or speak to Becky or Paulette and they can pass a message on.

If you would like to change to a standing order, or no longer require envelopes, please let us know.

Ceri Charilaou

Used Stamps

Don't know what to do with your used stamps? Please collect them for a premature baby charity. You can give to Ann Price or can send direct to:

Octopus for a Premie UK
PO BOX 16992
Sutton Coldfield B73 9YA

Notice from the Church Wardens

Dear Church

We think it would be a lovely idea if we could deliver everyone in our congregation a card to celebrate their birthday and send the church's love to them.

If you, or anyone you know in your family would like to be included in this programme, could you please email Andrew (a.crocombe@sky.com) with the persons name and birthday details (year of birth not necessary). Birthdays can be announced in the notice section of the Sunday services, but only if you have specifically asked us to do so.



We look forward to hearing from you.

Love Ali and Andrew

'The Purpose of Sorrow'

Finding ways in which our sorrow, sadness and grief
can deepen our faith and aid our healing



A morning online brought to the Seasalter Churches and
beyond by 'The Living Well',
Canterbury Diocesan Centre for Healing and Wholeness

Saturday 10th April 2021,
10 am - 12 pm

With an opportunity to receive individual prayer
online in the afternoon

Booking via Eventbrite—For more information, contact
Diana High on 01227 262495 or john_high@sky.com
Suggested donation £5



www.the-living-well.org.uk

Registered Charity No.: 1123792



Future-shaped church?

I'd like to continue to encourage you to keep praying and to get in touch with the things God is laying on your heart about the way we need to be church here at St Alphege Seasalter, especially as we gradually emerge from the pandemic. What lessons has God been teaching us during this time that we need to carry into the future as we decide what we pick up again and what we do differently as we continue alongside God, one another and our community? Your church leadership are actively praying and reflecting about this, and since you ARE the church, we need your voice!

It's tricky because some of the usual ways we'd collect this information together would be through an evening or half-night of prayer, using interactive materials as we gather in person, or gathering information during coffee time at church by writing it up on bits of paper - and we can't do this for a while yet.



BUT, we can pray, reflect and discuss in our Connect or other small groups, or by ourselves, we can drop an email, letter, postcard (or send a carrier pigeon, fax or telegram) - to Paulette c/o the SCC office: 49 Faversham Road CT5 4AX, email: paulette.stubbings@stalphegeseasalter.org and I'll make sure we prayerfully feed in your reflections to the thinking processes.

Thank you!

With love and excitement for the journey ahead, Paulette

Reminders

Easter Minecraft on Zoom Monday 5 April - contact
andrew.price@stalphegeseasalter.org

Electoral Roll deadline is 5 April - contact David Kemp
at kemps11@btinternet.com

Next Public Sector Meet (over Zoom) is Monday 19 April - contact
Tom Hedley-Smith or Rachel Berner



LIVE WITH THE CONVICTION THAT GOD IS IN CONTROL

'God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.

Because He lives I can face tomorrow;
because He lives all fear is gone;
because I know He holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because He lives'

What a shock it must have been for family members, close friends and followers of Jesus the day He was crucified, not least because He'd always seemed so in control of every kind of situation. For them that day it was anything but a 'Good Friday'. Some of them had in the past witnessed Him changing water into wine at a wedding when the supply ran out. A few of them had been amongst the crew and passengers in a boat crossing a lake and heard Jesus rebuke the wind and waves when a storm suddenly blew up and the waves threatened to swamp the boat. Many more of them were present when Jesus fed over 5000 hungry men, women and children on just a few loaves and fishes. Then there were all the occasions on which Jesus had healed the sick, people who were crippled, blind, deaf, suffering from leprosy or a fever. There was no one like Him. He could cast out demons and even raise the dead. A handful had watched Him die, even fewer of them had carried his dead body and buried Him in a tomb and sealing the tomb before returning to their homes to mourn His loss.

Less than three whole days later the RESURRECTION CHANGED EVERYTHING proving to people then and now that God is in control, yes even in these times of a worldwide pandemic, good is and will come out of it. These past few days my attention has been drawn to the words of two of the Psalms – 33 and 121. I commend them to you. Read them, think about the things they have to tell us about God. Both remind us God is in control. Here are a few phrases from each that confirm that fact.

'He is faithful in all He does'. 'The plans of the Lord stand firm forever,' 'my help

comes from the Lord.' 'The Lord watches over you,' 'He will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore'. A further fact is that the Lordship of Jesus Christ is never truly tested until we are experiencing hard times. We need to believe that it is in the pain of life that God hasn't forgotten us and that He can and will bring something good out of our troubles. It's one thing to read Romans 8 v 28 but do we truly believe and accept what it says: 'that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose'?

Yan Hadley, an evangelist and a great friend of mine, (many years' ago I was privileged to take the marriage service of him and his wife Gail) in his book 'Answering today's problems', tells the following true story.

A professor at a college in Richmond, Virginia, was challenged by his students after he had addressed the morning assembly on the theme of Romans 8 v 28. They said 'But professor, you don't really believe "all things work together for good" do you?' The professor replied 'The things in themselves may not be good, but God can make them work together for good.' That afternoon he and his wife were out driving when they collided with another car. His wife was killed instantly and he himself was left a cripple. One day, several weeks' later he sent for the college president and said 'Tell the students that Romans 8 v 28 still holds good.' When, just over a year later, the professor died, his students had the verse inscribed on his tombstone. At the ceremony a local reporter asked why they had done this. They replied 'It was inscribed in his convictions, why not on his tombstone?'

It is my belief that we can only accept and are in fact convicted of the truth of Romans 8 v 28 when we are convicted that God is in control and truly and firmly believe that Jesus lives and is the same yesterday, today and forever.

' You ask me how I know He lives. He lives within my heart.'

Donald

