

Littlehampton Churches Together

July / August 2021

Praise and Prayer

Praise

- *for continued connections with people who hadn't previously been part of a Church, and that the Lord is using all our online presence to reach new people*
- *people able to re-connect in smaller fellowship gatherings over these summer months*
- *testimonies of people not only coming to faith, but reconnecting with Jesus and deepening their faith over this strange last year*

Prayer

- *a number of people in our church are involved with summer camp and other camps over the summer - pray that they can go ahead safely and be a real highlight of the summer*
- *wisdom in knowing how to move forward in a way that enables everyone to engage with church family in a way they feel able to*
- *for our Mission Action Plan to be in line with God's will and that we would be able to reach more people of all ages with the love of Jesus*

Praise

- *that we are back in Church on Sunday mornings and getting good numbers, including some new friends.*
- *for the successful operations and treatment that some of our members have been blessed with.*
- *that we are able to live in a low-risk area for Covid, and for all that is being done to keep it that way.*
- *for all the key-workers that have kept on working in spite of many difficulties.*

Prayer

- *that those waiting for operations and/or treatment will be helped soon, and that those who are recovering will be enabled to live full lives.*
- *as we envisage new ways of working in, and with, our community, we pray for wisdom, and Holy Spirit enabling; and that the Lord will send us the people we need to help with the projects.*
- *thank God for the discipleship course and pray that the participants will give their all to the Lord.*
- *for all those in our community whose financial situations have been made desperate by the pandemic, and for all the agencies seeking to help them. Open our eyes to the needs around us, Lord.*
- *that key-workers and all those working with the most vulnerable and needy will be kept safe as they serve the Lord in this way.*

Praise

- *for one church, one faith, one Lord.*
- *for the fellowship and friendship of the church in Littlehampton which has helped so many to live through the 'lockdowns'.*
- *for all the faithful pastoral work that continues in our churches. Thank Him for the care and provision for those who are lonely, elderly or vulnerable.*
- *for the availability of so many resources for Bible study and understanding His word. Thanks for the home and discipleship groups that meet to encourage one another in the Christian life.*

Prayer

- for those whose health has deteriorated over the past year. Pray that the Lord will strengthen and encourage them.
- for our church Leaders and Pastors as they perhaps take a Summer holiday with their families. Pray that they will have rest and time to enjoy family life.
- for the Sunday services throughout August when different believers are taking services.
- for the safety of our congregations as singing is now allowed but which may result in an increase in the spread of the virus.
- for the forward planning for the new 'term' in September up to Christmas. Pray that many will come to find Jesus through services, groups and outreach.

PRAISE

- *for the dedication of all who work in our schools and colleges who, despite the various restrictions imposed by government or the virus, have managed to deliver education and training to those in their charge, while at the same time attending to their students' welfare.*
- *for the good work done during the pandemic by local charities, by churches and by individuals to alleviate the suffering of the hungry, the lonely, the frightened and the bereaved.*

PRAYER

- as COVID restrictions are eased, that we may all show responsibility, consideration and care for ourselves and others; and abide strictly by the guidelines which our healthcare professionals recommend to defeat this highly contagious virus for the good of all God's children.
- as COVID restrictions are eased: for the continued protection of front-line workers in our shops and supermarkets, and for all those working in health and care settings.
- for safety on our beaches and resorts this summer: that the happiness which children, friends and family enjoy with sand, sea, rivers and lakes may not be tarnished with accidents or tragedy.
- for the elderly in our town: that they never be ignored or excluded, but always enjoy respect, love and appreciation for the contributions they have made to family, friends and community.
- for all who work in our schools and colleges: that during this summer holiday they may have time to rest and recuperate and spend time with their loved ones.
- for all those caught up in the current life-threatening fires and floods throughout the world, and for members of the fire and rescue services involved
- that the Tokyo Olympics, now taking place, will advance the spirit of fraternity amongst nations, and promote the physical and emotional benefits of sport; and that the Olympians – and all who live in Tokyo - will remain protected from the virus.

HMP Ford

Praise

- *for strong Chaplains team now assembled under lead Chaplain Andy Kerr.*

Prayer

- for Sunday 10am services to be times when we are all led to Christ.
- midweek groups are getting established again - pray for a real hunger for the word of God and Fellowship.
- for Christian men to be 'growing in grace and knowledge of God.'
- for more volunteers - to join the 'Prison Fellowship team and other Christian groups going into Ford.

From Turning Tides

- We give thanks for all the steadfast individuals who continue to support Turning Tides through gifts of time, money and prayer
- Help us to think about people who are struggling to keep their jobs and homes as we head towards a harder economic future
- We pray for your blessing on the work of our dedicated staff who tirelessly support marginalised members of our community
- We pray for tolerance and strength as we move through uncertain times and learn how to live with COVID
- Please guide us towards other ways to refresh ourselves during the Summer to ensure we take care of our wellbeing
- Please fortify a resolute determination to end the devastating impact housing emergency has on our communities

A personal message from Vanessa

“James and I want to give thanks for the last four years: for the encouragement and kindness of people we have come to know: for friendship: for all that we have learnt but, above all for God’s faithfulness and constant provision for us. At times it has been very difficult and demanding, but we have seen the Holy Spirit at work.”

We would value prayers as we move to Chichester. James is continuing with his work at Ford Prison, while I move to the Cathedral to be the Canon Treasurer. The move came as a complete surprise to us. One of my major roles will be the interpretation of the Cathedral-creating/providing resources for both non-Christians and Christian visitors, so that they can know, love and follow Jesus Christ more closely.”

Thank you, Vanesa and James, for your friendship and fellowship over these 4 years. Be assured of our love and prayers as you move on. We pray God’s blessing on your new ministry and, for James, on his continuing ministry. We will miss you but others will; gain from your ministry and friendship.



Summer Camp 2021

Camp 1: Friday 6th – Tuesday 10th August
60 children + Team

Camp 2: Wednesday 11th – Sunday 15th August
48 children + Team

Prayer

- for health, safety and protection for everyone on the campsite
- for the catering team that they will know God's protection and strength as they prepare the meals
- for the team of young and adult leaders, that they will get to know the children and be a positive role model for them
- that those leaders who don't yet know Jesus, will begin their journey of faith during camp this year
- for the children, many of whom are anxious after such a long and difficult time
- for the families, that they will be able to relax, knowing that their child (ren) is /are being well looked after
- for all the activities, that they will run smoothly and safely
- for the 'Thought for the Day' at breakfast time that everyone will learn something about God
- for the evening sessions when we will sing and have a Bible talk around the themes of hope, love, life, trust and courage
- that we will see God at work in many lives and that there will be lasting fruit for the glory of God
- for the follow-up, that we will know how to maintain contact with the children and families
- for fine weather!

**God bless us all as we praise Him and pray to Him
through these next few weeks.**