PRAISE

Littlehampton Churches Together

WEEKLY PRAISE AND PRAYER

From Paul Sanderson Praise the Lord ...

- For the last few weeks we served an average of 170 hot meals per day to the homes of our FSM (free school meals) families, (including brothers and sisters at primary school)
- This week 186 of a possible 205
 TLA FSM students have received
 £15 per week shopping
 vouchers for a local
 supermarket of their choice (via
 mobile phone). This has been
 paid for by TLA
- Every Tuesday we collect £1000 worth of stock from Morrisons and sort into 80 food boxes of FSM meals families who have asked for a bit more help. We deliver these every Thursday.
- We have a WhatsApp group with 40+ FSM parents on it who I am in touch with daily to make sure all is ok.

From All Saints We give thanks for ...

- great responses and encouragements to online teaching, prayer and worship from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday
- testimonies of how God has been at work, especially amongst newer Christians
- a strong sense of family and support within the church, through online prayer and coffee meetings, phone calls, shopping etc and the offer going out to the wider community
- the gift of technology which enables the churches to reach out beyond the walls of the church

From LBC

Thank you, Lord for...

- contacts with local Councillors
- Foodbank are operating a Delivery Service from LBC.
- for our "Churches Together" Community Support shopping initiative

General - Lord, we thank you ...

- for each other across all the LCT family
- for all those key workers who give so willingly to help others
- for the blessings of Easter we can celebrate that Jesus is ALIVE

PRAYER

For Paul...

- for safety in taking food parcels round to the families
- for the families that they will come to experience the love of God

From Paul...

- that the government voucher scheme kicks in after Easter. that is £15 per week per child as well.
- "Stay safe everyone and peace be through you"

From Trinity ...

At Trinity we have been looking at Zechariah 9:12

"Return to your fortress, you captives who have hope. Today I tell you that I will return to you double."

- Pray that through this time many will return to Jesus
- that we will be captives of hope and not of fear
- that God will pour out blessing, particularly on those who are financially struggling, or facing challenging circumstances
- pray also that those serving in a key worker role within our churches will receive a double blessing.

From All Saints ... Pray for:

- those currently suffering and recovering from Covid19, and other illnesses, amongst our church family and their families - but with thanks for the vast majority who have already begun to recover
- those in our church family still working, especially on the front line in NHS and other ways
- for those who have lost jobs or income currently
- those who were on the fringes of faith that this time would not be backward steps but a chance to walk closely with the Lord every day

From LBC ... Pray for:

- those in Church Leadership across the LCT family. Martin says: 'Speaking for myself, it has all been a steep learning curve for me, with YouTube sermons, zoom conferences and zoom meetings and zoom coffee mornings. Ours are called 'Hobnobbing with a Hobnob.' Pastoral phone calls and emailing Bible Studies.'
- trying to keep a constant eye on keeping everyone Connected, Involved and Active, (CIA) I call this our CIA forward motion with my leadership team.
- links with the Deputy Mayor and other local Councillors that these will be fruitful in terms of partnership initiatives and also a means of sharing the love of God with them.

Looking ahead:

In the light of our country leadership thinking and planning about an exit strategy from lockdown in this season of Covid-19, perhaps the LCT can think about how we lead this town out of the sorrow and this crisis with a "Memorial Thanksgiving" service.

Martin Seymour is working with and thinking about this, with our Deputy Mayor who will be our Mayor when this all flattens out, as soon as it can be, God willing.

Let's have in place our plans for a town wide churchled thanksgiving service. It would be good to go to our council and lead them towards an appropriate response on how to breathe in and out again, to be community, and society without distancing.

Watch this space!

O church, arise and put your armour on;

Hear the call of Christ our captain; For now the weak can say that they are strong

In the strength that God has given. With shield of faith and belt of truth We'll stand against the devil's lies; An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"

Reaching out to those in darkness.

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'The LORD bless you and keep you;
The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to
you:

The LORD turn His face toward you and give you peace.'