

Littlehampton Churches

Together

PRAISE

From Churches

- that the situation continues to improve and opportunities are starting to appear again for more face to face ministry and use of our buildings.
- for the band 'Kings Village' and their song 'Earth Will Be Filled' (recorded at St Mary's) that was released last week. We pray it inspired people to worship and reaches many.
- for the Churches Together Community Shopping Initiative that is now regularly collecting surplus food from supermarkets and bringing to the community fridge
- that some children are able and have gone back to school relieving pressure on family life. Thanks especially for the care of those with special needs.
- that brothers and sisters are in good spirit and being well provided for.
- praise for continuing encouraging fellowship via phone and social media.
- for the church leaders, pastors, priests and all those providing positive pastoral care to their congregations and communities during this time.

Week beginning 14.06.20

From Turning Tides – working hard to end homelessness locally

- for a positive community spirit, mental health and support workers, members of churches and others who continue to carry out unseen practical work during these challenging times

From HMP Ford

- for the work done by the chaplains who continue to visit.

From Evangelical Alliance

They commissioned a 'Changing Church Report', asking questions about how the pandemic is impacting the activities of churches and faith-based organisations in the UK

The results of the survey of almost 700 churches and 196 Christian organisations are both encouraging and exciting, with:

- *59% of the churches surveyed reporting a marked increase in people interested in finding out more about the Christian faith;*
- *70% of church leaders saying they have seen a surge in number of people who would not normally go to church attending church services during the lockdown;*
- *88% of church leaders sharing that their churches are working tirelessly to meet the needs of vulnerable people in this challenging time; and*
- *72% of the 88% of churches working in collaboration with either local authorities, other churches or charities to serve those with the greatest needs.*

WEEKLY PRAISE AND
PRAYER



PRAY

From Churches

- for wisdom as to how we learn what God has been doing and how to faithfully move forward in a way that includes all people and newcomers in our faith and fellowship.
- for all Hospital and NHS workers who must be exhausted by the physical and mental strain they are experiencing as they seek to help the wider community, that they might be refreshed in their bodies, minds and spirits.
- that the all church leaders will be led by the Holy Spirit as they seek to begin opening up the churches again.
- for all those in our churches and communities who have experienced racism and prejudice first hand. We pray for forgiveness where we have not recognised or challenged this, and for God to enable us all to champion justice in future
- *for those with health issues – pray for healing and forbearance.*
- *for those supporting family and friends who don't believe and who are struggling with life's problems.*
- *for those recently bereaved.*
- *that somehow, sometime soon our Services may be able start again.*
- for the ongoing opportunities to use the internet for live streaming / you

tube, that God will draw many people from our communities to Himself

- for those facing financial challenges – possible redundancies, furlough, reduced hours
- for those in our communities who cannot get out for one reason or another
- for comfort for those who mourn the loss of loved ones
- for our local schools – primary and secondary – that wisdom will be given to headteachers and governors about opening their schools
- for all those who are looking for answers; those who are linking with churches online - that they will discover that there is a God in heaven who loves them and ants the best for them

From HMP Ford

- that their plans for groups to start up can be allowed safely.
- for openings for some volunteers to start going in to bring Christ's comfort and love.
- for the Christian men released to be able to join churches and be welcomed.

From Turning Tides – working hard to end homelessness locally

- for people who are struggling during lock down, that they will be able to access the services needed
- for all lonely, scared and vulnerable people in our Community