

May Newsletter

**Mission South West London
Transforming Lives into Wholeness**



Welcome to Chelsea and Fulham Methodist Church

Welcome to the third edition of our Newsletter. This week is Christian Aid Week 10-16 May, please see page 9 for more information. We are excited to share testimonies and prayers from members of our church and ministry team; Beauty in Exchange 4 Ashes Please remember to visit our website at www.chelseafulhammethodist.org.uk

Message from Reverend Mark

Dear friends

I am sure you have heard of the poet Benjamin Zephaniah. He was born in Birmingham, and grew up in Jamaica and in Handsworth, where he was sent to an approved school. He left school at the age of 13 unable to read or write, ending up in prison for burglary. Yet somehow, he learnt how to channel his anger into protest, music and poetry. In his poetry and performance there is a rawness as he refuses to compromise the truth of what he sees and feels. By 2008 he was in the Times top 50 list of all living British writers.

The prophet Zephaniah from the 7th century before the birth of Christ was a similar individual. He believed he had to tell his people the truth; that there was going to be impending disaster unless they turned back to God. The name Zephaniah means the one that the Lord has protected and treasured. In the third and final chapter of the book of Zephaniah, he talks about the deliverance of the Lord. How God's people will be restored, rescued and set-free after the impending unimaginable disaster. There will be light at the end of the tunnel; there is hope!

Zephaniah writes these words: *'Do not fear... do not let your hands hang limp.*

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.' Chapter 3:17

I believe we are all Zephaniah's. The Lord wants to protect us just as he loves and treasures us. As Jesus people we must not compromise on the Truth and we need to stand up for what we believe is right. We also know that because of God's love and grace for all of humankind, He wants to restore, rescue and set us free! Not only that, as Jesus people He wants us to share His story of good news of how He restores, renews and saves. Friends, I ask you to take comfort at this most difficult time with the words of scripture; "the Lord your God is with you" and "He takes great delight in you." Thanks be to God! With the Lord we have hope for the future.

Every blessing, Mark

Selected Hymn: Lord of all Hopefulness

Play tune here:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/hymns/lord-of-all-hopefulness-lord-of-all-joy-stf-526/>



Lord of all hopefulness,
Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like,
No cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking,
And give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
At the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled
At the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours,
And give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome,
Your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing,
And give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment,
Whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping,
And give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,
At the end of the day.

Bible Reading Plan and Reflection

10 May 2020

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, Acts 7:55-60,
John 14:1-14, 1 Peter 2:2-10

17 May 2020

Psalm 66:8-20, Acts 17:22-31, John
14:15-21, 1 Peter 3:13-22

24 May 2020

Psalm 66:8-20, Acts 17:22-31, John
14:15-21, 1 Peter 3:13-22

31 May 2020

Acts 2:1-21 or Num 11:24-30, Psalm
104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians
12:3b-13, John 20:19-23 or John
7:37-39

For more worship resources
during this season visit:
www.methodist.org.uk

MEET A MEMBER

Chris Corton

I grew up in Fulham and as a teenager attended a Mission Hall in Estcourt Road run by the London City Mission. Here I first heard the Gospel message and many of the older Hymns and choruses we sang are still imprinted in my memory. The Hall was demolished in 1971 and I started to attend a new 'Methodist Church, Youth and Community Centre' opening in Fulham Broadway. In 2003 this was replaced by our present church building when the Fulham Broadway shopping centre was developed

After leaving school I worked for a few years for Beecham laboratories while studying A levels and then decided to go to University and study for a Science degree. Afterwards I became a chemistry teacher and spent most of my teaching career at a secondary school in Hillingdon.

I always felt at home in the Methodist church and able to explore my faith freely. At some point I was invited to become a church steward and have had the privilege to serve under many different ministers and enjoy fellowship with so many faithful church members over the years.

I picked up an interest in the piano from my mother and in my 30s started piano lessons which gradually led to me being asked to play the organ/piano regularly at church. Methodists are known for their joy in singing and particularly the hymns of Charles Wesley. There are so many beautiful new hymns and songs and I have enjoyed the challenge of learning some of those which the Revd. Mark and other ministers have introduced.

Now that I am retired I enjoy sailing with my brother and looking after an allotment in Bishops Park which I took over from my Father when he died. During this Lockdown period I have felt very blessed in still being able to spend time there in some beautiful weather.

When I plant seeds I am reminded of the many lessons and stories Jesus loved to tell about seeds. Tiny seeds contain the potential to grow into beautiful flowers, vegetables, and even large trees but it usually takes patience and careful nourishment for them to grow well and bear fruit. Jesus reminds us how the growth of Gods kingdom and of our faith can start from something as small as a mustard seed.

HYMN 526 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all Joy (see selected hymn on Page 2 for Lyrics). One of my favourite tunes with words that remind us God is with us throughout the day

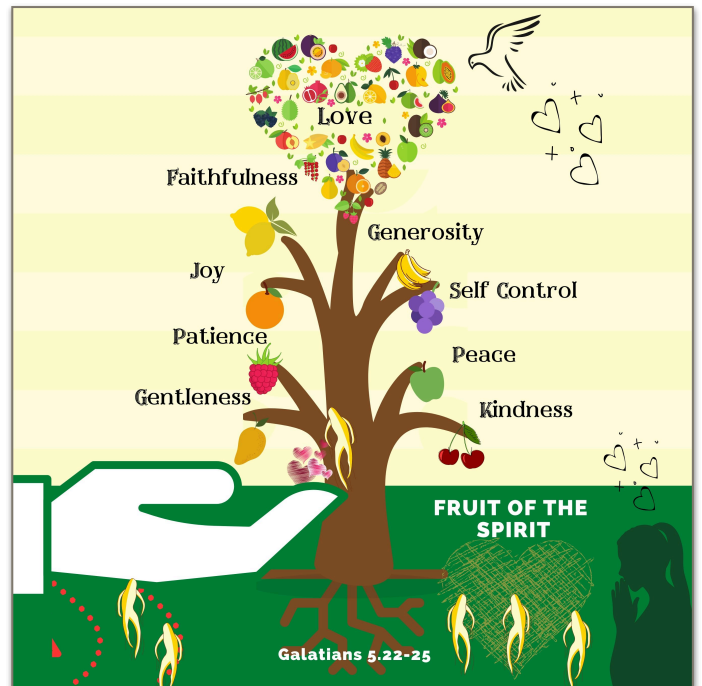
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

This month we are sharing insights of Galatians 5.22-23 across our Social Media channels and website. The manifestation of these qualities ... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control and generosity is very powerful during challenging times.

It's all Greek to me...

As the saying goes "*It's all Greek to me*" is an idiom in English, expressing that something is difficult to understand. How did you get on with matching the Greek translations to the English words? Here are the answers:

Agape=Love, **Chara** = Peace, **Makrothumeo** = Patience, **Pisteos** = Faithfulness, **Eirene**= Peace, **Praoteos**= Gentleness, **Agathos** = Generosity, **Chrestos** = Kindness, **Egkateias** = Self Control



The fruit of the Spirit is a manifestation of a transformed life by the Power of God. Like a seed planted on fertile ground, this transformation into a tree doesn't happen overnight. Our mission at Chelsea and Fulham Methodist Church focusses on the transformation into wholeness and we know this happens by the Power of the Holy Spirit alive in us. Of course like the growth of a tree and all plant life, though it starts with a seed, there are other contributing factors to growth, transformation and life. We need the word of God in our hearts (Psalms 119.11), we need to worship Him in spirit and truth (John 4.24) and above all the love of God (John 3.16).

It can be challenging to display these qualities in our life consistently, particularly during the chaos of our changing world, yet there is comfort that God's character never changes. He remains the same, yesterday, today and forever. His plans are not thwarted (Jeremiah 29.11). He is still present, he is still good and he is still providing for us. We may have missed out on some key events over the past months and missing church life but this season shall pass.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5.16

Please remember to keep your poems coming and thank you to Debra Colquhoun for sharing your poem on page 6 All additional poems will be posted online and in future editions.
Send to: andrea@chelseamethodist.org.uk.



BEAUTY IN EXCHANGE 4

ASHES MINISTRIES

Over the past year we launched our first woman’s conference. We were invited on premier radio to promote it which was a wonderful experience. We had dynamic inspirational speakers and very anointed worship, an awesome time was had by all. We also had two other ladies evening events, one in June and Nov 2019. We had scheduled another event for April 2020 which due to the lockdown was postponed.

The theme for this event was: **“A praying woman is a powerful woman”**

Hannah’s prayer 🙏 1 Samuel 1 v 11-18 How desperate are we? This woman was desperate!! To the point where Eli thought that she was drunk. Another point about Hannah is the fact that she was barren.. I believe that we all face barren times in our Christian walk. There are times when we don’t feel that God is listening, or situations and circumstances have caused us to not be able to pray. But when we purpose in our hearts to seek Him, He always answers. Let the living water of the precious Holy Spirit saturate every barren area of our lives.

We put on these wonderful events, we get the best speakers and worship leaders. But when we go home it’s me and God or you and God. I’m reminded of that **Matt Redmand song: When the music fades and all is stripped away, I’m coming back to a heart of worship. It’s all about my heart to His ..**

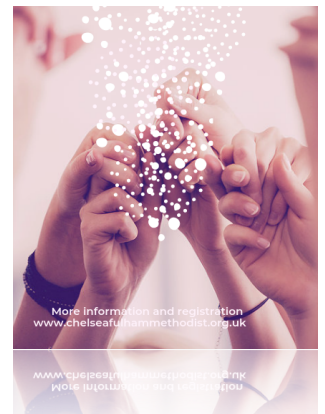
I believe at this time God wants our hearts 💕

We also have our long established **Friday S.T.A.R.S Ladies Group**, which we have decided that we are Esthers .We have developed a wonderful bond of love and trust between us, as we continue to grow and flourish. It’s a safe place for us to share and care for one another as women.. I have asked a few ladies to share their experience and hope you are blessed and encouraged by the wonderful work that God is doing as He unites us .

All additional contributions made from ministry team and members of the group should be accessed directly from [this link to STARs page](#)

Every Friday for close on two years, women who love Jesus join together to celebrate this love.As Jesus shared food with his disciples and strangers so do we. Corona virus, do not celebrate breaking us up. God has given us what’s app and we can digitally share joy, prayer and friendship same as before. I am thankful for the ability to share in word, song, and image. There’s comedy, information, and attractive dishes to feast our eyes on. Long live

S. T. A. Rs ladies group is a group of caring and supportive ladies in Christ ready to lift each other and celebrate each other. I have been blessed to be a part of this community and the support and love that I receive is immense especially in this lockdown. Even before this lockdown this group has always been open to all the ladies out there from all different backgrounds and I have loved the diversity of this group which adds fun into the mix and seen even so in our WhatsApp group chat. Throughout this lockdown period being a part of this group brings light to my day as we are in constant contact, sharing and encouraging and building up one another. This has been so important to me as I feel valued and genuinely cared for.





LIVE LOUNGE

PRAYERS, POEMS AND PRAISE

Live Lounge many of you may have missed our Live lounge event which was postponed due to the Lockdown so here are some uplifting videos to watch: **Goodness of God** by Bethel Music, **Nothing Else** by Cody Carnes, **Give me Your Peace** by Gateway Worship and **Our Father - Caught in Worship** on Youtube.

In times of trouble
Where do you run
When there's no-where to run to
Where do you run

To the arms of a heavenly Father
Who is waiting to hold you
Hold you close and tell you

"I LOVE YOU"

I Loved you before I formed you
And I'll love you always

I Love you in the good times
And I love you in the dark times

You don't see me in those dark times
But I am ever present there

You have questions upon questions
In those dark times
One of them being

"WHY"

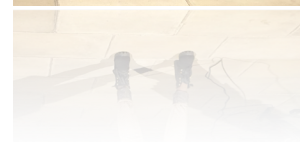
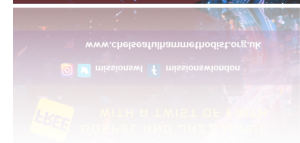
Why is this happening to me
Why is He allowing this to happen to me

And I reply in a small still voice

"TRUST" me
I'll be your guide

I'll turn this mess into my beautiful bride

By Debra Colquhoune





HEARTBEAT CAFE



GET YOUR NUTRIENTS

Daniel 1:12-17

"Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13) Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." 14) So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days. 15) At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. 16) So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead. 17) To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams.

1. Make sure at least half the food on your plate is vegetables (not including potatoes.). This can be raw or cooked veggies. That way you'll be getting more vitamins, minerals and fibre. Take a picture.
2. Try to drink a glass of water every hour from the time you wake up until 6pm. Should work out to be at least 1.5 liters depending on the size of the glass. That way you will not be dehydrated or be up all night going to the loo.
3. Chew, chew, chew, chew your food thoroughly. Chew your food until it turns to mush. For fun count the number of chews it takes for a spoonful or forkful of your food to turn to mush before you swallow it. Let me know how many chews it took for the meat, how many chews for the veggies and how many for the rice, potato's or pasta .
4. Name that veg **!!**
How many fruit and vegetables can you name in this picture?



For more healthy eating ideas, delicious recipes please visit Dianne Taylor's Facebook page :

<https://www.facebook.com/4-Your-Good-Health-193611164849/>



KINGS ROAD COMMUNITY DROP-IN

A big shout out to our incredible Community Drop-In Manager Shane. He has been working hard behind the scenes, preparing us to re-open the Kings Road Community Drop-In based at Chelsea Methodist Church, serving those experiencing homelessness in our community. We value and appreciate Shane's dedication, along with the commitment of our other staff and volunteers supporting us during this Pandemic. Please remember them in your prayers.



A CALL TO SUPPORT OTHERS VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We need volunteers to help us provide hot takeaway meals and survival packs at our Drop-In Centre at Chelsea Methodist Church.

Contact us: communitydropin@chelseamethodist.org.uk or visit www.chelseafulhammethodist.org.uk for more information.



We can all do with an influx of grace and generosity especially as we embrace the change that comes with this new way of life. There are many ways that we can express generosity: Be generous with our patience. Be generous with our words. Be generous with our finances. Be generous with our time.

May this knowledge transform your day and prompt you towards generosity, patience and courage.



Christian Aid Corona Virus Emergency Appeal

“The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:31

To be honest, as a Christian that works in an international charity, it feels very difficult to remind our friends and family of our global neighbours that are suffering with the coronavirus. I truly understand that our country is also facing great difficulty with the virus. I have reflected on Jesus’ command to “love your neighbour as you would love yourself”, and I am persuaded that it means that I should still have a sense of care for another person.

So, how can I, how can we, do this during this difficult time?

Christian Aid has launched a Corona Virus Appeal and this would give us a chance to help some of the most vulnerable people globally. Coronavirus has shown us that our futures are bound more tightly together than ever before. And now it is spreading across the world’s poorest countries, putting people living in poverty at great risk. These people are already facing a lack of water, food and healthcare. Some are homeless. Some are living with underlying health issues such as HIV. As coronavirus infection rates speed up, they will feel the impacts of the virus deeply. We must respond now. Coronavirus impacts all of us. But love unites us all.

Christian Aid’s response

Together with our local partners, we are working quickly to limit the impact of coronavirus in some of the most vulnerable communities around the world. We are drawing on our experience from the Ebola crisis and helping communities to prevent and delay infection.

We are providing essential soap, water and handwashing training. We are ensuring urgent health messages get through to help keep people safe. We are working through our networks of church partners and faith-based organisations to reach the most vulnerable at this critical time. With your help we can do even more.

Where we are responding

In Bangladesh, we are helping Rohingya refugees living in overcrowded camps understand the risks and take precautions by sharing hygiene messages in their local languages and offering handwashing sessions. In Nigeria, we are working to ensure safe distributions of food can continue for displaced people living in camps. **To donate to Christian Aid please visit our website: www.chelseafulhammethodist.org.uk/giving**

Notices, Useful Contacts and Pastoral Care

1

PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP

2

**MISSION & COMMUNITY
OUTREACH**

3

TITHES & OFFERINGS

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FOR UPDATES**

@missionswLondon

www.chelseafulhammethodist.org.uk

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**MISSION
SOUTH
WEST
LONDON**

**Care Package
Food Parcels**

**PLEASE COLLECT FOR THOSE IN
NEED OF CARE AND SUPPORT
MON - THURS (10AM-2PM)**

**Collect food / care packages at
Chelsea Methodist Church,
155a Kings Road,
London SW3 5TX
Mon - Thurs (10am - 2pm)**

**KING'S ROAD
COMMUNITY DROP IN
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**share your
blessings.**

GIVING

CHELSEA AND FULHAM METHODIST CHURCH
SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED OF CARE SINCE 1903

WWW.CHELSEAANDFULHAMMETHODIST.ORG.UK
EMAIL OFFICE @CHELSEAMETHODIST.ORG.UK TEL 020 7352 9305
CHELSEA METHODIST CHURCH HSBC: 40-02-06 Account: 10012742
FULHAM METHODIST CHURCH HSBC: 40-02-06 Account: 00014583

ONLINE TITHES AND OFFERINGS - EASY WAYS TO GIVE

Give, and it will be given to you good measure, pressed down, and overflowing, and they will give to you, for in the same measure as you give, it will be given to you again. Luke 6:38

There are many ways you can contribute to give online:

- USE PAYPAL OR DONATE ON WEBSITE
- INCLUDE NAME OR OFFERING NAME
- PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT
- SET UP STANDING ORDER
- SEND US A CARE PACKAGE

CHELSEA & FULHAM METHODIST CHURCH,
155A KINGS ROAD, LONDON SW3 5TX
405 FULHAM ROAD, LONDON SW6 6BY
Charity Registered No. 1040583

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, PASTORAL CARE OR TO JOIN OUR WHATSAPP GROUP

You are welcome to contact Reverend Mark Davenport by email revmarkdavenport@chelseamethodist.org.uk or on 07932 076813 .

Hayley Finucane on 07898 896466 and Chris Corton on chris.corton@btinternet.com

MISSION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Andrea Joseph Resourcing Mission Executive Officer: Enquiries relating to Mission South West London: serving, volunteering, community outreach, food parcels and care packages contact andrea@chelseamethodist.org.uk

Shane Wimalasuriya Community Service Drop-In Manager
020 7352 9305 or communitydropin@chelseamethodist.org.uk

TITHE OFFERINGS AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

Postal correspondence, tithes and offerings by cheque can be sent to: Chelsea Methodist Church, 155a Kings Road, London SW3 5TX. Alternatively give online via: www.chelseafulhammethodist.org/church-members and click on the **donate** button.

Please note Fulham Church office is currently closed, direct enquiries to Andrea Joseph