



Sunday 8th August 2021

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priory Methodist Church ~ Notices and News

Worship with Priory

The church premises are now open for 10.30am Sunday worship in person. It is also possible to share in that live worship using Zoom, and the worship will be recorded for access via the church website from later on Sunday. The full text Order of Service will no longer be produced, but words of the hymns and/or worship songs will be distributed with the notices. We will also produce audio recordings of the worship on CD for distribution to those unable to come to church or gain access to Zoom or the church website.

Via Zoom: The link for ALL services is available from the Church administrator.

Via the Priory website. Zoom services will be recorded and posted on the website, usually by late afternoon the same day. <http://www.priorychurch.org.uk>

Via recording on CD: If you would like to receive a recording of the worship on CD, please let Sue Gordon or Rev. Andrew Hollins know. CDs take a while to produce, but they will be delivered as soon as possible during the following week.

We hope that this will enable as many people as possible, whatever our circumstances, to share in the same worship.

For those attending worship in person ~ PLEASE REMEMBER that, although the government lifted the mandatory Covid-19 restrictions on 19th July, we are continuing to take a cautious approach at church. Hand sanitising facilities will still be provided, for those who wish to use them. Face coverings may be worn, and social distancing observed, by those who wish to do so. Please respect the wishes and practices of other people. Congregational singing is now permitted. We will continue to ensure that the premises are well ventilated during worship. It is important to care for ourselves, and also for our neighbours – which, of course, is fundamental to our Christian faith, and not just a factor in responding to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN KEEPING EVERYONE AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE.**

Missed something?

If you have forgotten a date or lost some Priory Methodist Church information, you can access the weekly notices for the past five weeks on the church website – click on “News and events” and then “News archive”. The following link <http://www.priorychurch.org.uk/news.htm> will take you there.

Lots of other resources and information about churches in the North Bedfordshire Methodist Circuit can be found on the circuit website – www.northbedsmethodist.org.uk

Pastoral / Church Family News:

Freya, Daughter of Emma and Carl Wright, will have minor surgery on her face on Tuesday 10th August. Please remember the family and grandparents Sue and Steve Gordon in your prayers.

Sue Butler recovering from back problems.

Pastoral Letter from the District Chair

A copy of the letter is attached with these notices.

Rev. Andrew Hollins will be on annual leave until Monday 16th August (inclusive). For urgent matters requiring the attention of a minister during Andrew’s absence, please call the circuit mobile phone (07522

928936) which will be held by a member of the circuit staff. Other contact details for circuit staff are available on the circuit website.

Church Administrator – Sue will be taking Mondays and Tuesdays off on Annual leave during the rest of August.

Sunday Recordings ~ Due to Annual Holiday, the recording of the Sunday service may not be able to be uploaded to the website on Sundays 8th & 15th August but will probably be uploaded during the week depending on finding a source of WiFi. John Lingsings

The Funeral Service for The Reverend Dalwyn R Attwell will be held at **2.00pm** (NOT 2.30pm, which was the provisional time which some of you may have picked up from other sources) on Tuesday 31st August at Trinity Methodist Church, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, Beds. SG18 0AP.

It is possible that restrictions on numbers attending may need to be put in place; further information about this will follow when known. The service will also be live-streamed; details of how to access this will be shared once they are available.

Dalwyn's funeral service will be followed by a private committal.

Dalwyn requested that donations in lieu of flowers should be made to support the *All We Can* charity. A special JustGiving page has been set up for these donations:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dalwyn?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=dalwyn&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=fd607e3b02ad443cae1c7a31281312b2.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to All We Can, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity. Please continue to hold Pete (Dalwyn's partner), Pat (Dalwyn's Mum) and the family in your prayers.

Trees for streets ~ One way in which we can all help to combat climate change is to plant more trees. We are lucky that Bedford is well supplied with trees and open spaces, but we also know that trees are beneficial for people AND for the environment.

Bedford Borough Council is working with a national charity, Trees for Streets, to encourage us to plant more trees. There are 2 options:

- Plant a tree on a street near you – outside Priory maybe? That costs £200 if we commit to water it, £300 if we want the council to water it. The Council will select a tree suitable for the location.
- Plant a celebration tree in one of our parks to remember a loved one or a significant event. This costs £300 and the Council will maintain the tree. Plaques will not be offered; the tree itself is the dedication.

Tress will be planted this winter. You may want to consider the scheme for yourself; if you feel that Priory could support the project as a church, please let the Leadership Team know via

lizlittlebedord@gmail.com,

More details of the project can be found at <https://sponsor.treesforstreets.org/provider/bedford-borough-council>

Bedford Borough Council Covid News - The good news is that cases per 100,000 have dropped this week from 342.2 to 264.9. The number of patients in Bedford and Luton Hospitals with Covid has risen but deaths remain very few.

If anyone you know has yet to have a vaccination, please encourage them to do so. This includes pregnant women, who will be protecting both themselves and their unborn baby.

If you had your first vaccination on or before 31 May, you're now due for your second dose.

Getting both doses maximises protection from the vaccine - half a job is half a job!

Details from www.bedford.gov.uk/vaccinations.

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Could you organise a rota? - For some time now, Steve Gordon has been organising a number of rotas which are important to ensure that things run smoothly on a Sunday. We are grateful for all his work, but Steve is keen to pass these tasks on to others as soon as possible. These are separate roles, so different people could take them on. Lists of contacts are available; what is required is to get in touch, by email or phone, make the rota and send out the details. We need people to take responsibility for rotas for:

- Bible readers for services
- Welcomers for services
- Making and serving tea and coffee (we hope to resume refreshments after worship from September).

If you can help with any of these, please contact Liz Little (lizlittlebedford@gmail.com) Steve will be happy to help if you have any questions.

Prayer Handbooks - Please can you let me know if you would like to order any Prayer Handbooks ?

If so please can you let me know how many of Standard or Large Print that you would like?

Please can you let me know by 13th August?

Stephanie, Circuit Administrator



Enjoying The Seaside

Please send my love and kind thoughts to everyone. I am loving my life at the seaside. Bella and I go for walks on the beach most days, paddling in the sea and sitting on the rocks with our feet in the warm water of any rock pools we can find. I have also made a few friends down here and enjoy walks on the beach with them, although I am still resisting going inside the homes of others. It is wonderful to be close to my family and see how the grandchildren are growing up so quickly. With Peace and Love. Roz Butterworth

Bedford Street Angels - As Bedford's nightlife gradually re-opens, street angels are once again out on Saturdays to support those who need help and to show God's love in practical ways. Please remember this work and witness in your prayers.

There are currently not enough volunteers to provide a team every Saturday; please pray for new people to answer this call to serve God.

The prayer support team, which was previously meeting in St Peter's Chapel House to pray for the team and provide refreshments, is currently meeting via Zoom at 10pm for around 20 minutes to pray for the angels out that night.

If you feel able to join in this prayer time, or know of anyone who may be interested in becoming a street angel, please initially contact Vee Travers veetravers@talktalk.net

Creating Safer Space Foundation Training Online - During September we will continue to offer Creating Safer Space Foundation Training online as follows:

Tuesday and Wednesday 7th and 8th September.

Tuesday will be 7pm to 8.30pm and Wednesday will be 7pm to 8pm, attendants will have to attend both evenings.

Here is the link to book:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/165116799793>

Thursday 9th September 9am to 12noon

Here is the link to book

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/164000242139>

I hope to offer another session, but that is still in the planning.

Please encourage people who can to book a session. Stephanie Field, Circuit Safeguarding Officer

'A Way Forward'~ A big thank you to everyone who filled in the Church survey. The Way Forward Group met this week and moved forward on a number of areas in the survey:

- The Community Survey. We want to contact a number of 'community leaders' (Health professionals, Councillors etc) in the local area around Priory to find out what are the issues presently being faced in the community. We will then give thought to whether there are things we can respond to as part of working for the wellbeing of the community. Thanks to those who offered to help with this. A letter to community leaders has been drafted and is being revised. We are drawing up a list of people we want to contact who have their finger on the pulse of what is happening locally. We will be in touch directly with those who offered help but if anyone can help now with any suggestions about people to contact, or if you have an insight into issues in the local community yourself, please feel free to contact me (details below).
- The Footfall Survey. This is an attempt to find out how many people pass Priory's buildings, at what times, which side of the road etc. It will help us think about when are good times to be doing things outside the buildings (having coffee and tea available as a focus for meeting with our neighbours is one idea). We are hoping to do a few ad hoc surveys over the summer and then week beginning 20th September cover as much time as we can. I will be in touch directly with those who offered help with this.
- For both of the above, we will be in touch with those who said they would 'maybe' help, as well as those who said 'yes'. If anyone who ticked 'maybe' for either of the above areas wants to be in touch with me to clarify anything in the meantime, please feel free to do so.
- There are a number of jobs people volunteered for (e.g. reading in church, welcoming people coming to services) which we already have rotas for. Names of volunteers have been passed to those who do the rotas. A big thank you to those who volunteered and to the rota organisers.
- If you have not filled in the survey and would like to there are hard copies in the church entrance area or you can use the link that was included as an attached email this week.
- My contact details: heap10@btinternet.com. 07749832585.
- We pray and work for fullness of life for all!

Stephen Heap

Gardening Working Group ~ Thank you to those who have come along to help with the gardening sessions on recent Friday mornings. We hope that those visiting/passing the church premises can see the evidence of the work which was done. The group will continue to meet on Fridays each week, at 10:00 am, All are welcome to join us but please bring your own gardening tools.

Getting in touch ~ You can contact Rev Andrew Hollins via northbedssuper@gmail.com, Tel 340167 and Sue, our administrator, via office@priorychurch.org.uk Tel 309254

If you have any concerns about members of the Priory family, or would simply like to have a chat, please contact your Pastoral Link, our Pastoral Coordinator (Kathy Lewis –) or the Pastoral Committee Secretary (Jenny Lloyd –).

'Cuppa & Chat' ~ Time to catch up with church friends can be a good support during these times of lockdown. You will have to make your own cuppa, but you can join others to share news, chat and a smile over in our Zoom Coffee Morning – what some people have been calling ZOFFEE!. All are welcome. We meet via Zoom from 10.30 – 11.30am every Wednesday; you can join at any time in the hour and stay for as long or short a time as you wish / are able. Why not give it a try? Just follow the Zoom link which is available from the Church office.

Church Premises ~ Sue Gordon, the Church administrator, will be working mostly from home but is generally going into Church Thursday mornings. Access to the church premises is for **essential** purposes only, anyone entering the church premises must either complete their details on the Test & Trace list OR use their mobile phone to scan the displayed QR code.

Bedford Foodbank Request ~

Thank you for your support of Bedford Foodbank. We are still feeding over 800 people per month and fed 9185 people between April 2020 and March 2021.

These are the items we are requiring the moment - Cup a Soup, Long Life Milk, Jumbo Hotdogs

Tinned Tuna, Tinned Fruit, Tea Bags, Shampoo, Washing Up Liquid, Anti Bac Spray, Shower Gel
Deodorant, Pot Noodles

Thank you, Andrea - Office 01234 268569

Weekly Diary

Sunday	08-Aug-21	
10:30 - 11:30	Worship	Church
Monday	09-Aug-21	
14:00 - 15:00	Juna Yoga	Small Hall
19:30 - 20:30	Supple Strength	Small Hall
Tuesday	10-Aug-21	
20:00 - 21:30	Line Dancing	Main Hall
Wednesday	11-Aug-21	
18:30 - 19:30	Zumba	Main Hall
Thursday	12-Aug-21	
11:00 - 13:00	Food and Fun	Main Hall & Kitchen
15:00 - 18:00	Funeral Wake	Small Hall & Kitchen