

Message from Rev Iain Lothian

Dear all

We have lots of ways for you to join in with church and we would love for you to join us!

Join us in person*: This week our Sunday Morning Service, starting at 10.30am, will be led by the Worship Team at Stephen Hill with a small congregation.

*Numbers in Church are limited because of social distancing regulations, so if you would like to attend please contact Brenda Nelson on 07835455562 or at bj.nelson@btopenworld.com

Join us by Zoom: Click the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/95130964519?pwd=Z1prOVc0VjNZR0FmMFRkT0pIME5vUT09>

The Meeting ID: **951 3096 4519** and the Passcode: **service**.

Join us by phone: Dial **0330 088 5830** followed by the Meeting ID: **951 3096 4519** and Passcode: **7647720**

Dial-a-Sermon: You can also hear the sermon via the number **0114 4782335**. Calls cost the same as a local call.

Last week's service recording can be found by clicking the link:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/YRLd9pim60KP_eGr0XAmZMcLYo3YeFGKocNkdvCmOrLVMwGv5rT3lInC70tHUYi.scLxi2oWSJJIDa1-?startTime=1601199020000

Night Prayer: To join the night prayer which follows the usual compline pattern, click <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XF194iadXoY>. It provides a lovely peaceful ending of the day for me and I hope it might do the same for some of you.

If you are ill, show Covid symptoms or are aware of being in contact with anyone with Covid, or displaying Covid symptoms, you must not come.

Stay Safe & keep well

Iain x

Food bank

St Cuthbert's Food bank is very grateful for all the kind and much needed donations. Please place any donations of cheques and cash in an envelope marked "Food Bank" and post in St Columba Church mail box. Cheques should be made out to St Cuthbert's Church PCC and endorsed "food bank" on the back. Please, no money or cheques in the Food Bank box. To donate by bank card please go to <https://localgiving.org/firvalefoodbank>

Please send any news or notices for the notice sheet by Lunchtime on Wednesdays.

Email admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk or phone 267 0006

Or

Email: shgrapevine@gmail.com or ring Brenda : 2306918 or John : 2304960

Stephen
Hill
Methodist
Church



St
Columba's
Church
Crosspool

WORSHIPPING GOD // INCLUDING ALL // SPACE TO EXPLORE // PROMOTING JUSTICE

Sunday, 4th October 2020

Lectionary readings for today

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19 Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15
Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46



Church opening times this week

Morning Prayers at St Columba - Monday at 10.00am

Morning Prayers at St Columba - Wednesday at 10.00am

Private Prayer at St Columba - Thursday from 10.00am to 12noon

Personal safety remains a priority and social distancing will be observed, with seating in designated areas only.

Automatic hand sanitiser dispensers are available in the entrance area, and automatic soap dispensers are in each loo.

Laminated service cards (for easy sanitising) and prayer cards will be available. Church bibles and prayer books cannot be used at present according to church guidelines.

Pastoral.

The Pastoral Prayers Group is maintaining the prayer link. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with all the members of our Church families and the community who are unwell or have special needs at this very difficult time. Please continue to let Maureen Owen or George Wild know of anyone who should be included in our prayers.

We also pray for all the community in Crosspool and this week especially for the residents of Sandygate Grange Drive.

Aquabox

The volunteers at Aquabox have not been able to work since the Covid virus hit but all has not been quiet. Boxes have been dispatched to Bengal following the cyclone, to Nepal following the earthquake and landslides, to refugee camps in Yemen and to Beirut following the explosion.

Also the big news is that the charity has moved premises. Their original premises have been taken over by the Willow products supplier expanding from next door. Aquabox are now a few yards away on the opposite side of the site. The new building is all on one level and gives the opportunity to have a visitor centre and much better facilities for the volunteers. Please look at their website for full details.

It is hoped that the volunteers can return during October. I have two boxes almost completed and I hope to feel confident to go shopping soon in order to deliver them ASAP.

Bob H

All We Can Harvest Appeal

The harvest appeal for All We Can raised £420 (envelopes). Final total raised will be more due to gift aid and online contributions. Many thanks to all who gave generously to this worthy cause. If you would like to make an on-line donation, please follow the link below to the All We Can website where there is a donate button at the bottom of the front page <https://www.allwecan.org.uk/>. Thank you.

Church Action on Poverty Sheffield Pilgrimage 2020 via Zoom - 7th October, 7.30pm

This year Sheffield Church Action on Poverty have produced a Virtual Pilgrimage - an opportunity to see a series of videos about work being done by organisations and churches across the city. There will be a gathering on Zoom on October 7th at 7.30 pm when the contributors will talk about their work and there will be time to discuss some of the issues arising from the videos. If you would like further information to see the videos and/or join the meeting please contact Briony Broome (Secretary) on briony.broome@hotmail.co.uk mobile: 07801 532954.

An update on the work of MAF in Uganda

A recent e-mail from Geoff and Celia Linkleter, St. Columba's MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) partners in Uganda for several years, gives a good idea of the changing nature of MAF's recent work there and of the life of Geoff, Celia and their daughter, Mim. Uganda implemented a strict lockdown in the early days of the COVID pandemic with public and private traffic closed down, international travel forbidden, schools and churches closed, and trade and work dramatically affected by the lack of transport.

Recently things became more normal as the country moved into 'semi-lockdown'. Schools re-opened after an early summer holiday, roads have become busy again but sadly, there has been a significant increase in the COVID infection rate in the Kampala area where Geoff and Celia live. Things are still difficult in terms of much of MAF's work. Geoff's special skills as a maintenance aircraft engineer had previously involved work in neighbouring countries such as Chad and South Sudan as well as Uganda and this is now more difficult. Cross border flights require complex permission procedures and flying is restricted to flights for cargo only.

MAF has had some important emergency functions in particular parts of Uganda. In June, massive flooding occurred in parts of Western Uganda where several rivers running down from the Congo burst their banks and floods washed out villages, health centres and bridges. MAF flew emergency supplies to the area for various aid agencies and for the government with intense flying with over a dozen flights in 2 days taking food, water filters and various other needs to the area. Because of the high levels of water in Lake Victoria there have been problems with flooding of the runway at MAF's base in Kajjansi where Geoff works and islands in Lake Victoria with only an intermittent boat service connecting them to the mainland have been even more isolated than usual. There are currently no effective landing strips there and MAF is investigating the possibilities of using a floatplane to help agencies in that area in the future. Improving contacts with more remote parts of the country is a continuing problem and a few of you may remember Bob Gillen, an early MAF partner of St. Columba's in East Africa being involved in this almost 20 years ago. Or maybe not! Much has been done since then but obviously much remains to be done. Please pray for Geoff, Celia and Mim and for MAF's continuing work around the world.

Bill Hornby



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