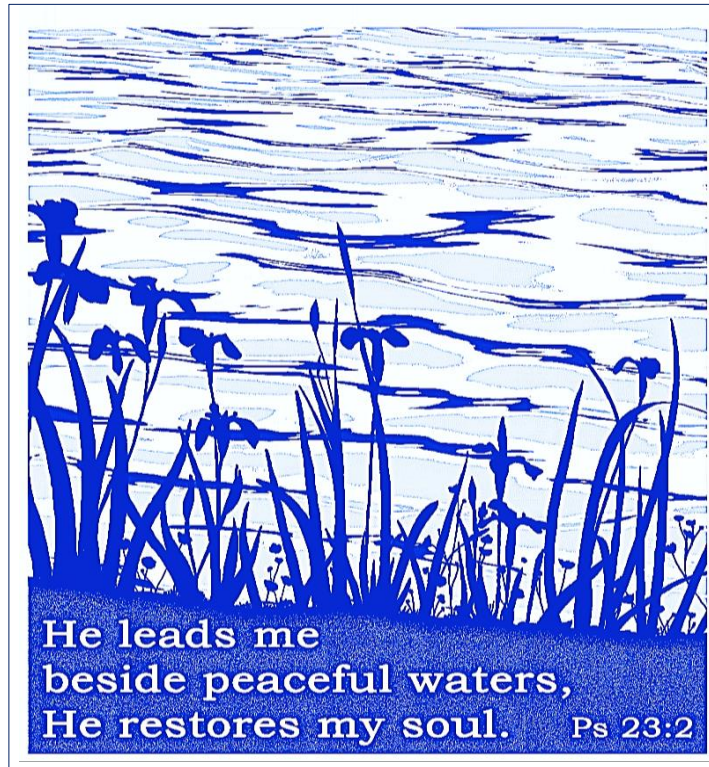


EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 27th June 2020

Keeping us connected while staying apart



EBC SERVICE ON ZOOM

SUNDAY 28th JUNE at 10.30 a.m.

*We are celebrating communion this week (with bread only)
and the service sheet is attached separately.*

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499

Password: 024518

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1IYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

You can also join these meetings on the telephone by calling one of the following geographical numbers and keying in first the Meeting ID followed by the # key and then keying in the Password also followed by the # key.

0203 481 5240, 0203 481 5237, 0203 051 2874, 0131 460 1196

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship

1.15 p.m. BBC1 Songs of Praise

There is no *Sunday Worship on BBC TV*

DURING THE WEEK

9.45 a.m. BBC Radio 4 LW Short daily service

 **DailyHOPE**

A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

0800 804 8044

VLOGS IN THE TIME OF CORONA

Stephen Gaukroger's daily vlog on www.clariontrust.org.uk/our-thinking

A TOUR THROUGH THE BIBLE

Revd Dr Helen Paynter's daily vlog <https://youtu.be/pww5eFHVop4>
(Baptist Union YouTube channel)

Shared by Denise

SCBA's (Southern Counties Baptist Association) latest reflection:

'**Moving into the Neighbourhood**' by Clare Hooper

<https://youtu.be/R52Y6WW7jpo>

There is a podcast version on their podcast channel 'SCBApod' - listen by clicking on the link: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/796076/4194056>

Catch up with previous YouTube videos on:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN5ILARLZPEUP8pgOI3dwGQ>

DEACONS' MEETING

11.00 a.m. on Tuesdays via Zoom - please pray for Zoltan and the Deacons as they meet together.

EBC BIBLE STUDY on Zoom

Thursdays at 11.00 a.m. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82120898795?pwd=ejN4RU8rSkpDRFlxYlJQbEhHUytIZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Password: 994274

PRAYER

We remember especially Steve's sister, Nick & Jackie's grandson and all those who are ill, or recovering from illness or falls.

JOHNNY ANDREWS

We are so sorry to report the death of Johnny Andrews on Saturday 20th June. Johnny and Audrey attended EBC and had recently moved to be near their family. We send our deepest sympathy to Audrey and the family and pray they will know God's peace and upholding at this sad time.

We understand from Audrey that Johnny's funeral will take place on 9th July at Caversham Crematorium at 11.00 am. Only 20 allowed to attend, but we think it will be streamed: details will follow.

“Gotta serve somebody” (Romans 6:12-23)

But now that you are on God’s team, you owe no obligation to sin, and you reap the fruit of a righteous life, which is life forever. (v. 22)

For us who lived our whole life in the free world, Romans 6 hardly makes any sense. How can you be freed (from sin) into a slavery (of God)? We thought that we are the masters of our own destiny and we teach our children (and grandchildren) that they can achieve their dreams as long as they work hard. Yet in our passage the writer seems to contradict this philosophy by saying that the only “freedom” we have is to either accept the gift of God or decline it. Which is similar to what Henry Ford famously said at the launch of the Model T: *“Any customer can have a car painted any colour that he wants so long as it is black.”*

This again sounds to our sensitive consumer centred ears as a disgrace. However, both apostle Paul and Henry Ford had their reasons to limit the choice of their audience. In Ford’s case apparently the black paint dried the fastest, which enabled his production line to make cars faster and cheaper. In Paul’s case, the reality of first century Mediterranean society had no concept of upward social mobility – in other words if you were born slave you died as a slave, the only change you could experience was your owner. A good owner would treat his slaves with compassion, while a bad one would treat them as objects destined to work hard until they drop dead. Still, in both of these households the slaves had a limited liberty to do certain things. In the Roman world slaves were rarely chained and they had some free time to meet with friends and family (yes, they often were allowed to have wives and children who of course were also slaves). Also, certain slaves were educated, some were able to read and write others were great artists (painters and sculptors). A good owner would recognise these aptitudes and educate them for their and ultimately his own benefit, while a bad one would not allow such skills to develop because that would take away time and energy from the operation.

What Paul tries to explain to his first century audience is that once a good owner (God) takes them over they do not own any loyalty to the previous one (sin) who mistreated them, but while serving God they must become reliable members of his team, after all we are free to do all the good things that can make us happy not only in this life but eternity.

Prayer: *God of grace, you have brought me from slavery to freedom, from despair to hope, from death to life! Help me to keep all that is not of You nailed to the cross and I pray that I may live a godly life in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

Zoltan

ASYLUM WELCOME

Donations are still very much needed please: speak to Marcus Thompson on 01865 881808.

EYNHAM COMMUNITY LARDER

Anyone who is finding it difficult to buy the food they need can request help, either a regular or a one-off food parcel. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, call Bob Thiele on 07738 063083 or email your number to eynshamhelp@gmail.com and ask for further information.

COLLECTION POINTS for donations are CO-OP and SPAR.

Shared by Barbara

To:- God.com

Dear Lord,

Every single evening as I'm lying here in bed,
This tiny little prayer keeps running through my head.

God bless all my family, wherever they may be,
Keep them well and safe from harm, for they mean so much to me.

And God, there is one more thing I wish that you could do,
Hope you don't mind me asking, please bless my computer, too.

Now I know that it's unusual to bless a motherboard,
But listen just a second while I explain it to you, Lord.

You see that little metal box holds more than odds and ends,
Inside those small compartments rest so many of my friends.

I know so much about them, by the kindness that they give,
And this little scrap of metal takes me in to where they live.

By faith is how I know them, much the same as you,
We share in what life brings us, and from that our friendship grew.

Please take an extra minute, from your duties up above,
To bless those in my address book, that is filled with so much love.

Wherever else this prayer may reach to each and every friend,
Bless each E-mail box, and each person who hits "send".

When you up-date your heavenly list, on your own great CD-Rom,
Bless everyone who says this prayer, sent up to GOD.Com

Amen

Shared by Norma

Following on from Bible Study and hearing thoughts of people who are not in a bubble, which I'm not, I can relate to certain practical things as I look out from bedroom and see neighbour's husband pegging out washing, speaking to elderly neighbour over back fence whilst doing mega watering of plants. These things can cause envy, but it's pointless and doesn't make life any easier. As someone who lives alone (and it's easier than living with difficult significant others) I do feel it's important to count blessings and try not to think 'oh I wish it was different'. I feel that our difficulties can shape us and make us stronger. Having a faith does help and the love I hope we all feel through the church is helpful. Seeing a blind lady with her guide dog in Reading in this new normal makes me conscious of how challenging this is for some. Seems it's about a lot of acceptance and self-management on a daily basis.

Friendship

A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart
and can sing it back to you
when you have forgotten the words.

SCAM ALERT - Please be careful

We have had a lot of scam emails recently, some pretending to come from people we know, so thought we would just remind everyone to be vigilant. Do not open emails, or click on any link, unless ABSOLUTELY SURE who it's from. Always ask friends to clearly identify themselves when sending you an email and if at all unsure delete it. Even if it purports to come from a company you normally deal with, go onto their website to check it out. **N.B.** When sending emails to multiple people please make sure you use the *BCC* (blind copies) option so that the email addresses are not visible to everyone (also when replying please delete multiple addresses before sending on.)

Lin & David



CONTRIBUTIONS to Lin on linmiller25@gmail.com or telephone on 881780 (subject to the usual editorial discretion and space constraints).

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June Poole - 375130

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Sue Law - 07796 955472

**PLEASE MAKE ZOLTAN OR DEACONS AWARE OF
ANY PASTORAL NEEDS.**

