



**Forming  
Community**

**Celebrating  
Faith**

**Deepening  
Discipleship**

Dear friends,

Greetings, prayers, blessings and love to you all. In most of the 'darker' recent times through which few of us have come through unscathed, I pray you found ways of coping.

One silly, almost trite verse that would keep passing in my mind was a childhood Christian song:

***“Count your many blessings  
name them one by one  
and it will surprise you  
what the Lord has done”.***

Remember that? I have always taken it for granted until any troubles are big and then....recently I researched it's origins to discover it has been around since 1897 and it came to us from the USA. In the 1970's a singing celeb made a small fortune by recording the whole song. I only ever knew the above verse but I now discover just how wide and wonderful the full song is. Let me give you some of its phrases. I am sure they will resound to your recent experiences as they did for me.

Tempest tossed....Discouraged.... Ever burdened with care?  
Cross too heavy to carry?..... Amid the conflict...

How many of these speak to your lockdown? I found many for myself but then thankfully other verses brought better experiences:

Do not be disheartened  
God is over all.....

Angels will attend, help and comfort you  
To your journey's end.

What wonderful thoughts and words that shamefully I didn't know. Now as the restrictions are easing and we can begin to live once more, have you counted the blessings that God sent to help us through? Large or small, easy or sacrificial, I am so thankful to God for those who kept in touch, helped with errands, people who thanked me when I stopped for them to pass safely, the odd conversation with a stranger, the family and friends who kept a close watch, and for me hearing from long lost friends from school, work, church circuits and some from overseas. **What a wonderful God we have!** So, Count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what God has done.

May God bless you and keep you and support us to step out into a different kind of world.

**Rev Tony Brazier**

Our heartfelt thanks to **John Wren & Tony Brazier** for their wonderful messages in our Gazettes whilst Dan has had a well earned break. **Rev Dan & Debbie Dean**

## **GENERAL CHURCH MEETING**

### **SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER FROM 10.30AM**

The pandemic continues to have a profound impact on our lives, and on our shared life as BRMC. Like a shaken snow globe, the pandemic has shaken the life of BRMC around and we are still anticipating when and where all that has been shaken will fall.

But despite BRMC feeling shaken up, there is cause for us to be grateful, including being thankful for many things we have done, often quite informally, to nurture and encourage us and reach out to our community:

- Collaborating with Felpham and Westergate Methodist Churches for worship and fellowship
- Weekly emails and monthly postal mailings
- Weekly worship resources online and by post
- Study series in Acts, Ruth and Colossians
- Opening for prayer Easter 2021
- Offering Hospitality to Bognor Foodbank
- Digital outreach through social media and blog posts and videos
- Ongoing pastoral and spiritual care
- And more! – what would you add??

As we look to the future and ask how God is shaping us for the next stage of life and mission of BRMC, I want to encourage us all to honestly reflect together on our experience.

Through listening, and learning from experience, I often find I discover places and ways God was with me and working when I didn't realise it. I believe the same can be true for us, and that this will help us as we seek God's guidance for the future.

One of the agenda items for a General Church Meeting in Methodism is '**Conversation on the ministry and witness of the church**'. As part of our meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept we will include conversation about our experience as a church through the pandemic and reflect together on how that may shape the future. I hope many of you will be able to attend that meeting, but if you are unable (or like me, you benefit from time to reflect in advance!) here are some questions I encourage you to ponder...

1. What about BRMC life have you been thankful for through the pandemic?
2. Are there things you have missed about BRMC?
3. Are there things you have not missed?
4. Where have you seen or experienced God at work?
5. What are your hopes for the future?

My hope is that we can somehow collate our responses to these questions and the stories of the experience we retell as a record of BRMC pandemic life. Telling the story of our shared life together in Christ through this tumultuous season, and aiding us as we seek to keep God at our centre, as we look to the future. I look forward to hearing your stories!

**Rev Dan**

## **CHRISTMAS IS 'A COMIN'!**

Ok, so September may feel a bit early to be talking Christmas, but it will not be long before we have to begin putting the Circuit Plan that covers Christmas together, which means I need to ask us to turn our minds towards Christmas just a little!

After a 2020 Christmas like no other, I want to create opportunity for the whole BRMC congregation to share our ideas for worship, fellowship and mission this Advent & Christmas. Perhaps there is something from the past you would not want to miss again in 2021, or something new you'd like to suggest.

There are some cards available at the back of the church, and I invite you to write down your ideas and pop them on the board for others to see. If you like someone else's idea and/or would be up for helping make it happen – pop a tick on their card in the box.

Please do take this opportunity to share your ideas and participate in planning for the continuing ministry and witness of BRMC.

**Rev Dan**

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|   |                           |                 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday<br>5 <sup>th</sup> September     | General Church<br>Meeting | From 10.30am    |
| Wednesday<br>15 <sup>th</sup> September | Pastoral Meeting          | 10.00am-11.30am |
| Wednesday<br>29 <sup>th</sup> September | Church Council<br>Meeting | 7.30pm- 9.30pm  |



### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2021**



**\*\*Important date for your diary\*\***

Although 6 months late, we now have a date for the World day of prayer for this year, which is:

**FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 10.30AM**

Taking place at the Salvation Army Church  
Canada Grove, Bognor Regis

***Everyone is welcome***

This year's service has been prepared by the women of Vanuatu. The theme is '*Build on a strong foundation*' based on Matthew 7:24-27.

## From Janet Tapping.....

### A CREE PROPHECY FROM NORTH AMERICA

When all the trees have been cut down,  
When all the animals have been hunted,  
When all the waters are polluted  
When all the air is unsafe to breath,  
Only then will we discover –  
We cannot eat money.

*Featured in Michael Morpurgo's book 'Running Wild'.*

As in each of this author's books (he of War Horse fame), a whole range of emotions are felt by readers. I laughed and felt very sad at times, regardless of whether it was a fact or fiction. Another unusual feature is a strong emphasis on the importance of the conservation of our world. We must all do whatever we can.

From all I have learned from Michael Morpurgo, I believe him to be a softly spoken unassuming West Country man, at the same time he has determination to spotlight his convictions for the benefit of us all. Yes, I'm a fan!

Running Wild talks about a young boy, Will, having a longed for treat ride on an elephant, on an Indonesian beach. The scenery and weather appeared perfect until a tsunami hit. It was January 2004. Will survived and that was thanks to Oone the elephant's natural instincts. Those two formed a strong bond and so the story follows.

As in Will's life and most of ours, a majority of choices and experiences confront us out of the blue, and often culminate happily, but we have to accept not everything will. We all have challenges and I say this to myself as much as to anyone else. Things seem not to get easier as we get older, in fact the reverse! We need God's help and so thankfully we only have to ask and accept and that help is there. "I will not forsake you" – **thanks be to God!**

He did not forsake young Will either! As far as I recall there is no mention of Christian faith in Running Wild, but I see the connection with animals and nature generally, as a sign of God's hand and the author surely felt that too.

### **MISSION IN BRITAIN**

On June 27<sup>th</sup> an appeal was made for this Methodist Charity. Via envelopes on that day and the contents of household collection boxes, I banked £191.82. My sincere thanks to everyone who contributed. If you would like a home collection box (to be handed in each July) please see me or telephone 01243 824414 to arrange.

Mission in Britain works to support survivors of disasters, eg floods or fires, also young people who 'spread their wings' with little or no family support – so many good causes. As well as the Sunday in July collection, I hope to have a table day on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022, a date for your new diaries – you could even have fun tossing your own pancake if you wish to. Please do continue to support Mission in Britain.

**JANET TAPPING**

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

I am in the process of preparing the end of year accounts which I hope to present to the Church Council at the end of September. But, at the moment, I am able to give the Church community some pointers as to the state of the accounts. As of the 18th September the following figures show the amount of money in the various Church bank accounts and investments held at TCMP.

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Lloyds          | £ 2,217.97 |
| CFB1            | £ 6,581.63 |
| CFB2            | £25,511.10 |
| Endowment Funds | £24,101.00 |

Just to explain....it appears that the Church has a lot of money but the CFB1 account is used to pay the assessment and the next quarter (paid in advance) of £6,011 has to be paid before the end of the month.

The CFB2 account contains the money left by Stella and the grant from the Circuit towards our new toilet block. We were given permission to use some of the grant money to pay last quarters assessment otherwise we would have been in breach of our obligations. The amount was £5,000.

The Endowment Funds are in 2 parts, The Edward Bryant and Joyce Powell trusts. We can use the Joyce Powell Fund for anything that the Church would like to do but the Edward Bryant can only be used on youth programmes.

-10- The Church has the following commitments, i.e. expenditure. The assessment £6,011 per quarter, the telephone and Wi-Fi, the electricity, the gas, the water, flowers and the organist. Based on past years we can estimate the following.

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Utilities              | £7,500         |
| Worship                | £2,000         |
| Maintenance            | £1,500         |
| Flowers                | £1,000         |
| Assessment             | £24,000        |
| Repairs                | £2,000         |
| <b>Estimated Total</b> | <b>£40,000</b> |

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| <b>Income</b>   |         |
| Giving          | £12,000 |
| Gift Aid        | £ 4,000 |
| Letting         | £ 2,400 |
| Donations       | £ 1,000 |
| Estimated Total | £20,000 |

It should be pointed out that the church has only survived financially because we have not used any gas and we were able to use money given to us for the toilet project. This project is now being held in abeyance, which is a great pity.

Also, while I have been treasurer, since 2005/6, the giving from the congregation and the gift aid associated with giving has never covered our assessment.

Paying for the other costs has always come under the heading of fundraising/donations/lettings of which the church, up until the pandemic, has been quite successful.

The Church has to find new ways of replacing all the efforts that COG's and the fundraising activities put in to cover the shortfall. I am sure, that having survived Covid, the task is not beyond the efforts of the church. I hope my assessment does not frighten you but we have to be realistic about the present situation.

**Tony Poland**

### **ENVELOPE SCHEME**

I am sorry to go on about it but some people are still forgetting to put their number on the envelope leaving me with the problem of how to record their giving.

So please remember your number.

**Tony Poland**

### **METHODIST CHURCH WORLD MISSION FUND**

We have given a little over £700 to this fund. Thank you to those who have contributed.

**Anita Hayward**

## **\*\*MILK BOTTLE LIDS\*\***

Firstly a big thank you to all of you who have saved up your milk bottle lids and passed them on to me to pass on to Westergate MC. Sadly, the gentleman who emptied the vast bin full of bottle tops and took them to the recycling place has recently passed away. Unfortunately, there isn't anyone who is able to take over from him, and so I'm sorry to say that it's the end of passing them on to me.

I did try to find a more local solution for us but only came up with the following:

The E.Y.E. Project (which stands for Eco, Young and Engaged) has a collection point at **St Paul's Church in Chichester**, where clean milk bottle tops can be dropped off into collection bins there (situated outside the building). They will then be passed to a recycling company, who pay per ton, which the church donates to the Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice, which cares for children with life-limiting conditions.

St Paul's Church

Churchside

Chichester PO19 6FT

(3-4 minute walk from the Novium Museum, if you know it)

When you enter the church car park, you will see a large sign directing you to the recycling bins. Please put your tops into the correct bin - medium and large bags into the bagged bin and small quantities into the loose bin please!

**LET'S PRAY.....EVERY DAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 2021**

| <b>1 Chr16:34</b> |                 | <b>A week of prayer of giving thanks to God....</b>  |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| Wed               | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Thank you Jesus that we are seeing things 'open up' a bit more & get better.....like singing in Church!  |
| Thurs             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Thank you for the beautiful places here where we live.....beach, parks, the downs.....                   |
| Fri               | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Thank you for our families & friends, for visitors, a phone call, email or letter, so important to us.   |
| Sat               | 4 <sup>th</sup> | Thank you for all that we take for granted.....a cup of tea, running water, a comfy chair, warm bed..... |
| Sun               | 5 <sup>th</sup> | Thank you for Sundays, when we come together to worship you.   |
| Mon               | 6 <sup>th</sup> | Thank you that you are always right there Lord, walking with us, ready to talk & listen.                 |
| Tues              | 7 <sup>th</sup> | Thank you for radios, tv's, books, newspapers & magazines, helping us to relax/learn/enjoy.              |

| <b>Psalm 33:<br/>12-15</b> |                  | <b>A week of prayer for our world....</b>   |
|----------------------------|------------------|---|
| Wed                        | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | For those who live where there are fires raging, causing loss of life, homes & businesses.                            |
| Thurs                      | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | For For those who live where there are floods, causing loss of life, homes & businesses.                              |
| Fri                        | 10 <sup>th</sup> | For animals losing their lives due to losing their homes, or because of hunters.                                      |
| Sat                        | 11 <sup>th</sup> | For those campaigning to save the Amazon rainforest, which has lost so many trees it's now giving out carbon dioxide. |
| Sun                        | 12 <sup>th</sup> | For world leaders coming together to discuss the urgent & very serious climate changes in our world.                  |
| Mon                        | 13 <sup>th</sup> | For all who strive to help others: the Church, missionaries, health workers, teachers, friends.                       |
| Tues                       | 14 <sup>th</sup> | For new growth where fire, flood & man have caused damage.  |

| <b>Heb 13:16</b> |                  | <b>A week of prayer for those who help us....</b>   |
|------------------|------------------|---|
| Wed              | 15 <sup>th</sup> | For the Foodbank & all the volunteers.  |
| Thurs            | 16 <sup>th</sup> | Grandad's Front Room helping individuals, community groups & local charities.                                   |
| Fri              | 17 <sup>th</sup> | My Sister's House supporting & helping women from all walks of life.  |
| Sat              | 18 <sup>th</sup> | Stonepillow who help the homeless and vulnerable.   |
| Sun              | 19 <sup>th</sup> | Radio Respect, dedicated to mental health wellbeing.  |
| Mon              | 20 <sup>th</sup> | Laburnum Centre, providing many services for the over 50's  |
| Tues             | 21 <sup>st</sup> | Bognorphenia, for all who love Bognor Regis, reaching people through music, & for their work with young people. |

| <b>Isaiah 41:10</b> |                  | <b>A week of prayer for healing....</b>  |
|---------------------|------------------|--|
| Wed                 | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Those getting Covid-19, in hospital or at home.  |
| Thurs               | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Those we know in hospital, or those who know they have surgery coming soon, or appointments. |
| Fri                 | 24 <sup>th</sup> | Those who are coming to terms with a change in their health or their circumstances.          |
| Sat                 | 25 <sup>th</sup> | For all living in fear or living without God.  |
| Sun                 | 26 <sup>th</sup> | For all refugees fleeing their homes.  |
| Mon                 | 27 <sup>th</sup> | For those trying to live without basic human needs.  |
| Tues                | 28 <sup>th</sup> | For those grieving and in pain.  |

| <b>Ephesians 4:11-13</b>                      | Pray for Dan, his 3 Churches & those who serve in the Church  |
|---|---|
| Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> & Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> | Father God, we thank you for Dan and for everyone who works in our Churches and our circuit. We thank you that they keep our churches safe so that we can come and worship you. We pray to ask you to bless them as they continue to work hard to keep our churches open in these difficult times of 'Covid' rules. Give them strength please Lord as we work towards Christmas and times getting busier. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen. |

**LET'S PRAY.....EVERY DAY**  
**OCTOBER 2021**

| <b>Psalm<br/>26:7-8</b> |                 | <b>A week of prayer of Praise</b>  |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Fri                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Praise God from whom all blessings flow.....                                     |
| Sat                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Look around you, wherever you are right now and praise God for what you can see. |
| Sun                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Praise God for our saviour Jesus Christ.   |
| Mon                     | 4 <sup>th</sup> | Praise God for the sea, the beach, the prom, fresh air.                          |
| Tues                    | 5 <sup>th</sup> | Praise God for your gifts.   |
| Wed                     | 6 <sup>th</sup> | Praise Him for your family, your memories, your home.                            |
| Thurs                   | 7 <sup>th</sup> | Praise Him for our amazing world and all that grows & lives in it.               |

| <b>Romans<br/>12:4</b> |                  | <b>A week of prayer for our community</b>   |
|------------------------|------------------|---|
| Fri                    | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Pray for your GP surgery and all the staff that serve you.  |
| Sat                    | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Pray for shopworkers, delivery people, farmers, factories,  |
| Sun                    | 10 <sup>th</sup> | Homeless Sunday: Pray for those homeless in our town, for safety & protection   |
| Mon                    | 11 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for our local hospitals, Dr's, nurses, paramedics, care workers, etc. still working after an exhausting 18 months. |
| Tues                   | 12 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for teachers and all school staff as they work towards the busyness of Christmas.                                  |
| Wed                    | 13 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for our dustmen, postal workers, road sweepers etc. who haven't stopped throughout Covid.                          |
| Thurs                  | 14 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for all our own street & our neighbours.   |

| <b>John 14:1</b> |                  | <b>A week of prayer for children &amp; young people</b>  |
|------------------|------------------|--|
| Fri              | 15 <sup>th</sup> | For a peaceful and happy upcoming half term holiday.   |
| Sat              | 16 <sup>th</sup> | For enough food for those whose families depending on school dinners.  |
| Sun              | 17 <sup>th</sup> | For those who have moved up to 'big' school/6 <sup>th</sup> form/College or University, especially if they've moved away from home.                                      |
| Mon              | 18 <sup>th</sup> | For all who have fallen behind in their learning.  |
| Tues             | 19 <sup>th</sup> | For all who suffer with their mental health.   |
| Wed              | 20 <sup>th</sup> | For those experiencing abuse and who look to the safety of school for protection.  |
| Thurs            | 21 <sup>st</sup> | Children across the world who are sick and undergoing treatment - for healing & peace & for children who have emotional/psychological problems and are waiting for help. |

| <b>Phil 4:6-8</b> |                  | <b>A week of prayer for ourselves</b>   |
|-------------------|------------------|---|
| Fri               | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Pray for all who are living with cancer or are needing surgery or cancer treatment. |
| Sat               | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Pray for those who have had to give up their homes and are trying to adjust.        |
| Sun               | 24 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for all who are living with disabilities or pain.                              |
| Mon               | 25 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for all who are waiting to go into hospital and are afraid.                    |
| Tues              | 26 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for all who are full of worry or fear.   |
| Wed               | 27 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for all who need help to get through each day.                                 |
| Thurs             | 28 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for those who need work and are struggling from day to day.                    |

| <b>Gen 1:26</b> |                  | <b>Prayer for Our world</b>  |
|-----------------|------------------|--|
| Fri             | 29 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for those countries battling Covid-19, without enough medical help/vaccines.                      |
| Sat             | 30 <sup>th</sup> | Pray for those working towards cleaning up our seas.   |
| Sun             | 31 <sup>st</sup> | Pray for those agencies/scientists working with world leaders regarding the dangers of climate change. |



**WE CAN HELP BECAUSE WE CAN  
PRAY.....**



**This isn't global warming anymore. It's global scorching.....**

Later this year the world will be coming to Glasgow for the ***United Nations climate summit*** to discuss cutting the emissions to stop the worst effects of climate change. Serious weather extremes are coming fast.....***our children's & grandchildren's lives will definitely be affected.*** Whether we believe in global warming or not, humanity has a biblical mandate to look after the planet!

The intergovernmental working panel have issued a ***code red for humanity***....there is no time to waste! World leaders will hold two major UN summits, where momentous decisions on the climate and extinction crisis must be made. ***It could change everything -- or nothing!***

But God ***can*** change things, so perhaps the single most important thing we can do to help reverse the damage to our beautiful world is go to God in prayer.

Perhaps you would like to cut out this prayer and put it where you will see it every day, & pray it every day, thereby joining our voices together and going to God.....



Gracious & loving God, we thank you for our beautiful world, a world we want to see flourish, for our children & grandchildren. We know there are problems Lord and that the leaders of the world are meeting to discuss what can be done. We pray for them and ask you to touch their hearts with compassion and a deep desire to want to work together. Lord, please be present at their meetings and breathe your love and your help into their hearts. We pray for ourselves, that you will touch our hearts to do any small thing we can to help towards saving our world. In your mercy, please hear our prayer. Amen.



### **A prayer for Afghanistan.....**

For those who are fleeing : *santuary*

For those who are staying : *safety*

For those who are fighting : *peace*

For those whose hearts are breaking : *comfort*

For those who see no future : *hope*

Amen

## PREACHING ROTA

### SEPTEMBER

| DATE             | PREACHER                     | 10.30am                |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Rev Dan Balsdon              | General Church Meeting |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Mr Jeffrey Craghill          | Morning Worship        |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Mr David Parr                | Morning Worship        |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Rev Dan Balsdon              | Covenant Service       |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Offington Park <b>6.00pm</b> | Circuit Service        |

### OCTOBER

| DATE             | PREACHER                       | 10.30am  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Rev Tony Brazier               | Harvest Festival                                       |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Mrs Margaret Thompson          | Morning Worship  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Rev Dan Balsdon                | Rededication of<br>Pastoral Visitors<br>Holy Communion |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Mrs Wendy Corney               | Morning Worship  |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Rev Ian Couchman               | Morning Worship  |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Offington Pak MC <b>6.00pm</b> | Thanksgiving for<br>Audrey Gray                        |

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ***Ephesians 4:11-13***

## **R.I.P Alexander Graham Bell**

The last two years have been a completely new experience for us, but one in which we have all become grateful for something or someone.

For me it has been the telephone. I know it's 'easy' with zoom and social media etc., but for me nothing is better than sitting in a comfortable chair chatting to family and friends on the good old telephone. So I would like to say a big thank you to Alexander Graham Bell for his wonderful invention.

It has made the last two years almost bearable, particularly for those without modern technology and me.

**Val Poland**

## **\*\*THANK YOU\*\***

I think everyone will agree that the results which Pastor Marcio and his team have achieved in cleaning the church, and, in particular the hall, have been fantastic.

The hall floor was in a dreadful state. The Quinquennial Inspector doubted that it could ever be clean because of the many deep stains. The result, after much effort is quite outstanding. We are very, very grateful for all their hard work.

**Tony Poland**

## **WE'RE SLOWLY GETTING BACK TO 'NORMAL'!!!**

### **WELL-COME POINT IS BACK!!**

Our Friday coffee morning has reopened and will be open  
**every Friday**  
from 10.00am-12.00 noon  
(ongoing covid rules permitting!)

Well-Come Point is open to everyone for a free  
tea/coffee, a biscuit and someone to chat with

**We'd love you to join us**

### **WHIST IS COMING BACK!!!!**

The Whist club is starting again on **Monday 6th  
September at 2.00pm**. All are welcome and it will be good  
to see you all. I hope that we will see some new faces.

**Tony Poland**

### **ANITA'S HOUSE GROUP & CHURCH FELLOWSHIP**

The **House Group** will restart on Wednesday  
8<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am and the **Church Fellowship** on  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. Both meetings will be in the  
church, at least for now, and meet fortnightly. We study  
the Bible and have a time of fellowship together. New  
people are always welcome. **Please talk to Anita  
(826425) or Debbie (870807) for further information.**

## TEN LITTLE CHRISTIANS

Ten Little Christians came to church all the time,  
One fell out with the preacher, then there were nine.

Nine Little Christians stayed up late,  
One overslept on Sunday, then there were eight.

Eight Little Christians on their way to Heaven,  
One took the low road, then there were seven.

Seven Little Christians, chirping like chicks,  
One didn't like the singing, then there were six.

Six Little Christians seemed very much alive,  
One took a vacation, then there were five.

Five Little Christians pulling for Heaven's shore,  
One stopped to take a rest, then there were four.

Four Little Christians each as busy as a bee,  
One had his feelings hurt, then there were three.  
Three Little Christians couldn't decide what to do,  
One couldn't have his way, then there were two.

Two Little Christians each won one more,  
Now don't you see, two plus two equals four.

Four Little Christians worked early and late,  
Each brought one, now there were eight.

Eight Little Christians if they double as before,  
In just seven Sundays, we have one thousand twenty four.

**~Author Unknown**

## Reported on ABC News Channel, Australia.....

“A rattlesnake bit one of my sheep in the face about a week ago. The deadliest snake around here. The sheep’s face swelled up and hurt her terribly.

But the old rattlesnake didn't know the kind of blood that flows through the sheep. Anti-venom is most often made from sheep's blood. The sheep swelled for about 2 days *but the blood of the lamb destroyed the venom of the serpent!*

I was worried but the sheep didn't care. She kept on eating, kept on drinking and kept on climbing because she knew she was alright.

Often the serpents of this life will reach out and bite us. They inject their poison into us but they cannot overcome the Blood of the Lamb of God that washes away the sin of the world and the sting of death. Don't worry about the serpent or his bite, just make sure that the Lamb's Blood is flowing through your veins.”

**Fact check: True**

**Link to Australian ABC.net**

Some of you may have met **Xavier Siatous** who has worshipped with us on a few occasions. He wrote in our last Gazette about his homeland Peros Bahnos, one of the Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean. He wrote about the plight of his people, from the Chagossian Islands.

Previously xavier explained that the \*Chagossian people understand the reason why they were taken from their Island - “to make sure the world is protected from terrorism by this military base.” Xavier is continuing with his campaign to contest that the Chagossian people should not return home because of three very real dangers:

- Tsunami
- Radioactivity
- Terrorists

Xavier has spoken to Henry Smith, the MP for Crawley about going to court to stop the discrimination against the innocent people of the Chagossian Islands, and the discrimination by the Mauritius Government,

Xavier is proud to be in this country and proud to call the British Government ‘*my government*’. Xavier says, “I respect the Government and I respect the Monarchy”.

*\*Chagossians are an exiled group that lived in the Chagos Islands, specifically Diego Garcia, Peros Banhos & the Saloman Island chain. Today, no Chagossians live on the Island of Diego Garcia as it is the site of military base **Camp Justice**.*

## **A message from *DAY BY DAY with BILLY GRAHAM***

At the close of the Bible, we encounter these words, " And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away".

A new world is coming! Each time we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Thy Kingdom Come", we should remember that that prayer will be answered. Heaven is described as a new creation in which we shall move in new bodies, possessed of new names, singing new songs, living in a new city, governed by a new form of government, and challenged by new prospects of eternity with social justice for all.

The paradise that man lost will be regained, but it will be much more. It will not be the old one repaired, patched up, and made over.

When God says "Behold, I make all things new" the emphasis is on *all* things. One day we shall live in a brand-new world. Centuries ago, the apostles greeted each other with the word "Maranatha" - the Lord is coming.

**" Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him" ( 1 Corinthians 2:9)**