



**Christ Church Stocksbridge
Green Moor Methodist Church
Crane Moor Methodist Church**

NEWS LETTER

For Sunday 30th MAY 2021

Dear friends,

As we are at the end of a very rainy, stormy May at least we are now enjoying more freedoms: we can eat out in a restaurant inside and start and hug our family - YAY. Children can go to play areas inside and we can visit cinema, theatre and museums if we wish. Sport events with limited crowds are also happening. So we could be a step nearer to going back to church also with the choir tuning up.

In this Sunday's Service the choir will be singing "His Provision" which is a beautiful piece of music,

highlighting the theme of today's Service: Trinity Sunday, so a foretaste what we will all be enjoying in the not too distant future – hopefully.

It is marvellous how the church whatsapp group has held us all together with caring and supporting each other and new friendships formed, thanks to Ian's initiative. We have had a window into each others' lives that we would not otherwise have had helping us to know everyone better. We will celebrate two birthdays (that I know of) Hector Morgan who will be one and Mavis Whitelam a few years in front of him. Rebecca's maternity leave has now ended so new schedules in child minding are needed from grandparents helping out. Strength needed for Rebecca and Matt. Our young adults from church and Gwen's and Ian's grandson, are now at the end of their first year at uni. This has been an extraordinary time and we salute them for battling through under these dire circumstances. They have known illnesses such as covid which has isolated them even more from their peers and the first time away from home and without family support has been an added burden. Wow, this has been character building stuff.

Sadly we have lost a lot of the stalwarts of the church: people who have been instrumental in building the foundations of this place. But, joyously we had a new baby born, Connie, to Edward and Jade, John and Maddie's son and daughter-in-law. Fortunately we are blessed to have dedicated people like Simon, John helping our Minister, Ian, and the back-up teams with the on-line services.

We look forward with anticipation to going back to church and singing some of those lovely hymns that Jenny Clarke has faithfully found every day for us. We are indeed fortunate that together with all the affirmative vibes, not forgetting the quotes from Ronnie and Nev, and the evening daily prayers from individual members, we have tried to remain buoyant and positive. So let us carry on going forward with the spirit of God in our hearts. And let us keep the last hymn at the forefront of our lives:

"I'll go in the strength of the Lord". Best wishes to each of you,

Love,
Katie x

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