

Crane Moor Methodist Church,

Green Moor Methodist Church,

Christ Church Stocksbridge,

For Sunday 11th July, 2021

Dear Friends

Hello again.

As Ian said in his letter last week, hopefully this is the last letter leading up to an on-line only service. A bit of an occasion! Let's hope that we can go ahead as planned. Our new Health Minister is keen for life to return as normal as soon as possible. He has a long way to go to convince the rest of the health world that that is sensible or possible. But lets hope for the best all round outcome, to be safe for our population and to be the best for the businesses who need a more normal time.

Christine is busy with the plan for service leaders for the rest of the summer and into autumn. We will hopefully be welcoming Jamie Kissack, the Yorkshire Moderator to lead worship one Sunday in August. The new Worship Group Teams are gearing up to help share the load. We have also been approached by the Sheffield URC Ministry Team based at Central, as they have expressed a wish to send someone to lead a service for us in the Autumn.

Christ Church Junior Church will be meeting again in person this coming Sunday 11th July. They are having a picnic and games session in the park at Oughtibridge, so we wish them fun and happiness together.

The joint partnership literacy project with Stocksbridge High School, to help out those young people who have fallen behind due to lockdown, is moving up a gear. As a church we will be sending a financial donation to help provide new books for the library redevelopment. Thank you to those who have volunteered to be part of this project. We will be contacting you soon with more information. In the meantime, if anyone else feels they can help, you would be most welcome. Volunteers will be asked to go into school and listen to the youngsters read and discuss what they are reading. There will be some simple training so don't be daunted.

Fiona Finch, the Deputy Head at the High School who is working with Christine on this project has asked if anybody would like to help further with respect to provision of new books, they do have a crowd funding initiative. This can be accessed on the internet via:

https://supportyourschool.org.uk/stocksbridge-high-school/love-our-library

If you feel moved to help out, and don't have access to the internet, donations can be sent to me, via the usual methods. Please remember any cheques should be made payable to Christ Church Stocksbridge.

Many of the groups who have previously used Christ Church premises are gradually returning, as far as the regulations as they are currently, permit. Steel Valley Beacon Arts will be recording a "radio play" in Christ Church on 21st July. Entitled 'Lovely Bygones'. It is set in and around our valley. The recording will be available for a small subscription via their Facebook and YouTube homepages. I had a sneak preview the other week, as they have asked me to help with recording the event, using the new system at church and it is very funny and should be well worth a watch. We wish them well.

Talking of YouTube, Christ Church now has a YouTube channel set up, to be launched in the not to distant future. Ian has been working hard with the assistance of his son Daniel to make this possible. By having a YouTube channel we will remove some of the access issues we have had with Facebook, as anyone who has internet access can access YouTube very easily. This will be the vehicle by which services will be streamed live at 10:45am every Sunday morning from Christ Church. But as ever, the services will continue to be available any time afterwards via our website to view at leisure.

I think that is all the news so far, but as and when anything else crops up, we will bring it to you in Joys and Concerns on Sunday.

Best wishes from Christine and me. God Bless.

Simon

Simon

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