



Newsletter from the Bury St Edmunds Circuit
for Sunday 28th February 2021

Dear Friends

Reading an article in a magazine recently I was reminded of the following phrase. '*Deo Volente*'. This is a Latin phrase meaning 'God Willing'. There isn't one among us that could have predicted the pandemic or saw it coming. Around about this time last year I heard a discussion on Radio 2s Jeremy Vine show about a virus they were calling Covid 19 to try to identify it from other viruses. But we could not have known the impact it would have on our lives. I think we have all had to learn pretty quickly that we couldn't stick to the plans we make in life. And so, like many other people, I have adopted the saying '*God willing*'. *Deo Volente*.

In the Bible we find the letter of James. In chapter 4 verses 13 to 17 James comments 'Come now you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such in a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money. Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring.' Wise words written so long ago yet they resonate so much with so today. We do not know what tomorrow will bring but we do know that in all we do and say it is *Deo Volente*, God willing. The James passage goes on to say 'Instead you ought to say, if it is God's will we will live and do this and that'. *Deo Volente*.

Many folk now would have had at least one Covid vaccine and we are slowly emerging from the pandemic that has changed the ways we live our lives. So, we say *Deo Volente* we will soon return to a way of life that we recognise, one where we are able to have social contact, enjoy hospitality and most importantly worship together in our buildings *Deo Volente*.

*God bless Rita, Debbie and Ruth*¹ Peoples Friend Jan 9th 2021 No 7859

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The Reflection on our worship sheet this week is by Jenny Benfield and we thank her for her message.

Vaccination Scam

Please be very careful. I have heard that people are being unscrupulous and taking advantage of people who are awaiting the Coronavirus vaccination.

The vaccination is free and you must not give your bank details to anyone in order to have the vaccination even for identification purposes.

Sunday Worship A Circuit video recording of the Sunday Worship Sheet can be found at:

<http://www.trinitymethodistchurch.org.uk/worshipthisweek.htm>

[There is also a pre-recorded carol service on this link](#)

Zoom Sunday Worship: You are welcome to join Zoom Worship on a Sunday morning with Rev Debbie Borda or Rev Rita Carr. If you would like to join in worship in this way then please contact either of them and they will give you details of how to join a zoom meeting.

Live stream service Ruth Ridge is leading a weekly service on the St John's Facebook page live at 6pm every Thursday. The service lasts about 30 mins and is available to watch live and on the page at any time after it has been broadcast. The service is available at:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmethodistchurchsudbury> and you do not have to have a Facebook account to access it.

6th March East Anglia Methodist District: Day of Prayer

Outline of the Day (all via the same Zoom link unless otherwise stated)
9.30 am Opening gathering with Rev Julian Pursehouse (Chair of District)
followed by breakout rooms for prayer for those who would like this
4.00 pm breakout rooms for prayer for those who would like this (20 minutes)
4.30 pm Closing gathering with Julian and others.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84943731948?pwd=WWpHRlpUQ2xLOTgrN2RVeGN2U3dWZz09>

Meeting ID: 849 4373 1948

Passcode: 280700

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 5th. MARCH:

There are two services being held in Bury, both by Zoom

- 10.30am for the link please contact clairerose1953@gmail.com.
- 6.00pm (hosted by Whepstead / Chevington / Hargrave churches), also on Zoom, the link is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83145952050?pwd=SFJ1Y1hqaCtTRHNwZfJ3b21V2Zzd09>

Meeting ID: 831 4595 2050

Passcode: 567932

Resources for the World day of prayer can be found at

[2021 WDP Free Resources to download | World Day Of Prayer \(wwdp.org.uk\)](https://www.wdp.org.uk)

David Mills RIP

Friends of Trinity may remember David and Gladys Mills, Gladys died in 2000 and about 5 years ago David moved from Bury St Edmunds. The family have written to say that David passed peacefully in his sleep on 5th February. The service will be held at Rougham Church followed by a burial at Rushbrooke church. If anyone would like to be attened please let me know and I will give you contact details.

Thought for the day

A ROOM WITH A VIEW? By Carol Colton

We have enjoyed watching the TV programme about the renovation of a derelict chateau with Dick and Angel Strawbridge. I received the book about their first year, for Christmas, which filled in some of the gaps left by the TV presentation. Mostly, we have enjoyed seeing the views from their windows across the beautiful countryside in a part of France of which we are very fond. Some years ago we had a brief encounter with a Fenland farmhouse for renovation, but it did not last long, as it sold for more than we could afford, which, on reflection, was probably a good thing.

We humans have a need for a shelter, a place of refuge and safety, and a comfortable living space. It does not matter whether it is a fine country property, in an urban terrace, or just a room we rent from someone else, as long as it home to us. If it has lovely or interesting views from the windows so much the better. Watching the clouds, the birds in the garden, or the people walking past gives us a sense of belonging and community.

Whilst I was reading the book, that saying of Jesus at the beginning of John 14 kept coming to mind..... "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for

you." Jesus goes on to say that he will come back and take us with him so that we may live where he lives.

We spend our lives redecorating and altering our living spaces according to our wants and needs, but when we pass on to the eternal life Christ has it all covered. Our room is ready, and we will move in when God deems the time to be right and calls us to be with him. No rent or mortgage, but a place granted to us by his grace, and, hopefully, with beautiful views of the kingdom of heaven.

ETERNAL LIFE Written by Dr Barbara Chipperfield

Marie Curie are holding a National Day of Reflection on March 23rd to remember those who have died in the last year and show support to those bereaved in our strange year.

I would like to remember a friend who died in November. She did not die from Covid, but the lockdown contributed to her death. She was ninety, had lived on her own for several years, had sight and mobility problems. She managed, but her only enjoyment came from church activities and going out for lunch with a friend (she didn't like cooking). All this came to a sudden end with lockdown, she gave up eating and drinking and died peacefully.

Audrey taught science in mission schools in Africa for many years, with David and Audrey Rogers and Rev Keith Horton. After we came to Bury I saw her when she visited Audrey and David. When she returned to Hull from Africa she made great contributions to the Methodist Church. She was very involved in circuit activities. She was a church steward for many years, and started and ran a weekly Leisure Day. She lived an eternal life with God in life, and moved to eternal life after death.

Now is eternal life,
if risen with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
and holden in his hand;
No more we fear death's ancient dread,
In Christ arisen from the dead.

Unfathomed love divine,
Reign thou within my heart;
from thee nor depth nor height,
Nor life nor death can part;
My life is hid in God with thee,
Now and through all eternity.

George Wallace Briggs (*Hymns & Psalms* 203)