



Newsletter from the Bury St Edmunds Circuit for Sunday 2nd May 2021

Dear Friends,

On a retirement course I was on they delightfully told us about all the physical things that change as you get older! I think we all know about the aches and pains, but sight is also greatly affected. As we get older we do not see colour so brightly and we don't see the difference in shades so well. Sometime later I was having a conversation with someone else and telling them this, he told me he was colour blind and I wondered how that would affect him. And I was fascinated as he talked about what he did see in place of red and green. Sight is something we take for granted until we begin to lose it.

We have two amazing organs that act as mirrors on the world for us – but it is the optic nerve that transmits impulses to the brain and it is the brain which makes sense of what we see. In fact, it is such a complex system that nearly a third of the entire brain is devoted to vision.

So what happens to those people who have lost their sight or were born without sight? Some would say that they see through touch and a heightening of their other senses and the window of their imagination. As well as seeing literally, we 'see' beyond the object, our environment and the people around us.

On the third day, with tears obscuring their vision, the women went to the tomb. What did they see? Even though they talked to Jesus, because in their heart they thought he was dead, they could not see. Their eyes had to be opened through words not sight. We often do not see what is right in front of us.

As you go through this week open your eyes. Go for a walk and concentrate on what you see. Look carefully at your surroundings, don't attempt to touch or smell, but look at the colour, the shape, the detail. And stop – and look again – think to the day of resurrection – what do you see. In this season of Eastertide can you see the risen Christ?

God bless Debbie and Ruth

Rev Peter Dainty RIP

Rev Peter died peacefully at home with his family on Friday 16th April 2021. We give thanks for the life of Peter. We hold Margaret and the family in prayer. Peter's service is on 7th May at 2.30pm at West Suffolk crematorium and due to numbers being limited it is by invitation. However, there will be a live webcast and I will send these details out as soon as I receive them.

Rev Rita Carr

Rita is now on sabbatical for three months and I will be covering for Rita in her absence, so please contact me if you have any pastoral concerns or any queries. We hold Rita and Francis in prayer.

Debbie

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

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

Zoom Sunday Worship: Each Sunday there are two Zoom services in the circuit. If you would like to join in worship in this way then please contact Debbie and she will give you details of how to join a zoom service. Both will continue whilst Rita is on sabbatical.

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.

Accessing Zoom using your telephone

You can join Zoom worship and meetings using your telephone. You will be able to hear what is going on and also join in the conversation, it is just that you cannot see what is going on.
Dial any of these numbers you will then be asked for the meeting ID and meeting Password.

0203 481 5240 United Kingdom
0131 460 1196 United Kingdom
0203 051 2874 United Kingdom
0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

Further details from Debbie



Thy Kingdom Come – Join the Global Wave of Prayer

Thursday 13th May is Ascension Day when we remember Christ returning to his Father. Ascension Day is also the beginning of Thy Kingdom Come which is a worldwide prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost on 23rd May. Christians from 172 Countries and 65 denominations have taken part in praying for friends and family to come to faith in Jesus Christ.

The days between Ascension and Pentecost have always been full of expectation and anticipation. The renewed call across the Church is to set these days apart to pray, and each individual to pray for five people to come to know the love of Jesus Christ.

We have again bought the Prayer Journals for everyone. These will be sent out to those that we post worship sheets to and there will also be a pile in each church. Please do take one and if you can take one and drop it in someone who is unable to get to church, who receives information by email, please do put it through their letterbox.

We have

- Prayer Journal
- Prayer Journal bookmark
- Adventure prayer map 2020
- Adventure prayer map 2021 sticker

As the adventure prayer map could not be distributed last year they have sent stickers to update your copy to 2021.

To find out more visit

ThyKingdomCome | Thy Kingdom Come

Thought for the Day –22nd April 2021 Matt Stammers

The Earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. Psalm 24

Today is Earth Day, an annual event focussed on supporting environmental protection worldwide. It is also the 5th anniversary of the signing of the Paris Agreement in which 191 nations committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work to limit the rise in global average temperature below 2 °C with an ambition to limit the increase to 1.5°C (compared with pre-industrial levels). At the time this was widely seen as one of the best opportunities to mitigate global warming and reduce the worst impacts of climate change in the long-term. And whilst many positive steps have been taken, not least the United States re-joining the Agreement this year, it is also clear that much is still to be done. At times it can feel overwhelming, but caring properly for God's Earth is going to need big changes at all levels of society –from individuals, communities, churches, business, and governments.

Here is a prayer for Earth Day:

Eternal God, we pray for your changing world.
Accept our sorrow for the ways we have collectively failed to care for your creation.

Reinvigorate our compassion for our neighbours around the world already suffering the consequences of climate change.

Thank you for the message of Easter –that in your resurrection life there is...Hope that joy will emerge from despair.

Drive us daily to ask what we can do to care for your world.
And inspire those with the power to bring about positive change.
Yours be the glory, forever. Amen.

Circuit Administrator

Our new circuit administrator is Caroline Edwards. Caroline will be working Monday and Thursday 9.30 am to 2.30 pm. Tel me telephone number and email address. We welcome Caroline to the circuit.

A Date for the Diary

There will be a summer service of celebration in the Abbey Gardens on 27th June in the afternoon. This is being arranged by Bury St Edmunds churches together. Further details to follow, but please put the date in the diary.