

# Christ Church News

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

[chichristchurch@googlemail.com](mailto:chichristchurch@googlemail.com)

Dear Friends,

The decision to close all places where people meet, including churches, has come as a great shock to us all. We tend to take "Church" for granted much as we do finding all we need on the supermarket shelves! We will miss the meeting and greeting at our services on Sunday mornings and the worship which inspires, motivates and empowers us for the week to come. So, we will try to compensate for this by sending you an email each week which will keep you up to date with the developments and church family news of Christ Church. Our church is not just a building, it is a community bonded by love and loyalty to Jesus Christ. We will miss our church friends. While we may not be able to meet physically we can keep in touch "on line." This newsletter is being sent to our people on email. If you know of others in our church who would like to be kept informed in this way, tell them to email [chichristchurch@googlemail.com](mailto:chichristchurch@googlemail.com) This address is administered by Mary Quiney who has kindly agreed to distribute this and future editions of Christ Church News.

Here are some ideas to maintain your spiritual life at home. Let us pray for the Christ Church Community at 10:30 am every Sunday. You can join in a service at home. Wesleys Chapel in London is live streaming its 11 am. service every Sunday. On the Methodist website you will find "A word in time" daily bible readings and "Prayer for the Day." The United Reformed Church has produced "Daily Devotions" as a podcast. Go to [devotions.urc.org.uk](http://devotions.urc.org.uk). CWR publishes a range of daily readings including the popular "Every Day with Jesus." You can also play your part in pastoral care by keeping in touch by phone, email or letter with others who are shut in or alone.

It is now widely known that the Rev'd Helen Higgin-Botham, currently minister of a URC church in Hampshire, has expressed an interest in coming to Christ Church as our minister. Our "invitation committee met her and unanimously agreed that she should be invited to "Preach with a view" at Christ Church on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. It is most unfortunate that it has not been possible because of the coronavirus scare. The URC Moderators, concerned that this should not prevent us from moving forward with the process, invited the Rev'd. Helen to send us a script of the service and sermon she was planning to bring. She has also sent a video in which she introduces herself and talks about her background, experience and call to ministry. 103 people, of whom 95 are members, have been sent this package by email with an invitation to make their judgement and to email their vote to Mary Quiney by 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Our love and prayers go to the Rev'd. Derek Wales and Nicky on the recent tragic death of Anne in a road accident. Derek writes that the funeral arrangements have had to be changed because of the coronavirus. The proposed service at St. Paul's and reception at the Minerva will not now take place. Instead, Anne's committal service and burial will now take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 3 pm at the natural burial site, Droxford Road, at East Meon, Petersfield, GU32 1HA. A service of thanksgiving for Anne's life will take place at a later date when the corona crisis is over and St. Paul's church reopens.

If you have contributions, suggestions or information for the Christ Church Newsletter please send them to the email address in the letterhead above.