

Dear Friends,

1st May 2020

It's May! It's over 6 weeks since we last met together in our church buildings to worship God. We wonder how you are? We keep praying for everyone in our church and wider communities.

There is so much we miss. We know grief weighs particularly heavily on people who have lost work, those with loved ones who are ill, and those who are bereaved. And at the same time signs of hope are everywhere, often giving us good surprises: in kindness, spring sunshine and the ways our Bible readings are taking on new significance as we think of grieving disciples trying to make sense of Jesus appearing to one or two, behind locked doors, on a walk, and then turning up when they try to go back to work. We're learning about new opportunities, and as you can see on the right, Mary and Karen led Compline together with us on Sunday evening at 6pm at www.facebook.com/greatmissendenchurch



We're aware that with so much happening online, it can feel daunting or excluding if you don't have the internet or are new to it or certain aspects of what's possible. So four new things:

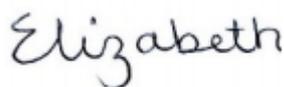
- To phone in and hear our 10am Sunday Communion service live, dial 020 3481 5237 from 9.45am – you will need the Zoom meeting ID of 830 6434 9334 and password of 396381. Full details are on the newsheet.
- Most weeks we're putting music on Facebook and our website at www.missendenchurch.org.uk/virtualmusic and Wendy and Graeme are making a CD of this for those who can't access it online, so please let us know if you'd like a CD and aren't yet on the list.
- We're creating an 'IT buddies' list. To join the list of helpers, please contact Harriet via office@missendenchurch.org.uk or leave a message at 01494 862352 with details of which apps, programmes or systems you can guide others on. We will have details of how to get help very soon.
- The phone tree is up and running – please contact Harriet for a copy or to be added.

We also have 'Prayers at Home' and the CofE Coronavirus prayer booklet at www.missendenchurch.org.uk/prayer or contact Elizabeth for a paper copy.

Thank you for doing our Covid communications survey – most people said 'please carry on with what you're doing' and we were glad to receive some requests too, which we'll work on. Please keep giving feedback.

Here are some rainbows made by several people connected with our church, including our 'Making and Praising' children's group on Zoom last Sunday. Do get in touch if you'd like a chat, a prayer or help. We will write again soon.

With our love and prayers,

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