

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes

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0151 364 0134



Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

NEWS FOR THE WEEK ENDING June 21st 2020

Dear friends – Jennifer Long would like to thank all those who have telephoned to enquire about Derek's condition/progress. We are glad to say that he is now home. We continue to pray for his recovery.

Creator God, in the beginning your word subdued the chaos and in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, your Son, to rebuke the forces of evil and to make all things new. By that same power transform our fear into faith that we may have courage to follow in the way of your kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God of all power and truth and grace, you call your Church to love and praise. Inspire us with zeal for your gospel, and grant us boldness to proclaim your word, that we and all the world may praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

Dorothy and Colyn Peers and Jack and Emily- the proud parents, would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers over the past few days for the family as their beautiful grandson, George was born on 12th June weighing in at 6lb 10oz. It has been a difficult time and George is now home, making good progress and feeding well.



Christine Bennett's son, Malcolm and his wife have just been blest with the arrival of a baby son, Seth.

PRAYERS NEEDED

Update on Jill Gudgeon... She has had amazing, positive news on the removal of her cancer. They will check again in 3 months and hopefully it will be the same. She'd like to thank everyone for their love, prayers and kindness. Thanks be to God. Amen x

We continue to pray for Linda Gregson and to all those in need at this time.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH PRAYER CIRCLE ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE

We have promoted this in our notices on occasion for anyone to join in but just want to make everyone aware what it actually is. The people who are in this prayer circle share and pray for anyone or any situation that is in need of our collective prayers. It is not exclusive; anyone who has access to a mobile phone and has an app called 'WhatsApp' on it is very welcome to join us in our growing list of 'prayeres'. It is a lovely way to prayerfully keep in touch and to combine our prayers. For more help or information please contact me.

Jayne McLaren on 07859062692.

FATHER'S DAY

OUR DAD

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew his masterpiece was complete,
And so, he called it Dad

MY HERO

My hero is the quiet type,
No marching bands, no media hype,
But through my eyes, it's plain to see,
A hero, God has sent to me.
With gentle strength and quiet pride,
All self-concern is set aside,
To reach out to his fellow man,
And be there with a helping hand.
Heroes are a rarity,
A blessing to humanity.
With all they give and all they do,
I'll bet the thing you never knew,
My hero has always been you.

CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

Our church Facebook page which I keep updated daily is accessible to anyone who has access to the internet (you don't have to have Facebook). If you have access to the internet, go to the church website <https://www.stjameswoolton.org/> and in the bottom left hand corner; there is a Facebook symbol, click on that and you can see all that is shared.

I started "sing together A worship song a day" when lockdown began. Every day I upload a song (a mix of traditional and new) that people have sent me for everyone to sing along to- if you would like to nominate a worship song/hymn please get in touch via 07951977709 or amybates93@aol.co.uk or via social media.

We may not be able to be together but we can still sing together (albeit in our own homes).

Thank you – Amy

CAN ANYONE HELP?

Request for donation of a bicycle: one of the mum's whose children attend nursery at Centre 56 and whom I have known for some time now would dearly love a bike so as she can get around more quickly and do shopping etc. If anyone has a lady's bike idling/resting/unused in the garage we would love to have it! Please contact me, Wendy Doig, on 07867795179 or 0151 428 7180. Thank you in advance.

CAN YOU BE KIND?

KIND distributed over three hundred Easter Food Packs for families across Merseyside, paid for by a very generous local trust. As a result of the conversations with various referrers, KIND has begun a twelve-week Crisis Food Programme, committed to providing a minimum of 150 large family-sized food hampers, which will be delivered to vulnerable/disadvantaged families across our Merseyside community.

Providing 150 hampers over twelve weeks will cost £54,000.00. KIND have begun approaching numerous trusts, individuals and funds to see if they can support this local initiative. If you, your friends and contacts are willing support this local initiative, please make a donation directly into KIND's account:

KIND: Sort code; 20-51-43: Account No.: 70037273

News of the possible opening of church buildings for private prayer has been released but communal worship of any kind is not currently scheduled until at least early July. The Minister and Steward Elders are in direct contact with Methodist Circuit, URC Mersey Synod and National Church and will update the congregation in due course as to progress and decisions on these matters which will require considerable organisation and will demand appropriate measures.

Please note that although the Government has announced some lifting of Covid 19 Regulations our buildings remain closed at this moment in time. Thank you.

Message from our Church Treasurer, Steve Elliott

As you are all aware at present we are not able to meet at our Church buildings, and sadly this may continue for some time yet. Nevertheless we do still need to maintain our premises so that our Ministry, outreach and service to God can continue, although obviously in a limited form.

Unfortunately there are expenses which continue during this period such as the utility bills, (gas electric water and telephone) the Church cleaning and maintenance, plus our insurances.

As we are not meeting we do not have our normal weekly offering, and because our premises are closed the Pre-school and other organisations that normally use our buildings are also no longer meeting so our rental income has also stopped.

We realise that many people regularly contribute by direct payments into the Church's bank account, and we hope that you will be able to continue to do this. But this is only a part of our normal income.

We are aware that the current situation is difficult for everyone and we have previously put a gentle request encouraging anyone who would normally put their offering on the plate, either in cash or envelope to if at all possible put the money aside ready for when we are able to return to Church.

As things have gone on for some while, it would now be helpful if anyone who normally put their money on the plate could consider one of a couple of alternatives if at all possible, which is either

A direct payment into the bank either regularly or on a one off basis.

If you wish to do this our bank details are

HSBC

Account name St James Methodist United Reform Church

Sort 40-29-39

Account 11060856.

If you are able to do this, it would be helpful if you could email the treasurer (steveelliott@aol.com) so he can look out for the payment.

or

as an alternative if you don't have online banking you could send a cheque to the Church with St James Church as the payee. The address is St James Church, Church Road Liverpool L25 7RJ

We do of course realise that not everyone will be able to assist in this way however, can we thank everyone for the gifts of time and money that you do give to God through St James'; it is really appreciated, as without everyone's' dedication, support and sacrificial giving, none of the good work that St James' does in the name of Christ would be possible.

God Bless

Steve Elliott

Church Treasurer

Jimmy is back and as Dolly Parton sings, he's in a Coat of Many Colours!

Following last year's torrential rains when some of the compost and a lot of the plants were washed away, or simply rotted, Jimmy is now back at his best sporting plants of many different colours and textures.

As Garden Centres and nurseries were closed over lockdown, the plants for his mane and head came from our garden plus smaller plants grown on over last winter in the greenhouse. Additional succulents on his body were donations from church members' gardens and he was finished off with over 20 kilos of sphagnum moss. Jimmy is looking great and, in a few weeks' time, he will be standing in a small meadow of flowering nasturtiums.

As one lady said to me "Oh, he's lifted my mood over these last weeks as I've passed him on my daily walks and watched him get replanted". Although the church is currently closed for worship, the gardens are still open so if you are passing come and say hello to him, he would love to see you. Roy.

All help welcome...

Can you spare an hour or so to help Margaret and Roy with keeping the garden and church grounds looking lovely and welcoming over the coming months? Nothing big, a little weeding, planting up, dead heading or a quick brush up of the paths, whatever you feel you are able to do at a time to suit you.

If you can help then please drop Margaret an email or call her on her mobile **07761 129935**







Notices for next week – Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk