

# Holyhead Road United Reformed Church

## Sunday 19 July 2020



**The church building remains closed for all activities – please see the message from the Elders below.**

**Ministers:** Revd Debbie Brown 024 7659 6433; brown\_debbie@sky.com  
Revd Bill Young 024 7671 7223; bill@morvern.com

**Lectionary readings this week:** Isaiah 44: 6-8; Psalm 86: 11-17; Romans 8: 12-25;  
Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

### Communicating and Worshipping:

Please contact the ministers or Elders with any concerns or prayer requests.

A 'Podcast' service uploaded every Saturday by **Revd Bill Young** is available to listen to at [revdbill.uk/worship-material](http://revdbill.uk/worship-material). The podcast link also allows for downloading a service transcript.

**Revd Debbie Brown** will lead phone-in worship every Sunday morning at 11:15. You can join on any telephone by calling the number **0330 606 0403** and listening to the instructions. When you are asked for it, enter the following access code on your phone pad: **442786#**.

### A message from Debbie:

Dear Friends,

During this summer time some of us will be finding somewhere to go for a short break and/or having family visit us within our bubbles. Whatever we are doing I pray this time will enable us to recharge our batteries and refresh ourselves, giving us the opportunity to be alone with our thoughts and to spend time in prayer; to hear the voice of God speak into our lives and to reflect and be encouraged by the Holy Spirit.

As we seek God's wisdom, praying about and discussing the way forward for the church throughout the easing of lockdown, being there for one another and loving our neighbour as ourselves, may we find that we will be able to do the things that feed our soul and bring us joy. So, may we continue to be aware of the opportunities that arise in which we can share what it means to be a Christian.

Let us offer everything to God in prayer.

*"And whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17 (ESV)*

I hope and pray you have an enriched summer.

God bless.  
Love, Debbie





### Happy Birthday to Margaret!

It is hard to believe that on 23rd July Margaret Townend will be celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday! The longest serving member of Holyhead Road URC and a former church secretary, Margaret was also a loyal member of the choir for many years.

Although we can't celebrate with Margaret in the usual way, we send her the love and best wishes of the whole church. Have a wonderful family celebration, Margaret!



### Foleshill Road's next fundraising afternoon tea will be on 8th August.

Disney themed for children but a more vintage style for adults with a subtle hint of Disney. Prices: child's afternoon tea - £10 for 1 or £15 for 2; Adults - £12.50 for 1 or £17.50 for 2.

Children's afternoon tea: strawberry jam sandwiches, assorted cakes and sweet treats. Adults: assorted sandwiches, assorted cakes, scone with jam and

clotted cream. All teas will be nicely presented and can be delivered or collected.

Tracey Pearson will be taking orders until the end of July but would be grateful if you could order ASAP for planning purposes. Contact her directly or via Bill Young / Janet Powell.

All the proceeds from this event will go to Foleshill Road's Faith Hope and Love project. Tracey wishes to thank everybody for their support as always!

### A message from Holyhead Road's Elders:

We would like to thank everybody for their patience during this difficult time when our church building remains closed, especially as we become aware of other places of worship opening in limited ways. No churches are opening for 'business as usual' and none have a timescale for when that will be the case.

It is hard to be apart and we would ALL like to resume fellowship. However, the risks and mitigations for each church DO vary (according to the people who attend, the type of building etc.) and the Eldership feels that the health and wellbeing of our church family must be the first consideration in any plans which are put in place; these cannot, therefore, be rushed.

We have many members and adherents who are considered "Clinically Vulnerable" or "Extremely Clinically Vulnerable" - which makes it even more important that careful risk assessment and planning is undertaken to decide what will be safe and practical for OUR church – one size does not fit all! This process is underway and we will use this to inform our planning. It will take time and careful, prayerful deliberation to shape the risk assessment into a practical way forward (such as cleaning routines and physical distancing arrangements) which will meet the needs of our congregation with regard to worship AND well-being. We may still be quite some time away from being able to open, and when we do, it is likely to be very different to what we are all used to. We will inform you of developments as and when they occur.

In the meantime, we will continue to offer worship and meditation through Bill's podcast, Debbie's dial-in Sunday service and the URC's national worship.

We thank everybody for the caring fellowship shown by all in keeping in touch with each other, and ask that you pray for each other - the church, dispersed but not divided.