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website: www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk

BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

10.00 am until 2.00 pm

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BUSMC - KEEPING CONNECTED

Week 7

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 3rd MAY 2020



I don't know of any birthdays this week – let me know if you do!! Thank you for all the good wishes I received on my birthday last Thursday – it was different!!

YOUR PRAYERS are asked again this week for Kate and Mike Morley – Mike's sister is now out of hospital and in a hospice, for Soo and Ian as they still try and sort out their visa in USA and for Glenda at Pingle Nook, for Corey, and the rest of the care team up there and all others who need our prayers at this time.

CHURCH INCOME DURING COVID RESTRICTIONS

At present without our Sunday services or property lettings, we have a greatly reduced income but significant expenses still continue, the main one being Assessment which pays among other things, for our Ministers and their manses.

We are most grateful to members who give to the Church by weekly/monthly standing order and if you don't already and are able, please will you consider setting this up online with your bank, using the following banking details:

Account: Barrow upon Soar Methodist Church, sort code 40-30-24, account number 91218360.

Please put your surname in the reference box. If you prefer not to do this, another way would be put your contribution as cash or cheque in the weekly collection envelopes and hand them in when services start again - Thank you

CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

After talking to John and Adrian we decided that we would put the Annual Report on the website as we have no idea how long it will be before we are back at church and able to be together again. You can read it at www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk. If anyone has any problems let me know and I will see if I can get some photocopied and out to you.

TILLY'S PLANTS

Tilly is selling plants from her front garden and raising money for LOROS. Plants can be taken from the stall and all she asks is that you make a small donation through Just giving -

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/plantsforloros>

To date £151 has been raised.



YOUR GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED:

As we continue on with the lock down nature is thriving! Please send to Natalie your photographs of hope and your lock down activities to be included in a montage for our social media and website pages and will also send out next week by email. Send to at natalie.thompson@sky.com – many thanks in advance.

IF YOU NEED HELP: John's phone number is at the top of this document should you have need to contact him. Heather and Carolyn have very kindly offered to get shopping for anyone so if you, or anyone you are in contact with, needs anything give Heather a call on 620261

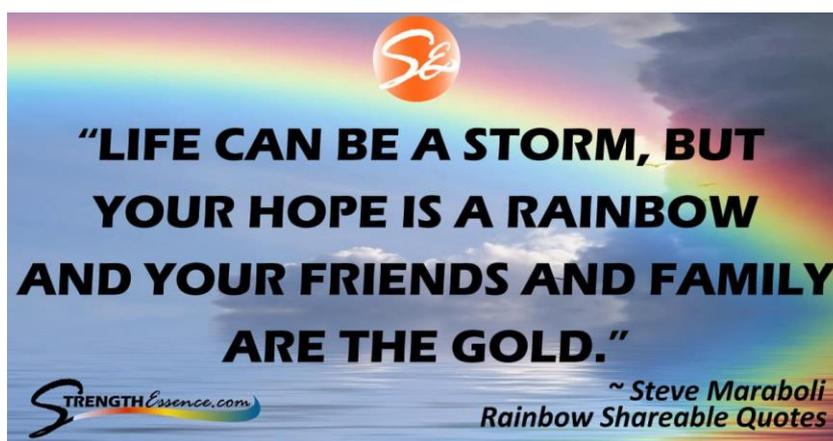
There is also a group of volunteers **BARROW UPON SOAR HELPING HANDS** which consists of folk from the village, the Conservative Club and the Baptist Church – you can contact them on 07395902961 or email community@barrowbaptist.org.uk

BARROW VOICE

Because it will not be possible to publish and deliver the next edition of Barrow Voice, a special edition has gone on line at <https://www.barrowvoice.co.uk/>. - items will be added all the time so you can keep up with what is happening in the village and around!

ALERT

Criminals are targeting people with NHS scam emails. The NHS will NEVER ask you to send money directly to a bank account. If you would like to donate to the NHS, you should do so via their official channels or your local NHS Trust. Watch out for scams both at the door and online – be vigilant!!



BIBLE READINGS:

John chapter 10 verses 1-10: Jesus the Good Shepherd

10 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. **2** The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. **3** The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **4** When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. **5** They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” **6** Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. **7** So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. **8** All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. **9** I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. **10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Time to Reflect

Those who first listened to Jesus would have had two different pictures of sheep-folds in their minds. The first would have been the communal sheepfold in the village — a solid structure with a strong gate and a gatekeeper. Several flocks would be kept together over night. The gatekeeper would only allow entrance to a shepherd who was known to him, whose voice was familiar to himself and at least some of the sheep.

The other picture would be of the sheepfold used when the flocks were too far from the village to come back for the night — an open enclosure with no gate, just an opening, often made of rough stones with a layer of thorn brush along the top. At night, after the sheep were in, the shepherd would lie down in the doorway. He became the gate. There was no legitimate access to the sheepfold except through him. In our reading from John’s Gospel Jesus referred to both these images. He refers to the true shepherd entering by the door, past the gatekeeper; and he refers to himself as the gate, the one who lays himself down that the sheep may be kept safely until the day comes and they can safely graze.

Gates come in many shapes and kinds. Sometimes they exclude to keep the group safe, and sometimes they admit, depending on issues of need and trust. Lately we've had to exclude people from our homes for our own safety. All of us have had to become our own 'gatekeepers', deciding what level of risk is acceptable, after checking the advice being given and weighing up who and what we feel we can trust.

Jesus lays himself down, risking all, that we may come and go freely, enjoying abundant life in company with Him.

SERVICE SHEETS AND STREAMED SERVICES FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH OF GREAT BRITAIN

Those of us who can access the internet may wish to worship at home using material from the Methodist Church website: www.methodist.org.uk

Liz Newton leads our worship this Sunday at 10.45 am on Trinity Methodist Church Centre Facebook page

Live services are also streamed from:

- Wesley's chapel in London at 11.00 am
- Swan Bank Methodist Church in Burslem – 10.45 am
- Methodist Central Hall Westminster at 11.00 am
- Songs of Praise on BBC 1 at 1.15 this Sunday - The Rev Kate Bottley revisits some of the programme's most uplifting stories from across the farming community.
- Morning Worship on BBC 1 at 10.45 am - The Very Rev Kathy Jones leads a service for the Fourth Sunday after Easter from Bangor Cathedral in North Wales
- Radio 4 Sunday morning Worship at 8.10 a.m. The Bishop of Salisbury Nicholas Holtam marks the 800th anniversary of Salisbury Cathedral.

New words to an old favourite hymn:

Father, I place into your hands the things I now can't do.
 Father, I place into your hands the times were going through,
 Father I place into your hands the world as it is now,
 For we need your courage, strength and hope.

Father, I place into your hands my friends and family.
 Father, I place into your hands the people I can't see,
 Father, I place into your hands those finding life lonely,
 For I trust that you are with us all.

Father, I place into your hands all of the NHS
 Father, I place into your hands all those now full of stress.
 Father, I place into your hands my prayers for you to bless,
 For I know you hear my requests.

Father, help me to see your face,
 Help me to hear your voice,
 Father, help me to sing your praise and in your name rejoice,
 Father, give to me peace of mind, and to the dying - rest,
 For I know how much we need you now.

Father, I want to be with you and do the things you do,
 Father, I want to speak the words that you are speaking too.
 Father, I want to love the ones that you are loving too,
 May I know that I am one with you.

Adapted by Deacon Denise Creed from the original by Jenny Hewer

Six little stories with lots of meanings:

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is FAITH
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is TRUST

3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still set the alarms to wake up. That is HOPE
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is CONFIDENCE
5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is LOVE
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years' experience. That is ATTITUDE

SAND AND STONE

This story tells of two friends, Amanda and Margot, who were walking together on the edge of the Sahara the desert in north Africa.



During some point of the journey, they had an argument, and Margot slapped the other one in the face. Mandy, who got slapped, was hurt, but without saying anything, she wrote in the sand, 'Today my best friend, Margot, slapped me in the face.'

They kept on walking, until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. Mandy who had been slapped, got stuck in the mire and started drowning, and naturally her friend, Margot, saved her by pulling her out of the quicksand. After she recovered from the near drowning, Mandy wrote on a stone, 'Today, my best friend Margot saved my life.'



Margot who had slapped and saved her best friend, asked Mandy, 'After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand, and now, you write on a stone, why?'

Mandy replied with a knowing smile, 'When someone hurts us, we should write it down in sand, where the winds of forgiveness can erase it, but when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone, so no wind can ever erase it.'

Learn to write your hurts in the sand and carve your blessings in stone.



ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S QUIZ on Books

1	Pride and Prejudice	11	Jeffrey Archer
2	London and Paris	12	The Bible
3	Chief Spider	13	Catch 18
4	Rupert Bear 1920 (<i>Winnie the Pooh 1926, Paddington Bear 1956</i>)	14	Ruth Rendell
5	St Trinian's	15	Horrible Histories
6	Watership Down	16	Great Expectations
7	Charlotte's Web	17	Anne Bronte
8	March	18	Tara
9	Romeo and Juliet	19	Dick Francis
10	Fern Brittain	20	Sherlock Holmes

VILLAGES, TOWNS AND CITIES UK QUIZ

Answers next week



1	Three singing sisters from the 70s (8)	
2	A clay workers pub counter (7, 3)	
3	Opposite of have (6)	
4	Male sheep's lowest point (10)	
5	Oven cooked and fighting fit (8)	

6	Take a jog through this cereal crop (9)	
7	Result of an auction (4)	
8	The ladies or gents (4)	
9	An old car (6)	
10	Jam or ham (8).	
11	A gloomy honey maker (7)	
12	Great anguish at this blaze. (6)	
13	Male meadow (9)	
14	An opener for a pristine door. (7)	
15	A person shown the way out (6)	
16	A place for ablutions (4)	
17	Where the Sister was devoured (8)	
18	Military quick step (5)	
19	Remove the creases from this card game for 4 people (10)	
20	Churchill, Darwin and Jesus are sited here (9)	



Why go to the paint store when you're on a diet?

A: You can get thinner there.

What do you get a hunter for his birthday?

A birthday pheasant

"This is your great-grandma and great grandpa,"
I told my grandson as I handed him a photo of my parents.
"Do you think I look like them?"
He shook his head. "Not yet."

At the airline check in at London Heathrow, Guy has three bags. He puts them down and says to the young lady, 'I'd like you to send this one to Los Angeles, that one to Hong Kong and the last one to Durban.' Her face shows signs of confusion before her training takes over and she says, 'I'm afraid we can't do that, sir.' 'Why not?' demands Guy, 'you did the last time I flew with you.' I have the picture!

HUMEROUS ONE LINERS!

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

It's not the minutes spent at the table that put the on weight, it's the seconds.

It cost 7 million dollars to build the Titanic, and 200 million to make a film about it.

Funny names for children: Hazel Nutt, Phil Hole, Anna Sasin and Doug Graves.

Don't give up. Moses was once a basket case!

A chicken crossing the road: poultry in motion.

The second mouse gets the cheese.

Milkman, please close the gate behind you because the birds keep pecking the tops off the milk.

Nothing succeeds like a parrot with no teeth!