

St. George's
United Reformed Church
Little Sutton



29th May 2020

Welcome to Virtual St George's News Sheet

Pentecost



Sunday 31st May is described as Pentecost Sunday.

In the Old Testament, 50 days after Passover Saturday was the *Feast of Harvest*, marking the beginning of the barley and wheat harvest.

In the New Testament, during this festival, 49 days after Easter Sunday, the Holy Spirit filled the followers of Jesus with power and confidence. One commentary says: "Through this baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, the apostles became more knowing, and had a greater understanding of the mysteries of the Gospel, and were more qualified to preach it to people of all nations and languages." It was a good time for the church to get lively – Jerusalem was full of pilgrims from all over the Middle East, it was a public holiday, and everyone was having fun and enjoying the harvest parties.

So this Sunday, celebrate and welcome the Spirit of God, maybe with a slice of bread and honey.

Virtual Coffee Morning

Saturday 30th May is the date for our next virtual Coffee Morning. If you are free, then from 10.30am make yourself a drink. Butter a scone or muffin, sit down with the telephone, and call someone for a chat.



Prayer Topics

This month, you could pray:-

- For all who are on furlough, or have been made redundant, and are struggling financially;
- For all who are afraid to go out again, and those who are exhausted from staying at home;
- For home carers, health visitors, district nurses;
- For schools, teachers, governors, parents, pupils as they think about opening;

Suggestions for our Prayer Topics?

Please pass your ideas on to David or Christine.

A Prayer from CAFOD

Your loving care Lord Jesus,
when you walked with us on earth
you spread your healing power.
We place in your loving care
all who are affected by Coronavirus.
Keep us strong in faith, hope and love.
Bring relief to our sick,
console our bereaved,
protect those who care for us.
We lift our prayer to you Lord,
and trust in your infinite mercy,
as we wait for the daybreak. **Amen.**

Printed Service

Our friend Revd Chris Davies is providing a written service for each Sunday – please ask if you would like a copy included with your news sheet.

Ready for the new “normal” ? - Part 2

The *URC* document points to issues for churches when the current phase of lockdown ends and places of worship are permitted to re-open. Here are some of the points so consider:-

1. Churches must still work within the advice and regulations which then apply. So people whose health or age makes them clinically vulnerable to the virus may still be advised to stay away from public gatherings like church services.
2. Social distancing is likely to be required, so space will be restricted, with no physical contact; worshippers will be expected to follow instructions from stewards, and be aware of spacing signs.
3. Buildings would have to be thoroughly cleaned, and churches should avoid multiple people touching the same surfaces (doors, pews, handles). Stewards may not be able to help people up the steps, or give people lifts.
4. Safely serving refreshments or Holy Communion will be difficult, and singing may not be allowed, so the format of services may seem different.

There is a lot to think about! But we are all in this together: other URC churches, other denominations, and other faiths.

There will need to be adjustments in the short term. But should congregations then just go back to the old ways, or is this a time to adjust the life of the church so that it is more relevant to the 21st century?

Pastoral Emergencies

For pastoral emergencies, please contact David who can put you in touch with a Minister.

Contact Details: Website: stgs-urc.org.uk

Secretary: David Shimmin

email: secretary@stgs-urc.org.uk

Wirral Line Puzzle

For all those who like trains but have not been able to travel, here is a local *wordsearch* using only Wirral Line stations on Merseyrail.



(Hint: there are no diagonal words)

Merseyrail Wirral Stations

C	R	S	D	L	E	I	F	R	O	O	M	N	R
I	S	B	G	L	O	O	P	R	E	V	O	C	E
B	H	I	A	E	M	L	T	A	C	M	T	R	L
R	O	D	S	Y	E	O	R	F	K	O	H	T	L
R	Y	S	G	B	O	N	O	W	B	O	G	E	E
E	L	T	O	R	L	S	C	W	E	L	I	G	S
T	A	O	B	I	S	P	K	E	B	E	L	R	M
S	K	N	A	K	E	I	F	O	I	A	N	E	E
E	E	T	C	T	S	T	E	R	N	S	U	E	R
H	Y	O	H	S	R	A	R	O	G	O	S	N	E
C	E	I	E	E	N	L	R	C	T	W	T	L	P
E	L	B	E	W	E	R	Y	M	O	E	R	A	O
P	P	S	H	O	O	T	O	N	N	E	O	N	R
S	S	C	N	O	T	E	R	O	M	T	P	E	T

CHESTER
GREEN LANE
OVERPOOL
HOOTON
HOYLAKE
BACHE
BEBINGTON
ELLESMERE PORT
MEOLS
SPITAL
WEST KIRBY
PORT SUNLIGHT
BIDSTON
LEASOWE
MOORFIELDS
ROCK FERRY
MORETON

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1204473/>

Candle reminder

Please remember that we are asked to light a candle at 7pm each Sunday evening as a sign of hope. It seems particularly relevant this Pentecost Sunday, but only if it is safe!

