



AUGUST 2020 Newsletter

Time flies...

I wonder if, like me, you have found your perception of time has altered during these Covid times? Back in March, at the start of the lock down, time seemed to move very slowly. Each week seemed to take forever, though the stress of getting things recorded in time for CDs and DVDs to be burned was high!

Twenty weeks on, things feel different. It seems impossible that twenty weeks have already passed. It is still stressful trying to get the weekly service recordings done in time for those who use discs to join in on Sundays but this is because more things are now happening during the week – one to one socially distanced meetings, the launch of the Wednesday evening Zoom Bible Study group, virtual meetings with other ministers to look at issues raised by the death of George Floyd.

Each week flies past quickly and the pitfalls of recording in advance are sometimes catching me out. Recording for Sunday 26th on Wednesday 22nd, it didn't feel far enough into the month to remember to remind people that communion would be part of the following Sunday's service (August 2nd!) The same thing happened with giving a notice about collecting the BMS and Home Mission boxes in for half year counting.

The writer in Ecclesiastes has quite a lot to say about time – about wise use of time and how different seasons contain different events or a different focus. Yet everything has its time and season, which we need to recognise and embrace, even if holding onto the wisdom 'this too will pass'.

"I know that everything God does will last for ever. You can't add anything to it or take anything away from it. And one thing God does is to make us stand in awe of Him." Ecclesiastes 3:14

Rev. Sarah Bingham

Notices for August 2020

If you have a **BMS or Home Mission Box**, it is due for half-yearly emptying. You can count the money yourself, put this in a bag with your name and the amount or and bring it to the church lobby on **Sunday 9th, 12-1pm** OR bring the whole box uncounted and collect it again on Sunday 23rd between the same times.

No one without internet access has expressed an interest in joining in by telephone with an experimental **Zoom Members' Meeting**. This will be scheduled for **Sunday 16th August at 11.30am**, straight after the online service. It will last no longer than 40 minutes and be for information sharing and a chance to say hello and see each other. Deacons will email the link to members in their pastoral group. **You may need to let your deacon know your email**

A virtual Bible Study group will be meeting each Wednesday evening after the BU prayer live stream is over, 8pm start. If you would like to join in, please let Jo T or Sarah B know so you can be sent the link.

The church has a **new facebook page**. If you are on facebook, just search for 'Green Lane Baptist Church.' It is a public page, so new posts are moderated, though replies are not. The service link will be there each week, along with a question to ponder over or discuss. Use the page to share news and encourage one another.