



MARCH 2021 Newsletter

Hello friends. As I sit here, the sun is shining through the window and my view is of blue sky and fluffy white clouds. Signs of Spring are visible everywhere – not just the sunshine, but flowers coming into bloom, shrubs and trees in bud and birds flying or swimming in mating displays. Yet Spring is not fully here...

Almost a year on from the first lockdown (March 14th will be 52 weeks of Churchathome!) we are starting to see signs of a new season coming. With plans to have every adult vaccinated by the end of July and a 'roadmap' towards recovery, we can be hopeful. Yet Covid-free times are not fully here...

These things can act as good reminders to us about the kingdom of God. Since the resurrection of Jesus, the war against rebellious Satan has been won, though skirmishes and battles still continue, like the dribbled-out end of WWII in Europe. We see signs of the kingdom – new hope, new life, new love in new hearts – yet the kingdom of God is not fully here...

This is why Paul wrote to the church in Rome, saying this (chapter 15):

⁴ Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us. ⁵ And may God, the source of patience and encouragement, enable you to have the same point of view among yourselves by following the example of Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that all of you together may praise with one voice the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hold on to hope and work for our unity!

From Green Lane Baptist Church

Notices:

*Zoom links for worship on Sunday mornings and Bible Study on Sunday evenings can be found in the church WhatsApp group and on the church Facebook page.

*Ask your pastoral deacon what time church is open on March 6th for the collection of donations.

*Sarah is on holiday March 7th- 13th so there is no service on the 7th.

*Sunday 14th is Mothering Sunday, so try to make your Mum feel special that day, but also think about those who have lost their Mums, or who long to be a Mum but are not.

***Clocks go forward at 2am on Sunday 27th March, which is Palm Sunday!**

*Please give feedback to Sarah or your pastoral deacon about the Lent materials that were sent out and which are also appearing on our Facebook page.

*Listen out for fund-raising ideas for the new boiler system. If you have ideas, please contact John. Although we will be applying for grants towards the nearly £17, 000, there is no guarantee of success, so we may all have to give sacrificially.

Fellowship News:

We are sad to announce that Jenny H's brother Ken has very recently died. Please pray for her and the rest of his family.

This month, Gee is celebrating a very significant birthday. He joins the Green Lane Octogenarian's club! Wishing you a happy and joy-filled birthday!

God Bless Rev. Sarah