

JUNE 2020 Newsletter

Rev Sarah's Message

Power to the People!

We are a people of power. I don't think we always realise or remember that. Jesus told his friends that they should wait in Jerusalem until the Spirit came upon them, and that they would be filled with power and be his witnesses. In Ephesians Paul tells his readers that the power of God at work in them is the same power God used to raise Jesus from the dead. That is some power!

It is not a power for ministers, or even ministers and deacons. At Pentecost, the Spirit came on all the disciples and Peter told the crowd that this was the beginning of the fulfilment of what had been told by the prophet Joel; that the Spirit would come to all the followers of God, women and men, young and old.

So, what do we do with this power? The nation has been up in arms about misuse of power by a government advisor, with people drawing the conclusion that 'it's one rule for us and another rule for them.' This is an abuse of power. It is not why we have been given power. Yes, the power of God within us helps develop the fruit of the Spirit within us, to our advantage and for others. The power we receive from God is not for us to take advantage of, but to enable us to cope in the most difficult circumstances, as Paul reminds the Philippians (4:13). Indeed, it is power to do more than cope, it is power to enable us to bless our neighbours with generous acts beyond our imagination dare hope.

Stay home! Wash your hands! Love your neighbour!

Congregation Offering

2 Corinthians 9: 6-7

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Amen

As a Church we understand the hardships of the lockdown both spiritually, socially and financially, and the pressures it puts on each of us, but for those who are able to continue in setting aside their offering, then each person can present their offering in church once the lockdown has been lifted. Thank you

Rob White

Give thanks with a grateful heart". as we emerge slowly from the Lockdown we could show our thanks by contributing to the BMS World Mission Coronavirus Appeal for countries which are far worse off than we are

Fred Stainthorpe

