

Prayer at the Heart

Immediate needs 2 - 4 weeks



Please pray for:

Colin Curtis is hoping to leave hospital and return home; prayers have been answered, thank you. Colin has been without pain in his right leg, for the first time in months; please keep praying for permanent pain relief. Gill, as doctors strive to find her more suitable and effective drugs. Sheila (Pearse) would like to thank everyone for praying for her daughter-in-law, Jane; Jane died in hospital; please pray for Sheila's son, Anthony, his daughter, Laura, and Sheila.

Following a successful knee replacement operation, Pat asks for prayer for a good recovery on her own.

Stella and her family following the death from cancer of her nephew Justin. Carol Holgate, Beryl Davies and her daughter Karen - prayers for recovery from shock following a car accident. Continued prayers for Beth (Stan and Carol's daughter) as she undergoes chemotherapy. Patricia Page, following an operation for a broken hip. Melissa Clackett, undergoing tests, and for her baby Isaac for his ongoing conditions. Dorothy Vener. Bob Simmons. Debbie (Frances Crocker's daughter), having chemotherapy until the end of the year; unfortunately it is causing her to feel very unwell. Ann Harley, having episodes of problems with her heart. Audrey (Porter) for continued healing of her back. Pat Wade suffering with painful shingles.

During November we will be praying for those living in St. Alphege Close, Medina Avenue and Florence Avenue.

Long term needs - up to 3 months

Sheila Pearse. Ray Clarke. Joan Moss. Isaac Clackett. Dennis Spinner, please pray for him to get strong and stay free from illness. Lise Jennings, for relief from pain.

Prayer Needs

Please contact: Carol Judge 277752; or David and Lynda Kemp 272470

We also have a Prayer Requests page on Facebook, please let us know if you would like your prayer needs to be posted there.



Welcome to St Alphege, Seasalter

15 November 2020

2nd Sunday before Advent

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11; Matthew 25: 14-30



Advent 2020



It's that time of year when usually we have advent calendars in the Christian Centre for people to buy.

Unfortunately we can't do that this year, so you can buy them through the Eden website if you would like to. (Click on the link below to get to the Eden website). If anyone needs any help do feel free to contact me on lise.jennings@stalphegeseasalter.org

<https://www.eden.co.uk/advent-calendars/>



Outlook Magazine

Is now available online!
Here is the address:

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/news-events/>

PRAYERS DURING LOCKDOWN

LET US PRAY!

Join us as we pray together every morning @ 7 to
8 am from the 5th November to 2nd December.

Contact Tobi for more information

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
John 4:18

If you would like to contribute to these church notices; do please get in touch with me.

Please be aware when supplying contact information for notices, this notice sheet is circulated physically and digitally via our website, social media and email.

Paula. Email: deaneves@msn.com

P.S. Don't forget there are no more Car Park Chats for the time being.

Reverse Advent



As you may know the last few years we have been running the Reverse Advent in the run up to Christmas. This is where we put aside an item of food each day over a couple of weeks, these then are combined and redistributed over a number of food hampers. These hampers are then delivered to people in the community around our church who may find Christmas an especially difficult time of year financially. The items could be a tin of soup/vegetables/chilli etc or a packet of

pasta/breakfast cereal/jelly/crisps or items of toiletries, a jar of jam/cooking sauce/hot dogs etc and children/youth books/games or toys. Ideally we would like a mix of some meal essentials and some nice Christmas treats such as chocolates or mince pies. Last year our church family was incredibly generous and we distributed 23 hampers.

This year has been tough and we know that many families are struggling, so we would love to be able to give out even more hampers to bless our neighbours. If you are able to help please could you start putting aside an item as often as you are able to, many shops have offers so maybe you could donate the 'free' item to the hampers? The items can then be dropped off at the Christian Centre during the week of the 14th to 20th of December so that they can be sorted and then delivered on the 22nd. If getting them to the Christian Centre will be a problem for you then please contact Andy or Georgina Hedley-Smith or Becky in the office so that we can arrange to collect them from you.



Many thanks
Andy and Georgina

Christmas nativity trail

This Christmas is going to be unusual, our normal Christmas activities and opportunities for seeing friends and family will be changed. So that we can demonstrate hope in our area and provide joy over the Christmas period we are asking you to decorate your front windows/gardens and be part of this Christmas nativity trail.

What – Join in in any way. It can be a simple picture drawn by yourselves, a window display, a message from the nativity story or a full garden design. It can be nativity based or general Christmas fun themed. Some ideas – you could set out a full nativity or some of the characters in your window or garden, print a star and colour it in, make a fun scene for the window, hang a star outside or decorate the whole garden. Let your imagination be creative. Please remember this must be lit so it can be seen from the pavement on winter nights.

Who For us all - We are asking the church family and the wider community to join in. It doesn't matter where you live or how old you are, let's make an impact by all having a go, from Faversham to Herne Bay, all are welcome.

When – We will decorate our windows on the weekend of the 5th December and take them down weekend of 2nd January.

The trail - We will produce walking trails so the community can walk and explore our messages of Christmas hope over the time between.

Fancy dress walk – We plan that one evening children (and adults with a childish sense of fun!!) will be invited to dress up as nativity characters or Christmas themed and do the trail with battery operated Christingles or lights. More information on this to follow.

Let's be the joy in our community this Christmas. Please let Georgina or Eve know by the 9th November if you would like to take part georgina.hedleysmith@stalphegeseasalter.org

eve.locktongoddard@outlook.com.

And nearer the time we can encourage our community to do the same.

Thank you. *Georgina and Eve*

Filming for the Service

PLEASE film any contributions for the Sunday Services such as Bible readings, prayers, testimonies or notices LANDSCAPE (long side of the 'phone horizontal) rather than PORTRAIT (long side of the 'phone vertical) - see the diagram below. Our screens, the video software we use for services and the media they are played on (e.g. YouTube) is designed with the landscape format in mind, and it means an extra 20 minutes editing for Tom every time he gets it in the wrong format. Tom, we love you and we're sorry.... :)



If you have been asked to film something and you need some tech support to be able to do that, please ask. We can usually sort something out.

Blaze Hearts on fire for God Sunday School on Zoom



Sundays 3pm
Breakout rooms for age groups
Contact Andrew
andrew.price@stalphegeseasalter.org

prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Help us to love our Christian neighbour with whom we disagree, to dare to see Christ in one another, to be ready to learn from each other and to seek the truth that you promise sets us free.

Amen

Prayer by the Revd Christopher Landau

IF MY PEOPLE.....'

(PART 2)

'IF'. Only a little word but it occurs over 1500 times and is used in four or five different ways in English Bibles. In the context of 2 Chronicles 7:14 it lays down a condition, gives a choice stating if this is what you want, this is how to get it, this is what you must do. Although a promise originally given to Solomon, it still holds true today.

As in part1, I will be quoting in part 2 from the booklet 'PRAYING FOR THE GOVERNMENT' by the late Derek Prince, a man whose ministry took him around the world preaching and teaching the Word of God. He and his wife raised a family of nine adopted girls – six of Jewish origin, one of Arab, one European, one African. From being a Philosopher, Derek was converted and became a Christian whilst in the army during World War 2. As a member of the Pentecostal Church, he was very much involved in the early days of charismatic renewal.

'The power of the Christian Church is Prayer' he writes, drawing attention to the first 4 verses of 1 Timothy chapter 2, verses which remind us to pray, tell us how we should pray and single out those in authority being of great importance. Derek asks, 'Which did you last do – criticise or pray?' How relevant is that in today's world!! Look for yourself what Paul has to say to Timothy. He's told why he should pray for those in authority, he's reminded of what God wants for 'all people' 'to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.' 'Under what circumstances is it easier to bring the truth to everyone?' asks Derek Prince and continues to ask questions which at the same time provide an answer to the original question. 'Under a government that is just and impartial and maintains law and order and civil liberties? Or under a government that cannot suppress violence and disorder and cannot control the situation and is unjust and dictatorial? God wants good government because it forwards the propagation of the gospel PRAY It is plain, it is practical, it is simple, it is down to earth, it works.'

God can't hear us if we don't PRAY. Look at what 1 John 5:14 & 15 have to say about God and Hearing.

It is the will of God for every nation to have good government so we need to be constantly praying for it. Derek writes 'There is a very definite, scriptural reason why this is so. Why are God's people responsible? Because we are the only people who have the means to accomplish the results.' 'Ephesians 6:12 explains why. We are in a wrestling match. There is a war going on. The kingdom of Satan is in complete opposition to the kingdom of God, hating God and all God's purposes and all God's people. As Christians, we are not wrestling against flesh and blood but against the forces of evil. However, the weapons we have are mighty! They are invincible but we must use them. 'If we are defeated it is not through lack of armour, but through the failure to use it' says Derek.

Included in the list of weapons, Paul lists in Ephesians 6 is PRAYER. We are exhorted to 'PRAY IN THE SPIRIT on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.'

'IF MY PEOPLE' That's you, that's me and every Christian in the world. There are two passages in the Old Testament that Derek Prince refers to. The first is Daniel 12. In summary, Daniel sets himself the task of praying for 21 days for a situation affecting a nation – he humbled himself and PRAYED. That ONE MAN'S PRAYER MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. He prayed earnestly for divine intervention on behalf of his people. God heard and answered his prayer. Ezekiel 22 verses 30-31 tell a very different story. God was looking for just ONE man to do a particular job on behalf of his country and no one was willing to step forward and do it.

History is full of stories where one person has made all the difference. Think of all the stories we have heard during the present pandemic where one person has made all the difference to a family, a community, town or country. The man aged a hundred, the young disabled boy, a footballer, a doctor, nurse, neighbour, stranger and many, many more.

Today the whole world needs PRAYER and particularly prayer for healing, not just concerning the coronavirus pandemic but for a long list of things including such things as injustice, selfishness, greed, general sickness - mental and physical, poverty, hunger, climate change. We need to be praying too for a spiritual awakening in our land and we need to be praying not in a wishy-washy kind of way but humbly, seeking the face of God and acknowledging our own 'wicked ways'. As Derek Prince has reminded me, so I remind you, if we should say or think, 'I don't have any wicked ways' then the fact is that we have 'never got close enough to God to see.' Food for thought there don't you think? The answer to all our personal, national and international weakness and wickedness is PRAYER. Set aside a time each day to 'seek the face of God in PRAYER, give more time to prayer in Connect Groups, join one of the groups in our church which meet specifically for prayer – yes even during Lockdown via 'Zoom'. Remember what Jesus said: 'Where two or three are gathered together in my Name, there am I in the midst of them.'

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY, PARTICULARLY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR LAND. GOD WILL FULFILL HIS PROMISE 'IF MY PEOPLE' COMPLY WITH HIS CONDITIONS. FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS REFER TO 2 CHRONICLES 7:14.

Submitted by Donald

Derek Prince was born in India (not G.B. as I wrote in Part 1) in 1915 and died in Jerusalem in 2003.