



The Free Church (United Reformed) Saint Ives

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Dear Friends,

Lockdown continues, but the rollout of the vaccine is progressing, so hopefully 'normality' is on the horizon, although still some way off.

As was said in last week's newsletter, the Elders decided that church services would be suspended for the time being. We also received notification from Church House that the Synod Moderators across the nation had advised that churches suspend services. Please note also that the January Church Meeting (scheduled for Jan 17th) will not take place, but Elders will continue to make decisions on behalf of the church.

As usual, the worship (led by Catherine) for this coming Sunday will be available in written and video form on the website: www.stivesfreechurch.org and posted to those without an internet connection.

Pastoral news: Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers. We will normally only list people by name but have permission from people to include some details.

Brian Lodde is still in hospital with Covid and is beginning to improve. Charlotte Jordan is at home with Covid and her family members also have the illness. David Duffett's mother Eileen is unwell with Covid and his son-in-law Hugo's father died of Covid. Rosemary Ackroyd, wife of Helen Ackroyd's older brother, David in Chester, has also died of Covid.

Those who have other illnesses: Veronica Angus, David Duffett, Chris Curtis, Eileen Forrest, Peter Davies' father's sister who is coming to the end of her life.

It is sad to hear that so many are not well and I'm sure that it will mean a lot if we can support them in our prayers.

A good news story to add is from Helen Ackroyd. When her sister and family moved to Edinburgh two years ago, they lost their cat. This past week they received a phone call from a vet in Cambridge who found it, because it had been micro-chipped. The family were able to come and collect it and be reunited with a much loved pet!

There are many signs of hope with the vaccines being rolled out and a strong sense of community where we can help and care for each other.

We will also continue to publish 'Keeping in Touch' each week, but that depends on getting sufficient material. Please send us your thoughts and prayers, poems or favourite hymns, or write about some other aspect of your life. People enjoy learning more about other members of the church fellowship.

In Christ's name

Alan and Catherine

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