**GLAZEBURY METHODIST CHURCH**

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**FROM OUR MINISTER – REVEREND KATHARINE BLAND**

Dear Friend

I am writing this newsletter having just watched the news, and it was about the increase in the number of holiday bookings that are being made. I don't think Paul and I will be venturing far this year, but I do understand the eagerness of those who are planning a break somewhere when we are allowed and it is safe to do so. I mention that purely because our son, Michael, has recently purchased a carrier for their son Sammy aged 3. Michael and his wife Lydie love to walk, and one of their favourite places are the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. They aren't going anytime soon, but it was purchased during a sale, and with the hope of getting some use out of it hopefully later in the year.  It is a very sturdy piece of kit, and although Sammy loves to walk and run and roll and climb and jump (you get the idea!) the carrier will assist when he runs out of steam.

In my study I have a poster. It is a shepherd cradling a lamb in his arms. The lamb looks exhausted, in fact it looks fast asleep, and very snuggled in the shepherd's strong arms. I too felt those arms recently, and bear witness to the comfort and reassurance they bring. God says we are his sheep. When we are fearful, when we are mischievous, when we are stubborn, when we choose to follow our own path and then find ourselves on stony ground, when we are timid, when we are trusting, and when we are somewhere in between - every member of God's flock is an individual with a name, a personality with specific needs. Each one of us has a story. Sheep are like people, and people are like sheep. Their greatest weakness - their tendency to follow - can be their greatest strength.

Look at the way Jesus called his disciples when he gathered that little ragtag bunch.  What did he ask them to do? Study me? Understand me? No. None of these. He said, "Follow me." And even though they dropped what they were doing and went, Jesus didn't stop with calling them.  He calls to us - each of us - to follow him daily.  "Come to me.  Follow me."

His arms are open wide. They are welcoming arms. They are safe arms. They are strong arms. If you would like to say yes, for the first time, or as an affirmation, just close your eyes now, imagine the lamb being held...that lamb in you...when you are ready say 'yes'.

Your sister in Christ,

Katharine xxx

**Loving God, thank you for holding me tight, when I have invited you to, when I have turned to you as a last resort, and when I have found myself in your arms without ever having asked you. You are my Shepherd and I love you. Amen.**

**Bible readings for Sunday, 28 February 2021– Third Sunday in Lent – Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 and John 2: 13-22**

**Extract from Psalm 19: A Psalm of David –The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.**

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

 ! "#$ 

%

%&'(

)\*

(   +

,-" "./,,,

0%

""1,,2 "34

 "0%

5                  #  67841

$   %

9,,,! 67841

%

,

%





 ! "#$ 

%

%&'(

)\*

(   +

,-" "./,,,

0%

""1,,2 "34

 "0%

5                  #  67841

$   %

9,,,! 67841

%

,

%





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**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING** – please note there is a Church Council Meeting (via Zoom) on Wednesday, 10 March 2021. Rev Len Pereira will chair this meeting in the absence of Rev Katharine. The zoom session will open at 7pm so you can have a time to chat with other attendees and give time for people to join so that the meeting can start on time. The meeting will start at 7.30pm and finish at 8.30pm. Here are the details to join the meeting – ZOOM ID: 84994760869 Passcode: 444636

**THE LEADERSHIP TEAM** ARE MEETING ON A TWO-WEEKLY BASIS. THEIR NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, 18 MARCH. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES/QUESTIONS PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT THEY ARE AND I WILL TAKE THEM TO THE MEETING – *[Christine Taylor]*

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 **YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION TO -**

**GLAZEBURY WEEKLY SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING- It’s just like a TUESDAY morning at church – join in and a have a chat. We would love to see you.**

**![C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\249P5IC9\3494723747_d3fffb2e6f_z[1].jpg]()**

A time to get together to see each other and have a chat for an hour.

10.30am – 11.30am

on Zoom

Meeting ID – 840 7587 7165

If you’re not online why not connect by phone – 0203 481 5240 (using the same Meeting ID code)

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**LENT COURSE – PLEASE JOIN US – TO WATCH AND DISCUSS ‘THE GREATEST SHOWMAN’. It is not too late.**

You are warmly invited to attend one of our Zoom sessions commencing on Saturday 20th February 2021 @ 10.00am https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82712878366?pwd=eG5ZcE1BYVlqbktSVzg4YXVDQjZIdz09 AT **CULCHETH**  Meeting ID : 827 1287 8366 Password : 759634

**OR GLAZEBURY** Tuesday 23rd February 2021 @7.30pm https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87410748216?pwd=N29wcVJWc00wT21ZQmNPajdpQjRLdz09 Meeting ID: 874 1074 8216 Password: 493271

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS …..**

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Everyone has been baking and cooking more during lockdown. How about sending in your favourite new/not so new recipes for cakes, puddings or meals!!??? For example what is the best way to make pastry? I have cold hands but cannot make pastry!!!!!!! Tips please.

**WELL WAIT FOR THIS** – I AM GOING TO TRY THIS RECIPE AT WEEKEND – those of you who know me really well will know that I don’t bake, although I can. If I bake it, I will eat it!!!!!

**Here is the recipe: ![C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\NYQ65681\lemon[1].jpg]()**

**LEMON CUP CAKES** –

Ingredients 125g golden caster sugar, 125 unsalted butter – at room temperature, zest of 2 lemons, plus 4 tbsp juice, 2 eggs, 125g self-raising flour, 185g sifted icing sugar.

**LEMON SUGAR TOPPING** –

100g golden caster sugar and zest of 1 lemon

Method –

1. To make the lemon sugar, whizz 50g golden caster sugar in a food processor with most of the lemon zest, then mix in the remaining sugar, tip onto a baking tray and leave to dry for 1 hour.

2. To make the cakes, heat the oven to 180c/160c fan/gas4. Beat the sugar, butter and lemon zest using an electric mixer until light and fluffy – give it plenty of time as this will make the cakes nice and light. Add 1 egg at a time with a spoonful of the measured flour to prevent curdling. Finally, mix in the remaining flour and 2 tbsp lemon juice. Line a bun tin with 12 cases and divide the mix between them. Bake for 18-20 minutes, until risen and light golden. Cool on a wire rack.

3. Mix the icing sugar and 2 tbsp lemon juice until smooth. Remove the paper cases from the cakes and sit on wire racks. Ice the tops of the cakes. Sprinkle with lemon sugar and the remaining zest and leave to set.

COME ON, STIR YOURSELF!!!, LET ME HAVE YOUR RECIPES PLEASE!!

*[Christine Taylor]*

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**CULCHETH SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING – 11.30AM – 12NOON ENJOY A CHAT WITH OUR FRIENDS AT CULCHETH – ON ZOOM**

Note that this is now a repeating meeting – it will be the same link each week.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88560759929?pwd=MFFDRittR0hkN0loWTlaTjlBN1V6UT09>
Meeting ID: 885 6075 9929 Passcode: 012778

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**Please also keep remembering in your prayers:-**

**Reverend Katharine, her husband Paul and son** Christopher as Katharine and Paul recover from Coronavirus.

**Edna and David Barlow** - Please still keep Edna and David in your prayers.

**Peter Caswell - Your Prayers Are Requested**
I have recently received a diagnosis of cancer. Specifically, cancer of the prostrate. My principal carer is Delia, formerly known as Nurse Grundy, so I couldn't be in better hands.

But I am also in the care of our wonderful NHS and all the nurses and doctors who dedicate their lives to helping people like me.

When I was a child my mother would not utter the word "cancer" but always mimed it. How times have changed!

Your prayers would be appreciated but also please include those people suffering beyond the reach of professional medical care: they need your prayers more than I do. Delia and I have total confidence in all the NHS staff who will be working hard to bring me to a complete recovery.

See you all soon! With love and thanks, **Peter Caswell**

**Eileen Groves** – who is undergoing radiotherapy treatment at Christie’s. Eileen has a taxi provided to take her to Christie’s.

A childhood friend of mine **Peter** died suddenly 2 weeks ago. The paramedics thought it was his heart but he was found to have had a cancer tumour (returned). Please pray for Peter, his wife Jayne and brother Christopher. Peter, my sister Sylvia, and I shared our teenage years together. Peter worked for the NHS for the majority of his working life. His parents were Aunty June and Uncle Neville to us. He will be sadly missed. His funeral is on 18 March.

**ALSO** – Let us remember anyone we know of that is suffering at this time of year whether from illness, mourning or mental health problems. They are all in our prayers.

**IF THERE IS ANYONE YOU KNOW OF WHO NEEDS OUR PRAYERS PLEASE LET ME KNOW (WITH THEIR APPROVAL) AND I WILL INCLUDE THEM IN THE LIST. THEY DON’T NEED TO BE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH.**

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“**CSW** does vital work. It…advocates for the rights of all people’s to practise their faith, whatever that faith may be, and also the rights of people who profess no religion.”

*[H.E. Ambassador Matthew Rycroft, former UK Permanent Representative to the UN]*

**A PRAYER FROM CSW – MEXICO**

 ‘There’s a lot of discrimination for belonging to a religion different from the majority, especially in Hidalgo. The situation is difficult.’ - Uriel Badillo Lara

Despite strong constitutional protections for freedom of religion or belief, religious discrimination is particularly prevalent in indigenous communities. In the states of Hidalgo, Oaxaca, Guerrero and Chiapas local authorities have sought to impose religious uniformity in their communities justified under the Law of Uses and Customs, which allows indigenous communities to maintain their own social and cultural norms. Find out more at [csw.org.uk/mexico](https://www.csw.org.uk/our_work_country_mexico.htm)

*Heavenly Father, we lift up to you the religious minorities in Mexico (and throughout the world) who are facing persecution and discrimination. We ask you to soften the hearts of those in power in the local authorities where this is occurring, so that they no longer seek to impose religious uniformity. Amen.*

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**SHARING SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30am**

**We are sharing our Sunday Service over the telephone, or online.**

**Online**, click this link to join via your internet browser. On a tablet or smartphone, download the Webex App, which it will prompt you to do: <https://mydanone.webex.com/mydanone/j.php?MTID=mcfe21c4f7df98fe26d8960c752cefd8b>

**OR**

**Phone**: Dial 020 3478 5289 on your telephone, When it asks for the access code, enter 145 404 825#. When it asks for your ID, press #. The call will be charged at the standard UK phone rate

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**IF YOU ARE not a member of the church and need guidance/help** please contact Delia Caswell on the phone number at the top of the first page of this news sheet.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING TO THE NEWS SHEET PLEASE CONTACT ME ON EMAIL BY WEDNESDAY OF EACH WEEK: **christine4872@sky.com** or phone me on my Mobile – 07801252625.

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