

AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH

(A Baptist Union and United Reformed Church)

Woodside Road, AMERSHAM, Bucks, HP6 6AJ

Minister: The Revd Ian Green BA MTh

Associate Minister: The Revd Erna Stevenson BTh MSc

Registered Charity Number 1137287



The Revd Ian Green
The Manse
19 Cedar Grove
Amersham
HP7 9BG
Tel: 01494 727100 or 07572368833
E-mail: ian.c.green@outlook.com

Thursday 18th June 2020

Dear Friends,

On Sunday one of my email correspondents wrote with her regular 'virtual handshake' after the service and passed on a lovely phrase that went: *Alone we survive, together we thrive.*

I think it's true. Over these last few months, we have discovered many new things and re-discovered some old ones. I'm grateful for all the blessings that have come our way, yet I know I'm longing to experience community life in a more physically present way. I know too, that however much I might long for that, we have to be guided by the science that will help us decide when such a way is once again safe; and that people will take such eventual re-integration at their own pace, depending on personal circumstances.

Today, Thursday 18th June 2020, we are re-opening the church and making it available for Private Prayer between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. The details of how we might do this in accordance with government guidelines are on the website. It will be a great joy to see the doors open once more and to welcome anyone who wants to come into the Sanctuary, sit and be still and spend some time thinking, praying and reflecting.

At Mr. John Fox's funeral last week it was lovely to see members of some of the choirs to which he belonged gather outside the crematorium chapel and 'sing' him in with a rendition of *You'll never walk alone*. I think John would have been very touched, as were his family, with such a kind and appropriate gesture of friendship.

It's Fathers' Day on Sunday and I'm delighted that Sara and Michael's sons, from Exeter and New York, will be giving the readings on the audio-service; that seems so fitting!

Laura, our Administrator, is in the process of giving our website a slight 'make-over' and this will go live at the beginning of July. At that point the website will revert more to its pre-lockdown style. However, there will continue to be regular contributions and these will be published every other day from July onwards.

Thank you for all your support for the church over the last few months and for the prayerful fellowship we have shared together. I'm sure I am not alone by saying just how encouraged I am whenever someone says they are praying for me.

May you know God's blessing and joy in all you do today.

Erna joins me in sending you our prayerful best wishes,

Ian