



Keeping in Touch

Wesley Place Methodist Church, Alsager

Dear Friends,

Happy Father's Day! Some will respond to such words with great joy, deep appreciation, and maybe a tear shed, others may shed a tear of remembered anger, loss, or another emotion they would rather forget.

Fathers, like Mothers, often feel the pain of loving, of seeing, of knowing, of understanding, but of having to remain silent. They also sometimes speak for words are required. I often smile at the memory of giving one of my children a strict talking to when they were perhaps about 6 or 7 - I was telling them to put down the beeping electronic toy and go get their bike out, or climb a tree, or find a river to paddle in. 'Daddy are you telling me off?' came the question from a beautifully innocent little boy, my answer is now often quite as they've grown through being students and beyond 'No, I'm telling you on - go and do something really good for yourself'!

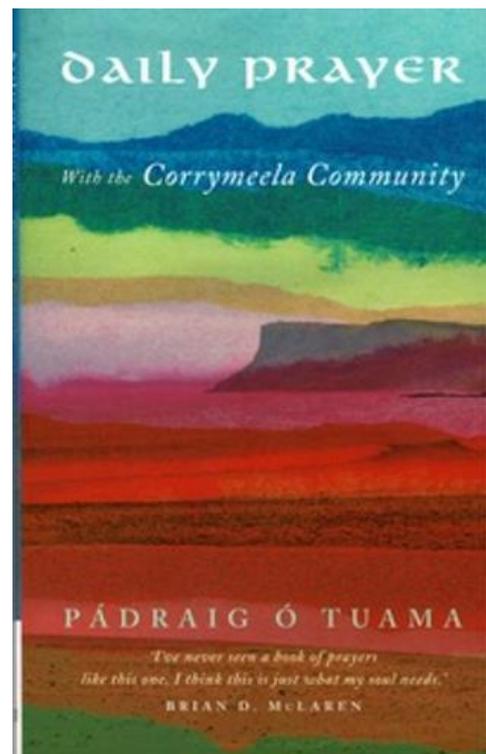
Despite health and safety worries, and the need for caution and care, I still believe bikes, trees, woods, streams and fresh air can be good for children!

God is called Father, and the New Testament word Abba implies a child-like relationship of intimacy, trust, and goodness. The Corrymeela Community is an organisation, founded the same year as me - 1965, in Ireland, which has sought to help people and communities who are damaged by the polarisation and violence of the Northern Irish Conflict. The polarisation and conflict that is so common throughout the world, and within our own nation now in different and varied ways needs the gentle balm of spiritual wisdom, prayer, and healing. I was recommended their little prayer book by someone I know has survived abuse in their own life, and so the prayers in the book seem particularly poignant.

I love these prayers for the morning - they reflect on a familiar Biblical theme, yet acknowledge the all seeing vision of God, with a gentle awareness of the Love which heals. I offer them in the hope that you might keep them for perhaps regular use. Take them slowly, and add you own thoughts and reflections into reading them in your own way, or share them with someone you feel you can pray comfortably with.

God bless,

Rob.



A liturgy of the morning

On the first morning God said: 'Let there be birds.' And God separated voice from voice; and in some voices, God put a song, and the song sang to the land, and to the light, and to the light on the land, and when the people heard it, the morning had begun. The first morning.
And God said that it was Good.

And on the second morning God said: 'There will be dreams from the night that will need the light of the morning.' And so God put wisdom in the early hours. The second morning.
And God said that it was Good.

And on the third morning, God said: 'Let there be a certain kind of light that can only be seen in the morning.' And God created gold, and dew, and horizons, and hills in the distance, and faces that look different in the light of the morning, and things that look different in the light of the morning. The third morning.
And God said that it was Good.

And on the fourth morning, God said: 'Sometimes the day will be long. Let there be a warmth in the morning, let people sleep for some mornings, and let the rest of the morning be good. The fourth morning.
And God said that it was Good.

And on the fifth morning, God said: 'There will be people who will rise early every morning, whose day will begin in the night, by the light of moon and stars; they will see the sun rise, these early risers. And God put a softness at the heart of the dawn. The fifth night.
And God said that it was Good.

And on the sixth morning, God listened. And there were people working, and people struggling to get out of bed, and there were people making love and people making sandwiches. There were people dreading the day, and people glad that the night was over. And God hoped that they'd survive. And God shone light, and made clouds, and rain, and rainbows, and toast, and coffee, places to love the light and places to hide from the light. Small corners to accompany the lonely, the joyous, the needy and the needed. The sixth morning.
And God said that it was Good.

And on the last morning, God rested. And the rest was good. The rest was very good.
And God said that it was very Good.

PS Next week is our General Church Meeting, we'll be doing the business of the church, as well as our worship together, wound together as we did a few years ago, and it seemed to be appreciated. We also welcome our own little runaround of joy, Jasmin by baptism - she usually gives the candle out, next week she'll get one all of her own!

Message from the Tyrell Family - Jasmin is being Baptised next week and we would love as many as possible to stay for a buffet lunch at the end of the service. All are invited.

*Sunday 26th June
at Wesley Place 10.30am*

*Baptism of Jasmin
General Church Meeting
Please stay for Buffet Lunch
at the end of the service*



Sunday	Time	Worship
19th June	10.30	Local Arrangement
26th June	10.30	Led by Rev Rob Hilton
3rd July	10.30	Led by Rev Sarah Butcher Including Holy Communion
10th July	Youtube	Led by Daniel Keen

MONDAY AFTERNOONS @ WESLEY PLACE

Please join us on Monday Afternoon 2pm-4pm for Board Games, tea/coffee,biscuits and chat.
Looking forward to seeing you

CHURCH FAMILY CELEBRATION

Christianne & Peter invite you all to an Open house with Tea/Coffee and gateaux from 10am to 1pm on Thursday 30th June to celebrate a Golden Wedding and an 80th Birthday. Please, no presents but a donation can be made to Wesley Place if you wish.
Address: 20 Dunham Close, ST7 2XR

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS @WESLEY PLACE

PLEASE NOTE NEW TIMINGS FOR WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Church open 11am-1pm
Please join us next Wednesday at 11.30am for a short, informal service this week led by Rev'd Jim Needham. There will be tea/coffee and biscuits and, of course, chat afterwards. BYO Lunch if you would like. Please join us. We'd love to see you.

Ken, Margaret and the family wish to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy and the cards received in connection with the death of Ken's son Ian. Special thanks also for those who were able to offer their support by joining us at the service.

Action for children

Val Carron will be gathering collection boxes during July.

Meter of coins

It's that time of year to collect together all your spare change. Meter of coins will take place 31st July. Please dig deep for this worthwhile cause.

**Contemporary Praise and Worship
Service with Worship band**

Sundays at 4pm

3rd July at Wheelock New Horizons
31st July at Haslington Methodist Church
21st August at Sandbach Wesley Centre

**Everyone welcome for a time of
lively Worship**

Circuit Service

4pm June 26th @ Broomhall & Sound

Worship
Drinks Provided
Winterley Methodist Brass Band

Theme:

'Feeding the 5000'

**Craft
Activities**

Story

**All Ages
Welcome**

Come and enjoy an open air service and craft activities. Bring a picnic with you.

Sing Along

Harriet has suggested some hymns for the week

At the Name of Jesus

<https://youtu.be/OI2rKRCWmOU>

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

<https://youtu.be/UJDWFYIkBns>

Bible Society

Rooted Juniors

The Bible Society has Rooted Juniors for 7-11 year olds. Each child who becomes a member receives a Welcome Box with various stories activities etc. These can be seen on a video at [biblesociety.org.uk/rooted juniors](http://biblesociety.org.uk/rooted-juniors).

Ukraine

Bible Society team members in Ukraine have continued their mission in the midst of war. They have been delivering food and humanitarian aid as well as bibles in the devastated towns just outside Kyiv. They drove through the woods over rugged terrain as the bridges and roads have been bombed and say "The conditions are worse than shown on t/v" In the UK they are providing trauma healing resources for refugees. For more go to biblesociety.org.uk

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee
God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest, vale and mountain
Flowery meadow, flashing sea
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee

Thou art giving and forgiving
Ever blessing, ever blest
Wellspring of the joy of living
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our father, Christ our brother
All who live in love are thine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began
Father love is reigning o'er us
Brother love binds man to man
Ever singing, march we onward
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life
Thou our father, Christ our brother
All who live in love are thine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine.

Sing Along

<https://youtu.be/eMY3ivdNzWE>

Just a thought

Is prayer your steering wheel
or your spare tyre

❤️🙏 Prayers from the Prayer Group this week: ❤️🙏

❤️🙏 Thankfulness and Gratefulness to God for ...

...visits to new gardens at Bridgewater - appreciating the new planting and flowers as they bloom, and the bees and the birds as they flourish there ...

...the warmer weather and sunshine, opportunities to walk around Rudyard, and the amazing flora, birds and animals during springtime and summer...

...family time together visiting London and sightseeing places like Westminster Abbey, Crown Jewels and the Houses of Parliament....

... visits from American friends and family....visits from Swedish relatives, eating out and just having time together....

...time to visit and reconnect with local friends that we haven't been able to see for a long time...

...for Jonny and all those involved in planning and preparing for our Holiday Club this August...

❤️🙏 For our church family and friends....

...remembrance services at the National Memorial Arboretum for the Falklands War, especially those involved in the Merchant Navy...

...for all our Church Family at Twyford House particularly as the home currently has Covid ...prayers for recovery and missed visits to our church members due to the restrictions... and thanks for Liz who provides music for the residents when access is available....

...for Barbara who is recovering from recent health problems ...

...for church family members who have day case operations coming up next week....

...for family member Clare who is emerging from a year long treatment programme....thankfulness that her recovery continues....

...for Ken and Ann Lowe residing at Bentley Home, Crewe....prayers for their comfort and well being, and their family, friends and carers who support them....

Amen ❤️🙏

Still within us now, O Lord, any voice but yours, lest we hear but do not receive, lest we listen but do not act, lest we know but do not love, and let your Holy Spirit turn our hearts and lives to your truth. Amen

Liturgy of the French Reformed Church

Loving God, in our churches we seek to make all welcome but that can be a hard thing to do. We struggle to extend our welcome to people we consider to be smelly and unwashed, to those we think are too loud, to those who live with mental health conditions, and to those who are just different from 'us'. Be with us as we try to do better. Amen.

Hilary Evans, Vice-President, Methodist Women in Britain