Hi Everyone....

There is a great visual image in the Bible of the distance 'The East is from the West!'. This is how far God chooses to forget our shortcomings and distance Himself from our failings. On the other hand the Bible instructs us to actively remember other things. We're encouraged to remember the power of Jesus' resurrection (2 Timothy) and to remember each other in our prayers (Philemon). The ancient songs of praise (Psalms) are littered with verses to remind ourselves of the goodness, love, mercy and faithfulness of God.

As a nation <u>next Tuesday</u> (the anniversary of the first UK lockdown) we are being encouraged to reflect on this past year and to take some time and space to think about friends or family members who've lost their lives. Behind the statistics and whatever the cause, every death has been devastating for the people left bereaved. The Marie Curie website has more details about the day but I think it would be great if we could join in as much as possible this act of remembrance. There are at least TWO simple ways we can be involved.

- Minute of silence and reflection <u>at 12pm</u>.
- Shine a light <u>at 8pm At 8pm</u> the idea is to have a minute's silence and come together to light up the night. Stand outside with a light – a candle, a torch, even your phone - to remember someone who's died and show your support to people going through a bereavement.

For more info:

https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/day-of-reflection

As a Church community let's also actively pray and look for ways to be catalysts of Hope in the difficult months still ahead of us.

Covid Testing at All Saints Church Hall starting today..... We understand that free rapid Covid testing will be available in the church hall on Tuesday afternoons each week <u>between 12 and 6pm</u>. This is here for us even if we do not have symptoms. Many people have Covid without showing symptoms so a good idea to be tested regularly.

Easter Sunday! Our next LIVE 'in-person' service is less than a month away..... on the 4thApril. We would love to see you and if you would like to attend please let us know so we can arrange seating etc to make sure everyone is safe. Please Text Steve Lamin or email Eva at the church office to inform us....

hbccentre@tiscali.co.uk

The plan at the moment is to have two further LIVE services in May and June and then consider meeting more often. As ever it will all depend on how restrictions are changed and the state of the Covid situation. We are trying to navigate our way to have regular weekly meetings after the summer. LIVE Worship night ! A great evening of inspiring worship will be aired via our Family Facebook group on Wednesday 24th March starting from 7-30pm. If you can't make the start you can just drop in at any point you wish. Emily and some of our other musicians will be leading us live from the stage at church. We will be trying out our new cameras and other equipment so hopefully it should be much more visually engaging as well. Should be brilliant ....put it in your diaries !

Church Family news :

We wanted you to be aware that Steve Lamin will be taking a three month sabbatical break from mid May to mid August.... Steve plays such a key role in our Church community and has done over many years. Let's pray for a really refreshing break for him.

Exciting details of our Village Easter Trail are now on Facebook...check out this link to find out more:

https://www.facebook.com/The-Village-Easter-Trail-1 04209671689261/

Summer Holiday Club News.....

We have pencilled in the week <u>beginning 26th July</u> for our Holiday Club but obviously this is only provisional. It is likely that we will have to wait until June to confirm any plans !

Weekly activities:

We have our usual weekly activities to engage with: Wednesday devotional and Catch up coffee and chat, Friday Focus and of course our online Sunday Service and Zoom catch up <u>at 11-15am</u>.

In closing....Thank you again to everyone who is continuing to support us financially through this very difficult time. If you would like to give to our work here you can set up a standing order, or make a one off payment using the following information. Bank Transfer to :

Account no. 65892415

Sort code 08-92-99

**Co-operative Bank** 

Account name is..... Hesketh Bank Christian Centre Well that's it for this week....

Please find Prayermail attached.

See you all <u>next Tuesday</u>.

If you or your friends need any kind of help or support please get in touch.

## hbccentre@tiscali.co.uk

Or you can reach the team on the numbers below:

Alex - 07701042458 (Youth and Young People)

Linda - 07732074420

Mark - 07526989665

Steve - 07484268297

Mark pp The Leadership Team 16.03.2021