

BEXLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

“CORONA CLARION” Issue 8: 6th July 2020

At last! Churches are allowed to go back to worship in their buildings! However, this does not necessarily mean that it is the right thing for every Church. The Bexley Elders are in discussion about what needs to be done & how best to meet the needs of our congregation. We will be in touch with each of you in the near future to talk to you about this.

Alison’s move will take place between 3-5th August. Her new appointment will start on 1st September. She is hoping to have a holiday after having some time to settle into the manse and unpack.

A hymn from another Church’s service during lockdown (Reproduced with permission)

God, you hear our weary praying, and you know that we lose heart.
All around we see the suffering of a world that's torn apart.
We see leaders of the nations filled with arrogance and greed.
We see friends and family hurting, facing overwhelming need.

God, we cannot help but wonder: Do our prayers do any good?
Do they change the nations' leaders? Do they change our neighbourhood?
Why do loved ones keep on suffering when they're in our constant prayer?
Do you hear the cries we're offering? Are you listening? Are you there?

Then you teach us of this woman: She was widowed; she was poor.
"Grant me justice!" she kept calling at an unjust judge's door.
Though that judge respected no one, he was no match for her cries.
He responded to her pleading, granting justice, changing lives.

How much more is your compassion! God, you're just and good and fair.
May we lift to you our sorrows and the burdens that we bear.
May we pray, for you reign o'er us! May we ask —for you are kind!
May we trust that you will help us in your goodness, in your time.

John’s Exercises 7

Of all the exercises in this series the most important one is to practise your balance. It utilises many muscle groups and makes you at less risk of falling.

1. Stand with your back close to a wall – with a straight arm swing backwards to touch your knuckles against the wall above your head – repeat 10 times with each arm alternately.
2. Stand facing the wall about 2 feet distance from the wall – place your palms on the wall at shoulder height – move forward to touch your nose to the wall – press back 5 times – repeat the whole action 4 times, if it is too easy move further back from the wall.
3. While balancing on one leg – press your palms together and move them slowly upwards above your head and down to your chest while retaining your balance – now try balancing on the other leg. Make sure a chair is close. **John Johnstone**

A “though my window” environment challenge Could you make a record of wildlife seen, from larger mammals, foxes etc to birds and insects? Species and date would be great! Lists to me at the end of the summer, August 31st. These records, I’m sure, will be welcomed by our local wildlife groups. **Bee**

Poser If ABAT40T stands for 'Ali Baba and the 40 thieves' what do SWAT7D and 4A20BBIAP stand for?

Puns for Educated Minds (from Bee's friend)

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
Two silkworms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

Thoughts about angels written by 7-9 yr old American boys

It's not easy being an angel! First you die. Then you go to Heaven, & then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear all those angel clothes.

Angels live in cloud houses made by God & His Son Jesus, who's a very good carpenter!

Geoff's amorphisms – You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him to find it within himself.

(Galileo)

Geoff's 1-liners Don't judge someone because they commit different sins from you.

A final thought. Good friends are like stars, you don't always see them but you know they are there. **Pam**

Thank you for your contributions. Keep them coming!