

Weekly Newsletter 5 – Sunday 19 April 2020

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

Firstly and most importantly, a huge 'Thank You' to everyone who made Easter special. Several were up at 7am and held their own Worship Services in their gardens or homes. Some of you had Easter displays in windows or gardens, 'Thank You'. Many sent Easter messages to people living on their own and separated from family and friends, 'Thank You'. Many made Easter special for the kids, Easter egg hunts in the garden, making Easter bonnets, holding parties and playing party games, 'Thank You'.



Your efforts, your prayers, your example to others does matter. It shows that as Christians following our Christ, it is not a matter of dressing up on a Sunday morning and going to a church, it is about how we live, how we act and how we serve others.

Easter Parade

Thanks to all who sent in Easter photos. The full Easter Parade should be on our Web-site shortly and may be on our Facebook pages. It has already been circulated to those email addresses we have but here's a sample of some of the pictures on the 'parade'



Congratulations



Congratulations to Jan and Morris Smith who celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary on Friday 17 April 2020. We all pray you both had the best day possible on Friday and send you our love and prayers.



Bellie & Speymouth Church
Reaching out - Welcoming in

Birthdays –

We have a couple of birthdays this week –



Lisa Campbell on Tuesday 21 April 2020

Happy Birthday Lisa

and Catherine Fettes on Friday 24 April 2020

Happy Birthday Catherine



If you know of anyone who has a birthday in the coming weeks, please let me know (with a picture maybe!) and we can include our birthday wishes in the newsletter.

Ask for help



As we enter our fifth week of 'lockdown' it may be that some people who are receiving help and assistance from family, friends and neighbours are feeling some embarrassment or even guilt about having to rely on others for such a long time. It may be to get 'the messages' (much better term than 'shopping'), collecting and delivering medicines, dog walking or whatever.

Please don't be embarrassed or feel any form of guilt. There are folk all round our area who are only too willing to help. Please get in touch, with me if you wish (01343 820671), and we can organise what help you need.

To those of you who are already helping others: perhaps it is time to emphasise that you are happy to keep helping them and to reassure people that you enjoy helping them.



Church Finances.

It is now over a month since Sunday Worship in our churches was temporarily suspended. During this period when the church is closed, although we are not paying for energy, salaries and other



outgoings, there are costs which still have to be paid including insurance, building maintenance, licences etc. About 90% of our budget is spent on things over which we have no control but are necessary to keep the church functioning.



Although many make their offerings by Standing Order, a good number make their offering in cash by using the weekly envelopes or open plate. These latter offerings have been missed over the last few weeks. In order to keep our church going, it may be that some of you could switch to a Standing Order or send a cheque, payable to Bellie and Speymouth Church, to cover the amount you would normally place in the pouches which are passed round. This way,

the financial burden of keeping the church ticking over is shared among us all. And please remember Gift Aid if you can.

If anyone wishes to do this, they should get in touch with me or Chris Campbell and one of us can send you the bank details. Cheques can be sent to me or Betty Brown or Chris Campbell and we can arrange for the monies to be paid into our bank – we have the technology!

The church buildings are closed.

I have to remind those who hold keys for our church buildings that these buildings are closed. For insurance purposes, the buildings are inspected weekly to ensure they are intact and no damage has occurred. The clock in Bellie Church is wound up weekly but apart from that no-one should enter the buildings. This ensures the well-being and safety of everyone.

Until next week, keep safe, keep smiling, keep in touch and try to have some fun.

God bless you all
John

