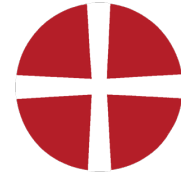


# South Fylde Circuit

## Fairhaven, Kirkham and Lytham



Minister:

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Sunday, 17 May 2020

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Carolyn and I send our greetings. We assure you of the prayers of all the Senior Stewards and ourselves who have managed to continue to meet, via the video conferencing platform 'zoom' and WhatsApp we continue to seek to do all we can during this time of national crisis.

Please don't hesitate to be in touch with any of us if you have concerns, thoughts or ideas you'd like to share, to get us through these weeks that lie ahead. We thank and praise God for all those across our churches who are pastorally caring and keeping in touch with church friends, neighbours and the most vulnerable.

We send our thanks for the amazing collection of gifts that were received on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2020. You will be pleased to know that we had enough gifts for 4 of the Care home in and around the Fylde area. All the flowers and biscuits, and a larger share of the chocolates went to MHA Starr Hills, the remaining chocolate were distributed equally between Delahey's Nursing Home and St George's Nursing Home. In Kirkham an equal number of flowers and chocolates were given to Milbanke nursing home Kirkham. I pass on the thanks of the staff to all.



We have received word that local food banks need tinned food to that end we are organising a food bank drive on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020**. With the help of Melvin Slater at Lytham, Katharine Davies at Kirkham and myself at Fairhaven, we will be at the 3 churches with the boots of our cars open to receive your gifts from 10:30 – 12:30. All gifts will be taken the Fylde food bank at St Anne's.

Please note in accordance with the current rules and regulations we shall be observing strict social distancing, you are encouraged to drop of your gifts within the current rules.



In addition to the above and as a result of the Virtual Coffee held on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2020, we will be holding a virtual coffee morning for each of the 3 churches on the following days and times.

- **Lytham Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 11:00am**
- **Kirkham Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 11:30am**
- **Fairhaven Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020 at 19:00pm.**



You are invited to join in with Thy Kingdom Come and continue to spend time in prayer.

We take this opportunity to send our thanks to all those who have taken part in the services so far, if you would like to take part please get in touch with Sylvester.

Finally, as we continue to applaud the outstanding work of all in the NHS at this time - and all care workers, school staff, those working in our prisons, utility and communications workers, shop and delivery workers, and all who work in vital services to keep everything going - we pray God's protection and peace over all, at time.

For those of us self-isolating, and doing our utmost to stay home and stay safe - we pray that we will stay strong in Christ, faithfully reading His word, making space for His Spirit to speak to us, to fill and to guide us, and that all the glory, all the praise for all that we may think, or say, or do, might go to God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

***'And so, let your light shine before others,  
so that they may see your good works  
and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.'  
(Matthew 5 v. 16).***

May God bless and be with you in the coming days.  
Sylvester and Carolyn

**A prayer from the Methodist Church:**

*God of all hope we call on you today.*

*We pray for those who are living in fear:*

*Fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of other's reactions to them.*

*May your Spirit give us a sense of calmness and peace.*

*We pray for your church in this time of uncertainty.*

*For those people who are worried about attending worship.*

*For those needing to make decisions in order to care for other*

*For those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend.*

*Grant us your wisdom.*

*Holy God, we remember that you have promised that*

*Nothing will separate us from your love – demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.*

*Help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you. Amen*