

Bishop Sutton Community Church Letter

As I write, the heat wave has just ended with torrential thunderstorms and flooding yet drought orders were declared in eight out of fourteen areas in England last week but thankfully not in our region. Trees are already turning into their autumnal colours, two months ahead of schedule but some trees remain green... and I'm not talking about the evergreens, these are the trees that grow along riverbanks or water courses with roots reaching out to the water.

It's all about the roots; if you were to measure the roots of a large oak tree, they would stretch out for several hundred miles. Not only does that provide water in times of drought but also strength to withstand the storms.

In the Arizona desert, the dried-up tumbleweed blows everywhere because it has no roots, in contrast, the saguaro cactus bears fruit even in temperatures of 55°C because its roots go out fifty to sixty feet in all directions.

We need deep spiritual roots if you are going to make it through the dry spells and storms of life. Anyone can survive a day or two of drought, but what about extended seasons of stress, grief, lack, illness, loneliness and adversity? Whatever your life is rooted to is where you draw your strength from. Paul speaks of this in his letter to the Ephesians: 'I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong ... you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God' (Ephesians 3:16-19 NLT). May you be rooted in God's love.

God bless,

Dave & Jenny Dickerson, Tel: 01275 332746 Mob: 07766331146.

Bishop Sutton Community Church Activities:

Sunday gatherings: 10:00am ... a time of worship, teaching, fellowship, encouragement and prayer. We run hybrid services from the Village Hall so you can join us in person or on line with Zoom.

Connection: 7:30-9:00pm ish on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month in the Village Hall Taylor Room and on Zoom for going deeper together in worship, prayer and connecting with the Holy Spirit.

Mid-week courses and fellowship meetings: Our mid-week meetings take place on the 2nd and 4th Mondays on the month on Zoom.

Ukrainian Hub: Alternate Fridays 10:30am-1:00pm at the Village Hall. Thank you to all who provided clothes for the clothes fair, we had a tremendous response. English language classes are now taking place 3 days a week and are being funded by the Church. Being able to speak English is vital for employment and education. If you would like to contribute towards this please get in touch. Please continue to hold these broken families and the situation in Ukraine in your prayers.

Keynsham Food Bank: The following items are needed and can be donated at Chew Valley Spar in Bishop Sutton: bleach, toilet cleaner, washing-up liquid, tomato & brown sauces, noodles, long-life fruit juice cartons, instant coffee (small), sponge puddings, chocolate spread, honey & tinned carrots. If you hear of people in difficulty, contact Dave/Jenny to help these needy people.

Lonely or self-isolating? If anyone is lonely or self-isolating and would appreciate a call, internet meeting or in need of help, please contact us.

To join us on line on Zoom: Click on the link on our facebook page / web site or use the Meeting ID: 871 1725 3595 and Passcode: 578732.

Email: bishopsuttoncommunitychurch@hotmail.com

Web: www.bishopsuttoncommunitychurch.com

Facebook: @BishopSuttonCommunityChurch