

Liverpool (North) Circuit
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10 November 2020

To members of and regular worshippers at Maghull Methodist Church (by email or post to each household)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

A number of things happened last week that prompt me to pass on invitations and information to you. Some of you received these on Saturday because I was able to contact you using e-mail but I believe it is vital to be as inclusive as possible.

First, when some of the ministers of the churches in Maghull, Lydiate, and Melling met via Zoom last week we decided to invite our churches to pray about COVID-19 each Monday evening. My colleague, The Revd Janice Hill, wrote the following for *The Champion* and then we learnt that it was not being printed during the lockdown; we hope it will appear on the website:

Praying for you ...

Due to the new lockdown restrictions the churches in Maghull and Melling and Lydiate are unable to meet for services in our Church Buildings. People might think that, that means the Church is closed but that is far from the truth. All of our churches have remained open in new and different ways including online, you tube, telephone conference calls and texts. We have been there for people at times of need including supporting those who have lost loved ones and conducting funerals at the Crematorium, Cemeteries, Churchyards and in our Churches.

We are aware that this lockdown will be particularly hard so we have been looking at ways we can support our community. The Bible tells us that we must persevere in prayer ... and in the hard times we must pray even harder. We are asking all our Church members to pray, especially to pray on Mondays from 7pm to 8pm during the November lockdown and we want to ask everyone across Maghull and Melling and Lydiate to join us. We will be praying in own homes but it will be great to know others are praying too. We will be praying about COVID 19 including those who are ill, those who are still suffering the after effects of COVID 19, those who have had treatment postponed, the NHS and all of the staff, the key workers, care homes, our young people, those who have been shielding, for those researching new treatments and those working on a vaccine....there are too many people and situations to list everything here.

We have all lost something during this pandemic no matter how big or small. We will face different challenges during this lockdown but we need to remember we are doing this for each other ... in the words of Sister Sledge ...we are family...


For more information on the Churches in Maghull and Melling and Lydiate please go to our websites.

Secondly, just after we had met, I received an email from the global and ecumenical prayer initiative Thy Kingdom Come, to which the Methodist Church is committed. It called on us all to share in Prayer for the Nation. Christians all over the UK are invited to pause each day at 6pm and to pray for those impacted by the pandemic. For those of you who have access to the internet, more information and resources are available at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/stories/prayerforthenation>.

Thirdly, when I last wrote to you, I included information about the Advent Group with St George's URC. The Revd Catherine McFie and I have been preparing for this and we will be circulating a booklet to all those who wish to take part. Please, therefore, let Bernard Turner know (07913 909137 or admlivnc@gmail.com) as soon as possible if you wish to take part.

I continue to hold you all in my prayers.

Yours in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil A Stubbens". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Neil A Stubbens