

Messenger - July - August 2022

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the mountains - where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip—He who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel, will neither slumber nor sleep.

Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:

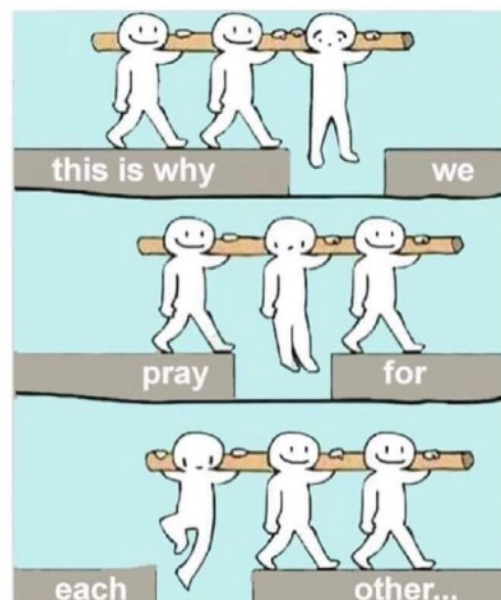
Darren, Karen, Alison & Ben, Peter & Val Humphreys and family, Martin Eccles, Eileen Lowe, Dilys Little, Anne Lord, Ann & Alan Ascott, Walter Ash, Stephen Murphy, John Burnell & Margaret, David Roughley, Pauline Campbell, Janet McCann, Sue & Ged, Lindsay & Peter, Mei, John & family, and Neil & Alison.

July

3rd - Yvonne Campbell - Holy Communion
10th - Sam Rigby
17th - Eve Maudsley
24th - Jean Taylor
31st - Sandra & Carrie O'Nions

August

7th - Eve Maudsley - Holy Communion
14th - TBC
21st - TBC
28th - TBC



Key Rota

July

3rd - Carolyn & John
10th - Eve
17th - Eve
24th - Sue & Ged
31st - Eve

August

7th - Carolyn & John
14th - Eve
21st - Sue & Ged
28th - Eve

Flower Rota

3rd - V Collingwood
10th - John Fry
17th - John Fry
24th - Eve
31st - Eve

7th - S Warburton
14th - S Warburton
21st - A Ascott
28th - A Ascott

Tea with a Twist

2nd July
Yvonne & Dave

6th August
Eve

It's mid-summer. A time that always reminds me of when I was in Helsinki to take part in a conference. It never went dark. A UK Group were over so I took them for a walk at 3am around the port, the ferries and old city monuments. Most people were delighted because it was simply too warm and too light to sleep. I remember also going to church on the Sunday morning. It was in a small chapel linked to the huge Lutheran Cathedral. As it turned out, the minister was from Ireland and the worship followed the Church of Ireland prayer book! We get everywhere! Helsinki is blessed with many islands all the way around the mainland and, at midnight on 21 June, the sky was alight with the smell and sight of a multitude of fires lighting up the mid-summer sky. Many of us will have times and places which hold special memories for us, in Liverpool or elsewhere.

It's a great pity, in a way, that we tend to be a bit cautious about the dark around us. That is partly why we fill our homes with electric light to make them 'homely'. But if we remember in the earliest of times, '17 God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, 18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day ... ' (**Genesis 1: 17-19**). God produced light and dark because they are inseparable. If life on earth was always light, we would die from heat. If life on the earth was always dark, our planet would not grow and living life die. It does not take long in the Bible before ideas turn around though. Job is often preoccupied with this issue. But I quote from **Isaiah 5:20**, 'Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter'. Why is this.

In modern times, if we watch or read the news, then walking alone in the dark unaccompanied can be very dangerous. In urban as well as country areas. It is a sad reality. From ancient traditions to modern media have almost singularly used images of darkness as due to the Prince of Darkness, Satan the Devil. But it is a mistake to think that somehow, Satan and his many supporters operate only in the dark. If we read the Old and New Testaments, we find that evil occurs at all times, at all ages and in many original ways. Our job is to put all our energies into fighting wrong every where we come across. Our Lord made the light and dark so that the Earth could thrive. So in mid-summer, let us enjoy the long evenings and light mornings. In winter, let us enjoy the warmth of our homes, when all around us is dark. Without both of them, there would be no Earth upon which to live, love and learn to keep it safe as the Lord requests us.

God bless,

Peter