

## Messenger - May - June 2022

### Phil 4:4-6

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

### Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers Alison McDiarmid, 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 and Peter, and John Chou's mum.

### Events

14th May - Congregational Federation 50th Assembly, Carr's Lane, Birmingham

### May

1st - Eve Maudsley - Holy Communion  
8th - Rowley Moore  
15th - Eve Maudsley - Church Meeting  
22nd - Yvonne Campbell  
29th - John Greenwood



### June

5th - Eve Maudsley / Holy Communion - Pentecost - Gift Day  
12th - Graham Taylor - All Saints Day  
19th - Yvonne Campbell - Father's Day  
26th - Deacons Sunday - Church Meeting

### Key Rota

1st - Carolyn & John  
8th - Eve  
15th - Eve  
22nd - Eve  
29th - Sue & Ged

5th - Carolyn & John  
12th - Eve  
19th - Eve  
26th - Sue & Ged

### May

### June

### Flower Rota

1st - John Fry  
8th - John Fry  
15th - Eve  
22nd - Eve  
29th - S Warburton

5th - S Warburton  
12th - A Ascott  
19th - A Ascott  
26th - V Collingwood

### Tea with a Twist

**7th March**  
Ann & Alan Ascott

**4th June**  
Sue & Ged Warburton

### Deacons Meeting

9th May  
20th June

Dear Friends,

I must confess that my enthusiasm today to have a 'serious go' at the garden soon resulted in my rapid return to the house for a thick woolly jumper! It was, and is, wonderfully bright for much of the day these days but still seriously nippy. My grand-dad's small garden, front and back, had a wonderful supply of hydrangers, when in full bloom, in Lymcross. We have lovely ones now too. They always remind me of him. So I went out later to do a bit of trimming for the coming May and beyond, so the new blossoms; pink, white and one blue may flourish when the time is right !

I pray you all had a good Easter. It has been an unusual and difficult one, if we look beyond our narrow boundaries. Having previously been in touch with Ukraine, during my working days, I can imagine too well how things are, thanks to the TV coverage!! Quite frankly, it goes from worse to catastrophic. As usual, Ireland is taking on board many families that have been displaced by the horror now across the country, following the Russian invasion. Val has been gathering clothes, mostly for women and children, to provide folk with decent clothes and medical supplies. Our church members have all contributed and there is already almost too much, until the next wave comes in. The hope for many is to return home as soon as they can, not least because the men and older families remain behind.

Remember in the Old Testament, how many times the Jews had been over-run by other groups and sometimes forced to work in other countries to justify their existence. In Ezra 1.1 and 1.11, we learn that "In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfil the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing ... In all, there were 5,400 articles of gold and of silver. Sheshbazzar brought all these along with the exiles when they came up from Babylon to Jerusalem". In Nehemiah, Isaiah and Jeremiah, amongst others, the Jews return to Jerusalem and surrounding territories. They often disappoint the Lord in their manner leading to their punishment and renewal.

At the moment there are close on five million people who have had to leave their homes (if they have not already been bombed) seeking refuge in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Moldova and Romania. From there, many move on, if only temporarily, to further afield, including Ireland. About 23,000 have arrived here so far. If we cannot physically help as much as we would like, prayers are priceless too. We could be them!

So let's face the future with the strength of His Love. Who knows what chances and worries there may be? Let's enjoy each day. Believe in the future and let the Lord decide the future for us all.

God bless, Peter