

**Would you like someone
to pray for you?**

Please phone or text:

Southside Methodist Church.

Prayer Hotline: 07506 893786

If nobody answers please leave a message
and someone will get back to you.

Thank you

Sylvia and the Pastoral Team for all
the support you have given to
those in our congregation who
have gone through, or are going
through especially difficult times.

March 2021 Newsletter

If you have anything you would like published
in the March edition please can you e-mail:

southsidenewsletter@virginmedia.com

by Midnight Sunday 21st February

Please also use this e-mail address if you
would like to be added to the mailing list.

Thank you (Ed)

Thank you

Thank you to all my Southside friends
who sent me cards, phone calls and
messages for my birthday last month.

So much appreciated and they really
cheered me up in these difficult times.

With love, PB

Thank you

Janet for working with local preachers to bring us services
on zoom and other formats while we can't worship
together in the Church building.

We may not be able to worship together physically at the
moment but you have been making it possible for us to
worship together virtually. Thank you for your efforts in
embracing new technology and encouraging us to continue
praising God.

Think and Sing to God - online

Hi folks

I am doing a short, **Think** type reflection on Facebook **live each Sunday morning at 9.15 am.**

If you would like to join us, even if you have never been to Think before, you would be most welcome.

I think in order to access it you need to be my Facebook friend-just send me a request and I will sort it.

Similarly, we hold a **Sing to God** on line on Zoom, each month singing in our own homes and if you would like to join in the next one you would be very welcome then too.

E-mail me with your details I will respond.

Keep safe! love and blessings

Janet x

If you want to join in on zoom and don't know Janet's e-mail address please e-mail the newsletter: southsidenewsletter@virginmedia.com and I will forward it on to Janet - Ed.



Audio Bible

<https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/>

Over Christmas I searched for Audio Bible apps that are advert free and subscription free. With free Bible narration apps often being read by 'Robbie the Robot' it was a joy to find a good human narration with 'YouVersion' Bible. This popular Bible has daily verse, videos and extensive reading plans.

I started on the 'Bible in a year plan' by Nicky Gumbel. These Bible plans are ideal for house groups. At the start of a plan, you can opt to read with friends to complete days together. You sign in with email to add friends. This lets you message people, view their Bible progress, what plans they follow and add comments.

The Bible App contains 62 Bibles with 18 audio versions which have a speaker  symbol. I suggest selecting NIV UK (Anglicised) as the clearest audio. To hear narration just press the round play symbol at the bottom of the page. The App is available for use on the web, smartphones (android and iOS) and Alexa.

C.L

Turn the Page

It is hard to imagine a year ago we had never heard of Covid 19. Now almost all content of every news channel is dedicated to the frightening stats and graphs with dire predictions. Our hearts go out to the thousands of victims and their loved ones. Also, to the incredible nursing staff who have laboured for so long to care for everybody and still be so pleasant and caring, should we have occasion to need their assistance.

Now as I walk around the garden, it appears so desolate. Even most of the planting looks forlorn. But one bright note, the Spring bulbs are promising to kick off the new season, with some encouraging colours in a few short weeks.



As I look to the front facade of the church, to the left of the entrance "Southside Methodist Church" skilfully etched into the masonry. To the right the biblical verse proudly displayed. To the far left the beautiful golden cedar, looking rather isolated having recently lost its bed mate of several years (the afore mentioned cotoneaster) the only missing elements are the worshipers.

So, we find ourselves in another lockdown. Often the news is depressing, just when we thought things were improving. We long for our freedom. Our freedom to meet up with family and friends, our freedom to worship. Maybe we took our freedom for granted over the years.

As we sort through all the information, sometimes conflicting, always changing, it can become disheartening. But in challenging times, as always, we can turn our attention away from negativity and gloomy predictions, to trust in the Lord and pray for a more positive path.



One may surmise, but this a World Cataclysm and we live in different times now Hebrews 13 v 8.

If we read again the last verse in the Book of Psalms, then turn the page we see Proverbs 3 vs 5 & 6

Perhaps some comfort can be drawn from these verses. Perhaps we can move forward to a beautiful Summer 2021 albeit with some sort of cautious new normal. Perhaps we can all joyfully meet up and sing praises to the Lord together.

My hope is the Church Gardens may acclaim such happy moment with a fitting colourful statement.

C. D.