

LIBERTON KIRK NEWS EXTRA

14th May 2020



Dear Friends,

I am amazed at the beautiful weather even though this week has been cooler, at some point each day the sun has been shining.



Somehow seeing the sun raises our spirits, in the same way spending time with God's son Jesus just changes our focus. When we read our Bible or pray it can give hope and lift us from where we are. That is particularly true at this time, when the future feels more

uncertain than ever. You may be saying "thank goodness I am moving towards the end of my life" or you may be saying "how will my children cope" or "what future is there for my grandchildren" or how will I get through this. Whatever you are thinking or feeling can I encourage you that God is unchanging and he is here to help you through and if you have children and grandchildren He is also there for them.

In times of adversity we often see the best of people and sadly the worst too. However I would like to share what is happening in the Kirk Centre and hope it is encouraging. As you know the Kirk and Kirk Centre had to close due to the coronavirus. This meant our café which is a great meeting place for people of all ages had to close. Norma our café manager is on furlough but prior to closure had met with a group called Soul Food. This group normally work with churches to provide a space for

hospitality, sharing a meal with those on the margins perhaps because of homelessness or loneliness and isolation. During the lockdown Soul Food encouraged churches to provide meals for delivery to those who need them. So a small group of volunteers started to provide a meal for delivery on Mondays. Soon this grew and a group from Bridgend Community Café asked us to be a hub for the meals they were preparing. The group of volunteers headed by Ruth Aitcheson are now sending out up to 70 meals a day 7 days a week.

If you passed by you would see three volunteers socially distancing in the kitchen baking cakes and preparing packages of bread and butter to add to the meals. Other volunteers are baking at home. Chris Aitcheson and a few volunteers collect the meals from Bridgend and when they arrive at the kirk centre Ruth organises them into groups and a team of volunteers come in at 10 minute intervals to collect meals and deliver them.

This initiative depends on the good will of many people; I hope you find it encouraging. It is only one example of many good things that are happening in the face of this pandemic. As we know there are also devastating things happening and many losing loved ones to this virus. Please would you join in praying for all those affected by this virus and also for our government at Westminster and Holyrood.

I hope you are all bearing up during these difficult times. If you need anything, from shopping, to a chat on the phone please contact us. You are an important part of our church family.

With much love

Linda

(Phone Number 07850411596)