

Wilson Memorial Church

At The HEART of the Community we serve

AUGUST 2020: ISSUE 3

CHANGE TO OPENING FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER & WORSHIP

Many of you have expressed that you are eager to return to worship, but as yet only a small number of the congregation have taken up the opportunity to attend one of the open times for *individual prayer and worship*. In addition, there is a distinct difference in attendance between the Wednesday and Saturday. For example, last week we had no-one attend on Wednesday, August 7, and this Wednesday, August 12, there were just two people. Therefore, we are going to make the following changes for the remaining weeks of August:

We will still open on Wednesday between 10:00am and 11:00am for *individual prayer* **ONLY**.

We will only offer the short *service of worship* on Saturday August 15, 22 and 29.

When you arrive you will be asked to sign a *Track and Trace* form (this information is only used for *Track and Trace* purposes, and will be destroyed after fourteen days). You will be asked to use the hand sanitiser provided. The wearing of a face-covering is now **mandatory**, as per the change in the Scottish Government guidelines, which came into effect on August 8. You will then be directed by one of our stewards to a seat. Please follow the one-way system, which is clearly marked on the floors, and to any instructions given to you by our stewards.

Here is the schedule for the remainder of August:

Individual Prayer and Worship

Saturday, August 15 - 10:00am - 11:00am

Saturday, August 22 - 10:00am - 11:00am

Saturday, August 29 - 10:00am - 11:00am

Individual Prayer Only

Wednesday, August 19 - 10:00am - 11:00am

Wednesday, August 26 - 10:00am - 11:00am

If you haven't yet attended one of these times of *prayer and worship* we would encourage you to do so, as it will help to give you an idea of what our *worship services* will look like as we continue to emerge from the COVID-19 lockdown. We would also encourage you to continue to make use of the YouTube video services.

CHURCH REOPENS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP:

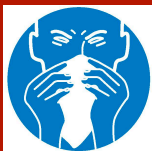
The truth of the matter is, of course, that the Church has never really been closed. For sure, the doors may have been shut, but the ministry and mission of the Church has continued, and in lots of ways has actually flourished and grown during lockdown. However, while worship on a Sunday is not all the Church is about, it is an important part of what we do together as a faith community. Therefore, please ensure that the following date is in your diary: **Sunday, September 6, 2020.**

This is the day that we will resume *in-person* worship services on a Sunday. Given the current physical distancing and hygiene restrictions, we have had to reduce our usual seating capacity of 100 down to 20. We can accommodate a slightly higher number than this if we seat people from the same house-hold together. Pre-lockdown we were averaging between 55 and 65 people at worship. If we were to recommence worship on a Sunday at this same level of attendance it is very clear that we would not be able to accommodate everyone at the same time. Therefore, we will be offering two services of worship on a Sunday morning at 10:00am and 11:00am. These services will be identical in content, and you will be required to book in advance. If you do not book in advance, then you will not be guaranteed a seat, and you will have to wait until everyone else has been seated. We appreciate that this is not an ideal situation, but the Scottish Government guidelines are very clear, and we have a pastoral responsibility towards all of you to keep you safe and well.

We will be emailing/writing to every member of the congregation in the next week or so giving further details of how to book. We will also provide you with the most recent Scottish Government guidelines for *The Safe Opening of places of Worship*.

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily.
Always carry a tissue
and use it to catch
your cough or sneeze



BIN IT

Germs can live for
several hours on tissues,
so put it in the bin as
soon as possible



KILL IT

Wash your hands
properly for 20
seconds, and
wash them often



CHURCH FAMILY NEWS:

Happy Birthday this week (Sunday) to Lucy Cunningham (granddaughter of Patsy and Alistair), and to James Hosea who will celebrate his 80th Birthday on August 19. An extra special congratulations goes to Helen Thompson who will celebrate her 100th Birthday on Thursday, August 20. When Helen turns 100 next Thursday we will have 3 centenarians in our Church Family: Winnie Walker (101), Mary Carpenter (100), and Helen. So, if you want to live a long life, then become a member of our Church Family!

SEEING THE FUNNY SIDE:

Here are some of the best (or worst) Dad Jokes...

- What rock group has four men that don't sing? *Mount Rushmore.*
- When I was a child, my mother told me I could be anyone I wanted to be. Turns out, identity theft is a crime.
- A man goes to his doctor and tells him that he can see into the future. The doctor asks him, "How long have you suffered from this condition?" The man tells him, "Since next Monday."
- What do sprinters eat before a race? *Nothing, they fast!*
- Did you hear about the restaurant on the moon? *Great food, no atmosphere!*
- Why do melons have weddings? *Because they cantaloupe!*
- Did you hear the gossip about the butter? Well, I'm not going to spread it!
- Did you hear about the man who invented Polo's? They say he made a mint!
- Did you hear about the cheese factory that exploded in France? Da brie is everywhere!
- Why did the invisible man turn down the job offer? He couldn't see himself doing it!
- I'm starting a new dating service in Prague. It's called Czech-Mate!
- I was just thinking about the beautiful herb garden I had when I was growing up. Good thymes!
- Want to hear a joke about construction? I'm still working on it!

Do you want this to stop? Well, you need to contribute something to the Newsletter or there will be even more next time!

FILL THIS SPACE WITH YOUR OWN STORY AND EMAIL/POST IT TO REV. MIKE