

Ministers:

Rev Stephen Willey  
Deacon Sheila Dawson

<http://centralhall.info/>

October 2020

Dear Members of Central Hall Church Family,

We hope that you are all keeping relatively well and managing to have some helpful contact with your family and friends during these rather unsettling days of the continuing coronavirus pandemic. We also hope that you are sensing our Lord's gentle presence with you each day and that you are continuing to feel connected to our Church family. Thank you once again for the care, support, and prayer you are continuing to show to one another. Many of us are struggling in some way, at this time, but the love and prayers of others really does make a difference! Please will you especially remember Ron Bayley in your prayers as he is moving away from Coventry, this weekend, to be closer to his family. Let us also keep praying for our government and our local and national leaders - they have such difficult decisions to make, which will inevitably impact our nation's health and economy.

We trust that you are feeling connected with others as you worship our wonderful God in different ways to previously during these strange times. We may not be able to be part of a large congregation in Central Hall but we remain part of the Church of Christ whether we are worshipping on our own at home, using a worship sheet, gathered with a small congregation in the Hall, or watching a service being live-streamed on to a computer or smart phone in our home.

The next 'physical service' to take place at Central Hall will be at 10.30am on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October when Rev Graham Gee will be leading our Harvest Service. Everyone is welcome to come to this service, where you are invited to bring a harvest gift of non-perishable food, which will then be donated to the Coventry food-bank. Covid 19 safety restrictions continue to be operating in the Hall (which help reduce the risk of contracting the coronavirus) but we would encourage everyone to only attend physical services if they feel safe and comfortable to do so. This harvest service will also be live streamed so that, if you have the internet, you could join in the service from your own home. Subsequent 'physical services' will be on 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November. (NB from 6<sup>th</sup> December we will, hopefully, be having 'physical services' in the Hall at 10.30am every

Sunday but worship at home sheets will continue to be sent out to those who don't have access to the internet).

Some of you have really enjoyed our 'Breaking Bread' zoom services (at 9am on the first Sunday of each month) and these will continue. Similarly, the Wednesday Zoom Bible Studies will remain but from November 18<sup>th</sup> they will begin at the earlier time of 1.30pm - to allow parents who have children to collect from school to join in more easily. NB You are all very welcome to share in 'Breaking Bread' and Bible study.

During half term (24<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> October), as an alternative to Halloween, Central Hall is joining with 15 other city centre churches in celebrating the Light of the World (Jesus) and the hope that He brings by displaying 'Pictures of Light' in our church windows. Children who find out which 'light picture' is displayed in 10 church windows will have completed the Light Trail and be able to collect a 'goody bag' from Queens Road Baptist Church car park on Saturday 31st October (2-4pm).

We are very grateful to Central Hall's 'City of Culture strategy group' who have been working very hard behind the scenes preparing for the CoC year, which begins in May 2021. We are really looking forward to our Church being involved in this unique opportunity, which many of you had exciting ideas for when we first discussed it back in March. If you haven't already completed a 'skills survey' (enclosed) please do so, as the more of us who offer to be involved in this special year, the more enjoyable we will all find it.

We also hope you enjoy reading the enclosed City of Culture, and Circuit newsletters.

May we reassure every one of you that you are precious to God and an extremely valued member of our Church. However, if you are feeling lonely or distanced from God or the Church please will you let someone you trust (from the Church) know how you are feeling and then we can try to support you better. Please feel welcome to contact our pastoral secretary, Doreen, our senior steward, Elaine, (Deacon) Sheila, or (Rev) Stephen.

Once again, thank you all for your loving support and prayer for one another and, if any of you are struggling and would like someone to talk to please let us know.

With our love and prayers for each one of you,

Sheila

Stephen