

**The
Good Shepherd
Fellowship**

Flock News

Special Mini-Edition

Year 18
AUTUMN 2020

We are the “Sheep of His Pasture” Psalm 100 v 3

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Resting on the slopes of Hay Tor one day this summer, licking my '99' ice-cream, I noticed in front of me, in the distance, hundreds of sheep. They weren't all together. They were all over the place. Some were sipping cool water from a brook. Some were grazing grass like there was no tomorrow. Some were wandering around aimlessly on the hillside. Some were sitting, precariously near by the busy road, doing nothing.

Then, from the farmyard, came into sight a quad-bike pulling a trailer of grain. Immediately, from every direction,

ran sheep awoken from their slumbers. They recognised the sound of their master, and they headed straight towards him.

*The Good Shepherd Fellowship,
Exeter
Meeting at "The Potting Shed"
A non-denominational Christian
Fellowship in the heart of Exeter
The St Michael's Fellowship,
Paignton*

John 10 v 1—18 tells us all about The Good Shepherd. In **verse 4** it says, "...and His sheep follow Him, because they know (recognise) His voice." And in **verse 14**, "I am the Good Shepherd; I know My sheep, and My sheep know Me."

If any passage from the Bible is more of a comfort, than **Psalm**

23 has to be up there with the best. In **Verse 2**, "He makes me to lie down in green pastures..." and **verse 3**, "He restores my soul."

We have a loving God, Who cares for us, each one of us. We may be sipping His cool waters; we may be grazing on His Word; we may be a bit lost and bemused by it all; or we may be just sitting back and letting the world pass us by. But, what a comfort, that He cares for us! "Cast all your anxiety on Him, because he cares for you." **1 Peter 5 v 7.**

Stay Safe! God bless
Graham

Keep on Praising—Psalm 100

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart.
I will enter his courts with praise.

I will say, "This is the day that the Lord has made".
I will rejoice for He has made me glad

He has made me glad!
He has made me glad!
I will rejoice for He has made me glad!

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?



Who could have predicted, last Christmas, that we would be in a situation where we can not meet together and continue in our normal walks of life? The world has been turned on its head, and we are totally helpless to do anything about it. Governments are trying; medical experts are trying, and charities are trying.

What God had created, as a beautiful, balanced world; a world of perfection, and of purity, we, mankind, have, in a matter of millennia, managed to corrupt, spoil, and destroy. We may blame technology, pollution, warfare, or simply, man's greed. Many are even blaming God! (even if they

don't acknowledge His existence or presence).

COVID-19 has reduced this wonderful planet to a place of hurt, of suffering, of isolation, and of fear.

Our website is on line at:
www.thegoodshepherdcornerstone.com
Contact us by Email at:
exeterchristianfellows@gmail.com
Recommend it to your friends!

I return us to the analogy of the shepherd and the sheep; **Isaiah 53 v 6**, "All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have all turned to our own ways."

Thank God, he has not ne-

glected us. Mankind may be floundering for answers, but God is faithful and although he may weep for what we have done to this earth, He is ready to receive those who repent.

May this period be a wake-up call, and that people would turn from their ways and, **Isaiah 55 v 6**, "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near."

As a Church, it is our job to pray for this nation, this broken land, and our beloved city.

Lord, hear our prayer!

Let us say together -The Prayer Our Savior Taught Us:

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory.

Forever and ever. Amen

Pray for One Another



Over the past few months, different ones in our Fellowship have been going through struggles and trials of their own. Because we do not meet together, so physical isolation can sometimes be exacerbated by emotional isolation, and this can cause spiritual exhaustion. We need one another, **Ephesians 6 v 18**, "Pray in the Spirit, on all occasions, with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints (Christian brothers and sisters)."

So, bearing in mind, confidentiality, here is an up-to-date list of some of our Folk who need the touch of the Lord Jesus Christ in their lives. Identifying, solely by their initial—God will know who they are!

- Pray for 'T' as he has recently been diagnosed with cancer (on top of his other physical problems). The prognosis is not positive, and Morphine is dulling the pain.
- Our dear sister 'B' is struggling with her mobility, as her knees are not able to support her, making walking very difficult.
- Although we haven't seen him for a while, 'T' has now moved into Marden House where he can receive better care, as his eye-sight is failing, along with his mobility.
- 'S' and 'M' have been a great encouragement to the Fellowship with their faithful service, but now they are facing difficult times together. The lock-down has not been kind to 'S's health, and 'M' needs our prayer support more than ever.
- Another sister finding lock-down a challenge has been 'B'. Thank God for her son 'P' who has helped her to get through. She has good days, and she also suffers bad days.
- We thank God that 'P' has had support from family and friends during this time. Losing 'F' was a hard time for her, and we are thankful for Fellowship support.
- Our dear sister 'F' has also suffered physically during these months. She is now, no longer able to walk so well, and has had to step back from much of the things she has been doing in the past.

I apologise if I have failed to mention any one else, here. But nevertheless, you are all constantly being upheld in prayer. For any special requests, contact myself or Margaret Gardner and we will arrange a visit if necessary. Or, may be, you would like to receive Holy Communion; let us know.



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THE GOOD SHEPHERD FELLOWSHIP

**Serving God in the
Community**

Future Dates!

There would normally be a list of diary dates on this back-page. Unfortunately, we have missed out on a lot of our Social Calendar.

For some, I know that these events, especially the ones around Christmastime, are a special pleasure, as social interaction and fellowship are at the core of who we are as humans. However, if these things are not to be possible, then I hope that family and close friends will help get us all through the coming season.

*Make use of your telephones, letter writing, and other social media, to keep in touch, and "...therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact, you are already doing." **1 Thessalonians 5 v 11***

This, my friends, is The Church!

The Hotel Du Vin are in regular contact, reviewing our situation for re-convening in The Potting Shed, whenever it may be possible. We come under the legislation for "conferences and events", and as such, are unable to meet with more than 6 persons, at present.

When I have more news, I will let everyone know.

Thanks for your patience.

With Christian love from

Graham & Aura Marina Charters