

Dear Friends,

As the days of isolation continue, I do hope that you are keeping well and that your morale is being kept up by your faith.

We are working on maintaining a virtual presence. If you are on Facebook please visit the new group Wey Methodists, which is for people associated with our circuit and friends. Please visit, like and contribute to this group.

This testing time is bearing fruit in unexpected ways. In England a car maker has utilised its engineering know how to design and build a new kind of medical ventilator. In Italy two young men have used their 3D printer to adapt a piece of sports equipment for use as a ventilator, proving that necessity is indeed the mother of invention. The remarkable and speedy creation of new hospitals in convention centres is also deserving of our admiration for those who have worked tirelessly.

We are still the church and the church is still active. Much pastoral care is of necessity by telephone. Meetings have been held by ZOOM video conferencing. A reflection for Passion Sunday that I broadcast via the university chaplaincy has had 1,000 views and is watched by 100 – 150 people a day. Apparently, it takes 90 days to form new habits. If this lockdown lasts for 90 days will we want to go back to former ways of doing things? The answer is probably “yes and no”!

Do you want to join a ZOOM online Bible Study, fellowship, coffee morning or prayer time? Please let me know. Are you in a WhatsApp group to share prayer requests with church friends? I know of one church where this has been a feature for some time.

Please see my reflections on Palm Sunday which are attached. I hope that this is a blessing to you, and especially for those who cannot access online worship.

There is also a worship at home page attached. Now is not forever, all things are passing, and all will be well.

I pray that you will keep safe and stay well.

God bless you,

Keith

The following is an extract of an email sent to me by Grace Keal, Ecumenical Co-ordinator at Churches Together in Surrey:

A simple but great idea from the north of England for Easter Sunday; Sing Resurrection <https://www.northumbriacommunity.org/2020/03/27/sing-resurrection-a-counter-infection-of-joy-and-hope-for-easter-day/>

Which features on

CITB's website <https://ctbi.org.uk/sing-resurrection/>

and

CTE's website

https://www.cte.org.uk/Articles/571592/Home/News/Latest_news/Sing_Resurrection_on.a_spx

so, plenty of endorsement there.

And a great website from a church in Pinner. Their **lockdown ideas** section covers a load of helpful ideas for staying sane at this time. I especially like it because the variety covers all sorts of people. I might not be interested in crafting something, but I am hungry to learn about growing vegetables - both covered. <https://hope1513.com>