

# **LONDON ROAD METHODIST CHURCH**

**2 MAY 2021**

## ***Gill's greetings***

Dear All

I do hope you are all well, and continue to think of you and hold you all in my prayers.

We came back from a safe and socially distanced week in Cornwall on Friday, having had a lovely relaxed time in a caravan highly recommended by two SCALLOP members. In reality, we did very little, and the holiday, as so much else, felt very different to how holidays used to feel. Highlights were a quiet visit to Gwennap Pit, where Wesley preached 18 times; Truro Cathedral and the site of a tin mine near Redruth. The latter was all shut, of course, including the museum, but there were some beautiful small botanical gardens contrastingly with the stark architecture of the chimneys and wheels.

Wherever you are able to be this week, garden or town, kitchen or living room, may you find wonder and surprise and a sense of God's loving and eternal presence, and know his peace.

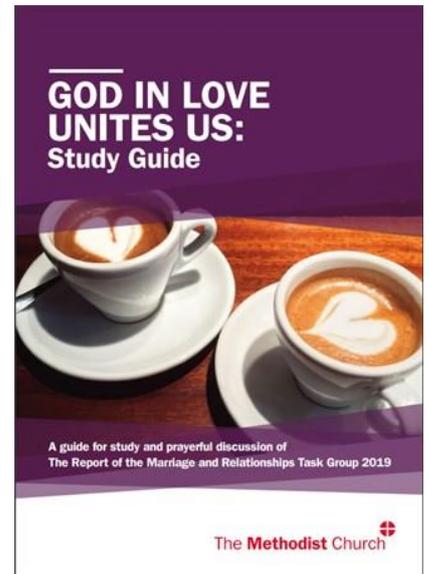
Love in Christ, Gill

## ***And more from Gill***

Thank you, Gill, for your greetings. Gill has also written some thoughts for all her churches on the attached sheet.

## ***“God in Love Unites Us”***

We will all remember that, some time ago, there were two consultations, open to everyone in the Circuit, when the “God in Love Unites Us” report on marriage and relationships was discussed. It was evident from these that there was a range of differing attitudes to the proposals contained in the report. At this year’s Methodist Conference, to be held in Birmingham from 24<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July, the proposals will be voted upon. In preparation for this each of the Spring District Synods was also asked to vote, although those votes have no binding force and only the votes of Conference will decide. The Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District Synod (to which our Circuit belongs) met on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April and the results of the voting are shown on the attached sheet. Please surround this year’s Conference in prayer as it considers this and all its other business. Above all please pray that we hold fast to the knowledge that God in His love for all His children – His “flock” as Gill reminded us last Sunday - does indeed gather us together.



## ***Later this month***

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> 7 pm “Just Desserts” Monthly Gathering via Zoom and telephone

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> 7 pm Church Council via Zoom and telephone

Pentecost Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 2.30 pm We return, God willing, to meeting for worship on the premises in a service led by Gill.

## ***From the hymn book***

Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, the ill that I this day have done; that with the world, myself, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be. *Bishop Thomas Ken (1679)*