

# Fulneck and Gomersal Moravian Church

## Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020



### Minister's Letter

Dear friends,

It has been quite a week. Since Monday evening, we have been all been asked to socially distance ourselves. In case anyone isn't sure exactly what this means, the following is from the Government website:

*Social distancing measures are steps you can take to reduce the social interaction between people. This will help reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). They are:*

- 1. Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough.*
  - 2. Avoid non-essential use of public transport, varying your travel times to avoid rush hour, when possible.*
  - 3. Work from home, where possible. Your employer should support you to do this. Please refer to employer guidance for more information.*
  - 4. Avoid large gatherings, and gatherings in smaller public spaces such as pubs, cinemas, restaurants, theatres, bars, clubs.*
  - 5. Avoid gatherings with friends and family. Keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet, and social media.*
  - 6. Use telephone or online services to contact your GP or other essential services*
- Everyone should be trying to follow these measures as much as is pragmatic.*

*We strongly advise you to follow the above measures as much as you can and to significantly limit your face-to-face interaction with friends and family if possible, particularly if you:*

- are over 70*
- have an underlying health condition (i.e. anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds)*
- are pregnant*

*This advice is likely to be in place for some weeks.*

On Tuesday, Moravian Church House issued a letter to all congregations telling us that **all activities including services are suspended until at least Easter**. Many other denominations have done the same.

One activity that has been able to continue but in a different form is the Fulneck Lent Lunch. A notice has been given to all Fulneck residents asking if anyone wants lunch delivered to them in their home, and there have been a good number of responses. Thanks to Br David Adsetts for doing this. If it is possible to do this again next week, we will send out a notice a few days beforehand.

In both congregations, the Church Committees have lists of members with whom they will try to keep regular contact. We also hope to be able to provide help for those who are struggling to get food and other essentials, although you may already have family, friends and neighbours who have offered to do this. **If you need help, please contact me, or a member of your Church Committee.** If you are under 70, do not have an underlying health condition, and are able and willing to help those who ask, please let me know so that we build up a list of volunteers who we can call upon as and when needed.

Sr Allison Turner has asked if anyone would like to join an email group to support each other through prayer, good news etc. If you are interested, please send an email to [13allison.turner@googlemail.com](mailto:13allison.turner@googlemail.com). The Provincial Board are looking at the best ways to continue the life of the church as much as possible, and all the ministers are having an online seminar this Thursday. Use of technology will play a significant role, for example we will make more use of the congregation Facebook pages, but we will not forget those who do not have access to the internet.

There will be another newsletter out this time next week. If you would like to receive it by email, please let me know. Stay safe.

Yours in Christ,

Br Michael Newman

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### Church Committee Members

#### Fulneck

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Sr Chris Robbins (0113 2570569)  
Br Jonathan Saynor (0113 8058154)  
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Sr Ann Addison (01274 870017)  
Sr Christine Butcher (01274 875217)  
Sr Shirley Holroyd (01274 877429)  
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Sr Margaret Ives (01274 685562)  
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