



# LOCKDOWN LETTER

**Wednesday 13 October 2021**

I am enjoying the small but enjoyable blessing of being able to catch up with a couple of friends (one person at a time) for a cuppa in the garden or a walk in the park.

Who can you connect with this week? Some of you are writing letters and sending cards. Others are making phone calls or sending texts or emails. Whatever your favourite medium please persist in connecting with your church friends, especially those who don't use email and pass on the news contained in this week's LOCKDOWN LETTER.

If you or someone you know would benefit from a "lockdown call" let Patsy (ph: 5218219, 021 024 00417) or Isabella (ph: 575 5323, 021 776 263) know.

Please continue to pray for our church family, community, our country's leaders and all those working on the frontline or in essential businesses.



We are all being asked to support a national day of action this **Super Saturday, 16 October.**

**How you can help:**

- Get vaccinated! Get your first dose, or if it has been over 3 weeks since your first dose, get your second dose now.
- Spread the word about Super Saturday and talk to people about why you got the vaccine and where to find reliable information about the vaccine: [COVID-19 vaccination: Your questions answered](#)
- Vaccine clinics will be open all over the country, all day and into the evening. You can find your nearest one here: [Walk-in and drive-through vaccination centres](#)

IF YOU NEED HELP ACCESSING A VACCINATION CENTRE PLEASE CONTACT MARGARET MATHIESON [Mathieson.family@gmail.com](mailto:Mathieson.family@gmail.com) or phone 027 277 4448.

**Progress towards our future:** Your Church Council hopes to have news soon about a congregational meeting via zoom that will enable parishioners to vote for 4 people to serve on the **Ministry Settlement Board**. Those who do not use computers will be able to vote via phone. 7 people have been nominated for 4 available places. The two Church Council representatives on the MSB are Helen Millard and Derrick Burke. The MSB does the important work related to making a new ministry appointment including: reviewing the life and mission of the congregation, discerning a suitable way forward, developing a report of its review and recommendations for submission to the church council, congregation and presbytery and creating a parish profile in consultation with the Church Council.



**Food for hunger:** Please keep buying packaged food and cans to help us build "towers of food" for those less fortunate ourselves. The food will be donated to the Salvation Army and local foodbank at Christmas time. If you'd prefer to make a monetary donation towards this initiative please deposit your contribution into the St Heliers Presbyterian Church bank account: 01 0262 0010575 00 giving your name and reference "foodbank". For more information about this initiative contact Bill Duncan 029 9152425.



**Lockdown Worship:** This week's worship options include a written reflection by Jill Kayser sharing ideas on managing lockdown "one day at a time" and the online worship service from the virtual community of St Andrew's Symonds Street.

These worship resources will be emailed to you on Saturday afternoon. Thank you for your encouraging feedback and please let Jill know if you'd like to share a written reflection.

**Still Seeking a Health and Safety Officer:** Our Church Council is committed to ensuring that safety is a priority for our Church, Community Centres, staff, parishioners and the public. Graeme Smith, our Acting General Manager is doing a great job on revising all our health and safety policies and has identified a need for a Health and Safety Officer to oversee this important area in the future. A role description and responsibilities (not too onerous) is available for interested candidates. Please let Graeme or any Church Council member know if you would be willing to serve our church in this area.

**Lockdown Inspiration:** Read a good book, watched a good film or TV series, listened to a good YouTube talk or podcast?



Have you read "**The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse**" by Charlie Mackesy? It's a beautifully crafted and illustrated story book that at first glance you may dismiss as a children's book, but it is filled with wisdom and warmth and is sure to lift the spirits of all ages and stages. Mackesy writes in his foreward "I hope this book encourages you to live courageously with more kindness for yourself and for others and to ask for help when you need it - which is always a brave thing to do." And the opening line: "I'm so small" said the mole. "Yes," said the boy, "but you

*make a huge difference."*

Remember you too can make a difference with small acts of kindness.

**What's inspiring you this lockdown?**

Stay safe and well. God bless.

**Jill Kayser, Transition Facilitator**