

## The Whatevers

"Brothers and sisters, whatever . . . is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8

Every Friday, the national news my family views concludes the broadcast by highlighting an uplifting story. In contrast to the rest of the news, it's always a breath of fresh air. A recent "good" Friday story focused on a reporter who had suffered from COVID-19, fully recovered, and then decided to donate plasma to possibly help others in their fight against the virus. At the time, the jury was still out on how effective antibodies would be. But when many of us felt helpless and even in light of the discomfort of donating plasma (via needle), she felt it "was a small price to pay for the potential payoff."

After that Friday broadcast, my family and I felt encouraged—dare I say hope-filled. That's the power of the "whatevers" Paul described in Philippians 4: "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable" (v. 8). Did Paul have in mind plasma donation? Of course not. But did he have in mind sacrificial actions on behalf of someone in need—in other words, Christlike behavior? I've no doubt the answer is yes.

But that hopeful news wouldn't have had its full effect if it hadn't been broadcast. It's our privilege as witnesses to God's goodness to look and listen for the "whatevers" all around us and then share that good news with others that they may be encouraged.

By: John Blase - Taken from odb.org



Watch the <u>Traditional Service</u> online with Pr John Ferguson



Watch the Parallel Service online with Elder Florence Allen

# **Announcements / News**

□ HARVEST THANKSGIVING. The goods from the Harvest Festival this year will be given to the Meriden Food Bank and to our own Welfare Department for distribution.

Please bring non-perishable goods to the church on Friday 24th 1.30-5.30 p.m. We suggest pasta, pasta sauces, tinned vegetables, tinned fish, tinned fruit and household goods. Fresh produce can also be brought for the harvest at these times. **In addition,** children will be invited to bring small gifts - suitable for one person - to the front of the church after the children's story.

For instance: 1 banana, 1 orange, 1 apple, a small bunch of grapes and a chocolate bar - in a shoebox, or similar, with the top covered in cling film, please. Thank you

**Parallel Service:** Weather permitting we will gather in the park from 12pm. Please bring camping chairs, a picnic rug, food and drinks to stay for the picnic. If the weather is unsuitable, we will move the meeting to the Cedar Sycamore room.

# ☐ Children's Sabbath School *update*

By God's grace, we have some more people helping with Sabbath school and we are working hard to run two classes at church. One for the younger children (up to primary) in the Williams Hall and one for the older children (junior / early teens) in the Larch Room.

Sabbath school starts at 9:45am. If anyone else is willing to help, please let me know.

There are two groups running online. Kindergarten / Primary and Junior / Earlyteen. If anyone would like access to the login details, please contact Yvonne Ishida at <a href="mailto:ishida.yvonne@gmail.com">ishida.yvonne@gmail.com</a>. The Cradle Roll videos are going out each week as usual.

□ **Prayer Meeting** on Wednesday at 7pm. Please join us and be encouraged by a beautiful message and time of prayer. Zoom Meeting ID: 863 3281 2854 Password: 063944. LINK

**ANGEL VOICES** – (children's choir) New members are welcome to zoom rehearsals at 1.30pm on Sabbaths. If a child would like to join, please e-mail <a href="mailto:childrenschoir@yahoo.com">childrenschoir@yahoo.com</a> for more information, including the words of the carol being prepared for Christmas.

□ Adult Sabbath School has started meeting in person at church with two classes currently in the Maple Room and Armstrong Hall from 10am to 11am. The lessons will also be accessible via Zoom with the following links:

Williams Hall class: LINK Meeting ID: 839 1240 8877 | Passcode: 620571

**Maple Class:** <u>LINK</u> Meeting ID: 757 070 1887 || Passcode: 111000

(Or by phone: +44 203 481 5240)

### ADRA ANNUAL APPEAL - great news!

A number of donations have been made to Audrey's JustGiving Page for ADRA in the last few days and they have boosted the total to over £14,000.00! We give praise and thanks to God. Audrey is continuing to donate to ADRA on the birthdays of her family and friends throughout the year.

If you would like to join her by acknowledging a birthday or to give thanks to God by donating to ADRA - please go to <a href="https:justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-Balderstone1">https:justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-Balderstone1</a> Thank you.

**Cradle Roll Programme August edition** Sabbath at 9:45am on <u>Youtube</u> and Facebook.

**DISABILITY AWARENESS.** Now that the church is open for a bigger congregation but precautions like social distancing are still being observed, can all attendees please be aware of the need to support those with additional needs? It might be necessary for someone with a sensory disability — which might not be obvious — to sit near the front. If you have an extra need, please feel free to ask for space to be made in a row nearer the front if necessary, or ask for support from a duty deacon when making these arrangements.

**Teens Sports Day** Sunday 26th Sept 12:30 - 3:30pm. Bring your picnic, plenty of water for the day and your bike as we will pedal for the peace hospice as well. Be ready to play volleyball, football and more!

**Teens Meeting:** Saturday 25th Sept 5pm to 8pm. Interactive devotional followed by agape dinner and socials.

**Teens Pedal for the Peace Hospice**. Help our Teens to fundraise for the Peace Hospice <a href="https://justgiving.com/fundraising/teens-department">https://justgiving.com/fundraising/teens-department</a> share the link with your friends and colleagues.

#### **Harvest Service - 25th September**

Announcements - Audrey Balderstone Prelude - Ensemble Invocation - Audrey Balderstone

Harvest Hymn: NAH 554 - Come Ye Thankful People, Come

### **Thanksgiving Testimonials**

Angel Voices - The Butterfly Song Scripture Deut 6: 8-11- Pastor John Ferguson Harvest Hymn NAH 558 - Sing to the Lord of Harvest Children's story Alison Burgess Children bring their gifts

Meditation in Music: 'Thanks Be to God/For the Beauty of the Earth' - Ensemble

Family Prayer - Audrey Andersson

Meditation: "The Fly-In Pizza" - Pastor John Ferguson

Harvest Hymn: NAH 556 - We Plough the Fields and Scatter

Benediction - Pastor John Ferguson
Postlude - Ensemble









**CODE RED** 



**Cradle Roll Sabbath School -**September

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Stanborough Park Church

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