

Hi Everyone,

Good day from RLBC! Hope you are all bearing up under lockdown.

"God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it." (Genesis 1: 28)

God's creation mandate is for us to be productive (be fruitful). Stuck indoors it feels as if most of that productivity is going to waste. Let's pray for creative ways in which to reflect the image of our creator - to continue to work for the glory of God!

Yours in Christ, John.

Please pray for Marcia Rooney and her family. Marcia's mum, Martha, passed away with Coronavirus on Thursday 23rd April.



Praise the Lord for safe delivery of **Benjamin Austin Lyons** born on Monday, 27th April weighing 8lb 2oz.
Congratulations to Sam and Rosanne!
A grandson to Howard and Maura. Thanks for everyone's prayers.

HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday Roger!

We all want to send our love and congratulations to Roger and Irene Hawke as Roger, God willing, celebrates his 80th birthday on Wednesday (May 6th).

We begin a new series on Sunday looking at what it means to follow Christ through our job.

This applies to everyone, whatever their age or current context, since by 'work' we mean whatever you do during the week.

As part of the series Karen hopes to interview people every

week so get ready in case she asks you these questions:

Q1: What is your 'work'? Q2: What difference has covid-19 made to your work? Q3: What difference does being a Christian make to your work?

Faith@Work



CAP Annual celebration - Sunday May 10th

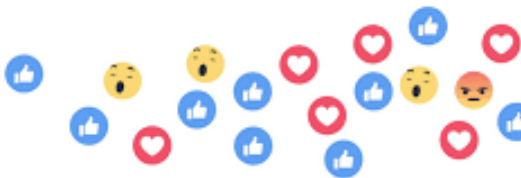
Now that we partner with CAP once a year we have a service to celebrate the work of CAP and remind ourselves what the ministry is and how we can support it. Despite lockdown we are going ahead with the celebration this year on Sunday May 10th. The livestream service (11am) will give us the opportunity to thank God for CAP, pray for Debie and the ministry of debt relief, give to CAP financially, and get involved ourselves in practical ways.

CAP Plant Sale

One positive to the COVID-19 self isolation is our gardens have never looked better! If you would like to 'foodscape' your gardens with some homegrown additions, please let me know. You can pick up your seedlings from RLBC by arrangement

with Debie (07403 982778). Donations to CAP are welcome. Currently available for your green fingers are ...

- Butternut Squash
- Tomato
- Dwarf Kale
- Sprouting Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- Greyhound Cabbage



FaceBook Live @12pm every day apart from Sunday

For those on FB these daily devotions offer encouragement and the chance to feel part of the RLBC community.

For those not on FB they can be watched later on the website - go to 'video broadcast' and then 'church @ 12'.

VE Day celebrations

This year we mark 75 years since the end of the Second World War. As a result Friday May 8th is a public holiday. Therefore there will be no FB live devotions on that day and we will send out the weekly email on Thursday May 7th instead. Marking these historic events under lockdown feels very strange. We are trying to think of ways we can mark it at home - **if you've got creative ideas then please send them in.**



RLBC giving – another way

We have set up an online giving page, which enables donations to be made to RLBC by debit or credit card. Donations are made through CAF Donate <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12907> The church pays a small fee on these donations. Donations may also be made directly to the church's bank account, and no fees are paid on these donations.

CAF Bank Limited - Sort Code: 40 52 40

Account number: 00022474

Account name: Rayners Lane Baptist Church

Thank you for your financial support.

RLBC private FaceBook group

While we still want people to post comments and prayer requests on our FB live page, we do want remind people that this page is public and therefore (theoretically) anyone could read your comments. Therefore we have set up a private group as part of that page for regular attenders to share personal prayer requests. That way only people who are members of the group can read them. The way the group works is that you have to be invited by someone in the group to join and then accept their invitation. If you would like to join the group and have not received an invite then please call or email the Church Office - 0208 868 6772 / churchoffice@rlbc.org.uk



RLBC Website – Coronavirus Information

We're aware that so much information has been distributed through various sources in recent weeks! In order to help you find anything you need we have added a section on the RLBC website which you can access at <https://www.rlbc.org.uk/coronavirus/>

This will link you to various pages with RLBC Updates, Help and Support Info, Jobs and Volunteering Opportunities, Faith Resources for Children, Young People and Families and other General Resources. We hope that you find it helpful.

Video Calls - advice

The lockdown means that many of us are having to get used to frequent video calls - using things like zoom, Skype and webex. We have prepared a few tips for those who are new to all this. The advice sheet is attached and has been uploaded to the information section of our website.

LT covid-19 review

Under lockdown the RLBC Leadership Team is currently meeting weekly (every Monday evening via webex - a video conferencing platform) in order to pray together and to review the current crisis. We hope to reduce the frequency of the meetings once the government's exit strategy becomes clearer.

Support @RLBC

We appreciate that most people are being well supported by family and neighbours. However, if you do need someone to get some shopping for you, pick up your medicine (or whatever) do call the Church Office - **0208 868 6772**. We know that the 'British way' is to soldier on and not ask for help but we have a team of volunteers who are sitting around waiting for exactly this opportunity - just ask! We are also distributing hard copies of this email with audio CDs of the sermons to church members who are not online. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this then please contact the Church Office. Also if you want to share news please send it in to the church office and we can include it in this email each week.



Church Prayer Meetings to restart - Thurs May 14th, 7.30pm

Fortnightly church prayer meetings will start up again on May 14th (with a pause to clap for NHS at 8pm). To begin with this will be via a video conferencing platform called 'Webex' (similar to Zoom but more secure). More details on how to use Webex will come in this email next week.



Megan and I would like to say a massive thank you to all at RLBC for the wonderful farewell service last Sunday. We have been massively blessed by all the messages and gifts that we have received. It has been a privilege to journey together and I am excited for what God has in store for us all - thank you. As I move on, here is some essential contact information:

For any youth ministry related queries please contact –
Peter Clark on 07850780025 and peter.r.clark@btinternet.com

For any 20&30 group related queries please contact –
Cherry Goh on 07720656775 and cherryconnect@gmail.com

Blessings, James.



At this current time most children are not in school and teachers are working very differently. Re:gen wants to be ready to support the schools in September with a complete team. With this in mind they are recruiting a Schools Work Coordinator for September this year. For more details, please visit <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/who-we-are/jobs>.



Francis Hardwick, who is not on the internet, wants to especially thank the many folk who sent her 85th Birthday Greetings on Monday and wanted to say that she successfully completed the 26,000 challenge as she celebrated by walking 13000 steps and then later completing 13000 stiches whilst knitting,

As with all London Marathon entrants, she did this for a charity, hers is called "SPANNA" - an international animal charity that works all over the world, providing support from

emergency care and aid to free veterinary services. If you would like to contribute details are on the internet!

Faith@Work Home Groups

Alongside the Sunday morning series on work several of the RLBC Home Groups are still meeting online. Next week will be the first in the new series as we study the passage covered on Sunday. For more details please contact Ian McNulty - iamcnulty@hotmail.com

