Dear Friends,

I do hope that you are well and that you are finding the easing of the lockdown helpful. It's still a very strange world isn't it?

Almost all aspects of my church, charity and mentoring life continue to be online but the big change has been with the antique shops which have all spluttered into life over the past couple of weeks. It really is lovely to see my dealer friends again, and encouraging to see customers returning. Sales have returned to a fairly normal level very quickly which is encouraging.

Last month I started marking off a number of days as "writing days" and some of you have asked what I'm writing! I have been commissioned by Premier to write their bible devotionals which appear in their Voice of Hope magazine. I have just completed my first 66 devotionals which will be in the October to December edition. They produce 35,000 of these notes and also email them daily to tens of thousands of other people. They are also broadcast each weekday on Premier Christian Radio and Premier Praise, and I will be recording these in September. This is a significant new commitment but I love nothing more than opening up the Scriptures and making the message as clear and relevant to everyday life as I can.

I haven't said it for a while so let me remind you that you can, at any time, unsubscribe from this prayer diary if you would rather not receive it. Hundreds of people receive this diary and I haven't had much contact with some of you for many years and so if you would prefer not to receive it I totally understand and would hope you would feel entirely free to unsubscribe. If you want to continue that's brilliant!

Thanks as ever for your interest and prayers.

Yours ever,

Jonathan

JULY DIARY

Wednesday 1st Premier Staff online Meeting

Thursday 2nd
Meeting with our supervising social worker
Waterlooville Baptist Church online Members' Meeting

Friday 3rd Mentoring

Waterlooville Baptist Church Deacons' Meeting to consider (hopefully) ministerial candidates from this week's National Settlement Team Meeting.

Saturday 4th Day Off Sunday 5th

Preaching online at St Nic's Parish Church, Newbury

Monday 6th

Holidaying in Devon

Tuesday 7th

Holidaying in Devon

Wednesday 8th

Parish Nursing Trustees' online Meeting

Thursday 9th

Churches for All online Meeting

Friday 10th

Writing Day

Saturday 11th

Day Off

Sunday 12th

Please pray for Sandhurst Baptist Church where I was due to preach today. They have deferred the visit until I can get there in the flesh!

Monday 13th

Morning - Eastleigh Baptist Church online Ministry Team Meeting

Evening - Eastliegh Bapist Church online Leadership Team Meeting

Tuesday 14th

Ashley Baptist Church online Members' Meeting – to talk through with them the process for appointing a new minister. They hope to start looking at names of possible candidates in September

Wednesday 15th

Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire visits

Thursday 16th

Waterlooville Baptist Church online Deacons' Meeting

Friday 17th

Writing Day

Saturday 18th

Day Off

Sunday 19th

Preaching online at Waterlooville Baptist Church

Monday 20th

Newbury Office

Tuesday 21st Surrey visits

Wednesday 22nd

Ministers' online Cluster Lunch – this has been working particularly well online.

Thursday 23rd Spurgeon's College Governors' Meeting

Friday 24th Writing Day

Saturday 25th Day Off

Sunday 26th Preaching online at Eastleigh Baptist Church

Monday 27th Newbury Office

Tuesday 28th

Meeting (yes an actual meeting!) with the leaders of Central Church, Swindon

Wednesday 29th Oxfordshire visits

Thursday 30th Mentoring meeting

Friday 31st Writing Day

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