

## Good Neighbourhood Group April 2020

St Luke's is one of the three Circuit Methodist Churches that has been allowed to continue to provide food support to its local community. Initially we provided quite a lot of support when shops were running out of basic items but this has eased off now. We are members of the Helpers in Hoylake and Meols Group which leafleted 10,000 homes in the immediate days after 'lockdown' and the following is taken from the iNews "A spokesperson for Helpers in Hoylake and Meols, the Facebook group, said: "We had a report yesterday that an ex-soldier with heart and chest problems had zero food in his cupboards and a volunteer quickly got to a local church foodbank and a supermarket and filled them up." The church was St Luke's.

One of the groups we are particularly concerned about is Food and Friends and I applied for a grant from the Charles Morgan Foundation for food and IT support for Food and Friends and we were awarded £300.

With the shutdown happening so close to Easter we needed to come up with alternative arrangements, so I did a Palm Sunday and Easter Weekend display outside. All our Palm crosses went as did the Love Hearts, so I have to trust that people read the words as well!!



Right at the beginning Craig Price and I chatted regarding how we could do services and with a free Go To Meeting licence we were off 😊. We moved over to Zoom as its better for music, slides etc and we have enjoyed some great gatherings with the Sunday service seeing circa 65 people attending. The Tuesday evening Life Group continues weekly now via Zoom and we have a weekly Thursday evening fellowship gathering with Craig. For the last two weeks we have run a Saturday evening quiz which is seeing 'new to St Luke's' people and this week we start virtual Kidz Klub and What's The Point via Zoom.

The upcoming VE Day celebration gives us another opportunity to show the community that the church is still here and whilst we cannot do what we originally planned, we will find a way. The early Acts church was never about a building. Our doors are closed but we have an opportunity to do church and be church in very different ways.