

The Gift of Years Rugby



Prayer Letter

Spring 2020

'He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.'
Ps 91

Lindsay Pelloquin, Lead Chaplain writes....

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

I write this letter as we begin the fifth week of our nation's lock down during the global Covid-19 pandemic. Never in my lifetime has there been such an event that would affect every person on the planet in the way this pandemic has. You will all have stories of how you and your loved ones have been directly affected by social isolation, church closures, school and university closures, working from home and furlough and fears for the safety of keyworkers working on the frontline.

Residential care homes are closed to visitors for the time being and so The Gift of Years Team have had to suspend all their visits and activities for the foreseeable future. However, we are continuing with our ministry in other ways – mainly through prayer.

We invite all our friends and prayer partners to join us in praying for the care home communities in our own town and beyond at this extraordinary challenging time for them.

Please pray for the residents.....

Residents in care homes are among the highest risk groups in this pandemic and the nature of communal living means that once the Covid 19 virus is in a care home it can rapidly spread to residents and staff. This means that residents are no longer able to have visits from family or to enjoy social interaction and stimulation. Many homes are keeping residents isolated in their bedrooms and caring for them individually.

Please pray for God's loving care and protection over all the care homes in Rugby. Pray that residents will stay safe and well and that God will be close to them during this time of isolation from their loved ones.

Please pray for the relatives.....

Many relatives are finding it very distressing that they can no longer visit their loved ones in care homes. They worry about their health and well-being and that without frequent contact that their loved ones may forget them. It has been very traumatic for some relatives who have lost loved ones to the virus or for other reasons and have not been permitted to visit during the illness and not be there when they died. When there is a funeral only 6 people are permitted to attend, they must sit apart in the chapel and are not permitted to bring comfort to one another by touching or holding each other. Families are struggling to grieve the loss of loved ones properly and are often alone in their grief.

Please pray for all relatives at this time. Please pray that God would reach out to them, bring peace to them in their anxiety and comfort them in his love. May they be able to trust their loved ones into his loving care.

Please pray for the staff.....

Care staff are keyworkers who are right on the frontline of this pandemic. They are under great stress and pressure at this time. They worry that they could be carriers of the virus into the homes and that they could be carriers of the virus from the homes to their families who they go back to at the end of their shifts. They are worried that they do not have all the protective equipment that they need to keep safe as they care for very vulnerable people and fear that they may become ill. Staff who show symptoms must then stay at home and isolate leaving the care home short staffed.

Please pray that staff will soon get all the protective equipment they need. Please pray for great strength and courage to keep going through this time and for good morale among staff so that they can pull together, support and encourage one another.

Please pray for the Gift of Years Team.....

Please pray for us that God would hold us together as a team and be close to us during this lock down time. Pray that our ministry and service would continue through our prayer and through our letters, cards and phone calls to encourage the homes. Pray that we will soon be back in the homes and be able to bring God's healing love to those communities. God bless you and hold you safe in the palm of his hand.

Lindsay Pelloquin

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