

Greetings Chepstow Methodist Church Friends!

It's hard to believe that we have just recently entered another season of Lent when, in some ways, it almost feels like the wilderness of last Lent has been ongoing since last year's Lent began. I wonder how any of us would have reacted if we had been told a year ago that we'd still be where we are today!

To say that the last year has been challenging is obviously an understatement. However, I just want to say how proud I am of the people of Chepstow Methodist Church and your resilience during this time. You have looked after one another, have adapted to new ways of doing things, and have done it all with so much grace, with your commitment to God and to each other at the forefront. I also hope that you all have continued to have a sense of God's presence and God's faithfulness during this time. "Best of all is God is with us", as has been the Methodist theme for the 2020-2021 Connexional Year, and that has, indeed, rung true.

Although we still have a little way to go before things begin to feel 'normal', it is very encouraging to see the light at the end of this long tunnel. As I'm sure you know, the vaccines are making a difference, with the infection rate and the death rate going down. What a godsend these vaccines have been! So, let us continue to keep the faith, holding onto our faith and to one another (figuratively speaking) until we can go back out into the world, without fear or limitations, to proclaim the good news that God held us through it all. Thanks be to God!

With love and blessings,
Rev. Rachel