MAKING A FRESH START

August 2020

Dear Friends,

The time has come to gradually find our way out of Lockdown. To get on with our work again, to lead a more normal life. What has happened, has happened, but we must not let it dominate our lives. There are things that need to be done. Obligations to be fulfilled and a life to be lived. But don't misunderstand me, we still have to follow government guidance by wearing masks and social distancing.

It helps if we have faith in a Living God, whose nature is love. We still need the support of families and friends, and work to do as best we can. We must not despair of life, all things are passing and God never changes. We must move on, trusting that underneath are the Everlasting Arms.

Oh, I know, it is not easy. I have been depressed and downhearted sometimes. This is when I turn to pen and paper. Writing down my thoughts and feelings helps me to keep things in perspective. It helps me to see things through the eyes of God, the author and perfector of our faith. He can restore our souls, give us the strength to go on and hope for the future. Till at last we shall come to His Eternal Kingdom.

Each day is a new beginning. We have to live in the present moment, where we are now. Jesus taught us to ask and we will receive, to seek and we will find, to knock and the door will be opened. This is how I have found the answers and seen the way forward and been given courage.

One of the things I have been doing through lockdown has been to write a round robin letter, each month, to parishioners in Funtington and friends in East Goscote, Leicestershire, Luton, Bedfordshire and Albury, Surrey, where Dudley and I served during his ministry. It has been a wonderful way of keeping in touch with you all.

P.T.O.

Thanks to those of you who have responded with letters, cards and telephone calls. The Lord is with us in our journey through life.

"In all thy ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct thy paths."

Jane Gummer.