



Saffron
Walden
Corps

September 2020: Issue:6

Corps Connections

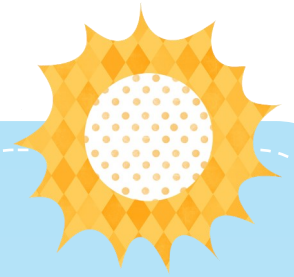
Keeping the worshipping community connected

As fingers move towards the heating switch (I'm resisting for now!) and thoughts turn towards cosier evenings, Autumn and Winter are prime times to focus on and give thanks for the things given to us by God to keep us spiritually warm and alive to Him and the world around us. Faith, Prayer, the Bible, the Holy Spirit - all these things crucial to keeping the fires of faith burning and producing the energy needed to be God's people hope.

Scripture reminds us **'to fan into flame the gift of God, ... For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline'**. 2Tim1:6-7.

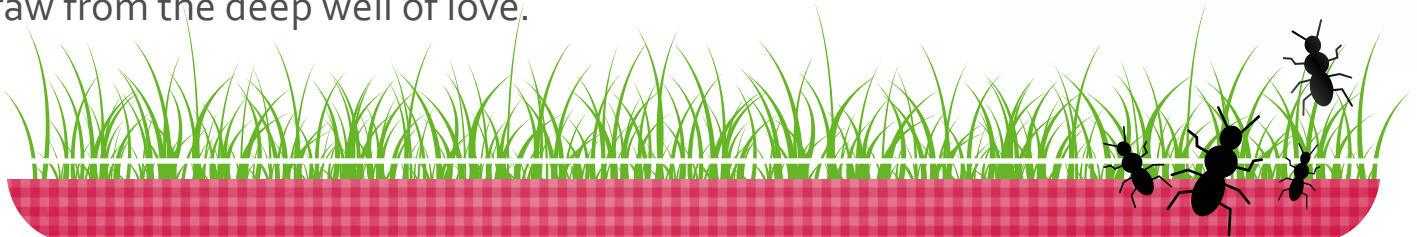
As the nights draw in, don't let the darkness weigh heavy on your soul, rather use the longer evenings to fan your faith, developing self-discipline through time in prayer and God's word, opening the door for the Holy Spirit to give you strength and resilience for the winter months ahead.

May the psalms of praise on the coming pages, written by a number of Corps members, help encourage us to draw from the deep well of love.



You draw near to those who call out to you, listening closely, especially when their hearts are true. Every one of your godly lovers receives even more than what they ask for. For you hear what their hearts really long for and you bring them your saving strength.

Psalm 145:18-19
(TPT)





PSALMS OF PRAISE

O God, you sent us Jesus.
My heart is overflowing with joy at the mere sound of His name.
Forgiven, rescued, saved.
Made clean. Loved, restored.

I praise you. I love you.
You are almighty, majestic, worthy, limitless and strong.
There is none like you.
I open my heart to my God.

Dear Lord and Father of mankind including me,
praise you for all you have done, are doing and will do
for me my whole life through.

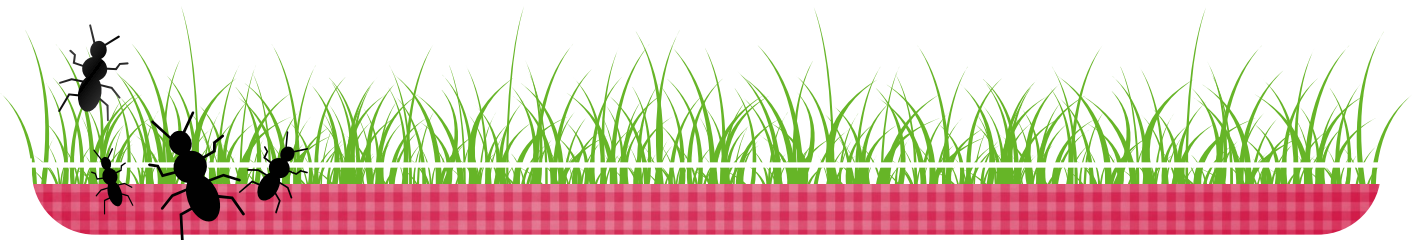
Praise you especially for the things you do that I don't even know about.

Praise you that when I was that 100th sheep and didn't even know about your
sheep pen, you came, and you scooped me up, and you carried me there.

Such love.

Praise you XXX

I praise you Lord, I love you Lord, I give you all the glory due to your name.
I worship and honour you with all my heart. I want your heart and my heart to
beat at the same time, for I love you, love you with all my heart, and as I draw
near to you, draw near to me. All glory, honour and praise I give to you my Lord,
God and Saviour and Holy Spirit.





Thank you Lord that you can meet all our needs.
Thank you, Thank you can be the the key to wholeness.
Help us to turn over to you the pressures and stresses
that we experience.
Teach us to relax in your Spirit.
May the same Holy Spirit
Be with us now, as we listen.
Help us to grow spiritually
and to become what you want us to be.
Hear us in our prayers. Amen

God help me to keep my eyes, heart and spirit focussed on you and not on myself,
then my worry will be replaced by your presence and your peace.

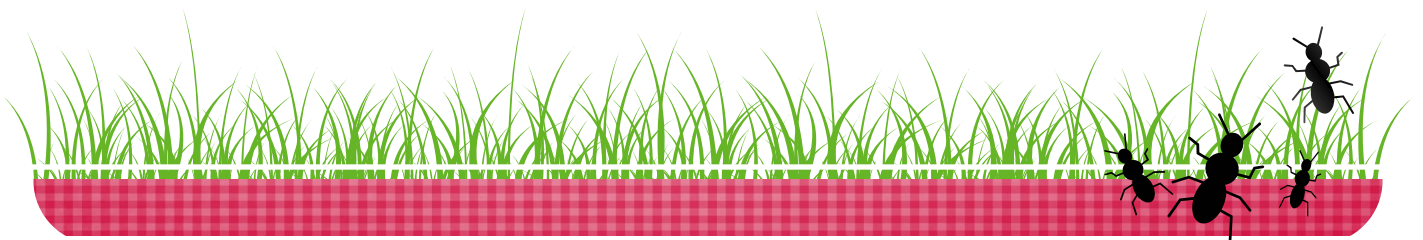
My feelings will be replaced by your strength and the assurance that you are with
me.

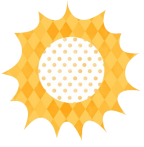
My ways and the desire to please everybody will be replaced by just pleasing and
glorifying you.

Thank you God for emptying me of self-pity and filling me only with yourself.

I love you God.

**God delights in us as we share our love for him. It's not too late
if you would like to contribute a psalm of your own. Remember
it's not about how well you write but what's in your heart!**





LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS - PRAYER EVENT

FEEDBACK & ENCOURAGEMENT



How did you feel about coming to this prayer event?

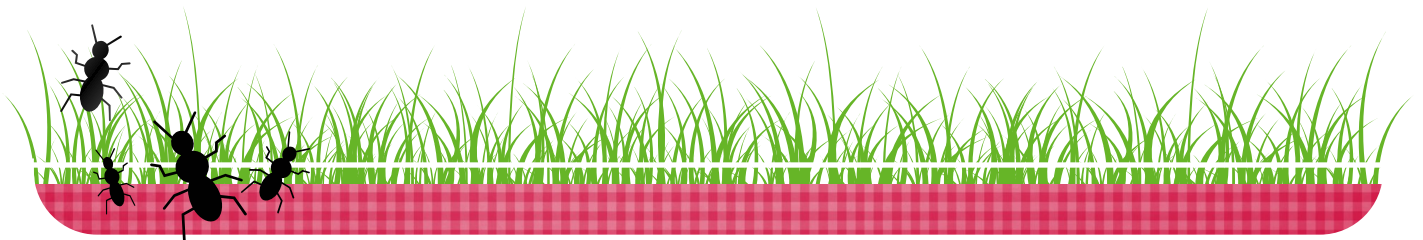
“A Little sad in that such a small number of people would be there”

“I felt at peace as I was walking to the church as have missed going to church more than I thought”

“Coming back into the hall was special...It is somehow uplifting to know that such a special place has been provided for us to worship God”

“I was excited to have the opportunity to worship in the building ...However, I was a little apprehensive because I didn't know what it would be like but those feelings didn't stop me from wanting to come”

“I felt we were taking another step towards what is to be our new normal”.





How did this time for prayer help you draw closer to God?

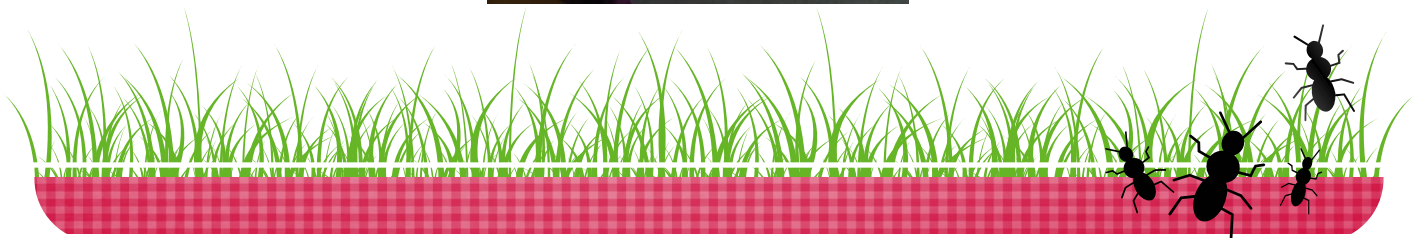
“Being in a different place which was not distracting helped me to use the resources to seek God with more focus. I found the music very helpful”

“It felt so good talking to God with the quietness of the church and praying for all the people that have lost family and friends though this pandemic lets pray for the light to come out of the darkness “

“I was impressed by the way that the hall had been arranged. It was conducive to prayer with no distractions”

“Although I am happy to pray on my own, there is an extra dimension to being in the company of others. There is definitely something in this business of two or three being together in His name. I suspect feeling the love/sharing the love is a major part”

“The prayer time helped me feel closer to God because of the atmosphere which was created (through the music, lighting and resources) the event provided me with time away from distractions to sit with God. I think that there was just enough resources to keep me focused”



If we were to do so nothing similar again , what would you say to encourage others to take part?

“Put aside any preconceptions and go with an expectation of meeting with God”

“I would say give it a try even if you only stay for a little while , sure it could help you through this difficult time we are in right now”

“To encourage others to come, I would say that this format is helpful in that it allows you to spend some focused time with God in a place that is very familiar to our congregation. It is also helpful because it allows others to have an insight into what socially distanced worship might look like in the future.”

“I would say don't miss any chance to gather with the family to be in the presence of our Father, and as we haven't been able to for so long, any opportunity now is especially sweet and precious”

“As soon as I sat down I felt so calm with the lovely touch of candles on each table and other lighting a round the room .It was so peaceful while I was praying and reading , I think it was the first time had sat still for such a long time without any distractions, I would be happy to do it again”

“Overall I found this event very helpful. If this event were to run again, I would find it useful if there was someone there who could pray/talk with those who need it”

Thank you to Sophie for preparing the resources, which have clearly been helpful in helping people draw close to God.

We have left the hall set up, so if you would like to take advantage of some undistracted, peaceful time with God for the first time, or again, then just let Sophie or Katrina know as another allocated time can easily be arranged.

(Restrictions dictate this has to planned and booked)

