**Reflection for July 2020**

****Greetings my dear friends.

I do hope you are still coping well with all the challenges we have been given over the last four months. I trust that many of you will now be able to move about more freely, perhaps spending time with members of your family, if not in their home then at least outside.

As we move into the second half of the year I am reminded that this is the holiday season for a lot of people, especially families. This time of year brings back many memeries for me of times spent driving to the seaside with my parents and my younger sister. For several years during the 1950s we travelled to the same place, Walton on the Naze, at that time my family lived in Bedforeshire and my Father would only drive to the east coast because he would not drive through London, [if he wouldn’t do so then he certainly wouldn’t do so now]. These were simple days, staying in an hotel, playing together on the beach during the day and playing miniture golf in the early evening. But are not the simple things in life the most rewarding?

The time spent sharing a cup of tea with a friend, or walking in the garden or park where nature shows us the glory of God, listening to bird song, which seems much clearer without all the traffic, reading a good book or listening to a piece of music which lifts the soul. I do hope that it won’t be long before we are able to take part in more of the simple things in life. Being able to worship together in church, meeting with our MU friends and hugging our children and grandchildren.

I live alone and one of the things I miss most is not being able to hug and be hugged in return. So let’s hang on to those simple things and give thanks to our heavenly Father for all his gifts both great and small then, as it says in verse four of, God is working his purpose out. *March we forth in the strength of God, his banner is unfurled; let the light of the gospel shine in the darkness of the world: strengthen the weary, heal the sick and set ev’ry captive free,that the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.*

Please continue to pray into all the many situations happening now, including praying for the MU, and if you are able, do join in with midday prayers on Facebook or check the MU website for help with other ways to support the organisation and the many people we all seek to serve.

Love & Prayers

Jenny

Prayer

Father, we thank you for all your gifts both great and small, thank you for upholding us during this time, help us to appreciate the little things in life.

We pray for the members of the Mothers’ Union as we continue to work together, supporting one another. We ask your blessing on the members of staff and the Worldwide Trustee Board and its sub - committees working to ensure the safe passage of the charity through these challenging times.

We ask in the name of Jesus, our Saviour AMEN

