



*Newsletter from*

*Maurice and Polly Charlton, Perth, Scotland.*

We now know what being in prison feels like.

As you may all be aware that, like many other countries around the world, the British Isles is in “lockdown.” Much of the continual rise in the spread of the coronavirus pandemic is due to many people flouting these Government “lockdown” instructions. Certainly, many food stores have been mobbed at opening times with their shelves being emptied by the trolley load in double quick time.

The order for all walks of life is “Stay at Home.” Only health workers, police, ambulance staff, food store staff – supplemented by members of the Military – may go to work. Doctors surgeries are closed with all repeat medicines now to be issued by a designated Pharmacy and medical consultations being given over the telephone by medical staff. All public and church buildings are closed until further notice. Those over 70 years old – being classed as being most vulnerable to the virus - are to stay indoors until the pandemic is declared “over.”

However, on the positive side we worshipped with the Bristol congregation last Sunday, who streamed their service like a lot of your congregations seemed to be doing, it was a new experience for us. Cumbernauld and Dundee congregations are using the American conference programme, “zoom.us.” so that we can be more inclusive in the service and bible study sessions. Several of our congregations over here are hosting prayer breaks, Bible studies, devotionals and worship services via this American developed programme – or the more local programme of “live screening.” So all in all we have a wider contact with Christians throughout the country.

We have been busy telephonically contacting isolated church people and others to encourage them – as they have us – to make sure they are well and don’t “fall between in the cracks and are not forgotten.

We continue to pray for you all in this difficult time and pray that many more turn to our Lord at this time of trouble.

In his name

Maurice and Polly (our love to you all)