



BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH
High Road South Benfleet SS7 5LH

Monthly Newsletter

FREE

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CHURCH BULLETIN – 13TH NOVEMBER 2020

SOUTHEND AND LEIGH CIRCUIT EXPERIENCE PROJECT

A totally imaginative initiative was launched by the Circuit based at the Whittingham Mission in Southend. This was the former Whittingham Avenue Methodist Church which is set in a seriously deprived social area, with high rise flats, and high levels of poverty and crime.

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced a change in the project, but with great fortune the opportunity arose to partner with Ocado (the Online Supermarket) in a major piece of social outreach. Ocado have been giving food each week for distribution to some of the poorest in the community – and this amounts to several thousand pounds each week – which has brought great relief to so many.

However, the food is all frozen and has to be collected from the Ocado depot in Kent in a refrigerated van. To date, it has been possible to “borrow” a van, but that has now ended so it is planned - and hoped – that the Circuit can purchase a refrigerated van.

The cost to buy it and the running cost for the first year will be around £20,000 and an appeal has gone out to all the Churches in the Circuit to ask for financial support. At Benfleet we will be looking to see what we could do as a church to help, but members might also like to support this and we have a challenge from an anonymous donor.

For every £1 donated by Church members and friends this will be matched £ for £ up to £1,000.

There is no pressure on anyone – times are not easy for so many – but if you would like to join across the Circuit either transfer a sum to the Church Bank Account - details below - or send an email to benfleetmethodistchurch@gmail.com stating how much you would like to donate. We can then sort out how to collect your donation once we come out of lockdown. If neither of these methods is possible then telephone one of the church stewards or the treasurers and let them know what you would like to donate.
Bank details CAF BANK Sort code 40 52 40 Account No 00019067

Thank you so much