

Megan Roughton 3 Nov 1913 – 22 Sept 2005

A Walk with God.

Megan, who worshipped at this Church for many years, until the death of her husband made the journey difficult, was a remarkable person who walked every day of her life with God. One of the band who made the rebuilding of our Church possible with their sales of work and their endless pots of jam and marmalade, she had a ministry in the little church at Shortlands. Aged over 90 and confined to her house she still exercised a powerful prayer ministry by telephone bringing God's comfort and healing when you most needed it. She was still witnessing for her Lord in the Nursing home where she spent her last weeks. I will never forget a lady from Hayes PC, myself and Megan, her face transfixed with joy, singing "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God" and other worship songs in her room just three weeks before she died.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" Psalm 116 v15

At her thanksgiving service this letter was read. It is a letter from Megan to the Mission Church in Shortlands, at Harvest 1986. Its message was so exactly right nearly twenty years later that we want to share it with you.

M.E.T & R.M

Dear Friends,

We have known each other for many years now and your friendship has always been precious to me. God gives us many gifts as we go through life, but the gift of sharing His love in the communion of Spirit with each other is one of the most wonderful of all. Life has many ups and downs, and it is in sharing these and helping one another along the way that we become enriched. Practical help and support - the willing hand and loving heart accompanied by caring and loving prayer, we know can achieve wonders.

Christ is living in us by faith and opens the door to a fuller knowledge of Him. His love for us is shown clearly as we grow to know Him more and more; in hundreds of countless ways; in meeting Him in each other and in learning to recognise Him in all kinds of situations and to feel His presence close to us.

Life today has so much that is good in it and much that is evil. We sometimes can be frightened and almost overwhelmed by the bad things we hear about and the wickedness that is rife. Let us remember we are Christians so precious to God that He gave His only Son Jesus to be crucified for us - and on that cross He saved us from the evil one for always. Therefore we can say Don't panic - we are Christians. Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It is the things that are lasting, these are the true and lovely things. He gives us His strength and His courage and with them He shares His loving Spirit, and we know His peace. In the Lord's Prayer we ask "Give us this day our daily bread, Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil." The prayer that Jesus gave covers so many of our needs, but sometimes because it is so often said - the constant repetition of the words can diminish its meaning, Until one day again, it is charged with fresh understanding.