Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Thank God, we have made the transition from 2020 to 2021. The New Year stands before us as the road we have not yet travelled. As we look back over the past year, COVID-19 constitutes the experience that we would all wish to forget. The pandemic however is not a thing of the past. Corona still a- keep! It is very much with us.

I highlight this situation at the start of the year because what we carry into the next twelve months will depend upon how we behave even now. Some among us glibly suggest that "2021 will be better than 2020" but much depends upon how we adhere to the advice of the health professionals and persist in taking the precautionary measures outlined initially when infections became a cause for national concern. Had more people been obedient, we would not now be lamenting the community spread witnessed in parts of the country. The simple matter of wearing masks ought not to be determined by how you or I may feel as individuals. It must be out of respect, out of our concern to protect others from a virus which we ourselves might innocently be carrying around.

As followers of Christ, let us acknowledge God whose Son came on earth as the Great Healer. In so doing, let us make every effort to maintain a healthy environment in our local communities. The pandemic has shown that keeping healthy is a matter not only for health professionals, but is your responsibility and mine. Lip service is not our style. We all need to act positively in everyone's best interest. Our children looking on must observe that we are serious about the love for others which we preach.

In extending New Year's greetings, I urge that we maintain our confidence in God, our Guide and Protector. As we journey further into 2021, may ours be a living faith!

Yours in Christ,

Rev'd Dr. George Mulrain

Circuit Superintendent