

New Malden Methodist Church
'The Church in the High Street'



Ubuntu
April 2011

Who's who at New Malden Methodist Church

Minister

Rev.Dr. Angela Shier-Jones

26 Linkside, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4LB
Tel: 020 8942 0333

Church Workers

Julia Morton (Youth and Children's Worker)
Sarah Moore (Administration)

Stewards

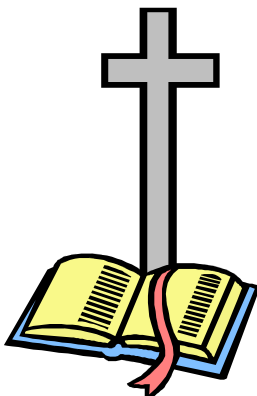
George Alleyne
Jane Bennett
Liz Edwards
Janet Jones

Junior Steward

Emily Hampton

Music Co-ordinator and Organist:

Dr. Peter Bullett

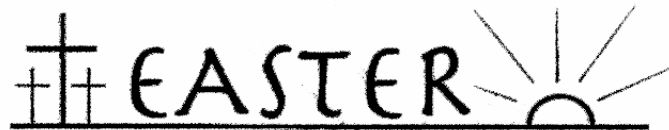


"Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen"

1 Peter chapter 4: 8-11

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Ubuntu

Ubuntu is an African word highlighting the importance of our common humanity, the relationships we share and the connections that bind us together. If we want to display Ubuntu to others we will be hospitable and compassionate; willing to share and caring in our attitudes. We welcome you to our Church family here at New Malden Methodist Church and invite you to join us in our fellowship and worship.

The May edition of Ubuntu will be available on Sunday 1st May.

Contributions can either be sent by email to:

rosemarie.a.lester@btinternet.com

Or, they can be left in the Church newsletter pigeonhole by Friday, 22nd April. Thank you

Rosemarie

(Additional material courtesy of parishpump.co.uk)

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

Can we really believe in the joy of Easter in the light of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan? For many of us, it was the darker side of lent and Easter that was brought home as we watched the great wave devastate Japan. All we could do was pray for an end to the suffering and destruction we were witnessing. All the normal promise of Easter seemed empty and mocking at times, as we watched people and property being washed away like so much flotsam and jetsam. Was there another answer, could not the lives of these people have been spared?

Such questions have an echo in the questions which are posed by our gospel story – was there really no other way than for Christ to die? Could his life have been spared – could humanity have been, in some way 'insured' or protected against sin? Was it right to kill Christ whose only 'crime' was to live and practice his ministry amongst those who were infected with sin?

Behold the Lamb of God.

I believe that sin is just like a tsunami. When roused, it can overcome the best intentions of the people of God, ruining hopes and dreams and killing hundreds upon thousands with its seemingly unstoppable power of greed, malice, violence and indifference. We know that throughout history people have tried to create communities which were protected from the power of the sea. They built homes on stilts and dug deep barriers on the beach, but none of these procedures have ever been successful. The only thing that saves lives, is heeding the warning! Similarly, Christians have tried to build communities on the moral high ground, and have tried to defend themselves from sin by proclaiming it to be the devil's work. But sin, like a tsunami, has to be taken seriously for it is too powerful for humans to name and tame and it can wash away life in a great wave of destruction.

Thankfully however, the Easter story is not just about sin. After death, after sacrifice, comes resurrection. The great joy of Easter is the promise that is held out to us all: Behold says the Lord, I am making all things new.

Like a forest fire, a tsunami can bring regeneration. When everything is lost, then all can be gained. When the tide turns and sin is conquered, new life can take root.

Minister's Letter & Church News and Announcements

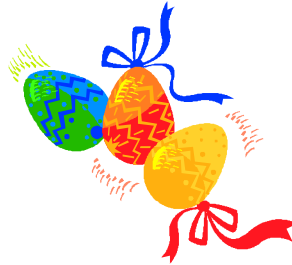
It may be that at this moment, you stand on the Good Friday side of the cross rather than on the Easter Sunday side. You might be more aware of the pain and cost of the new life which has been promised to you, than of the joy and hope that it brings. You may feel more empty than full. If that is the case, then take heart from the promise implicit in Easter Sunday; resurrection will come. Sin has been conquered, death has been overcome – we are promised life in all its fullness. We have hope for the future because of the sacrifices of the past. We do not forget the pain or the suffering, the cost of our future, but we do rejoice and give thanks for the fact that our future is assured by the love of God.

I pray for a brighter, happier, future for us all as a result of our Easter meeting with Christ this year.

Angie



Easter Egg Decorating Competition



You are once again challenged to decorate an egg for Easter morning.

Bring your beautiful egg in an eggcup on Easter morning by 10.25am before the morning service and place it on the table. I will put a small receptacle in front of the eggs and the congregation will vote for the best as we did last year by placing a coin in front of your favourite. These will be counted and the one with the most coins will win. There are 2 categories under and over 18. The money will be donated to JMA.

Julia

Church News and Announcements

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT NEW MALDEN METHODIST CHURCH

MONDAY

7.30 PM THE BIG READ - FINAL WEEK OF THE LENT COURSE AT **KINGSTON** METHODIST CHURCH

TUESDAY

6.30 PM THE UNRECONCILED - FINAL WEEK OF THE CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND LENT COURSE

8.00 PM THE BIG READ - FINAL WEEK OF THE LENT COURSE

WEDNESDAY

12.15 PM HEALING SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION

MAUNDY THURSDAY

8.00 PM FOOT WASHING AND THE LAST SUPPER, A TENEBRAE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

GOOD FRIDAY

10.00 AM WALK OF CHRISTIAN WITNESS LEAVING FROM THE URC AT MALDEN ROAD AT 10.30 AM

11.30 AM PASSION SERVICE WITH REVD BRUCE STUART

8.00 PM THE PASSION BY JOSEPH HAYDN PERFORMED BY AN ECUMENICAL CHOIR AND CONDUCTED BY PETER BULLET

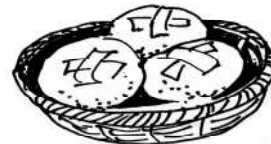
EASTER SUNDAY

8.45 AM HOLY COMMUNION

9.15 AM EASTER BREAKFAST

10.30 AM CELEBRATION WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

6.30 PM EVENING WORSHIP



Church News and Announcements

March/April Diary

Weds 30 th	2.30pm	Pastoral Committee Welcome Area
Friday 1 st	10.00am	Friday Fellowship
Saturday 2 nd	10.00-12.00	Coffee Bar – Night Shelter Trust - Stella
Tuesday 5 th	2.30pm	WAGS: Devotional Afternoon
Tuesday 5 th	6.30pm	Class Meeting
Tuesday 5 th	7.00pm	Junior Badminton
Tuesday 5 th	8.00pm	Meeting Point: Lent Studies Angie Shier-Jones
Thursday 7 th	6.30pm	Youth Club
Thursday 7 th	8.00pm	Family Committee
Friday 8 th	2.00-5.00pm	Create
Saturday 9 th	10.00-12.00	Coffee Bar – Inner Wheel – Joan Cox
Monday 11 th	7.30pm	Wives: Cooking with Sheila
Tuesday 12 th	2.30pm	WAGs: Carol – Isles of Scilly
Tuesday 12 th	10.00-4.00pm	Brownie Badge Day
Tuesday 12 th	6.30pm	Class Meeting
Tuesday 12 th	8.00pm	Meeting Point: Lent Studies Angie Shier-Jones
Saturday 16 th	10.00-12.00	Coffee Bar – WAGs
Monday 18 th	7.30pm	Wives: Easter Thoughts
Tuesday 19 th	2.30pm	WAGs: Bandage Rolling
Tuesday 19 th	6.30pm	Class Meeting
Tuesday 19 th	8.00pm	Meeting Point: Holy Week Devotional Angie Shier-Jones

Church News and Announcements

Saturday 23 rd	10.00-12.00	Coffee Bar
Tuesday 26 th	2.30pm	WAGS: No Meeting
Tuesday 26 th	7.00pm	Junior Badminton
Tuesday 26 th	8.00pm	Meeting Point: No Meeting
Saturday 30 th	10.00-12.00	Coffee Bar- Guides

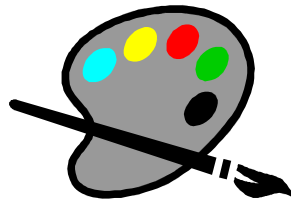
Please note - NO Heretics Club in April

Create

Friday, 8th April
2.00-5.00pm

If you have not yet had the opportunity to experience 'Create', then do join us for our next 'workshop' when the theme will be:

"New Life"



Come and share with us in art, music and poetry; Explore new ideas and allow Scripture to stimulate your faith and imagination;

Try your hand at drawing, sketching, calligraphy, painting, collage, clay modelling, cross-stitch, or one of the many other art forms on offer.

You don't have to be an expert to come to 'Create' (none of us are!) just willing to relax, experiment, and enjoy the gift of creative time.

All materials are provided free of charge, though you may bring your own if you prefer.

You will be very welcome!



Good Friday Music



22nd April, 2011

8.00 pm

New Malden Methodist Church

The Passion

by

Joseph Haydn

This year we are singing The Passion by Joseph Haydn, a work widely thought to be his best sacred composition during his lifetime. If you would like to sing, please E-mail Peter Bullett p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk from whom further information can be obtained (020 8942 0666) or please come along to listen on the night and experience a wonderfully devotional work as part of ecumenical music in New Malden.

Scores will be available for singers to borrow from the library and there will be a voluntary subscription to cover the incidental expenses of the occasion.

Rehearsals are as follows:

Saturday	2 nd April	10.15 - 11.45 am	(scores from 10.00 am)
Thursday	7 th April	7.45 - 9.15 pm	
Wednesday	13 th April	7.45 - 9.15 pm	
Saturday	16 th April*	10.15 - 12.00 noon	
Monday	18 th April	7.45 - 9.30 pm	PROVISIONAL
Wednesday	20 th April*	7.30 - 10.00 pm	(choir from 8.30 pm)
Good Friday	22 nd April	8.00 pm	

All rehearsals will be in New Malden Methodist Church.

Please attend these * rehearsals if you possibly can.

Church News and Announcements

Greenbelt 2011 - from Friday 26th-Monday 29th August 2011.

With 21,000 people, music, campers and traders aplenty, Greenbelt might look like any other Festival. But scratch beneath the surface and you find something special... Alongside musicians such as Billy Bragg, Fightstar, Royksopp, Athlete, Dan le Sac vs Scroobius Pip, José Gonzalez, Gilles Peterson, The Proclaimers and Seth Lakeman, each year the Festival hosts a rich programme of visual and performing arts, spirituality, comedy and talks and discussion – recently welcoming the likes of Michael Morpurgo, Tamsin Omond, Anita Roddick, Jasper Fforde and Billy Childish, Union Dance and The Reduced Shakespeare Company. The diversity of content not only demonstrates our commitment to the arts, faith and justice, but also our underlying values of tolerance, dialogue and hope.

Its 37-year history is firmly rooted within a Christian tradition which is world-affirming, politically and culturally engaged. Christianity is a belief that embraces instead of excludes. And, as such, the Festival is a family-celebration, inclusive and accepting of all, regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexuality, background or belief. It has replaced MAYC and Breakout as the main meeting point for Methodist young people, whilst losing none of its appeal to adults. This year we would like to go to Greenbelt as a mixed age group. The young people will be camping, but for those who prefer something a little softer, it is possible to book into the Holiday Inn just 1 mile away from the festival site. To get the best discount on the festival tickets we need to book by 30th April.

Greenbelt 2011 Weekend Tickets

	Saving on August price	Price until 30 April
Adult Weekend Ticket	£21.00	£99.00
Adult Concession Weekend Ticket	£7.00	£68.00
Under 18s Ticket (Ages 5-17)	£10.00	£55.00
Infant Ticket (Ages 0-4)	£0.00	£0.00
Family Ticket (2 Adults, 2 Under 18s)	£51.00	£259.00
Single Parent Family Ticket (1 Adult, 2 Under 18s)	£35.00	£165.00

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If this is just not your scene, but you can see why it might be for the young adults and younger members of the Church, then we invite you to consider if you can join in by sponsoring part or all of a child's ticket. We hope to raise enough funds to be able to pay for all our young people so that they can all have the chance to take part in a great Christian event.

There is a sign up sheet in the Servedy area, and it will help us to know as early as possible how many people would like to attend, so please, if you suspect you might like to join us, SIGN UP. (Church family only, sorry).



Our warmest congratulations go to Bob Bridges who has been awarded a Mayor's Community Award for his outstanding contribution to the local community and the various good causes he has been involved in; not least a

life-time's support for the National Children's Home (now Action for Children). It is wonderful that Bob's tremendous achievements have been recognised and honoured in this way. What a witness and inspiration for us all to follow!

Rosemarie

Calling all Gardeners - Annual Plant Sale

- Our Annual Plant Sale will take place on the church patio on Saturday 21st May 2011 from 9.00am to 12.00 noon.
- We will need plants (flowers or vegetables) for sale so please prepare now and check what you can offer us.
- All proceeds will go to World Church funds.



Robert Edwards & David Willis.

Church News and Announcements

Summary of March Notices

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Eddie Allen** during March. His memorial service was held here at 1.00pm on Wednesday 23rd March.

Leslie Parker was taken ill last week with a severe chest infection. He is currently being treated at Kingston Hospital. On his discharge he will be taken by his son to the Cotswolds to fully recuperate. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope he is back in our midst soon.

Betty and Harry Thorogood will be celebrating 60 years of marriage on Saturday 26th March. Many congratulations to them on this magnificent milestone.

AN APPEAL FROM WAGs

As you probably know the WAGs ladies hold session for bandage rolling which are eventually sent to Mother Teresa's hospital in Calcutta. We have been carrying this out for many years but unfortunately will be unable to continue unless we can obtain supplies of cotton sheets. If anyone has any sheets that they no longer require, we would be very grateful to receive them. Many thanks.

Rita

SATURDAY COFFEE BAR

Thank you to all who have staffed the coffee bar on Saturdays to date. Most of the days up to the end of April are now filled but there are many gaps after that. Saturday bookings are a way of raising some money for your favourite charity so, if you can help, please let me know or just add your name to the list in the Welcome Area.

Alan

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The World Church Relationships Office is currently recruiting volunteers to welcome 20 representatives of overseas churches who have been invited to participate at Conference. Volunteers are required to meet representatives at a London airport on Tuesday 28th June and accompany them to their hotel in central London or to Methodist Church

Church News and Announcements

House. All expenses including travel costs, airport parking, and meals would be reimbursed. They also need volunteers to accompany representatives back to the airport on Friday 8th July.

If you are interested in this really lovely opportunity to meet overseas representatives to Conference3, please email Sandra Lopez on lopezs@methodistchurch.org.uk or call her direct line on 020 7467 5298.

Traidcraft

As Mother's Day is on Sunday, 3rd April, we will now move our monthly Traidcraft stall to Sunday, 10th April. We wish you a relaxing Mother's Day and hope to see you on the 10th.



Thank you, **Andrea and Shirley**

Christian Aid Week - 15th-21st May

In the following two pages you will read about one of the projects Christian Aid is involved in to help coffee farmers in Nicaragua. There are several opportunities here at New Malden Methodist Church to allow you to support the work of Christian Aid.

Once again I am looking for volunteers to help with the door-to-door collections in Christian Aid Week. If you would like to offer your services but don't relish the idea of knocking on doors on your own, why not "pair up" with someone else and take on a road - or half a road - together? Or perhaps you would prefer to deliver envelopes only? Please consider signing up for this vital role – there is a sheet in the welcome area – or don't hesitate to contact me for further information.

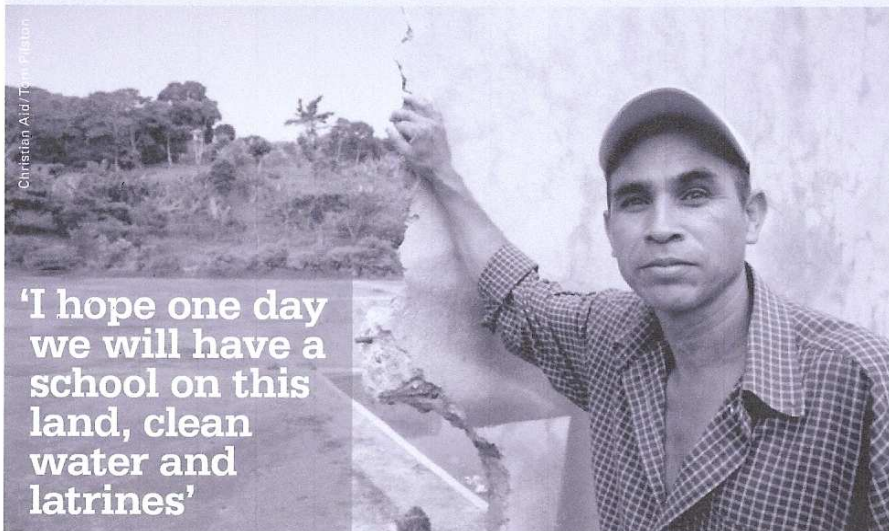
There will also be a **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday, 14th May** and a **Bread and Cheese Lunch** on **Sunday, 15th May**. At both these events, I hope to be able to show a short film called *Out of Poverty* which will tell the story of Nicaraguan coffee farmers like Eladio and how, with the help of Christian Aid, they have been able to work their way out of poverty. YOUR contribution can make a real difference!



Thank you, **Jennifer Townsend**

Church News and Announcements

Christian Aid Week 15–21 May 2011



'I hope one day we will have a school on this land, clean water and latrines'

Eladio stands on the site on where his community hopes to build a school

For the people of Jinotega, Nicaragua, coffee isn't just a caffeine kick – it's a means of transforming the lives of entire communities. By getting involved in Christian Aid Week, you can help to make this transformation possible.

Five years ago, Eladio Simeón Pineda's community was a group of poor farm labourers. Then Christian Aid partner Soppexcca (pronounced so-pecks-ka) offered them credit to establish themselves as coffee farmers and supported them to work together as a cooperative. Eladio and the other members of the La Paz del Tuma cooperative now hope that together they will transform their own community.

Even though the coffee farmers of La Paz del Tuma have only been working with Soppexcca for a short time, their lives are already changing for the better. The credit which Soppexcca gave to Eladio and the other farmers has been vital in getting them started. The cooperative has a community fund that will be used to achieve the dreams which Eladio and his fellow farmers once thought were out of their reach.

Church News and Announcements

- **£14** could buy enough coffee seeds to plant a 0.7 hectare plot of coffee and start one farmer on the path out of poverty.
- **£2,170** could pay for a processing plant, allowing farmers to process the coffee they have grown and then sell it for a better price.

'I hope one day we will have a school on this land, clean water and latrines,' says Eladio.

Eladio knows that transformation is possible. He is driven by the example of a nearby community, where Gustavo Adolfo Talavera and the members of the Los Alpes cooperative have been supported by Soppexcca for 12 years. In that time, they have successfully worked to establish a school and a health centre for their community.

The hopes of the people of La Paz del Tuma are hopes held for the whole community. Eladio works every day towards his dream of a purpose-built school, clean water and latrines for all the farming families of La Paz del Tuma.

Soppexcca's support for coffee cooperatives like La Paz del Tuma and Los Alpes allows communities to see a bigger picture, full of possibilities for the future.

You can be part of the story of transformation which is unfolding right now in Nicaragua.

By getting involved in Christian Aid Week in your own community, you can help to turn the hopes of communities all around the world into realities. You can be part of a movement which is transforming lives.

To find out how, visit www.caweek.org or talk to your local Christian Aid Week coordinator.

To give to Christian Aid Week, visit www.caweek.org or call **08080 006 006**.

Help people in poverty out of poverty

UK registered charity number 1105851 Company number 5171525 Scotland charity number SC039150
Northern Ireland charity number XR94639 Company number NI059154 Republic of Ireland charity number CHY 6998 Company number 426928
The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid; Poverty Over is a trademark of Christian Aid. © Christian Aid January 2011

Article

What shall I do?

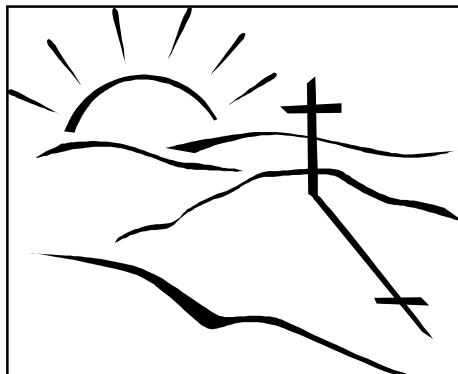
“Are you the Christ?”
He said “I AM!”
That was all they needed,
Justice was unheeded;
Claiming to be Chosen brought its own reward –
A sword.
Or better still – a Cross;

For he’s blaspheming and must die –
Unless He truly is my Lord?
Then I
Must choose to blot Him out and all His power
Or from this hour
Humbly kneel, adore, obey,
And go His way.

Among the people in the judgement hall I stand,
Not outside in the courtyard, where challenges are made,
But safely watching here, where no one asks of me,
“Is He the Christ?”
And I can stand unjudged,
Save by my conscience – and my God.

(The Trial – Mark 14: 60 – 64)

Anon



More than just a story

I am writing this on the day that the United Nations passed resolution 1973 calling for a 'no-fly zone' in Libya, and a nuclear catastrophe is threatened for Japan following the earthquake and tsunami just one week earlier.

These events are a painful reminder of how, if it is to mean anything at all, the Easter story of death and resurrection must speak powerfully and truthfully, not just to the comfortable and contented, but to the distraught and distracted of this world.

What then would resurrection mean for the people of Japan? It certainly has to be more than a rebuilding of the thousands upon thousands of homes that were torn apart or washed away by the sea. Pristine new homes, all spic and span, are no substitute for the parents and children who were lost. A renewed economy similarly cannot make up for the countless workers that died. Resurrection is not renewal or rebuilding – it is something so much more. It is the inclusion of the old into the new. Christ still bore his scars after his resurrection. Resurrection is the transformation of pain and suffering, of death and destruction into God's gift of hope and life. It does not dismiss wounds but incorporates them into the new fabric of life.

For the people of Japan, resurrection means that the death and destruction they have so painfully witnessed, is not the end. There is hope. What will emerge from this will not be the same, no – but it will not be empty of what has gone before either. God works in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform.

But what then of the people of Libya and the UN resolution? Where can we find the Easter Gospel hope in the very real likelihood that UK and European citizens will be called upon to try and do in Libya what they have so far magnificently failed to do in either Iraq or Afghanistan? Perhaps more challengingly – we need to ask what resurrection is it that we hope for in Libya, that we are sending people to die for in Libya? Is it a resurrection of Western imperialism or European colonialism, or an imposition of a Western style of government and its secular value system, or do we actually want a resurrection of the common humanity and unity of the Libyan people? Such a resurrection would certainly need to bear the scars of its past both cautiously, and consciously.

Article

As part of the Easter story – it is important to ask at what point did the cry go up - ‘Crucify’ and what coin has paid for it? Such a question causes us to reflect on what it is that motivates us to fear, murder and hate.

Christ’s betrayal on Good Friday is a painful reminder to us of how fickle humanity is – how one moment it is more than happy to ‘eat drink and be merry’ and the next, it bays for blood. This we have witnessed in all the events leading up to the UN resolution being passed, from Tunisia and Cairo through to Bahrain and Libya: both in the actions of some of the protesters and in the obscene reactions of some of the so-called leaders.

The resurrection of Christ however, turns the world upside down precisely because it is not just a story. We can draw all the similarities and analogies we like, but in the end, the resurrection is all that we have to hope in. It alone promises that no amount of bloodshed or fear will keep the hunger for life in all its fullness at bay. It is a demonstration in history that no amount of protest or power politics can stop God’s plans for all of the created order – including humans. Even death itself will not stop the truth of human destiny. The simple fact is that the knowledge of what it means to be alive, to be a Child of God, will not stay buried. No matter how ‘mighty’ a people think they are, no matter how ‘right’ they believe themselves to be – God’s will, WILL be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

The Commandments are clear and unequivocal. They are more binding than any United Nations resolution: They state

You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul and with all your strength – and you shall love your neighbour – whoever he or she is – as you love yourself.

The resurrection gives hope because it reminds us that we are not commanded to hate, but to love, we are not asked to fear but to embrace. It is God’s claim that violence never wins – love, only love can win through in the end.

This Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ, we can take heart from knowing this is no ‘fairy story’. There is real power in the promise of new life which it contains and phenomenal grace in the mercy that it shows to us. We might not yet have learned how not to crucify everything we are afraid of, we certainly haven’t learned yet how to stop trying to play God with the peoples of this earth, yet – even so - God does not seek our death. Instead, God offers us new life in Christ.

It's easy to dismiss the resurrection as a myth, or a story or a scientific impossibility. It's harder to live the sort of life where Christ's resurrection is a daily reality. Yet when we do, neither earthquakes nor tsunami's can shake us from God's grasp. And our violence – no matter how convincingly justified or legalized – is transformed, dissipated by the knowledge that:

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again
Amen

Angie



Take my wife and let me be...

I enjoyed Stan Brown's article in February's Ubuntu and although I am somewhat past the 65 age limit he mentions I was certainly an absentee during my middle years, so I feel I can comment. (My daughter claims I didn't even attend when she was made a Methodist member!). Stan mentioned one or two variations in the sexes but I think he missed one essential and that is the male is mainly a practical DIY individual, suspicious of metaphysics. Rudolf Bultmann, the respected German theologian puts it like this:

"Modern man always makes use of technical means which are the result of science. In the case of illness man has recourse to Physicians...Nobody reckons with direct intervention by transcendent powers...the nature of man is seen in modern literature...or let us simply think of the newspapers. Have you ever read anywhere in them that political or social economic events are performed by supernatural powers such as God, angels or demons? Such events are always ascribed to natural powers or good and bad will on the part of man or to human wisdom or stupidity".

When the New Testament was written and for 1500 years afterwards it was believed that the Earth was the centre of the world but Copernicus and Galileo destroyed this concept and with it went the idea of anywhere

Articles

to sit on God's right hand. Even the existence of Australasia and America were not known let alone the fact that in reality we are only a small speck in an ever expanding universe. It should come as no surprise therefore, that modern DIY man cannot accept all that was written at that time.

So practical man has difficulties with much of today's preaching when it asks for divine intervention from a mysterious Hellenic Inspired Trinity although he may accept a philosophy of God working through man. There is no difficulty in accepting the humble Christ helping the poor and needy and teaching moral principles which they know will give life a fulfilment unavailable in the chaotic modern World whose bleakness is so vividly portrayed in what is called "Modern Art".

So Stan, there are problems. Do present day Theological Colleges and particularly Lay Preacher courses spend enough time on present day exegesis of the Bible. I suspect not.

Leslie Parker

Quotations to inspire

"Lives that are effective are not always those that attract attention. They are never those of the proud who storm against obstacles which cannot be removed.

Lives lived humbly, under the eyes of God, illumined by his grace and radiant with love for others, are always effective."

From 'The Sea' by Thomas Merton

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Martin Luther King

(These quotations were used at the recent memorial service for Peter Mills)

"When we take least notice of our good deeds ourselves, God takes most notice of them."

Matthew Henry

Does this make you think?

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door;
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights, or its décor.

But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me splutter and gasp...
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from my seventh year
Who swiped my lunch money twice;
Next to him was my old neighbour
Who never said anything nice.

Herb, who I always thought
Was rotting away in Hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, "What's the big deal?
I would love to hear your take.
How'd all these sinners get up there?
God must've made a mistake.

And why is everyone so quiet,
So sombre – give me a clue."
"Hush child," he said, "they're all in
shock,
No one thought they'd be seeing you."

JUDGE NOT!

Author unknown
(Contributed by Margareta Hartfree)



Circuit News

Around the Circuit April news from your Circuit Coordinator

Our Superintendent's office is very quiet as Bonni-Belle is on sabbatical however everywhere else in the circuit seems to be buzzing with activity. I am sure that when she is back in the 'driving seat' on 1st June, we will have as much news to share with her as she will have to share with us. Rev Dr Angela Shier-Jones is "Acting Super" so please contact her on pastoral matters and, in her absence, contact Rev Dr Steven Talbot and Rev Dr Donghwan Kim. Please continue to direct administrative queries to me in the circuit office.

Circuit Events

Safeguarding Training During March, three circuit churches hosted a training session for office holders within the church. Many of you will have already attended. If you have been informed of the necessity to attend and missed your church's session, you are invited to the last one which will be at Chessington on Saturday 9th April at 10am. Please would you inform the circuit office if you would like your name added to the list of attendees.

CHESSINGTON

Lent Course 2011 Entitled "Seven Signs", Rev Dr Donghwan Kim continues his series of 5 weekly bible studies based on Johns Gospel. . They take place in the Parlour at Chessington on Thursdays at 7.45pm. The last session 12th April. Everyone is welcome

NEW MALDEN

The Passion by Joseph Haydn will be sung at New Malden church on Good Friday 22nd April at 8pm and an invitation is extended to the whole circuit. This work is thought to be Haydn's best sacred composition. Should you wish to be part of the choir, please contact Peter Bullett: email p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk or Tel 020 8942 0666. Rehearsals start Saturday 2nd April.

SURBITON HILL

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6.30am at Surbiton Methodist Church Tennis Club Everyone is welcome. The tennis club can be found between houses 11-13 Manor Drive Surbiton Surrey KT5 8NE

Quiet Day On Saturday 21 May, the Rev. Andrew Pakes will lead a Quiet Day on the theme "Nothing ventured....." Although this is a Surbiton Hill event, members of other Circuit churches will be welcome. The venue will be at the home of Maureen Campion in Claygate and will start with coffee at 10.00 am. A light lunch will be provided and the day will end with a cup of tea at 4.00 pm. If you would like to share in this day, please ring Maureen on 01372 465945.

District Events

Hugh Price Hughes lecture - series 2011 7.30pm. at Hinde Street Methodist Church Tel: 020 7935 6179 www.hindestreet.org.uk

Whose translation? "Interpreting Scripture from contemporary perspectives"
Translation isn't simply a matter of language, We interpret scripture from and for a great variety of contexts. Recognised authorities speak from different perspectives:

12th April - Professor Cheryl Exum: Dept of Bible Studies, University of Sheffield

10th May - Professor Archie Lee: Department of Religion, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

14th June – Dr Mukti Batron: The Queens Foundation

Events Elsewhere - at the Guy Chester Centre

**Toolbox for Life & Church – 'A time for every purpose' Saturday 2nd April
10am – 4pm £50**

Learn skills in managing time, setting priorities, saying 'no' – and how not to feel guilty. A day for busy people. Led by Ann-Marie Wilson who is a psychologist and training consultant who has spent over 28 years helping individuals, teams and organisations.

And finally if your church has an event it wishes to share with the circuit, please forward details to me for inclusion in this section of each church's newsletter/magazine.

Daphne Baker email: circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk Tel 07510 548931

Circuit Office, Surbiton Hill Methodist Church, 39 Ewell Rd., Surbiton KT6 6AF

Children's Pages

Hi

I have been short on time this month so I have cheated with this page and bought it from the internet. I thought it was going to be downloadable but it's being posted to me! So much for saving time! So I'm adapting it. My apologies and a promise to do betterunless you like this version and I'll get it delivered earlier next month. Let me know please.

This page is written by Barney the Sheep, He writes:

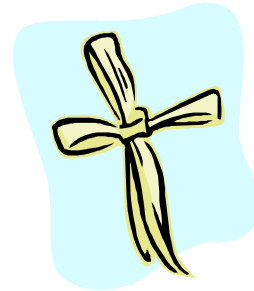
Hello friends,

Easter is nearly here and that means we can celebrate the fact that Jesus is alive today! The period leading up to Easter is called Holy Week and it starts with Palm Sunday. This is when we remember Jesus riding on a donkey through the streets of Jerusalem. People gathered to sing his praises because they thought he would lead them to victory against the Romans. But what they did not know is that Jesus leads us to another victory over sin and death!

He died on God Friday, yet on Easter Sunday God brought him back to life again. Now he wants to be our friend.

Sing Hosanna

We now share palm crosses on Palm Sunday to remind us of Jesus riding into Jerusalem. Lift yours high!



Love through Jesus

Julia

Jokes

What do you call a rabbit that tells good jokes? – A Funny Bunny!	Why did the girl throw the clock out of the window?-She wanted to see time fly!
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Church Services in April 2011

3rd April Mothering Sunday	10.30am Service (HC) 6.30pm Service (W)	Revd Dr Shier-Jones Mr D & Mrs C Doe
10th April	10.30am Service (W) 6.30pm Service (CC/HC)	Mrs L Davis Revd Dr Shier-Jones
17th April Palm Sunday	10.30am Service (AAW/P) 6.30pm Service (W)	Revd. Dr Shier-Jones Mrs J Boulton
24th April Easter Sunday	8.45am (HC) 10.30am Service (HC) 6.30pm Service (W)	Revd. Dr Shier-Jones Revd. Dr Shier-Jones Rev D Finnan

Notes

HC - Holy Communion
CC - Café Church
W - Preaching Service
AAW - All Age Worship
P - Parade



Flower Rota for April 2011



<u>Date</u>	<u>Donated by:</u>	<u>Arranged by:</u>
3rd April	Mrs S Knowles	Julia
10th April	Mrs B Cowan	Birgit
17th April	Mrs J Haines	Julie
24th April	Mr B Bridges	Sheila

Church Services and Activities

Sunday	9.30am	Bible Study/Holy Communion (fortnightly)
	10.30am	Junior Church (3-16) & Crèche (0-3)
	10.30am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Junior Choir
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
	6.30pm	Activ8
Monday	8.00pm	Badminton Club
	7.30pm	Wives and Friends Fellowship (fortnightly*)
Tuesday	8.00pm	Heretics Club (1st Monday in month)
	2.30pm	Women's Afternoon Guild*
	4.15pm	Rainbows (age 5-7)
	5.15pm	Brownies (age 7-10)
	6.30pm	Class Meeting
	7.00pm	Junior Badminton (age 12-16) (fortnightly)
Wednesday	8.00pm	Meeting Point*
	10.30am	Bible Study (term-time)
	12.15pm	Holy Communion in the Church
Thursday	6.30pm	Shell Club (age 7-12)
	9.45am	Toddlers Group (term-time)
Friday	10.00am	Friday Fellowship (once a month)
	2.30pm	Create Art Workshop (once a month)
	7.00pm	Guides (girls, age 10-14)
Saturday	10.30am	Prayers in the Church (15 mins)

* Programme details announced separately. Please ask a Steward.

Coffee is served in the Welcome Area, Monday to Friday, 10.00am to 2.00pm and Saturday, 10.00am to Noon.

Abacus Pre-School (term-time) Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 12.00 noon and Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Housegroups meet on various days. Please ask for details

Church Office telephone number: 020 8942 1288

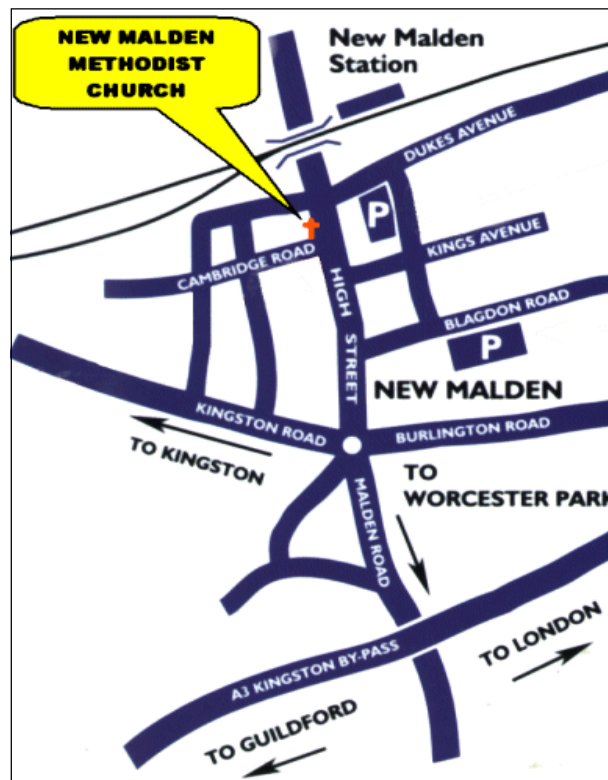
Church Website: www.newmaldenmethodistchurch.com

Church Admin Email: nmmc@hotmail.co.uk

Travel Directions

New Malden Methodist Church

49 High Street
New Malden
KT3 4BY



Trains

New Malden Station (South West Trains)
2 minutes walk away

Buses

K1 (New Malden to Kingston) and **213** (Kingston to Sutton)
Both pass the door

131 (Kingston to Wimbledon) is a short walk from the roundabout at the Kingston/ Burlington Road junction