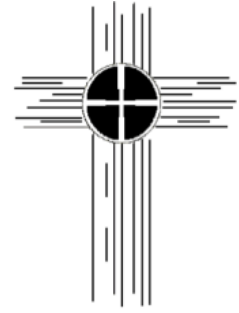


The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church February 2017



In this issue:

- Message from Reverend Choi
- Your Church Needs You!
- 150th Anniversary
- Thanks!
- Women's World Day of Prayer
- Strictly Nativity
- Around the Circuit
- Summary of Notices
- Diary Dates
- Services in February
- Message from the Family Worker

Message from Reverend Choi

*The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,^[a]
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn, (Isaiah 61. 1-2)*

In this passage, the prophet Isaiah shows the Israelites the great picture of the Jubilee, when they are all freed and rejoice in God's favour. It is to give them hope and promise them of the Messiah whom they have been waiting for. And, not surprisingly, we see this passage being quoted by Jesus (Luke 4. 18-19), when he first preached at the synagogue in Nazareth. In this sense, it sounds very much like a 'Mission Statement', which declares what he is going to do in his ministry, his aims and goals in line with the vision God has shown to him.

Then, as a Methodist, I find it interesting to see its link with John Wesley's ministry. In Bristol,

near the city centre, there is a place called 'Bread Street'. (I know Bristol a bit better than

any other cities in England, as we lived there over eight years for my studying and training.)

At the corner of that street, we can find a small, bronze plaque, which reads *"This is the place, where John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, first preached in the open air, on the 2nd of April 1739."*

And, Isaiah 61. 1-2, the passage above, is inscribed on it, as it was the text John preached on.

To me, it's not surprising that he chose this passage for his first open air preaching, because he knew that the good news of salvation should go to everyone, particularly to the poor, the prisoners, the sick, and the oppressed. It was his mission statement. On that day, he preached to about three thousand people in the Brickfield. Amazing!

Over the last eighteen months, we have been talking about our mission, action plans, and so on. And, at the Church Council meeting last month, we all agreed to adopt a 'Vision Statement' as follows:

"Having borne witness to the glory of God for 150 years, we are here to continue our mission, to raise our profile as a force for good in this changing community and to strengthen our fellowship."

I think it is very appropriate, as we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of our church now. I hope and pray that we all may be well aware of our vision and move forward to achieve this vision together with God's help and his guidance.

Every blessing, SC Choi

Your Church Needs YOU!

In September Megan leaves New Malden for college so we will need **2** new stewards.

Could one of them be **YOU**?

What does a steward do?

- You are a member of the church.
- You are a member of the church council, and as such are a trustee of the church.
- You become a leader of the church community. So you represent the mood/feelings of the church to the circuit when necessary

On a Sunday

You are the manager of the building on 2 Sundays a month with another steward.

- You open the building and close it.
- You put up the numbers of the hymns and set up the church for worship
- You look after the preacher that morning.
- You introduce the preacher and welcome the congregation, light the peace candle
- You give out notices if necessary.
- You find 4 people to take the collection, and then lock it away at end of service.
- You bundle the flowers and give them to people or arrange for them to be given to people

Other duties are-

- 8 stewards meetings a year approx. 1 ½ hours in length
- One month in 4 you are the one who writes to the visiting preacher a Standard letter of invitation.
- You try to attend circuit meetings once every 4 months.

None of this is really arduous and you are a member of a team and a big family.

Perhaps all the above is not possible for you so why not consider being a **Vestry Steward**.

You do not have to be a member of the church.

You commit to 1 service every 4 to 6 weeks when you will help the steward on duty to prep the church. (Rota for 3 months planned a month in advance)

Other roles we need to find people for include:-

- Operating the projection system on a Sunday morning. This would mainly involve pressing a button to move slides on during a service and full training can be given. It is a job that can be done even by the most computer innocent.
- Delivering flowers after the service or on the Monday

Please consider these opportunities to support the work of this church and its worship on a Sunday. Perhaps discuss with myself or any of the stewards.

Julie Haines, Senior Steward

Women's World Day of Prayer



Women's World Day of Prayer

Informed Prayer, Prayerful action

This year's services are being held on Friday 3rd March at 1.45 pm at the United Reformed Church, Malden Road and 8pm at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Kingston Road.

We are participating in the afternoon service at the URC and we trust as many as possible will be able to come along and support us, especially if you are willing to do a reading or take part in any other way.

We are also encouraged to support the service at St Joseph's in the evening. It's quite amazing how the same service can seem totally different when arranged by members of different churches.

COFFEE MORNING

Our coffee morning in aid of WWDP this year is on Saturday, 4th February from 10am to 12noon. Do please come along and support it and if you can provide cakes or any other help on the morning it would be most welcome.

Many thanks,
Carol Dadds and Doreen Downey

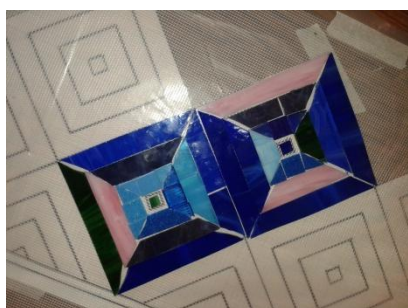
150th Anniversary Celebrations



To celebrate that New Malden Methodist Church has borne witness to the glory of God for 150 years, to raise our profile as a force for good in this changing community

February update:

The **mosaic** has begun production! Please see the photos to get a flavour of this stunning



piece of artwork. The following dates are booked for further sessions, put one in your diary to ensure you are part of the creation:

Tuesday 14th February Meeting Point 8pm

Tuesday 21st February – Rainbows and Brownies

*Thursday 16th February - 2pm the art group

*Sunday 23rd April – 10.30am
Morning Service

*Monday 24th April – 7.30pm
Wives and Friends

Please come along to any marked with*

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 6th July 7pm – A meal with entertainment which will be performed by Steve Price a talented gospel magician. Tickets will be £10 each and will be on sale from Sunday 23rd April. Limited spaces.

Saturday 24th June – a Youth Trip for those in the church in year 7 and above to the “Orbit” and slide. I need to book tickets for this so please let me know if you are coming. This needs to be a firm commitment. **Please let Julia know by 28th February at the latest**, to book your place.

Mugs in March

Buy your commemorative mug on a Sunday in March! These are currently on sale but we will be promoting them after the services in March. There are 2 kinds, earthenware at £5 and fine china at £7.

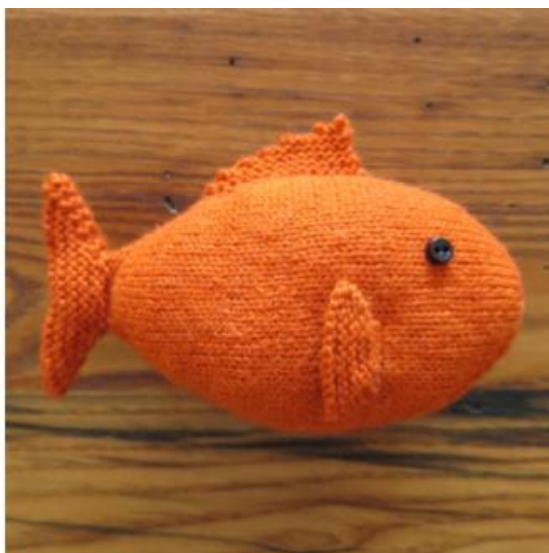


Please see the **Notice board** for updates and to add your name to the existing lists if you can help in any way, please don't assume you are included or leave it to others. Just write in your name we can retype it to look neat!

If you have had replies from people to your invitation to the Launch service and lunch please let us know too so we can prepare in advance for the correct numbers.

The date of the **next meeting** is Thursday 6th April at 7.30pm. All are welcome.





150th Footnote:

Nicky Horton has found a knitting pattern for this rather fetching fish but it's too long to go in the newsletter. I've printed a few copies and left them in the welcome area. I can also email it out if people let me know.

A reminder that we need 150 fish to distribute around New Malden. These need to be about A4 size please and can be knitted as above or sewn, crocheted or other to produce a 3D fish. These will be out for our celebration rather like the sheep trail and brought back for the service on July 16th.

I look forward to seeing a wide variety of fish in different shapes and sizes up and down the High Street as part of the 150th celebrations.

Judith has penned this on the event she is coordinating – **the 150th Anniversary Exhibition.**

Read on:

Our church has a well-deserved reputation in New Malden for high quality events. Christening gowns, flowers, photographs, Christmas trees, music and many more. So our 150th Exhibition will also be really special – a celebration of the life of our church and all that we represent, and what we contribute as the Church in the High Street.

The exhibition will tell the story of our church, from the first days – the buildings, the people, the activities – right up to now, and even into the future. It will use pictures, words and objects, presented in different ways to make it informative, engaging and possibly even surprising!

Several people have already offered and suggested things that could be included, and we've got a note of those, many thanks. Please keep ideas and offers coming.

Thanks also to those people who have already offered to set up, steward and take down – we'll be appealing for more volunteers later.

Date for your diary: Saturday 29 April "Bring, Show and Tell" This will be a session to which we'd like you to bring your possible contributions, and we'll be on hand to accept and catalogue them. (Of course, we may not be able to accept everything. For example, there may be quite a few duplicate photos of church weekends! However, please don't assume someone else will bring that photo – better to have too many than none.)

So, between now and 29 April, please look through your albums and boxes of pictures; find that Sunday School prize at the back of your bookshelf; if you do some spring-cleaning keep an eye out for anything we could use.

Perhaps you don't have any of that kind of thing. What you certainly do have, though, is a story – about an experience, a memory, a sad or funny thing that happened. Could you write that down, or if you'd prefer not to write, could you tell it to someone?

The wider the range of types and sources of exhibits the better and richer our exhibition will be.

Judith Jewell

A couple of Thank Yous from Jane Bennett

(I'm always happy to include these [Caroline])

150th Anniversary

What a lovely surprise to see the new 150th anniversary logo printed on our weekly notice sheets! Doreen and her son Philip made a great job of designing and printing the original colour version. Thank you, Doreen. Also thanks to Sarah Choi for the mug design. The 150th Anniversary Committee is certainly working hard to keep us all aware. Here's looking forward to the completed mosaic and a net full of fish!

[Jane asks if we will be producing car stickers with the logo on. We won't be but we have some regular Methodist ones in the Welcome Area if anyone would like one].

Christmas Trees

It's a few weeks since we took the Christmas trees down, so this is a belated "thanks" to those who so efficiently organised the whole affair and did the bulk of the work i.e. Julia, Sarah, Dave Moore and Chris' Abell and Haines. The display this time was better than ever, with what seemed a greater footfall. Whether the income from donations was greater or not, the enjoyment given to visitors was evident. And there were certainly plenty of original and interesting decorations!

And here are some photos in case you missed the display:



[Thanks also to everyone who helped un-decorate and take the trees down]

And more thanks – this time to some

Unsung Heroes

She fills over 260 gaps in the coffee rota, many with regulars but often there are gaps, so she manages by calling on a small team of generous folk who will do the extra shift and herself if necessary. The window on the High Street stays open Thanks Sarah and volunteers.

She ensures there is coffee sachets and teabags, chocolate and bottles of water for sale in the coffee bar. Thanks Angela for maintaining the stock cupboard.

He sets the clocks every week so that the boiler turns on and this very large building with its many rooms in use at a wide variety of times over the week gets heated. Thanks Robert.

The Strictly Nativity

Fab-u-lous. This is what Craig Revel-Horwood would have said about our nativity this year, had he seen it. It was a truly fab-u-lous event and everyone who took part deserves their share of the credit. Special credit to Julia of course for her choreography and general ability to keep the show on the road. If you missed it, here are a few photos:

Angels from the realms of glory aka the junior church and beginners:



The judges – as you can see Len had already left – no ten from Len this week



Mary – with no chicken pox this year, always good (for the rest of the cast):



Around the Circuit

CHURCH EVENTS

New Malden

Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Service:

Wednesday 1st March, 12:15 pm at New Malden Methodist Church. *"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."*

Surbiton Hill

Drop In Fellowship takes place on the second Wednesday of each month in the Lower Hall at Surbiton Hill (from 1.45pm for a 2pm start).

March Newsletters

If your church has any news or a forthcoming event you would like to share with the Circuit, please forward details to Michael Axton at the Circuit Office by Tuesday 10 January to:
circuitoffice@kingstonsircuit.org.uk

Summary of Recent Notices

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Good news: A baby boy arrived on 20th December! **Rebecca Addai** gave birth to a baby, who has been named 'Kevin'. Mum and the baby are doing well. Congratulations to the Addai family!

Sad news: Some of you may remember **Hamed Al-Attar**, probably one of the most regular customers to the coffee bar, who passed away just before Christmas. Sadly he was found dead at his flat on 22nd December. His body has been taken to his home country Iraq and buried there. We will miss him enjoying mushroom soup in our coffee bar all the time.

We have also received a message from Cassandra Kinsman who some of you may remember with the sad news that both her parents, **Ken and Yvonne Kinsman** passed away this year. Ken died unexpectedly of a heart attack in June and Yvonne passed away from cancer in August. On a happier note, Cassandra had her second baby in May.

We welcomed **Uchi Mwamuye** as a new member on 15th January. Her membership was transferred to us from the Brixton Hill Methodist Church. We hope she and her son Michael will enjoy worship and fellowship with us as part of our church family.

Please continue to remember Shirley Stewart in your prayers. She is still in hospital, making a slow recovery.

THANK YOUs

Thank you to everyone who was involved in **Lights Camel Action**, a strictly Nativity performed on 11th December by the Junior Church and a few helpers. A good time was had by all celebrating the nativity in the time-honoured way but also with a new twist.

The coffee bar and **carol singing on Christmas Eve** raised £249.40 for the Organ Fund.

The **Bedford family** would like to thank everyone who supported their coffee bar last Saturday in any way. A magnificent £230 was raised for the Stroke Association in memory of Bernard Bedford.

Thank you to everyone who supported the coffee bar in aid **Multiple Sclerosis** on 7th January. Ali Walsh is very pleased to report that £143.00 was raised.

MILK BOTTLE TOPS – KEEP COLLECTING!

The recipient of the bottle tops has changed, but they are still being taken by Rita LeVine's contact and gratefully received by St Paul's Church in Chichester to raise funds for the Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. So please keep bringing them in – milk bottle tops ONLY. Thank you.

15TH JANUARY CONCERT - ORGAN FUND

Following the very successful Haydn concert on 15th January, the total raised, with Gift Aid applied where appropriate, was £2315. This includes an anonymous pound-for – pound matching donation but does *not*

include all donations collected to date. The organ fund has got off to a great start – thanks again to all who were involved in the concert in any way, musical or financial.

Calling all members of the Junior Church in year 7 and above

This is an invitation to challenge yourself as part of our 150th Church Celebrations later this year.

You are challenged to experience "The ArcelorMittel Orbit" at The Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on Saturday 24th June.

I need to book the tickets so I need your firm and binding commitment if you wish to come on this all expenses paid trip, you will just need your oyster card and a packed lunch.

Please let Julia know by 31st January if you are up for the event.

nmmcyyw@hotmail.co.uk or a note in her pigeonhole or phone 020 8942 1288

Doesn't this look fun (ha, ha)



All Saints Topical Lunch – Thursday 16 February. Viv Evans, Kingston's Head of Planning and Regeneration answers all your questions about '*Kingston – What is going on around here?*' What's getting built under all those huge cranes? What are the Borough's latest plans? Your chance to hear, comment and put your questions to the Borough's top planner. Presentation 1:00 – 1:45. Lunch from ASK East End Cafe – or bring your own.

Diary Dates for February

Friday 3rd 10.30am

Friday Fellowship

Saturday 4th 10.00am

Coffee Bar – Women's World Day of Prayer – Carol Dadds

Sunday 5th 10.30am

Pastoral Visitors Rededication Service

Tuesday 7th 7.00pm

Junior Badminton

Wednesday 8th 2.00pm

Memory Café in the Welcome Area

Friday 10th 9.30am

James Berry MP Surgery in Admin office

Saturday 11th 10.00am

Coffee Bar – Alzheimer's Society - Glynis Fox

Sunday 12th 3.00pm

Music in New Malden

Monday 13th 7.30pm

Wives & Friends – 'Room 101' – Glynis & Angela

Tuesday 14th 7.30pm

Meeting Point – Arts & crafts creating the 150th Anniversary Mosaic

Tuesday 13th 7.00pm

Junior Badminton

Thursday 16th 2.00pm

Arts Group creating the 150th Anniversary Mosaic

Saturday 18th 10.00am

Coffee Bar – Star & Garter Home – Rita LeVine

Monday 20th 7.00pm

Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert

Tuesday 21st 7.00pm

Junior Badminton

Diary Dates contd./

Saturday 25th 10.00am

Coffee Bar – Action for Children – Lucy Turner

Monday 27th 7.30am

Wives & Friends – Women's Land Army – Carol Harris

Services in February

5th February – Reverend Choi, Holy Communion

12th February – local arrangement tbc

19th February – Reverend Choi, family service

26th February, Reverend Vernon

NOTE café church service with Choi at New Malden in the evening too!

Copy deadline for the March newsletter is Friday 9am 24th March by email to: carolineauty@hotmail.com or in the pigeon hole.

Message from our Family Worker

Hi

As a challenge in our 150th year as a church here in New Malden one of the suggestions made by some of our older youth was that we do 150 random acts of kindness during our celebrations in the summer. But I thought maybe you could do with some ideas and have the opportunity to practise some in advance!

At School:

Compliment 3 people in a day

Hold open a door for someone

Don't interrupt when someone is speaking

Family

Empty all the bins at home

Phone an elderly relative and have a chat

Write a letter to your parents saying why you think they are special

Environment

Pick up litter

Use a reusable water bottle or cup instead of a disposable one

Feed the birds

Random

Smile all day

Write to someone who has inspired you

Sign up (if old enough) to be an organ donor

If you get good at this and others follow you can change the world one act of kindness at a time.

God bless

Julia
