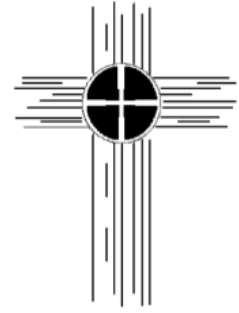


# **The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church June 2016**



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## **Message from Reverend Choi**

### **From Membership to Citizenship, through Discipleship**

I think membership culture is quite strong in this society. You must have some membership cards already. And, as a member, you can enjoy various benefits and advantages, like members special, or members discount, etc.

But, it seems to imply a kind of exclusiveness, only for some privileged people, which doesn't seem to be well matched with the gospel, and its teaching. In this sense, becoming a member of the church, an issue of church membership is often controversial, which I have to admit. To be honest, it is difficult to find out a place in the Bible where the membership is clearly mentioned. 1 Corinthians 12 is often referred to as an example, where Paul uses a wonderful illustration of 'one Body with many members (or parts)'. But, it seems not quite to talk about 'membership', although it

helps us to understand the importance of each 'member'. Therefore, my understanding of membership is simply that it is our response to God's calling to be part of the church.

People often ask a question: 'What does it involve?'

Actually, it involves every aspect of church life. As is mentioned in the membership ticket, members are asked to engage in regular worship, learning and caring, service, and evangelism. It may look huge, and we may feel it impossible to commit ourselves fully. But, we must acknowledge that by the grace of God we are called to be his people, and it is not 'I' but 'He' who enables and empowers us to live as His people.

Therefore, what is involved in membership is pretty much like discipleship, and willingness to one more step forward to be Jesus' disciple.

In Mark 10, we hear an interesting request from James and John, to sit next to Jesus when they get to his kingdom. Then, Jesus' reply is striking: "You are thinking about sitting down; I am talking about standing up." You are thinking about membership; I want to teach you about discipleship. (quoting from Rev. Tom Stuckey's article). Jesus wants us to move on, once we join in his group. It has nothing to do with sitting and having a cup of tea, but drinking a cup of obedience with him. He wants us to leave our comfort zone and move on to serve his church, his people, and the world as his

disciples. It may be hard, but I believe the reward is promising, that is, the ever-lasting citizenship in his kingdom. So, I'd like to send my open invitation to all who are not yet members of our church.

Every blessing,

SC Choi.

P. S: I am planning to launch 'a Membership Class', three sessions just after the Sunday Service, on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 17<sup>th</sup> July, and 7<sup>th</sup> August. Each session will take about half an hour. If you are interested, please talk to Choi, stewards, or your pastoral visitor.

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## Meeting Point

As you will have noted from the Annual report, we have enjoyed a wide range of meetings over the past few months, with a selection of outside speakers in the autumn, and [an exploration of Faith](#) in various contexts in the spring. These were interspersed with devotional evenings led by Choi and by Donald Finnan, and we also enjoyed a Bring and Share Christmas supper as well as pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

Our summer meetings are more socially-based, and as we managed to fit our Faith discussions into two evenings instead of the advertised three, our summer will now start a little sooner than advertised on the card.

Accordingly, our next meeting, on June 14, is now entitled 'Salad Days'. We'll be looking back, a little nostalgically perhaps, to the 50s and 60s, or indeed whenever you consider your 'salad days' to have been. If you would like to, please bring a photo of yourself taken in your teens or twenties, and we'll make a (temporary!) display so that people can try to recognise who is who. This is not compulsory, of course. There will also be a short light-hearted quiz based on the 50s and 60s.

During the evening we'll also discuss next season. We want your suggestions and ideas, so please take a few moments beforehand to

consider what you have enjoyed, or not, about recent meetings. It is important that we tailor the group to fit its consumers. We have a very regular and loyal following, but we don't seem to be attracting new people, nor do people often come in from outside the church in spite of the poster in the window advertising our activities. Does that matter? What we can do to increase numbers? Could you offer to take part? Is there even a need for this group alongside 3 F's?

The evening will conclude with a salad supper as we listen to Julian Slade's musical 'Salad Days' in the background:



The final two events of the year are unchanged: the Church barbecue on Sun July 3, and our popular 'With Great Pleasure' evening of music and poetry chosen by you on July 12. We shall have room for more items this year, as we will already have had a Supper on June 14!



You and your friends of whatever age are always welcome.

For any further details or clarification please see Judith, Alison, Peter or Liz.

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## Profile on....Rosemarie Lester



Name: Rosemarie Lester

Best invention in your lifetime – The computer; in particular Skype which helps me stay in touch with distant family and friends.

Best film – Two please – based on my two favourite books! The 2011 version of Jane Eyre with Mia Wasikowska and Michael Fassbender and the 1994 version of Little Women with Winona Ryder and Christian Bale

Earliest memory – My little sister being born at home when I was four and watching all the “grown-ups” getting very excited while I had to stay quietly out of the way with my older sister.

Previous Occupations- Quite a few – Supervisor at Marks and Spencer, Administrative Assistant at the Central Electricity Generating Board and Relate; plus, various voluntary roles.

Favourite hymn – Guide me, O thou great Jehovah; It reminds me of my Welsh heritage and has become a family favourite at funerals so it also brings back memories of my loved ones.

Favourite time of the year - Spring – it’s such a wonderful time of rebirth and transformation.

Best meal – Vegetarian Lasagne and Summer Pudding

Did you have any childhood pets – We had a rabbit, plus anything else we could smuggle past my mother; like the flea-ridden hedgehog I

brought back from school, hidden under my coat!

Favourite Book of the Bible – That’s a difficult one to answer! There are several I’m afraid. In the O.T. the Psalms have sustained me in hard times and I love the depiction of loving and committed relationship, and of God’s provision in the Book of Ruth. In the N.T. my favourite Gospel is John and I also like the Book of Acts for the story of the early Church and the transformational power of the Holy Spirit.

What does your faith mean to you? (In no more than 50 words) Everything! There have been times in my life when I really don’t think that I could have survived without God’s love and encouragement and the hope and guidance my faith has given me. What amazing grace to know that God has been with me in times of joy and sorrow.

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## Let’s Cook



Let's Cook Local is a Big Lottery - Local Food funded project, involving trained WI Volunteers running 112 fully-funded practical cookery courses over two years. The project was due to end on 31st August 2013 and has been very successful.

The project targets young, parents and provides a courses in practical cookery over six weekly sessions using locally produced or sourced ingredients and leftovers to produce basic, healthy, cheap family meals This course were held in here using our cooking facilities

What happens at each session?

Students are encouraged to cook tasty meals from scratch and sit down together to eat their

creations at the end of each session, often with their children.

These sessions will take place for 6 sessions during the summer holidays, 9.30 – 11.30 am for cooking and 11.30am for eating together. (Day to be determined)

If you are interested please contact Julia nmmcyw@hotmail.com

Or pop a note in her pigeon hole at the front of the church and she will get back to you.

Only room for 6 families so book now

This is free and child care will be provided

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It's official – Church is good for you! This article appeared in the Daily Telegraph on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Clearly nothing we didn't know already!

### **Everlasting life? How going to church could help you live longer**

John Bingham, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS EDITOR, THE TELEGRAPH

For the last the last 2,000 years it has preached a message of eternal life – but only in the hereafter.

Now experts have pointed to evidence that going to church could also actively help people live longer in the here and now.

Epidemiologists analysed data charting the lives of more than 74,000 women over a 16-year period and found that the most regular churchgoers were 33 per cent less likely to die during that time than those who never attended services.

But even those who went to church sporadically appeared to have significantly better survival rates than those who never did so.

They noted that there were fewer deaths from heart disease and cancer in particular among the regular churchgoers than those who did not attend.

The international team of researchers, including Prof Tyler VanderWeele, professor of epidemiology at the TH Chan School of Public Health at Harvard, suggested that being part of a

congregation not only may have discouraged habits such as smoking, but made them less likely to feel lonely and more optimistic.

Previous research has shown a statistical link between reporting feeling lonely and suffering poor health, estimated to be equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

A University College London study in 2011 also put forward a link between happiness and long life.

The new study, published online in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine, used information gathered for the Nurses' Health Study in which a large sample of American women, all of them nurses, were asked to fill in questionnaires about their lives between 1996 and 2012.

Of the 74,534 women surveyed at the start of the study, 13,537 had died by 2012, a third of them from cancer and a fifth from cardiovascular disease.

Almost one in five of those surveyed said they attended church more than once a week, another 40 per cent went weekly, just over one in six were less frequent in the pews and a quarter never attended.

Those in the first group were a third less likely to have died than those in the non-churchgoing group.

Specifically they were 27 per cent less likely to have died of cardiovascular disease and had a 21 per cent lower risk of dying from cancer.

Meanwhile the weekly churchgoers had a 26 per cent risk of dying than those who stayed away while those who attended less often had a 13 per cent lower risk, the researchers said.

Frequent attendance at religious services was associated with significantly lower risk of all-cause, cardiovascular, and cancer mortality among women JAMA Internal Medicine study

The study concludes: "Religion and spirituality may be an underappreciated resource that physicians could explore with their patients, as appropriate."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/16/everlasting-life-how-going-to-church-could-help-you-live-longer/>

## **Around the Circuit: June 2016**

### **CIRCUIT NEWS**

#### **Quarterly Plan**

There are some amendments to the current (June to August) Quarterly Plan. Please note your copies to amend the 7 August services at Chessington to show “Murray” for the morning service, and “Webb” for the evening service.

Ordination Service at SHMC 4.30pm July 3rd

SHMC has been asked to host one of the Ordination Services which take place as part of the Methodist Conference, which will be meeting at Central Hall Westminster. The services are all ticket, and you can apply on line at the Methodist Church website:

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/conference/conference-2016/ordinations/book-tickets>

We have been given only 40 general tickets for the local church, and these services are generally over-subscribed.

#### **Farewell to Rev Elizabeth Osei**

Elizabeth formally finishes in our Circuit at the end of July, and a Farewell Service has been arranged for her on the evening of 31st July at Chessington. Please come along to celebrate Elizabeth’s ministry with us and pray for her as she moves on to the Newham Circuit.

#### **And... Welcome to Rev Andrew Clark**

Andy Clark will be welcomed as our new minister working with Chessington Methodist Church in a service at CMC at 6.30pm on Sunday 4th September. Rev Micky Youngson, our Chair of District, will be joining us to share in our welcome to Andy.

### **CHURCH EVENTS**

#### **Chessington**

As part of the Chessington Church Anniversary Weekend the Summer Fair will take place on Saturday 11 June, from 11.30am to 2.00pm. All the usual stall, food and fun.

And on Sunday 12 June there will be an Anniversary Service at 10am conducted by Stan Brown and Elizabeth Osei, followed by a Bring and Share Lunch

#### **Kingston**

On Sunday 19 June 2016 Kingston Methodist Church will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee. Fifty years at The Church on the Fairfield! Friends from across the Circuit and Kingston are invited to share in a series of events of celebration and thanksgiving.

10:30 am Service of Thanksgiving – All Age Worship. Guest Preacher: Rev Michaela Youngson. Share the fellowship of cake while viewing the exhibition after the service

3:30 pm Exhibition open, fellowship and refreshments

6:30 pm Service of Thanksgiving with Holy Communion. Preacher: Rev Sooncheol Choi

There will also be displays and memories of church life and the 1960s. Flares and flowers in your hair – optional.

The services have not been designated as official circuit services, and you are not asked to abandon your usual worship and duties. However, there will be a warm welcome if you are able to come a long at some point during the day. An exhibition of the life and work of KMC will be available until 17 July if you are not able to visit on 19 June.

#### **Surbiton Hill**

A reminder that Monthly Prayer Fellowship takes place on the first Saturday of each month at Surbiton Hill, from 10 am to 11am, led by Daniel Masillamani.

### **OTHER NEWS**

The Prudential Ride London Festival of Cycling will take place on Saturday 30 July in London and Sunday 31 July in London and Surrey, and this is likely to impact on some Church services on 31 July. The precise routes for the 2016 events will be available soon.

#### **NEXT EDITION**

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 so that it can be included in each Church’s newsletter/magazine.

Please send your contributions by Tuesday 14 June to: [circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk](mailto:circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk)



## Summary of May Notices

### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**Ann White** would like to thank everyone for the Church flowers and their good wishes. She is feeling much better now and is getting out and about.

Unfortunately, **Rosemary Wraith's**, operation had to be postponed. Please continue to hold her, Doug, Gillian and Andrew in your prayers.

Those of you who remember **Gordon Cowell** will be sad to hear that he died on April 12<sup>th</sup>. He was in his early nineties. His funeral will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm at Randalls Park.

### WINGS OF HOPE KNITTERS

For all those who are knitting for the Wings of Hope, the position at the moment is as follows: I have 23 scarves, 3 hats and 3 pairs of mittens at home. Andrea has 30 hats and 30 pairs of mittens completed. As you know our target for the Nursery class of January 2017 is 50 of each item. I will buy some more wool, but would be pleased to know of other completed items. Thank you so much, Stella.

See the photo of happy, smiling kids to see where your much appreciated efforts end up!



### MALDEN FORTNIGHT PARADE

Please put the date in your diary, it's Saturday 1st July. I'm aware it seems a long way off but I need help with costumes please.

Is there anyone with expertise in hat decoration and adaptation. WE could have a

workshop to produce the items along the lines of Mrs Shilling.

Thank you, Julia

### EUROPEAN REFERENDUM DEBATE

Sunday 5th June, St Paul's Kingston Hill, Alexandra Road KT2 7SF

6.30 refreshments, 7.00-8.30 debate.

Confirmed speakers: James Berry MP, Baroness Susan Kramer.

Open to all, of any faith or none.

### All Saints Kingston, Market Place KT1 1JP

**EU Referendum Hustings Thursday 16 June, 1:00 to 2:00pm**

*We say 'Stay In'*

James Berry, MP for Kingston and Surbiton  
Julius Weinberg, Vice Chancellor, Kingston University

*We say 'Leave Now'*

Crispin Blunt, MP for Reigate (Invited)  
Bruce Burrowes, TaxAssist Accountants, Kingston

Chaired by Judge Robert Latham  
Sandwiches etc available at the *ASK East End Cafe*

For further information, contact Leslie Packer [leslie@packerhome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:leslie@packerhome.fsnet.co.uk) or 020 8549 1960



### AN INVITATION FROM KINGSTON METHODIST CHURCH



On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2016 KMC will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee.

Fifty years at The Church on the Fairfield!  
The poster in the Welcome Area details the events that will take place on that day and we would like to invite friends from across the Circuit and Kingston to share with us in celebration and thanksgiving.

The services have **not** been designated as official circuit services, and we are not asking you to abandon your usual worship and duties. However, we will be delighted to welcome you if you are able to join us at some point during the day.

Please share the details with the members and friends at your church. We look forward to welcoming you if you can visit then.

The exhibition of the life and work of KMC will be available until 17 July if you are not able to visit on 19 June.

With thanks for your prayers, support and fellowship over the last 50 years.

Best wishes **Jennie Widdowson**

On behalf of Kingston Methodist Church

[Jennie.widdowson@btinternet.com](mailto:Jennie.widdowson@btinternet.com) 020 8948 1227

### **PANTO APPEAL**

Please can you supply any of the following for the panto?

- A pair of robust candlesticks, ie. not china or glass
- A "bridesmaid" type dress for ages 10-12
- A toy lizard
- A green t shirt

Also get your tickets for the event, they're selling fast!!

## **Message from our Family Worker**

Hi

I was watching some television last week and the advertisements between the programmes (not something I take too much notice of usually, it tends to be an excuse to make a cup of tea or feed the cat!). However during this natural break I was struck by a number of "adverts" aiming to help people claim for damages if they had had an accident. Now please don't misunderstand me, if someone was negligent (careless) and therefore the situation was dangerous then I can fully understand, but increasingly when an accident happens or something goes wrong then there is a tendency to blame someone else. This is sometimes unfair.

We need to take responsibility for our own actions. If you do something wrong then it is noble and brave to confess you made a mistake and apologise. There may be consequences which may not be pleasant but we all learn from mistakes and learn from them. As an adult I still don't always get it right although like you I do my best and if you asked most adults they would say the same thing.

As a species we have contributed to global warming, animal extinction, and deforestation amongst other "blunders". However there are people who see these faults and tirelessly campaign and work to make things better. People like those who try to protect wildlife, who work with charities throughout the world and those who raise the money to make the world a better place.

You can do this by supporting events, making cakes, dressing up in costume and having fun along the way but mostly by being responsible for your own actions.

God Bless

Julia



## Diary Dates

### Diary Dates for June

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

7.00pm Panto rehearsal

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>

10.30am Friday Fellowship

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – RNLI – Rita LeVine

2.00pm Dads & Doughnuts

Monday 6<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Wives & Friends – Meal 'Out'

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Junior Badminton

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>

2.00pm Memory Café in the Welcome Area

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Panto rehearsal

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – Wives & Friends

10.00am Crime Prevention Talk in Sanctuary

4.00pm Panto dress rehearsal

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>

3.00pm Music in New Malden

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>

7.30pm Meeting Point – Faith in Business

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Cake Sale to support Alzheimer's awareness day

7.00pm Panto rehearsal

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>

10.30am James Berry MP surgery Admin office

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – Women's Institute – Barbara Cavalier

2.00pm Panto performance - Cinderella

7.00pm Panto performance – Cinderella

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>

7.00pm Junior Badminton

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>

7.00am European Referendum (Lower Hall is Polling Station)

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – Scouts – Hilda Mulrooney

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>

8.00pm Church Council Meeting

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## Services in June

5<sup>th</sup> June- Rev Choi – HC

12<sup>th</sup> June - Rev Han

19<sup>th</sup> June- Rev Choi – family

26<sup>th</sup> June – Rev Osei

Plus circuit service at 6.30pm with Mrs Davis

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Copy deadline for July/August Newsletter

9 am **17<sup>th</sup> June**, by email to:

carolineauty@hotmail.com or in the pigeon hole.



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[newmaldenmethodistchurch.com](http://newmaldenmethodistchurch.com)



## Hold the back page

Just a couple of photos from today's successful Praise in the Park. If you missed it, you missed a treat but.....if there is good feedback, and I'm sure there will be, it could well be repeated.

Thanks to Judith and all those who organised this event that included food, face painting, a treasure hunt, fellowship, worship and more. Full marks for booking good weather too – neither too hot, nor too cold.

