

The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church March 2017



In this issue:

- Message from Reverend Choi
- New Minister!
- 150th Anniversary
- Thanks!
- Women's World Day of Prayer
- Around the Circuit
- Summary of Notices
- Services in March
- Diary Dates

Message from Reverend Choi

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. (Luke 18. 10-14)

In terms of religious attitude, I don't think any of us dare to say “I can beat Pharisees.” They were very committed and loyal to the law, which was set up for their religious life. Let alone fasting, tithing, and keeping Sabbath, they also had various kinds of ceremonial regulations, which no one found easy. And, they were very proud of those laws, and tried hard to keep them in their everyday lives.

And, that's exactly what this Pharisee is talking about in this story. And, we see him giving thanks to God for what he is, not like robbers, evildoers, adulterers, or tax collectors. He must have been very proud of himself.

It seems there is nothing wrong with him at all.

But, the trouble is that he didn't know how he was, in terms of his relationship with God, and he didn't know what it meant to pray to God, which was nothing to do with self-righteousness. It is not telling God of 'how good I am'. Rather, it may be a time to ask God's mercy and forgiveness, for the things we've done wrong in our lives. And, as for the matter of fasting, he should have known what Isaiah had taught us. It has nothing to do with how many times you fast, but why you fast, and how you fast. God wants us to pray, fast, and work, for His sake, for His people around us, not verbally or hypocritically, but sincerely from within our hearts.

In this respect, we see why Jesus approved of this tax collector's attitude in praying, although he didn't approve of his way of life. This man's prayer was very apologetic. He knew that he was wrong. Although he was asking God's mercy, he knew that he didn't deserve it.

'Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner', he prayed.

This must be our prayer during Lent.

Lent is a time of self-denial, a time of giving up our sinful habits, and asking God to forgive. Then, just as that tax collector

walked home justified before God, so we can walk away, knowing that we have been forgiven. That would mean, in other words, 'we can start over'. We can re-build our relationship with God, and with others. And, I believe it will give us hope, joy and relief.

From now, for the next six weeks, we are to be given a time to look deep into our hearts, and to think about our lives and our journey in Christ.

So, I pray that we may use this time for being honest with God, and humbling ourselves before Him, so that we may see how gracious and wonderful our Lord's love is, as we journey on together towards the cross.

Every blessing,
SC Choi.

New Minister

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Dr. Karl Rutledge will be joining our circuit as a "probationer" minister in Sept. 2017. Karl comes to us directly from Queen's College Birmingham where he is currently training for ministry. He will be working with the Kingston and New Malden Churches following on from Rev. Choi who is moving to the Croydon Circuit. As a probationer minister Karl is expected to have scheduled time for continuing study and training for the first two to three years in the circuit. We have made changes to the role to make this possible. Rev. Andy Clark who currently serves with us in a half time appointment based at Chessington will increase his hours with the circuit to the equivalent of three quarters time and work alongside Karl at Kingston for the first three years of the appointment.

Karl comes to us with his wife Sally and will be living in the manse at New Malden. We look forward to getting to know Karl and Sally in due course – please remember them on your prayers and of course also Choi and Sarah.

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 8 pm 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.

Carol Dadds



DAFFODIL DAY 2017

'LIFE-CHANGING PRAYER'

MONDAY, 6TH MARCH AT 2PM,
PLEASE BE SEATED BY 1.40PM FOR
'COMMUNITY SINGING'

WITH...

REVD DR MARTYN ATKINS & REVD TONY MILES
PAM RHODES, TV & RADIO PRESENTER
THE LORD MAYOR OF WESTMINSTER
REVD STEVE WILD, CHAIR, CORNWALL DISTRICT
ANNE BROWSE, PRESIDENT MWIB
ANANDO MUKERJEE & SADIA MCEWEN
THE CHORISTERS OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY
GERARD BROOKS & CRAIG EDWARDS
DIRECTORS OF MUSIC



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

March Update

The **mosaic** is rapidly coming together with 3 more groups having made their contribution to this unique work of art. A good time has been had by all. Thank you to all who have contributed so far.

Forth coming dates:

- Sunday 23rd April 10.30am
- Monday 24th April 7.30pm

So far the **youth trip** has had one reply (Saturday 24th June) the two of us are going to have a great time! Let Julia know NOW if you wasn't to come too – reminder it's a visit to the "Orbit & slide" at the Olympic Park and a visit to the facilities from there.



Buy your Mug in March if you have not done so already! On sale now.



Fish

We now have about 40 fish which have been sewn, knitted and crocheted. Thank you to everyone who has made them, each is lovely in its own way.

More are required so please don't stop yet, any shape and about A4 size please. You can be as inventive as you wish.



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

Unsung Heroes

He will perform a salt run and ensure the supplies for the coffee bar are kept up to date. He will ensure that squash is brought when special offers are on. He will notice in passing if the board has not been taken in, if lights have been left on, or equipment not turned off and will pop in and deal with it. Thank you Reg.

See overleaf for another Unsung Hero

Unsung Heroes

The church patio garden always looks good and along with the street flower patch outside is part of our 'shop window on the High Street.' It's not just the planting but she has been known to be watering the plants at 7 in the morning during the summer months. Thank you Stella.

[I have to say, the flowers are really lovely at the moment, Caroline]

Around the Circuit

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).

OTHER NEWS



Prudential London & Surrey Cycling Event

This year's event takes place on Sunday 30 July. As in previous years this will involve a number of road closures, and the impact on church services will once again need to be considered.

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

Please send your contributions by Tuesday 14 March to:
circuitoffice@kingstonsurbiton.org.uk

Trustee Opportunities in Kingston

Are you passionate about good quality local health and social care services? Do you have some time to support a key local charity?

Kingston Healthwatch is seeking to recruit at least two new board members to strengthen the current team of trustees. We are at the start of a new and exciting phase in our history as we have just won the contract to continue to deliver Healthwatch services in Kingston.

Healthwatch is the local health and social care consumer champion which aims to provide a real opportunity for members of the public to comment about the services they receive. We have a statutory power to 'Enter and View' NHS and social care facilities to see what's going on and make recommendations to health commissioners and providers alike as to how the patient/service user perspective can be improved.

We are a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee with a board of trustees/directors who employ a staff team of 3 who lead on arranging a wide range of consultations and surveys.

We are very keen to recruit volunteer trustees who can bring financial and contract law expertise with one taking on the formal role as treasurer.

For an initial conversation about what is involved please contact Grahame Snelling, chair of the board of trustees on 07827 321130 or email grahame.snelling@healthwatchkingstonuponthames.org.uk

We can supply an information pack to provide more details. Please note that successful candidates will be required to provide a clear DBS check.

Summary of February Notices

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

We are sad to report the death of Sarah Choi's father. In Choi's own words "although it's not something unexpected, we still find it not easy, particularly when we are far, far away from the scene". Please pray for Sarah, Choi and their family at this difficult time.

Sarah and Choi would like to give thanks to all those who supported and comforted them with prayers, cards, and flowers, while they were away in Korea immediately after the death of Sarah's father. His funeral went very well after three days' mourning. Many thanks again and every blessing. Sarah and Choi.

Joy and Alan Clarke wish to say thank you for the Church flowers and the many kind wishes they received for their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Eric Murray wishes to express his appreciation to everyone for their prayers for him this week. His operation went well and he was glad of your prayers.

3F's

The next meeting will be on Friday 17th March at the home of Susan and David Knowles, and the following one on Friday 7th April at Andrew and Angie Turner's home (a week earlier than usual because of Easter).

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP OUT

Mick Taviner will be putting together a working party from **Sunday 2nd to Sunday 9th April** to decorate the Extension and Lower Hall and if possible the connecting corridors and kitchen in order to spruce up the building for our 150th Celebrations. **Sign-up sheet is now on the noticeboard so please put your name down.** Thank you.

Note that you don't need to be a member of the church to help with the painting!

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER COFFEE MORNING

We raised a grand total of £151.63 for our coffee morning on Saturday 5th February in aid of WWDP charities. Thank you so much to everyone who baked or donated cakes or came along to help.

Carol and Doreen

FREEZER AVAILABLE

Hazel Bradley has a small freezer in good working order that she wants to get rid of. Please see her asap if you are interested or can suggest any way to dispose of it usefully. Ideally she would like a small donation to the organ fund.

MONDAY BADMINTON CLUB



As you may know, the Monday Badminton club (for over 18s) was suspended last year due to Ching Yueng's illness. Ching is much better but will not be returning to badminton in the foreseeable future.

There are several people who have expressed an interest in playing badminton and it would be great if we could start the club up again.

All it needs is one or two people to run it (which means opening up the hall, supervising putting up the net and maybe playing!). The club used to meet every Monday evening in the Upper Hall from 7.30 onwards, though another evening could be explored.

Please talk to Sarah Moore or Alan Downey if you would like more information or to get involved.

KNITTERS

The wool is back in its normal place! All items for the class of January 2017 delivered safely. The Wings of Hope so grateful. Now we start again for the class of 2018. *Thank you Stella*



Music for Good Friday 14th April at 8 o'clock

This year the ecumenical music for Good Friday in New Malden will be John Rutter's *Requiem* - a work which you may have sung before and enjoyed.

Please join us on this occasion; the rehearsals are listed below. Few will be able to make all of them, but the ones marked * are pretty essential. There will be a voluntary subscription of £10 to cover the cost of the vocal and orchestral parts so allowing as many of the proceeds of the retiring collection to go to the charity chosen by the choir.

Saturday 25th March
10.15 – 11.45 (scores from 10 am)

Thursday 30th March
19.45 – 21.30

Saturday 1st April
10.15 – 11.45

Tuesday 4th April
19.45 – 21.30

Saturday 8th April *
10.15 – 12.00 noon

Monday 10th April
19.45 – 21.30 [NB tbc]

Wednesday 12th April *
20.30 – 22.00 (with orchestra)

If you have not already, please register by E-mailing Peter Bullett (saying whether you already have a vocal score)
p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk or, by telephoning him (020 8942 0666)

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU

I have received one reply to my appeal in the February newsletter and would like to draw your attention to the continuing need for help. We need 2 Church members at least to become stewards to start in September. These will join the team and help prepare for the services each week. If we can find 2 new people then you would only be needed up to twice a month.

We could also do with 4 to 6 vestry stewards. These would not need to be members of the church. Their role would be to help the steward team once every 4 to 6 weeks to prepare and clear up after services, eg, hymn number boards, meet and greet Minister, distribute flowers.

Please see me for more details.
Julie Haines

Services in March

5th March – Reverend Choi – Holy Communion

12th March – Reverend Paul Han

19th March – Reverend Choi

26th March – Mr Yu - family

Café Church in the evening with Mr Masillamani

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



NMMC

49 High Street

New Malden 020 8942 1288

KT3 4BY

nmmc@hotmail.co.uk

newmaldenmethodistchurch.com

Diary Dates for March

Wednesday 1st

12.15pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion
8.30pm Stewards' Meeting

Thursday 2nd

8.00pm Chalk Housegroup

Friday 3rd

10.30am Friday Fellowship
8.00pm John King Housegroup

Saturday 4th

10.00am Coffee Bar – West Barnes Singers

Sunday 5th

10.30am Pastoral Visitors Rededication Service

Tuesday 7th

7.00pm Junior Badminton

Wednesday 8th

2.00pm Memory Café in the Welcome Area

Saturday 11th

10.00am Coffee Bar – Wives & Friends

Sunday 12th

3.00pm Music in New Malden – Ensemble

Monday 13th

7.30pm Wives & Friends – AGM & Quiz

Tuesday 14th

7.30pm Meeting Point – Lent Devotional led by
Revd Donald Finnan

Thursday 16th

2.00pm Arts Group creating the 150th
Anniversary Mosaic

Friday 17th

7.30pm 3 Fs at home of David & Sue Knowles

Saturday 18th

10.00am Coffee Bar – Christian Aid

Monday 20th

7.00pm Kingston District Chamber Music Society
Concert

Tuesday 21st

7.00pm Junior Badminton

Wednesday 25th

7.30pm Pastoral Committee Meeting

Saturday 25th

10.00am Coffee Bar – Inner Wheel
10.00am Good Friday music rehearsal

Monday 27th

7.30pm Wives & Friends – River Mersey – Irene
Chalk

Thursday 30th

7.30pm Good Friday music rehearsal

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

10.30am Crèche (0-3) & Junior Church (3-16)
10.30am Activ8 (once a month)
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Café Church every 4th Sunday

MONDAY

7.30pm Wives & Friends' Fellowship
(fortnightly)*

TUESDAY

4.15pm Rainbows (age 5-7)
5.15pm Brownies (age 7-10)
7.00pm Junior Badminton (fortnightly)
8.00pm Meeting Point
(2nd Tuesday of month)*

WEDNESDAY

10.30am Wednesday Fellowship
12.15pm Holy Communion in the Church

THURSDAY

9.45am Toddlers' Group (term time)

FRIDAY

10.00am Friday Fellowship (once a month)
5.15pm Brownies (age 7-10)
7.00pm Guides (girls age 10-14)

SATURDAY

10.30am Prayers in the Church for 15 mins

Factotum young adults group meets fortnightly.
Please email factotum.nmmc@gmail.com

* Programme details announced separately, please
contact us or see the website

HOUSEGROUPS meet on various days, please ask for
details

COFFEE is served in the Welcome Area after the
Sunday service and our Coffee Shop is open Monday
to Friday from 10am to 2pm
& Saturday from 10am to Noon (usually with a cake
sale).