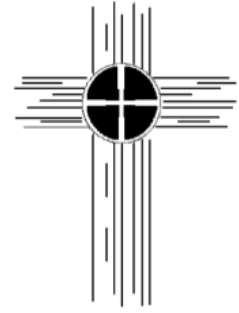


The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church September 2016



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Message from Reverend Choi

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’ (Mark 10. 43-45)

Dear friends,

As Christians, we know that we are called to serve, and in our Calling statement of the Methodist Church, we are asked to do ‘service’ by being a good neighbour in the community, challenging injustice and using our resources to support the Church in its mission in the world.

And, actually we do serve in many ways the people around us and around the world. But, this time I am not going to explain it in details.

Rather, I’d like to introduce some characteristics of servant, which I think will challenge us in our church lives.

Firstly, we need to notice that real servants make themselves available to serve. They don’t fill up their time with other things which might

be limiting their availability. They want to be ready to jump into service when they are called. A servant must be like a soldier who is standing by for duty. And, Paul says in 2 Timothy 2. 4, “No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier”.

It may sound too much, because we are involved in many things with family, friends, and so on. But, it may help to understand that servants don’t need to plan their own schedule but allow the Lord to do it.

And, real servants maintain a low profile. They don’t promote or call attention to themselves. Instead, they just ‘put on the apron of humility, to serve one another’ (1 Peter 5.5).

I think it is another hard thing to do, because we are easily distracted by people’s attention or their approval. But, we need to know that this attention may tempt us to stand in the spotlight always, and the danger is that always being in the spotlight blinds us. Real servants avoid the limelight but are content with serving quietly in the shadows.

And, I am always thankful to those who are working hard anonymously, sweeping around the church early in the morning, picking up litters, watering the plants, tidying up the chairs and hymn books, changing bulbs, and so on. You will never know whom you would meet at the church at the unusual time, who is doing the unexpected things. And, they don’t want to be on the stage with the spotlight, as they know they are servants.

I hope and pray that we may become real servants in Christ, as we commit ourselves more humbly and faithfully to the Lord.

Every blessing, Choi.

Circuit Announcement of 21st August

Rev Choi will complete his initial five year appointment in the Kingston on Thames Circuit in August 2017. After a period of consultation, Choi has decided not to seek an extension to this appointment and will therefore move to another circuit from September 2017.

The Circuit Stewards have begun the process for inviting a new minister to serve with the Kingston and New Malden churches beginning in September 2017. A profile for the appointment is being prepared and there will be further consultation with the local churches about their hopes and vision for the coming years.

We give thanks to God for the ministry which Choi and Sarah continue to offer in our circuit. Their work and witness is a blessing to us, their friendship is greatly valued and their gifts are well known. Please pray for them as they enter the invitation process – this can be a very trying time for ministerial families.

Please also pray for our circuit stewards and invitation committee who have much work to do on behalf of us all.

God bless

Val Hayden (Senior Circuit Steward)

Mission Planning



This was read out in church during the service on Sunday 7th August 2016 but in case you missed this important announcement it's being reproduced here:

Choi

At the Annual Church Meeting on 17 April we talked with you about the challenges facing NMMC. Challenges around the future prospects of the ability of this church to thrive and do Christ's work as the membership ages and reduces and attendances do the same. Discussion groups talked about engagement, generations, discipleship, worship and the

future. We called this discussion Mission Planning, following on from an initiative of Stan, our Superintendent. But it also picks up on last year's Healthy Church audit and other discussions.

At Stewards in June, joined by Judith, we talked about those challenges, about Mission Planning, and in particular how to follow up on the discussions we had at the Annual Church Meeting.

Andrew

We concluded:

- That we needed as a church to move to action in the face of these challenges if we are to tackle them: that NMMC could not go on as we were and thrive in future - or probably even survive for more than 10 years.

- We therefore needed to seriously review our 'offer' across the whole range of church life and engagement with the Community of New Malden - so not just services - and act to attract more people.

- We should be making some changes and look to do so positively as a church.

- That this was not a one-off batch of changes, but an ongoing process of change, consulting, engaging and motivating the church to move forward: keep on doing those things that we do well, but look at what we can do to make this church a good place for people of all ages and backgrounds across the whole range of church life.

Julie

To do that we would as a start:

- Investigate what other churches in the area that were attracting more/younger people were doing by visiting a good cross-section.

- Ask the church - and young people and young parents in particular - what they would change to make the services more relevant and better for them and more likely for them to recommend to others. And make changes accordingly. (Not just the modern version of the Lord's Prayer!) We would also be asking people who had stopped coming for feedback.

- Work harder to develop a pattern for Family Worship which works for all here at New Malden, particularly younger worshippers.

- We will also be working closely with visiting preachers to ensure a wider range of music, both sung, and recorded. The music you heard before the service this morning is from the Rend Collective and is an example of one of a number of new directions we might explore.

- Promote more housegroups to make sure that there were always places available and to deepen discipleship.

- Trial other options that work at Kingston and Surbiton Hill (and indeed at Chessington) and make further changes. We will return to the church with further recommendations in time to put them into action for the 150th Anniversary, so that we could celebrate the anniversary with hope for the future.

Choi

This is not a proclamation of what will be done to you. It is a proposal for action in response to what you have said to us in consultations over the past year or two. We will revise the Mission Plan that we have shared in draft. But the heart of this is move prayerfully towards change and improvement. Some of the changes you will immediately like; others will appeal to others more than to you. But please join us, support us as we embark on this journey towards renewing and strengthening this church.

Thank you



AUCTION OF PROMISES

Saturday 1st October with Harvest Supper 6.45 for 7.00pm

We would be very grateful for your offers of things like cake baking, ironing, grass cutting, decorating, sports or educational coaching, party organising, afternoon tea, a shopping trip, a music lesson, a lift to the airport, knitting, sewing, car washing etc. Any talent you are willing to offer can be bid for. Please be generous with your time and expertise. Age is no barrier.

Then come along to the supper and bid for the lots. If you cannot make that evening there will be an opportunity to give a written bid beforehand.

If anyone has something they would like to bid for which is not on the list we will try to match an offer of help with a suitably a talented person.

We cannot promise but will do our best.

We need the "list" by Friday 9th September which is soon, so please let us know asap either via an email nmmcyw@hotmail.co.uk or a note in the layworkers' pigeonhole.

Tickets available soon from a steward near you!

150th Celebrations 2017



Dates for your Diary

Here is a list of the dates known so far for the events planned for next year. Please make a note of those you wish to attend, invite others to and assist with, there is always room for another volunteer!

The service on June 18th is one to which we will invite previous ministers and hope you will extend personal invitations to those who have moved away and with whom you are still in contact. It would be great to see many “old faces” at this service and catch up over lunch. All are welcome.

We will have visiting preachers (to be confirmed) and a variety of service styles during the celebrations.

There will be “fish” in the High Street and surrounding area (rather like the sheep trail) to be netted for the 16th July when the junior church will lead the service and become fishers of men.

More details will emerge during the next few issues so please read this article carefully to keep abreast of the latest news!

The mosaic art work will be based on the “Hanging” we have at the front of the church and all groups within the church will be invited to spend a session at their usual time of meeting making a part of it(with expert supervision!). This will then be put together to form our gift to the High Street of an original piece of art situated where the old notice board is now at the front of the church.

The fundraising for this has begun (see the “thermometer” on the notice board – please support these events in any way you can as the cost needs to be covered, as we have fun working together to make it happen. Please see the Fundraising events article to note what you are interested in and tell your friends and family too.

Publicising these occasions needs your enthusiasm and promotion too. Please take a leaflet or poster and show it to people, (could you take one to another venue for us?) but most of all tell others and invite them along, be proud of what we are doing.

If you wish to run any of these or other events please let us know, we will still need stewards during Malden Fortnight, people to man the coffee bar, cooks and bottle washers etc. Thank you to those who have already committed themselves to an event as signed at the AGM, there is still time for those who missed out.

More to follow next month.
Julia and the organising committee.

Sunday 18 th June	Launch service Rev Steve Wild (Methodist Church President 2015-16) followed by Bring & Share Lunch Mosaic unveiling <i>Possible evening event</i>
Saturday 24 th June	Children’s Party Youth Event <i>Talent Show ?</i>
Sunday 25 th June	Church Family Picnic in Beverley Park <i>Possible evening event</i>
Saturday 1 st July	Malden Fortnight Parade, Hymnathon, Coffee Bar,
Sunday 2 nd July	<i>Communion</i> <i>Possible evening event</i>
Wednesday 5 th July	Setting up the exhibition - evening
Thursday 6 th July	Setting up the exhibition
Friday 7 th July	Exhibition 10-2
Saturday 8 th July	Exhibition 10-4 Celebratory meal with entertainer – Steve Price (Gospel magician)
Sunday 9 th July	<i>Possible evening event</i>
Tuesday 11 th July	Meeting Point – 150 Years talk by local Historian
Saturday 15 th July	<i>Malden Fortnight Big Band?</i> <i>Light Lunches</i> <i>Cream Teas</i>
Sunday 16 th July	Junior Church Festival Church BBQ <i>Possible evening event</i>

Church Quiz – organised by Meeting Point

Do you find yourself shouting at the telly at about 8pm on a Monday evening? If so, read on...

Everyone is welcome to join in this quiz on Tue Sept 13th starting at 7.30 in the Lower Hall. Come as a group or as individuals and we will arrange teams of 6.

Please sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard in the Welcome Area. Drinks and light snacks will be provided.

We are asking for a modest donation of £2-3 to cover refreshments, with the surplus to go towards the Mosaic fund.

Please come and support this event and get this momentous Church Year off to a good start. Any queries please see Alison, Liz or Judith.



Ps – it won't be like University Challenge. No one is going to say "I'll have to hurry you" or (worse) "Come on!" if you don't know the answers.

Your 5 a day

Do you have a harvest glut?



Apples, Pears, Plums, Marrows, Elderberries, Blackberries.....?

All will make great Jams or Chutneys

Please contact Julie who can arrange collection.

020 8395 0202

Thanks

Julie

Leading nicely on to.....Preserves market Saturday 24th September 10am to 12 noon

Stock up on Jams and Chutneys at the preserves market.

Come and have a tea, coffee and cake whilst you select from our wide variety of flavours of jams, marmalades and chutneys, combinations and flavours you may have never seen or tried before.

Pam Bugeya & Julie Haines

The NMMC Organ Project

Peter Bullett gives some background.



Why is major work needed on the organ?

- the last significant work was 35 years ago
- all mechanical and electrical components are becoming unreliable
- the wind supply to the pipes is leaking
- the electric action, which connects the keyboards to the pipes, is sluggish, some has failed

The consequences?

- some stops (sounds) cannot be used; one important pedal stop for some months now
- there have been a few ciphers (pipes sounding continuously) in services

Health and Safety

- tuners have to climb near-vertical, unfixed ladders and go along narrow, unguarded walkways in the organ chamber
- some of the electrical wiring is showing signs of perishing, posing a shock and fire hazard
- This means we are not complying with modern health and safety standards.

What is proposed?

- to reconfigure the layout in the organ chamber to make access safe and convenient
- to replace the soundboards and trunking to ensure reliable winding
- to install "direct action" and a third manual, making it more responsive and allowing more flexible use of the pipework
- to lower the pitch for use with the piano in services and with orchestras in concerts
- to make the console mobile to maximise the flexibility which our chairs offer us in worship and allow a central position for recitals.

How will this be achieved?

An Organ Committee has been formed to establish the detail of the tender specification and our strategy for funding this project. Tony Chalk and Gregory Martis have joined me to begin this work, but we will be recruiting and co-opting as particular needs arise.

Funding?

With over 1200 pipes in the organ and yards of tubing and wires, it is perhaps not surprising that the indicative cost will be in the region of £50k; a daunting sum. However, we have raised funds for projects of similar and larger size over the last 25 years and we have already received a donation of £500 to start the ball rolling and an offer of a substantial interest-free loan to underpin the fund-raising which the Committee is planning.

How does the Organ Project relate to our mission and outreach?

An instrument of this quality would enable us to:

- glorify and worship God (the first of our Church mission statements) more inspiringly through music
- encourage a wider range of music in our services - sung, instrumental and

recorded (one of the recently-announced focuses of our Mission Plan)

- raise our profile as a force for good in this changing community (part of our vision for the 150Y celebrations) by encouraging young people to learn and play the organ through "events", celebrity recitals and practice opportunities
- feature the organ in a number of concerts in a lunchtime series for those who work in New Malden
- allow us to continue to attract organists who will support us in our strong tradition of music, particularly hymn-singing.

Finding out more about the project

I will be giving an illustrated talk about the Organ Project after the morning service on Sunday 25th September. Do please come along, ask questions and find out more about our fascinating instrument and this exciting opportunity.

Dave Moore gets on his bike for Ride London, Surrey 100



Something bit my ankle on Tuesday evening, by Wednesday/Thursday, walking was challenging and I was beginning to fear my ability to take part on Sunday. For the first time ever, I felt the responsibility of the sponsorship and pledges already given to support Crisis. I didn't want to let them down. I decided not to take part in the London freecycle on Saturday and rest my foot.

After a several packets of Ibuprofen things were looking ok by Saturday night.

Sunday started at 4am after one of those disturbed nights knowing you can't be late. Got a lift at 5am and arrived at the Vodafone office, in Southwark for 5:45am. A reasonably quiet 7 mile cycle to the start followed.

The start is a complicated merging of many different lines of expensive bikes and queued lycra. I finally got rolling around 8:07. The ride was all going well until the refreshment stop at Pyrford where there had been a serious accident, a cyclist had a collision with a tree (unfortunately he has since died, his accident being caused by a stroke). A delay of around an hour allowed time to refuel and get comfortable again. A walk of around 1.5 miles led to a rolling start just near the tree in question. Everyone was obviously more cautious getting started, but that didn't last long and the speeds and madness started again.

We were now out into the Surrey hills, taking on Leith and Box Hills which all went well. Now on the run in to the finish, I stopped at Sandown Park to top up water bottles and phone ahead for a cup of tea (the route passes very close to my house). On the next leg, a good friend had selflessly positioned himself in a pub en route at 12:00 to shout encouragement as I went past some two hours later, he did well to spot me! Zipping through Kingston going the wrong way on the one way system was a bit weird, then heading for Wimbledon I made the scheduled stop near my house to be met by my lovely family, friends and neighbours. I had my tea, quick chat, offered my bike for anyone else to finish, after no takers I was back rolling again for the fast finish into the Mall.

It's such a great feeling knowing the end is nigh and such a privilege to have so many closed roads for this event to happen.

With all your fantastic support, the current total raised is approximately £1700 and still growing, thank you!

The sponsorship web page will close in September.

Ride/walk time on my Garmin was 6 hours 6 minutes, which I was happy with.

Official time between start and finish gates was 7 hours 27 minutes.

Dave Moore

PS. Should anyone fancy taking part in future years I'm happy to talk you through it or help get you riding.



Around the Circuit: September 2016

CIRCUIT NEWS

A Circuit Welcome Service for Andy Clark, our new Minister, will take place at Chessington at 6.30pm on Sunday 4th September, with Rev Micky Youngson, Chair of the London District. We hope you will come along to welcome Andy to Chessington, and to the Circuit. Refreshments will be served after the service.

A Circuit Praise Service will take place at Kingston Methodist Church at 6.30pm on 30 October. Blending contemporary music with reflection, quiet and creativity this is a new Quarterly Event for everyone who wants to explore fresh styles of worship.

Worship Today and Tomorrow

Saturday 26 November from 10am to 1.30pm at New Malden Methodist Church: A Workshop with: Rev Paul Wood & Rev Ian Worsfold

Ian and Paul lead the worship team for the Methodist Conference. They were both part of the editorial group for *Singing the Faith* and contributed three of their own songs to our hymn book. Paul heads the team responsible for writing the new Local Preacher Training materials, whilst Ian is chaplain at City University.

What is it? A workshop looking at Methodist worship and the ways this is developing

Who is it for? Anyone with an interest in worship. Preachers, Worship Leaders, Musicians, Stewards... and those who sit in our congregations!

Please bring some lunch, drinks will be available in the coffee bar.

CHURCH EVENTS

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

Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2016/17

"Freedoms to Share", the Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2016/17, was published on 1 August. In July the Circuit Office placed a bulk order, and this enabled anyone who wanted to be included to take advantage of the reduced cost of £3.50 for large orders (the normal price is £3.95).

We have subsequently been contacted by some people who missed the bulk order and wondered if it would still be possible to purchase a copy at the reduced price.

If there is sufficient demand the Circuit Office will place a supplementary order. If you would like to be included please e-mail Michael Axton by 16 September at:

circuitoffice@kingstonscircuit.org.uk

OCTOBER 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.

Summary of Summer Notices

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

We welcomed **Calvin, Livia and Alexa**, children to **Natalie and James Cornelius**, into the Church family with their Baptism on Sunday 3rd July 2016.

Following **Vera Miller's** funeral her son David Miller asked that the thanks of the family be passed on to anyone involved in contributing to the day's proceedings. To quote him, "actually all the folks at your church deserve thanks for the wonderful warm welcome they gave to us all. We all enjoyed the service and thought Mum would have been happy with it too!"

Nigel & Angela Stagg are extremely grateful for the prayers and good wishes during Nigel's stay in hospital. He is now home but his recovery is very slow.

Jean Bedford has had a fall and broken her arm. It is her right arm she has broken but she is still able to answer the phone!

Rosemary Wraith has transferred to Chestnut Ward, Tolworth Hospital following her stay since May in the National Orthopaedic Hospital at Stanmore, and she says, any visitors after the weekend would be welcome! With thanks and appreciation for all the prayers that have been so helpful. Gillian Beckwith

THANK YOUs ..

... PANTO

Thank you does not seem enough to say to the wonderful crew and cast of the pantomime. However, we would like to thank you for all your incredible talent that was on display last Saturday and to everyone else who supported the performances in any shape, size or form. For more details, see a programme. Great fun was had by the audience and here's looking forward to the next one!

... PARADE

Many thanks to everyone who represented the church by walking in the parade last Saturday and wore their hats with pride whether they were handmade, as the Brownies ones were, or not. Thankfully the rain held off just long enough!

... HOME/WORLD MISSION BBQ

The BBQ last Sunday, 3rd July, was enjoyed by 46 people and raised the sum of £119 for the above Methodist charities.

The Plant Sale/coffee bar back in May raised £81 so each charity will receive £100 plus gift aid from our church. Thank you to all who contributed or took part on these dates. *Birgit Cowan*

... CRISIS

A huge thank you to anyone who contributed in any way to the coffee bar and cake sale on Saturday 23rd July (and Sunday) with their donations of cake, money and time. We raised just over £200 for Crisis, who help homeless people nationwide get back on their feet. Please read Dave's ride report to find out how he did. Many thanks again. *Sarah Dave Ellie and Hannah Moore*

3F's

There will be no meeting in August, but we will resume in the autumn;

Friday September 9th at Birgit and Guy Cowan's home

Friday October 14th at David and Susan Knowles' home

Friday November 11th at Andrew and Angie Turner's home.

There will be notice of each meeting a couple of weeks in advance. If you want to know more about these informal meetings combining supper and conversation, contact Andrew or Birgit or David

Worried about your Memory?

Just as significant memory loss is not an inevitable part of ageing, age related memory changes are not the same as dementia.

Dementia is caused when the brain is damaged by diseases of the brain such as Alzheimer's disease.

The brain is capable of producing new brain cells at any age, but just as with muscle strength you have to use it. The Monthly Home Instead Memory Cafés offer activities that are designed to exercise your brain and improve mental well-being as well as a chance to meet others in a relaxed environment.

The next Memory Cafe here at New Malden Methodist Church is on Wednesday 14th September 2pm-4pm with free hand massage. Come along and join us. If you want to find out more contact Lynn on 020 8942 4137

Diary Dates

Diary Dates for September ...

Friday 2nd

10.30am **Friday Fellowship**

Saturday 3rd

10.00am **Coffee Bar – Kingston
Dementia Appeal** - Glynis Cox

Tuesday 6th

7.00pm **Junior Badminton**

Wednesday 7th

10.30am **Wednesday Fellowship**
8.30pm **Worship Committee Meeting**
(Welcome Area)

Friday 9th

10.30am **James Berry MP surgery**
(Admin office)
7.30pm **3 Fs at the Cowans' house**

Saturday 10th

10.00am **Coffee Bar – Air Ambulance –**
Rita Le Vine

Tuesday 13th

7.30pm **Meeting Point Quiz**

Wednesday 14th

2.00pm **Memory Café** (Welcome Area)

Thursday 15th

2.00pm **Art Group** (Welcome Area)

Saturday 17th

10.00am **Coffee Bar – Inner Wheel –**
Brenda Powers

Monday 19th

7.00pm **Kingston District Chamber
Music Society Concert**

Tuesday 20th

7.00pm **Junior Badminton**

Wednesday 21st

7.30pm **Finance Committee Meeting**

Saturday 24th

10.00am **Coffee Bar & Preserves Market**
Julie Haines

Thursday 29th

8.00pm **Church Council Meeting**

... and a bit into October

Saturday 1st October

10.00am **Neighbourhood Watch Talk on
Scams** (Sanctuary)

10.30am **Coffee Bar – Wings of Hope –**
Birgit Cowan

6.45pm **Auction of Promises and
Harvest Supper**

Sunday 9th

3.00pm **Music in New Malden – French
Splendour**

Monday 10th

7.30pm **Wives & Friends**

Services in September

4th – Reverend Choi, Holy Communion

11th – Ms R Quaye

18th – Reverend Choi, Baptism and family service

25th – Reverend Vernon

Copy deadline for the October Newsletter is
Friday 9am 23rd September by email to:
carolineauty@hotmail.com or in the pigeon
hole.



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Message from our Family Worker

Hi

I hope you had a wonderful summer break with lots of sunshine. I always remember my holidays as being sunny, but as I grew up in North Wales I doubt this was really the case!

I was married in 1976 and that summer was one of the sunniest on record. It was hot, dry and almost suffocating. There were bans on hosepipes being used, reservoirs were dangerously low, cleaning your car was frowned upon. The grass was yellow all due to lack of water and streams dried up.

In other parts of the world this kind of drought is not unusual of course as children walk miles to collect water, be it clean or not. But we are so lucky to access to clean, safe water on tap. There are charities like Water Aid who aim provide it by digging wells and giving pumps to ensure a village or community has this facility about which we rarely think.

Jesus is the “Water of Life”, providing the hydration we need to keep our spirits well in more ways than one. So next time it rains put on your wellies and thank God.

Love Julia

