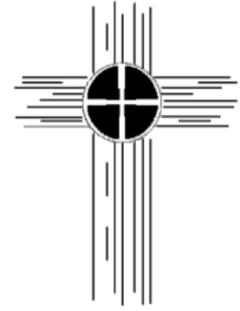


# The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church April 2019



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## Message from Reverend Karl

The clocks have gone forward, the days are getting brighter, and new leaves are appearing on the trees. April brings visible signs of new life, and so it's a fitting point of the year in which to mark the greatest sign of new life and renewal there has ever been – the resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ. Easter is a time of great rejoicing, and even though the chocolatey eggs will disappear from the shops faster than those who've given up such pleasures for Lent can get our hands on them, it's too important a celebration to be kept to one day. Hence, the Easter season lasts seven weeks.

However, to get to Easter, we first have to complete the challenging journey through the events of Holy Week. We begin with Jesus arriving on the back of a donkey in Jerusalem to cries of 'hosanna!' and great fanfare on Palm Sunday, only to see him share one last meal with his disciples on Maundy Thursday, before being

arrested, tried and flogged. Good Friday is the most poignant and powerful day of all, as we remember his suffering and death on the cross, and on Holy Saturday, we join with his devastated followers in waiting, as Jesus lies in the tomb. If we take this journey seriously, these events should shake us to our core, as they confront us head-on with the violence of human nature. Yet, death and destruction aren't the end of the story; the resurrection proves that love conquers all.

As I read the Passion narratives, I find myself having great sympathy for Mary, and the other women who discovered the stone rolled away, the tomb empty, and angels proclaiming that Jesus is risen. I, for one, struggle to reconcile the contrast between the celebratory tone of our worship on Easter Day (which is right and proper – without the resurrection, our faith is all in vain (1 Corinthians 15:14)) and the shock, surprise and bewilderment of those who first learned of these world-changing events. How does anyone in the midst of grief make sense of such things?

Pondering all this reminds me of the tendency these days to try to rush people through the grieving process, with 'aren't you over it yet?' an all too common refrain. As anyone with personal experience of grief knows, we never really finish this process, as much as we might be able to integrate our loss into the emerging fabric of our lives. For some people, stigma around talking about death and loss may mean that they've never had the chance to express how they feel, which is one of the reasons for launching our Bereavement Cafe in April.

Bereavement Cafe is about offering bereaved people a comfortable and welcoming place to

come, share their experiences with others in the same boat, and be listened to. It isn't a counselling service, but is a place of hospitality, and a space to talk and be heard. We're running on the second Tuesday of each month, starting in April, from 2.30pm to 4pm. Please pray for the Cafes, and for our team of volunteers. While this is an exciting time, the element of the unknown is also daunting.

So, as we walk together with Jesus and the disciples throughout the remainder of Lent, the drama of Holy Week, and the new hope of Easter, may we be able both to experience joy, and bring comfort to those who feel at the moment like life is one long Holy Saturday.

Every blessing, Karl

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### **Karl's Testimony Service**

Please note that contrary to all previous information, the venue for this important event has recently changed. It will be held at St. Martin's in the Bullring, in the centre of Birmingham. **DO NOT BOOK TICKETS FOR DARLINGTON STREET CHURCH WOLVERHAMPTON.** Time and date remain unchanged at 4pm on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

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### **Update on the Organ: All I want for Easter is my twelve front pipes!**



The gappy grin of the organ at the moment belies the fact that nearly all the Swell, Great

and Pedal pipework is now back in the organ chamber – the missing front pipes have been taken to the workshops to be painted. The wiring of the various pipe-chests and digital control circuitry for these and the console is complete and programmed, so next week specialist members of Pipe Organ Services can come down to begin voicing and regulating the various stops.

It is all very exciting. I have sat at the console and played one or two virtual pieces – the organ (and my playing) sounded wonderful – but now I do not have to imagine any longer, having heard several ranks, albeit in a rather rough state.

By Easter, everything except the chest with the three new ranks, will be finished and the hope is to use the organ for worship on Easter morning. The rededication will probably take place on a Sunday morning in May or June.

Meanwhile plans are well-advanced for the mini organ festival of three concerts to mark the inauguration of the organ during Malden Fortnight in July. These will include a wide variety of organ music played by three outstanding organists: one very much in the mould of the late, great Carlo Curley; a well-known cinema organist; and someone who I think is perhaps the leading classical player of his generation in this country. Watch this space for further details and for the appearance of promotional fliers!

I cannot say too often how much I appreciate all the support, both practical and financial, which so many in the Church have given to make all this possible. Our music will be much enriched.

Peter Bullett

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## Christian Aid Week



As you know, we no longer collect door to door in Christian Aid Week so, in order to supplement our giving to Christian Aid, we now have a Coffee Morning:

Saturday 11th May 10am-noon

Please support Christian Aid by coming along, buying cakes and coffee and enjoying the additional benefit of a happy time with friends and family. AND, an extra plea . . . I really, really would be pleased to hear from anybody willing to make a cake or savoury for this event.

Also, why not join us for the **Bread and Cheese Lunch** on **Sunday 12th May** after the church service? The meal is simple but tasty and everyone is welcome. Added bonus. . .no cooking that day?!

Jennifer Townsend (020 8942 6867)

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## Pancake Party

The Lower Hall was the scene for a lively and very enjoyable party after the morning service. Pancakes were stacked high and could be filled with any number of savoury and sweet delights, then decorated with castor sugar, lemon, hundreds-and-thousands, vermicelli etc. – a particular hit with the many children who came along. Stella and Sue organized some energetic and skill-testing games with the adults in the mixed teams getting quite a lot of help from the younger members.

The event raised £100 for the *Transforming Lives* charity which supports our holiday lunches for children scheme and gave extra

weight to the thanks given to Julia and her many helpers who made it such a success.



Can anyone think of a caption for this photo? A selection printed next time 😊

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## Around the Circuit

### Rev Dr Karl Rutlidge's Testimony Service and Ordination

#### Testimony Service

Karl will be taking part in the Testimony service at Wesley's Chapel, London, on Sunday 19th May at 6.30 as part of the process before his ordination. You are invited to attend. The best way to get to Wesley's Chapel is by public transport, and the nearest Underground stations are Old Street and Moorgate.

If you want to attend but will have trouble using public transport, or will need assistance, please contact Michael Axton at the Circuit Office (circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk; 020 8390 4598)

#### Ordination

See above! It has been confirmed that Karl will be ordained in St Martin's in the Bullring, Birmingham on 30 June at 4pm. If you would like to go, apply for a ticket online from [www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2019/ordinations](http://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2019/ordinations).

There is a limit of 4 tickets per personal application. Applications can be made online from 1 April. The circuit cannot get a bundle of tickets.

Please let Michael Axton at the Circuit Office know if you would like to get there by coach organised by the Circuit.

#### Circuit Safeguarding Officer Vacancy

We are currently looking for a volunteer to fill the vacant role of Circuit Safeguarding Officer. The key responsibilities will be to:

\* Act as the point of contact for the District Safeguarding Officer

\* Liaise with and provide support to the Circuit's Church Safeguarding Officers

\* Ensure relevant officers receive the appropriate training and obtain DBS checks

\* Oversee the local churches' safeguarding training and procedures

\* Ensure appropriate records are maintained.

If you think you might be interested, or would like to know more about what the role entails, please contact Michael Axton at the Circuit Office (email: [circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk](mailto:circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk); phone: 020 8390 4598)

#### Special Award

Congratulations to Rev Karl Rutlidge who was one of 5 runners up in the Young Sacred Activists of the Year award run by St Ethelburga's Centre of Reconciliation and Peace (and sponsored by The Methodist Church). The award honours young adults who are bringing spirituality and action together in powerful new ways.

Have you thought about playing tennis?

The Surbiton Hill Methodist Church Tennis Club in Manor Drive, Surbiton, offers 6 hard courts, coaching sessions, mixed tennis on Saturday afternoons, men's tennis on Wednesday mornings, ladies' tennis on Thursday mornings, and a Junior Club which meets from May to September on Friday nights.

As well as this we offer friendship, social events, and delicious cakes and teas on Saturdays during the Summer.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Club Captain Terry Ingham (phone: 020 8294; email [terry@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:terry@hotmail.co.uk)).

## **New Malden Community Passion Play – 13 April**

The New Malden Community Passion Play will be performed twice on Saturday 13 April, at 1pm and 3pm, in Blagdon Park, New Malden.

Written by Susie Pottinger of the Lantern Arts Centre in Raynes Park, it will re-enact the main Biblical events leading up to, and during, the first Easter, in a fresh, modern way.

It would be great to have your support, and prayer for all aspects of the passion play would be much appreciated.

### **Next Newsletters**

If you have any news or a forthcoming event you would like to share with the Circuit, please send contributions to Michael Axton by Monday 15 April to:  
[circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk](mailto:circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk)

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## **Summary of March Notices**

### **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Thanks: May I bring my thanks and those of my family to everyone for their prayers, help and good wishes during my recent illness and fall. It's been a great help and all that one could wish for. God Bless. Eric Murray

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

This year's Annual Report will be in a shorter format, designed to show off the best of what we're doing as a Church within a document we can have in the Welcome Area for visitors to take away and read. As such, please could you keep your reports to one brief paragraph, so that the highlights from this year can be distilled into an exciting report we're proud to share with others.

Please ensure your submissions are with Sarah by Sunday 14th April. Anything

received after Easter will not be included.  
Karl Rutlidge

### **TELL US WHAT YOUR FAITH MEANS TO YOU**

In the Easter season I would like to invite people to give their testimony as part of Sunday morning worship and talk for 3-5 minutes on what difference their faith means to them. Please talk to the stewards if you would like to get involved. Karl Rutlidge

### **KNITTING FOR WINGS OF HOPE**

The red wool is back in the basket with some small balls of white. Pattern for scarves also there if you feel like knitting scarves for the Wings of Hope Nursery children. 2 red balls will knit 3 scarves . Thank you, Stella Chattle.

### **THANK YOU**

To everyone who came and supported the Pancake Party on Sunday 10th March. A good time was had by all (photos in next month's newsletter) and many pancakes were consumed. Thank you to all who helped with games, cooking and washing up and to Julia for organising. £100 has been sent to the Transforming Lives charity.

### **MALDEN FORTNIGHT PARADE**

This year I am away on the day of the parade so need a willing volunteer to co-ordinate the NMMC entry. I will be around beforehand to help with planning. Please see me if you can help on the day – 6th July. Julia Morton

### **FREEWILL OFFERING ENVELOPES**

for next Tax Year are now available for collection by members of the scheme from the tray in the Welcome Area. If you would like to join this system for regular giving, do speak to Tony Chalk today or 'phone him on 07802 707188.

## **KARL'S ORDINATION**

Again...Karl's ordination venue has been moved, and he will now be ordained at St Martin's-in-the-Bullring in Birmingham, on June 30th at 4pm. He has a limited number of tickets for each of the churches - if you would like one (on a first-come, first-served basis), please ask him.

## **NEW MALDEN PASSION PLAY UPDATE**

Saturday 13th April Blagdon Park

Not long to go! Flyers are available in the Welcome Area. If you have friends who need to hear the real meaning of Easter but wouldn't accept an invitation to church, this is a golden opportunity! Please take a flyer and/or an A4 poster for your window.

Our Roman soldiers will be in modern army clothes and if anyone can lend camouflage trousers, army green jumpers and the like please contact me. Also, appropriate props such as maps in plastic covers and metal food or drink containers.

If anyone is willing to be a Roman soldier or a steward, we need more of both. The audience will be moving to follow the action of the play so stewards are needed to help with this. Hilary 07796 157490

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT COURSE**

Churches Together in Malden lent course.

"On the Night He Was Betrayed - Learning to give thanks on our darkest days"

Tuesdays 7.30-9.00pm at St James Church, Bodley Road, KT3 5QE

The course started on 12th March but you can still attend for the remainder of the course as each week is a stand-alone session, presented by a different leader with a different 'flavour'. All are welcome. There

has been a great turnout of about 25 people but there is always room for more.

## **Diary Dates**

Monday 1st 7.30pm **Good Friday Music Rehearsal**

Tuesday 2nd 7.00pm Badminton

7.30pm **New Malden Residents' Association Meeting**

Wednesday 3rd 4.00pm **Finance Meeting**

Friday 5th 10.00am **Friday Fellowship**

Saturday 6th 10.00am **Coffee Bar – Alzheimer's Society** – Glynis Fox

10.15am **Good Friday Music Rehearsal**

Monday 8th 7.30pm **Wives & Friends – Easter Thoughts**

Tuesday 9th 2.30pm **Bereavement Café**

7.00pm Badminton

7.30pm **Good Friday Music Rehearsal**

Wednesday 10th 11.30am **Make Lunch**

2.00pm **Memory Café**

Saturday 13th 10.00am **Coffee Bar – Women's Institute**

Monday 15th 7.30pm **Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert**

Tuesday 16th 7.00pm Badminton

Wednesday 17th 11.30am **Make Lunch**

7.00pm **Malden Fortnight meeting**

7.30pm **Good Friday Music Rehearsal**

**Friday COFFEE BAR ONLY OPEN DURING GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

10.15am **Walk of Witness (from Nandos)**

10.30am **Good Friday service at War Memorial**

8.00pm **Good Friday Music**

Saturday 20th 10.00am **Coffee Bar – Earthquake Relief trip to Kathmandu**  
– Sally & Tess Fairburn

Monday 22nd **COFFEE BAR CLOSED – EASTER MONDAY**

Tuesday 23rd 5.00pm **Property Committee Meeting**

7.00pm Badminton

Saturday 27th 10.00am **Coffee Bar – Inner Wheel**

Monday 29th 6.30pm **Wives & Friends trip to Isabella Plantation**

Tuesday 30th 7.00pm Badminton

Wednesday 1st May 8.00pm **Church Council Meeting**

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## Children's Page

Hi!

There are many traditions that different countries follow at Easter.

Here are just some:

### **Dyeing or colouring Eggs**

The tradition of decorating eggs of all kinds—even ostrich eggs—may go all the way back to the ancient pagans. It's easy to see why eggs represent rebirth and life, so associating them with spring and new growth isn't much of a stretch. To celebrate the new season, it's said that people coloured eggs and gave them to friends and family as gifts.

Hot Cross Buns Like the bunny and the eggs, it's difficult to pinpoint exactly when people started making hot cross buns—sweet rolls

studded with raisins or currants and marked with a cross on top—during the week leading up to Easter Sunday. It's said the tradition started in the 12th century with a monk who was inspired to mark his rolls to celebrate Good Friday.

### **Good Friday Kites**

If you happen to find yourself in Bermuda on Good Friday, you may be surprised to see legions of kites dotting the sky. According to local legend, a teacher once used a kite to give her students a visual of how Jesus ascended into heaven. The analogy quickly caught on, and today, flying a simple kite made of tissue paper and sticks is still a colourful pastime.

### **Egg Knocking**

Also known as egg tapping or egg jarring, egg knocking is a sport where two competitors tap the pointed ends of their eggs against each other to see which one cracks and which one "survives." The game apparently goes back to medieval Europe, but when it comes to modern-day egg knocking, Marksville, Louisiana, is uncrackable. Since 1956, local families have gathered at the courthouse square on Easter Sunday to battle their eggs. Some families even prepare months in advance, giving their chickens special feed in hopes of producing stronger eggs.

Whatever way you decide to celebrate Easter this year remember it's not the eggs, it's the Good News that Jesus is Risen that matters. Allelujah!

God Bless

Julia

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## Services in April

4<sup>th</sup> April – Circuit Service at Chessington with  
Revs Brown and Rutlidge

7<sup>th</sup> April – Reverend Rutlidge

14<sup>th</sup> April – Miss Lorraine Webb

19<sup>th</sup> April – Walk of Witness 10.15 at Nandos  
10.30 Service at War Memorial.

Good Friday concert 8pm.

21<sup>st</sup> April (Easter Sunday) – Reverend Brown  
and Holy Communion at 8am; Reverend  
Rutlidge and a family service at 10.30am.

28<sup>th</sup> April – local arrangement.

Deadline for the next issue is 26<sup>th</sup> April.  
Please leave contributions in the editor's  
pogoehole or email

[carolineauty@hotmail.com](mailto:carolineauty@hotmail.com) by 9am.

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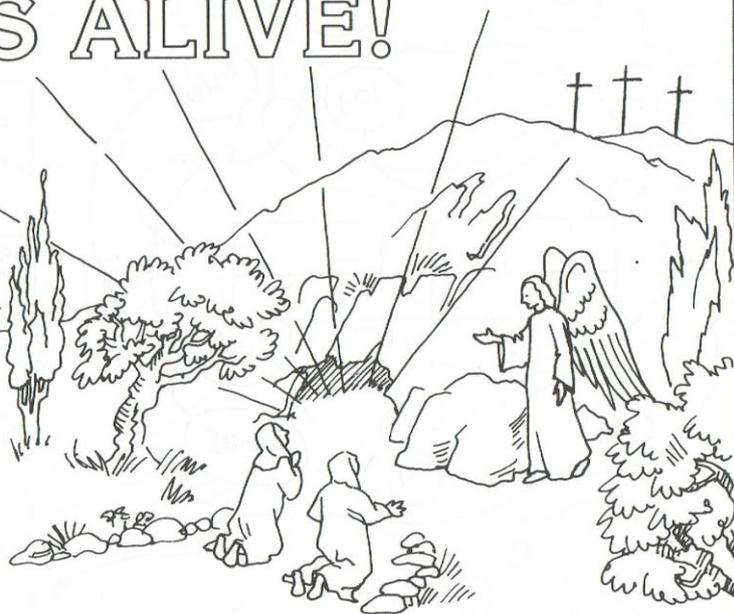
[newmaldenmethodistchurch.com](http://newmaldenmethodistchurch.com)



# JESUS IS ALIVE!

Luke 24:33-34

E	I	B	Q	R	O	L	L	E	D
F	A	E	J	E	S	U	S	X	Y
M	O	R	N	I	N	G	W	P	A
C	V	G	L	E	D	O	H	D	D
U	L	T	M	Y	V	C	T	H	N
Z	T	O	K	B	A	I	I	S	U
M	W	M	S	J	O	W	L	R	S
A	N	B	L	E	G	N	A	A	F
E	G	D	E	S	I	M	O	R	P



EARLY on SUNDAY MORNING the WOMEN went to the TOMB. They found the STONE had been ROLLED AWAY. An ANGEL told them that JESUS was ALIVE again, just as he had PROMISED! Mark 16:1-8

Jesus Is Alive!

Worksheet 70

