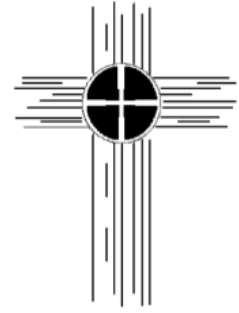


The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church March 2018



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-

Message from Karl

March is one of the turning points of the year, in that we begin to leave behind the cold and darkness of Winter, and look towards the warmer and longer days to come. In the northern hemisphere, Spring officially starts on 20th March, and already new leaves are appearing upon the bushes in the manse garden, though as I write, we're also preparing ourselves for a blast of bitterly cold weather coming from Siberia! Hence, this is a season when we naturally think about new life and fresh beginnings breaking in, amid the apparently unpromising conditions currently around us.

As Easter is somewhat on the early side this time around, the bulk of Lent falls within March, with Easter Day on the 1st of April. New life and fresh beginnings is the theme of Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection

of Jesus Christ from the dead, and his continued presence amongst us through the Spirit. Rowan Williams describes the resurrection as being like a second Big Bang, an explosion of fresh creative energy into the universe, and indeed the biblical imagery of the new creation breaking through points us to the (often unexpected) possibilities for transformation this opens up.

However, there's a drawback: we cannot get to the resurrection of Easter Sunday without first going through the crucifixion of Good Friday. This movement from death into new life is most clearly visible in baptism, especially when it's done by full emersion. We go down into the water, which symbolises dying to sin and all that damages relationships, and then we emerge as a new creation, reborn into the new life of the kingdom of God. Both parts of this dynamic are vital, and there's no circumventing the former. To embrace the new, we must let go of the old, which can be painful as well as liberating.

For some within our communities, this can be an especially difficult season, because while Spring is breaking out all around them, their hearts are still in more of a Winter place. This year has been a tough one for our church, as we've lost several members of our community, and it feels to me like we're a bit too well-acquainted with grief. Not rushing past Good Friday, then, but being able to sit at the foot of the cross and bring to God the sadness we hold, may well prove

just as important this year as celebrating the joy of resurrection.

The thing that has sustained me when times have been very hard, and I've experienced loss in my life, is resurrection hope. God's raising Jesus from the dead acts as a promise that the new creation thus begun will, in the fullness of time, be brought to its completion, and so as Revelation 21 shows, death and suffering and tears will not have the last word. That can be hard to believe when we're in the midst of grief and the kind of confusion and disorientation that brings, as the first disciples found when they gathered in the upper room following Jesus' death on the cross, but it's nonetheless true.

As we move through Lent towards and through Holy Week, showing the signs of God's new life and fresh beginnings in our fellowship and care for one another is one way we can celebrate both Easter and the changing seasons. Winter is not forever, even though the darkest hour is just before dawn.

Every blessing,

Karl

By the time you read this, the contract with Pipe Organ Services will have been signed, with the work of removing the existing instrument to their Workshops in Melton Mowbray due to begin on 9th April. The refurbished organ should be installed in the Autumn and have fully settled in by Christmas. It is hoped that services will not need to take place anywhere other than in The Sanctuary, except possibly for a short period when the structural work in the Organ Chamber is being carried out.

We recently heard that a Methodist Church in Morecambe, Lancashire which is to close, has generously offered to give us the pipework from their organ which will ensure that high quality ranks of pipes which were made to blend with one another are available to complete the scheme agreed with the builder. This is our great good fortune, as a recent trip revealed an outstanding early twentieth century instrument.

Fund-raising has now reached the stage when we are approaching trusts and charitable bodies to secure the final 30% of the total we need.

The Organ Committee has been heartened and touched by the generous response of the Church Community, both in financial terms and the great good-will which has been evident towards the projects and events organised so far. We will have a fine organ which will serve us and the wider community well for many years to come.

Peter Bullett

The Organ Project: it's full steam ahead!



Support Nicky doing the Marsden March



On Sunday, March 4th I will be once again walking the Marsden March to help raise funds for the Royal Marsden Hospitals. I will be walking 14 miles from the Fulham hospital to the Sutton hospital. I have done this several times before but this year will be the toughest. It will be nearly a year since I had major surgery for melanoma (skin cancer) and then had the lymph nodes removed from my groin. This has left me with nerve damage and problems with the way the lymph fluid drains from my leg. Though I'm not treated at the Marsden, the pioneering work that they do there for new treatments has meant that I have a future to look forward to and an ever-improving prognosis.

If you would like to make a donation then the easiest way, if you have the technology, is via our justgiving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/blenheimsience2018>

Alternatively you are welcome to give me a donation if you see me.
Thank you to everyone for their support

Nicky Horton

Wings of Hope: an update from Stella



As many of you know I flew out to Johannesburg on the 26th January to spend a week with my school friend and her husband.

Importantly, though, I took the opportunity to take with me the 50 knitted bears (all knitted by Ruth McLeod) the 50 hats, scarves and mittens.

As you can imagine even paying for a second bag there was very little room left for my clothes!

Fortunately I was not pulled out of the customs queue this year, just asked if I was carrying food, which I thought was a little odd!

Sadly I was not able to take everything to the school this year. My nephew who is the Chair of the Trustees was on a work assignment in Canada. He only returned on my last day and collected everything from me. I did ask him if we should continue with knitting? His reply was an emphatic "Oh yes".

So on we go!

Thank you everybody

Stella

Around the Circuit

CIRCUIT NEWS

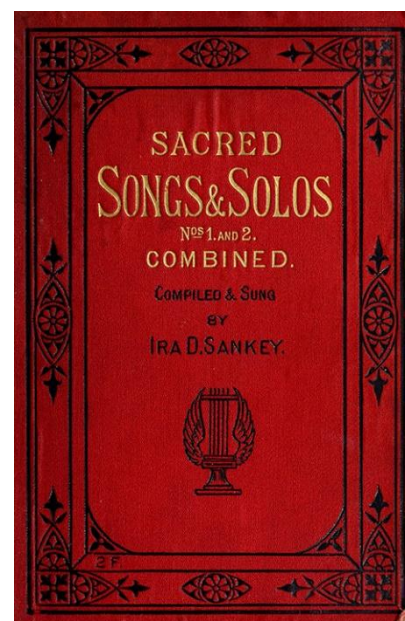
Circuit Service:

6.30pm 29th April -

Surbiton Hill Methodist Church

Tell me the Old, Old Story

Root around in cupboards, drawers and piano stools at any older Methodist

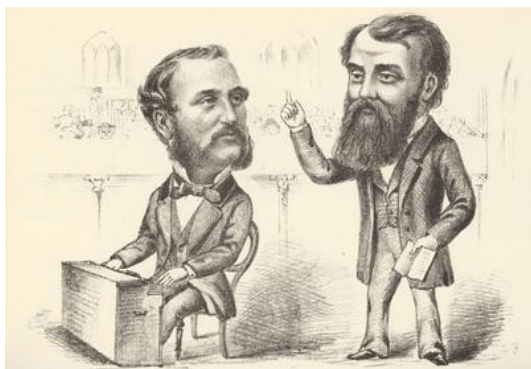


Church and you are sure to find a copy of Ira D. Sankey's "*Sacred Songs & Solos*". You may not know the book or the name of its compiler but you do know some of the hymns which it made popular:

- Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine
- What a Friend we Have in Jesus
- O for a Closer Walk with God
- Tell me the Old, Old Story

Our circuit service celebrates this gospel music and tells the remarkable story of the first American Evangelists to become household names in Britain.

Dwight Moody was the Billy Graham of his day – indeed without the pioneering work of Moody and his friend the musician Ira Sankey, there may never have been any Billy



Graham Crusades in the UK, or *Mission Praise* and its many successors. Moody and Sankey toured Britain many times, preaching and singing in packed venues. Moody's inspired preaching and Sankey's inspirational singing touched the hearts of a whole generation, and left a legacy of popular Christian song books which supplemented the official hymn books of the day.

Many of the songs grew out of real life stories and testimonies. As well as singing some old time favourites we will learn where the expression "Hold the Fort" comes from, and what it means to "Pull for the Shore". Above all the songs tell us something about the gospel, mission, the call of Jesus and its impact on our lives.

Some of these hymns fairly rattle along – if you like a good sing you will enjoy the tunes. Sankey's arrangements are very easy for choirs with simple 4 part harmonies. If you'd like to join the choir and help lead our music please get in touch with Linda Bridges lmbridges@btopenworld.com there will be a short rehearsal at 4.30pm with a refreshments break before the service.

If you've still no idea what this is all about go to **youtube** and search for "David Willets – Medley of Moody and Sankey Hymns"!

See you there

God bless: Stan

Moving Stories Conference: 20-22 July

The London District has arranged a conference under its "Moving Stories" initiative at which attendees will share stories, learn about migration, and be equipped to make a difference in their community. The conference will take place from 20-22 July in Hoddesdon, and the cost will be £60 for adults, £40 for children (under 16) and students, and it is free for under 5's. The Circuit has agreed to meet these costs for anyone who wants to attend, and it would be helpful if anyone who plans to attend could let the Circuit Office know.

People can register online at www.movingstorieslondon.com/conference. For more information call 020 7654 3850

CHURCH EVENTS

SURBITON HILL

Quiet Days for 2018 at the House of Prayer, East Molesey.

June 23rd led by Rev Andrew Pakes

November 24th led by Rev Denis Vernon

Next Newsletters

Please send contributions by Tuesday 13 March to:
circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk

The Pantomime Company of
New Malden Methodist Church
proudly invite friends, family and associates to
their production of



Saturday 24th March

2.00pm and 7.00pm

**Tickets available from the Welcome Area
from 1st March**

**Adults £6 Concessions £5
Children (under 12) £3**



Churches Together in Malden

New Malden Passion Play 2019

*Churches Together in Malden invite you to take part in
a community Passion Play in April 2019*

Would you like to be involved in a creative, dynamic,
exciting, community performance?

Everyone is welcome (all ages, all experiences). We
want the whole community involved.

Be involved: Anyone interested (no commitment) meet with us to
explore how we create a Passion Play that is unique to New Malden.

Place: The Space, New Malden United Reformed Church, Malden
Road.

Time: Saturday March 24th 15.00-17.00

To let us know you're coming and ask any questions email
plflint2@gmail.com or text 07436119626



Churches Together in Malden

*Invite you to a 2018 Lent Bible Study on Tuesday
evenings, 8.00pm at The Space, New Malden United
Reformed Church KT3 6DR*



The stories within the course and book give a unique insight into prison
life and point to the hope we can find as followers of Jesus. The group
studies provide the whole Church – inside and outside prison – with the
opportunity to walk with Jesus through Lent, learning from Mark's Gos-
pel and from the lessons prisoners, ex-prisoners and chaplains have
learned. Whether we take this spiritual journey through Lent, alone or
in company, there is much to draw on to refresh and encourage our
faith.

February 20 th	Fresh Start	March 13 th	Decision time
February 27 th	Authority estab- lished	March 20 th	Actions speak
March 6 th	Identity revealed	March 27 th	Death defeated

Books available from CWR or Peter Flint at plflint2@gmail.com Tel:07436119626

Lent and Easter



Lent Lunchtime talks 2018: Thursdays 1.10-2.00pm
All Saints Church, Marketplace, Kingston, KT1 1JP.

22 February: *The Church as a place of faith*
Rt Revd Martin Wharton, former Bishop of Kingston.

1 March: *The Church as a creator of community*
Ann Morisy, Community Theologian

8 March: *The Church as a product of history*
Dr David Robinson, Honorary Borough Archivist

15 March: *The Church as an engine of culture*
Simon Toyne, Executive Director of Music, David Ross Education Trust

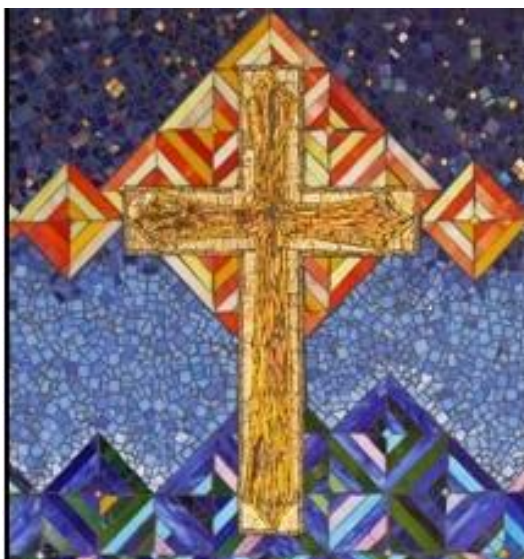
22 March: *The Church as a stumbling block for the world*
Revd Dr Stan Brown, Superintendent, Kingston Methodist Circuit

The talks are free and un-ticketed. All are welcome.
www.allsaintskingston.co.uk | 020 8546 5964

STUDENT SERVICES

Faith and Spirituality | faith@kingston.ac.uk | 020 8417 2540

**STUDENT
WELLBEING**



20th Good Friday Music 30th March 2018 at 8pm NMMC Handel's Messiah Part 2

This year will mark the 20th Good Friday Music since it transferred to our church in 1999! It seems entirely appropriate to have chosen Part 2 of Handel's Messiah: not only is it much loved, but it has attracted a large chorus and I very much hope you will join us for this special occasion, either to sing or to listen.

It is not too late to register to sing. The rehearsals are given below and we will be using the Novello/Prout edition of the vocal score. Please E-mail p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk or telephone (8942 0666) indicating whether you will need to borrow a score.

Peter Bullett	
Rehearsal Schedule	
S17MAR18	10:15 – 11:45 (Copies issued from 10am)
W21MAR18	19:30 – 21:30
S24MAR18	10:15 – 11:45*
M26MAR18	19:30 – 21:30 tbc (if necessary)
W28MAR18	20:30 – 22:00*
F30MAR18	20:00 – 21:30

Situations Vacant

In 5 month's time there will only be 2 stewards. We have struggled this year with just 3 and it is only with the support of Jennifer Townsend, Michelle Lee and Lynn Reddy as an additional support team that we have coped.

Please think about becoming a steward. Discuss with Julie, Jenny or Alison the role and the time commitment required.

Thank you, Julie Haines, Senior Steward

Summary of March Notices

Barbara Finnan passed away in hospital in the early hours of Friday 16th February. Our love and prayers go to Donald and all their family.

Phyl Hammond passed away peacefully on Friday 2nd February. Her funeral will be held at North East Surrey Crematorium, Lower Morden Lane, Morden, Surrey SM4 4NU on Tuesday 6th March at 12.40pm. Her daughter Heather has said that all are welcome to the service and for refreshments back at her home afterwards. No flowers please but donations to Cancer Research or the British Heart Foundation would be welcome.

Message from Susan Clark, **Joyce Heath's** niece, following Joyce's funeral on Tuesday 13th February.

Please can you express our thanks to everyone who made yesterday such a lovely occasion. There was a good number of people and everything went well. The offering at the church was £51 for Action for Children. Best wishes, Susan

FOR INFORMATION

The 'old' ten pound note ceases to be legal tender from 1st March 2018 so get spending (or donating!).



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Just a reminder that **this year's services will be held on Friday 2nd March** at

1.45pm at Christchurch and
8.00pm here at New Malden Methodist Church

Please support these services which are prepared each year by women of different countries.

This year they have been prepared by the women of Suriname in the northeast of South America. Do try to come along to one or both.

All are welcome – men, women and children!

THANK YOU

We just wanted to say thank you for the beautiful flowers we received last week and to say how much we have enjoyed working with the children. We've had a lot of fun and have learnt as much from the children as they have hopefully 'learnt' from us! So thank you to them.

We haven't had to know all the answers and appreciate the help we've had to find them. A massive thank you to Julia and Julie for their invaluable support and for Tina saving us when we've needed cover!

We hope that those who take it up have as much fun as we did and our prayers are with them. Thank you to everyone for the opportunity we've had and for all your support.

Ali & Emily

DIFFERENT PANTO Props Required

Awful clothes for the laundry washing line (bloomers, etc)

Someone to make up the little pandas

Bubble guns (guns for firing bubbles)

Large "African animals"-stuffed!

Thank you, Julia



KNITTING

To all who wish to knit scarves, hats and mittens, for the class of January 2019 at the Wings of Hope Nursery school

Johannesburg South Africa. The red and white wool is back!

This year it will be kept at the back of the side office on the floor. Please help yourself. If there is anybody who has not knitted previously, but would like to do so please see me for a pattern.

All the best and thank you Stella

Churches Together in Malden

Invite you to a 2018 Lent Bible Study on



Tuesday evenings, 8.00pm at
The Space, New Malden United
Reformed Church KT3 6DR

The stories within the course and book give a unique insight into prison life and point to the hope we can find as followers of Jesus. The group studies provide the whole Church – inside and outside prison – with the opportunity to walk with Jesus through Lent, learning from Mark's Gospel and from the lessons prisoners, ex-prisoners and chaplains have learned. Whether we take this spiritual journey through Lent, alone or in company, there is much to draw on to refresh and encourage our faith.

Message from our Family Worker

Hi

Do you have a special talent? Think hard now, it may be something sporty or crafty or musical.

Whatever it may be it is worth continuing to pursue it and get even better.

As I have watched the Olympic athletes this week there have been numerous back stories to the individuals and all they have overcome to achieve. There was even one figure skater who had had operations on both her feet and had relearned how walk and yet here she is competing at the very top level of her chosen sport. Wow!

Very often people volunteer to use their talent to help others. There are thousands of people who help with clubs, for both old and young alike. Without their time and dedication the lives of those they help would be a little less exciting.

There is a passage in the bible where Isaiah is asked by God about who He can send to do a task of telling the God's message to the Hebrews. Without hesitation Isaiah says "Here I am, send me".

(Oh that when asking for volunteers people reacted the same way by saying Here I am, use me"!))

If you have a talent offer it up to God and the rewards will be great because when you work with others you feel part of a team, make new friends and achieve great things

God bless

Julia



The deadline for the next issue is 9am

23rd March to carolineauty@hotmail.com or in the pigeon hole.



NMMC

49 High Street, New Malden

KT3 4BY

020 8942 1288

nmmc@hotmail.co.uk

newmaldenmethodistchurch.com

Services in March

4th March – Reverend Brown

11th March Reverend Rutlidge and all age worship

18th March – Reverend Vernon at 10.30am

Café Church and Extended Communion at 6.30pm with Reverend Rutlidge.

25th March Ms Sally Rush.

Good Friday – Walk of Witness. Time tbc.

Diary Dates for March 2018

Thursday 1 st	7.00pm	Panto Rehearsal
Friday 2 nd	10.30am	Friday Fellowship
Friday 2 nd	1.45pm	World Women's Day of Prayer Service at Christchurch
	8.00pm	World Women's Day of Prayer Service here at NMMC
Saturday 3 rd	10.00am	Coffee Bar – West Barnes Singers
Tuesday 6 th	12.40pm	Phyl Hammond's funeral at North East Surrey Crematorium, Lower Morden Lane, Morden, Surrey SM4 4NU
	7.00pm	Badminton
Thursday 8 th	7.00pm	Panto Rehearsal
Saturday 10 th	10.00am	Coffee Bar – Christian Aid
Monday 12 th	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – AGM
Tuesday 13 th	7.00pm	Badminton
	7.30pm	Meeting Point
Wednesday 14 th	2.00pm	Home Instead Memory Café in the Welcome Area
Thursday 15 th	2.00pm	Arts Group
	7.00pm	Panto Rehearsal
Saturday 17 th	8.00am	Panto lighting set-up (sherpers needed please!)
	10.00am	Coffee Bar – Marmalade Market
	10.00am	Good Friday Music Rehearsal
Sunday 18 th	3.00pm	Panto Dress Rehearsal
	3.00pm	Music in New Malden – Brazen Harmony – The Prince Regent's Band
		Brass Quintetes by Jean Francoise Bellon
Monday 19 th	7.30pm	Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert
Tuesday 20 th	7.00pm	Badminton
Wednesday 21 st	7.30pm	Good Friday Music Rehearsal
Thursday 22 nd	7.00pm	Panto Rehearsal
	7.30pm	Pastoral Committee Meeting – Welcome Area
Friday 23 rd	7.00pm	Rehearsal
Saturday 24 th	10.30am	Coffee Bar – Inner Wheel
	10.00am	Good Friday Music Rehearsal
	2.00pm	Performance of Aladdin
	7.00pm	Performance of Aladdin
Monday 26 th	7.30pm	Wives – Easter Thoughts
	7.30pm	Good Friday Music Rehearsal
Tuesday 27 th	7.00pm	Badminton
Wednesday 28 th	4.00pm	Finance Committee Meeting – Welcome Area
	7.00pm	Good Friday Music Rehearsal
Friday 30 th		Churches Together in Malden Walk of Witness
	8.00pm	Good Friday Music