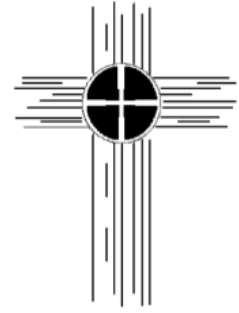


The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church May 2019



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Message from Reverend Karl

Greetings!

The month of May brings with it the opportunity to really get stuck into the Easter season, which will continue until June 9th when we celebrate the birthday of the Church at Pentecost. During this period, we will encounter various stories of the risen Jesus meeting with his disciples, and perhaps the most powerful of these saw Peter reconciled to Jesus. After an unexpected breakfast on the beach, each of his denials on Maundy Thursday were met not with condemnation, but with the calling to shepherd God's people. It's a good example of how words have the power to hurt, and to heal.

This particular month of May also has the potential to be challenging because, at the time of writing, it looks like we will have

European elections towards the end of the month. In the years which have elapsed since the Referendum – the result of which was not so much *decisive* as *divisive* – positions seem to have become more entrenched, as the inability of Parliament to find a consensus illustrates. In such a tense environment, our words matter. They can add to hurts and division, or they can seek to heal them.

Consequently, what we say about those with whom we disagree on the way forward really matters, as does what we say about those who are different to us, especially in terms of ethnicity and religion. When we divide people into 'them' and 'us', we run the serious risk of dehumanising the other person and sowing the seeds of further division. However, it doesn't have to be this way; embracing Christ's resurrection invites us to engage with a larger perspective, in which those distinctions we often hold onto are put into proper perspective (Galatians 3:28).

The last person to encounter the risen Jesus before his ascension was Paul, and looking at the early churches he founded, arguments over how Jewish and Gentile Christians were to worship together, and form a common community, were complex and heated. Yet, although Paul and Peter profoundly disagreed on many such matters, they did still meet and discuss things together (Acts 15:2). Though the issues that our nation is

split on today are different in form, some of those same questions about integration, living with difference and cultural misunderstanding underpin them.

The resurrection offers us a fresh lens through which to view the current state of affairs. The imagery of the Body of Christ reminds us that we can't just cut others off because we disagree with them, or because they're different to us (1 Corinthians 12:21). That doesn't mean that anything goes; racism and other forms of hate have no place in the Methodist Church. What it does mean is that as God's people in this place, we have a responsibility to use our words in ways which seek to heal, and bring about reconciliation, rather than stoking further mistrust and hurts.

So, let us pray that we might we have the courage to engage in this costly work, the resilience we'll need when conflicts arise, and the wisdom to know when it's best to walk away. May our words heal and set others free to know the reconciling love of God, and may the common humanity which holds us together in this diverse community in New Malden be affirmed.

Every blessing, Karl

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)

The Passion

13th April saw an excellent team effort by Churches Together in New Malden culminating in 2 performances of the Passion. Blagdon Park was transformed and included a Roman camp, a tent for the resurrection and innovative use of the children's play area. It's pretty amazing to think that the whole production was conceived, written, produced and put on by locals – well done to all those involved.





Caroline

Easter Gardens

Children at junior church enjoyed a fabulous time making Easter gardens. Thanks to Nicky and Karl for the photos:



Around the Circuit

CIRCUIT NEWS

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, and you are invited to attend. **Travel:** Tube to Old Street or bus direct from Waterloo. No booking or ticket is required.

*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)*

CHURCH EVENTS

Kingston Church's Plant and Produce Sale:
Saturday 11 May from 10.30 to 12.30. This year's proceeds help Action for Children's Warren Park residential care home on Kingston Hill towards the funding of its sensory splash park in the garden area. Please come early before the plants sell out!

OTHER NEWS

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).

Next Newsletters

If you have 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 next newsletter or magazine.

Please send contributions by Monday 13 May to: circuitoffice@kingstoncircuit.org.uk

Summary of Notices

A BIG THANK YOU

I'd like to thank everybody involved in the donation of the pop-up shelter. It was much needed. And a big thanks to everybody else, not just for the financial help, but for their kind and considerate words. God bless you all. From Nev (the homeless man outside Waitrose).

COMPANION REQUIRED

A local elderly Christian lady with deteriorating eyesight is looking for a Christian lady for a couple of hours in the early evening (most, but not necessarily every day) to help her with her bible reading and prayer letters and for companionship. Remuneration will be given at a rate to be agreed. If you can help, please contact Richard Evans on 07954 689931

3Fs

Those of you who come to these meetings, will be aware that for the last few years there has been a flexible rota between three homes, which has enabled us to schedule them approximately every month. However, currently there are just the Edwards's and the Knowles's, and while we are happy to continue as hosts, we cannot keep to a monthly rota.

Reflecting our availability, the next 3Fs evening will not be until Friday 10th May. Please put that date in your diary.

It would, of course, be great if there is a volunteer to join us in hosting 3Fs, perhaps just on an occasional basis. If you feel that is a possibility, please speak to one of us. *Susan and David Knowles & Liz and Rob Edwards*

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

PRESERVES MARKET THANK YOU

A magnificent £240.00 was raised on Saturday 30th March to be split equally between ChildLine and WaterAid. Julie Haines and Pam Bugeya would like to say a huge thank you to all who supported in any way.

REFUGEE ACTION KINGSTON

are opening a new Day centre on Tuesdays at St Johns' Church, Grove Lane, Kingston KT1 2SU.

The Day Centre will be open on Tuesdays 11.30am to 3.00pm to support destitute asylum seekers and vulnerable refugees in Kingston. They will provide a hot lunch, food parcels, food vouchers, toiletries and clothing to support clients who have no recourse to public funds. They will also run educational, social and gentle stress relieving activities as well as providing advice to access medical services and emotional support.

Conversation and friendly interaction will be most important as the aim is to reduce isolation and anxiety for many people who are far from home, living in poverty and separated from family and friends.

RAK need regular (weekly) help but would also be happy to work with volunteers who may only come fortnightly or monthly on a rota basis.

If you would be interested in finding out more, please contact

Jenny Arokiasamy, Learning Centre
Manager, Refugee Action Kingston
Siddeley House, 50 Canbury Park KT2 6LX
jenny.arokiasamy@refugeeactionkingston.org.uk
www.refugeeactionkingston.org.uk
0208 547 0115 Office
0203 0113019 Direct Line

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SIGN-UP

The Police are promoting a new Neighbourhood Watch initiative which enables people to receive information and advice without attending meetings. If you wish to sign up, please email your name, address and postcode to:
kingston.nhw@met.police.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Welcome Area. Please feel free to take one. It will also be on the website in due course and please let Sarah know if you would like a copy emailed to you.

KARL'S ORDINATION

The tickets for Karl's ordination have sold out! If you have one and you would like a seat on the coach, please let Karl know.

PASSION PLAY

A big thank you to everyone involved in the New Malden Passion Play in any way, including our two big audiences of approximately 200 people per performance (on Saturday 13th April). The singing was very moving including a solo from a young boy. The weather held, the cast remembered their lines, some tears were shed and much positive feedback was received. God certainly blessed this enterprise.

Hilary Warner

Diary Dates for May

Wednesday 1st 8.00pm
Church Council Meeting

Saturday 4th 10.00am
Coffee Bar – Alzheimer's Society – Glynis Fox

Tuesday 7th 7.00pm
Badminton

Wednesday 8th 2.00pm
Memory Café

Friday 10th 7.30pm
3 Fs at the Knowles's

Saturday 11th 10.00am
Coffee Bar – Christian Aid – Jennifer Townsend

Sunday 12th 10.30am
Annual Church Meeting followed by the Christian Aid lunch at noon.
3.00pm
Music in New Malden – Clarinet Quintets by Brahms and his contemporaries. Guildhall School professors Jane Booth and Jacqueline Ross take a fresh look at this repertoire.

Monday 13th 7.30pm
Wives & Friends – Room 101

Tuesday 14th 2.30pm
Bereavement Café

7.00pm
Badminton

Wednesday 15th 7.00pm
Malden Fortnight Meeting

Saturday 18th 10.00am
Coffee Bar – Richmond & Kingston ME Group

Monday 20th 7.30pm
Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert

Tuesday 21st 7.30pm
Wives & Friends – Peter's Pipe Dream

Badminton

Thursday 23rd
POLLING DAY for European Elections

Saturday 25th 10.00am
Coffee Bar – Complex Regional Pain Syndrome – Living with Pain - Sarah Moore & Julia Morton

1.00pm
Wedding of Rebecca Edwards and Matthew Harris

Saturday 1st June 10.00am
Coffee Bar - Amnesty

Children's Page

Hi

Recently a friend and I have started taking an early morning walk in Beverley Park. We meet and greet others taking their dogs for a similar activity and we observe some very athletic types running and stretching at a fitness training session.

It is quite pleasant watching the sunrise, seeing the early morning mist over the grass and hearing the early bird song. We often notice a young blackbird wrestling with an oversized earthworm and wonder at the persistence to get off the ground with it in his beak!

The only thing that spoils this idyllic scene is the amount of litter left around the park. Sadly, it is often near the bins and in the playground part of the premises. Bottles often with liquid still inside, sweet wrappers and crisp packets dominate, with the odd takeaway containers being strewn about the grass.

It is so sad that people who use this outside space do not take more care of the local environment. It's no use being outraged by effect plastic has on the world if we can't be bothered to even pick it up and pop it into

7.00pm

the bin. During the holiday I took my grandson, Ethan, for a litter pick up in Blagdon Road Park. We used the long handled “pickers” and filled 2 bags with rubbish from the bushes and around the perimeter of the playground. It was fun as a one off holiday activity but it would soon become arduous if it were to be repeated day after day. Yet this is what seems to be required.

God made us a beautiful world and we need to keep it so. The challenge this month is to pick up 3 pieces of litter a day, either indoors or out and maintain your part of New Malden as a wonderful and litter free space. Good luck! (Oh and wash your hands well afterwards!)

God bless

Julia



Deadline for the next issue is Friday 24th May. Please leave contributions in the editor's pigeon hole or email carolineauty@hotmail.com by 9am.

NMMC

49 High Street, New Malden
KT3 4BY 020 8942 1288

nmmc@hotmail.co.uk

newmaldenmethodistchurch.com



Services in May

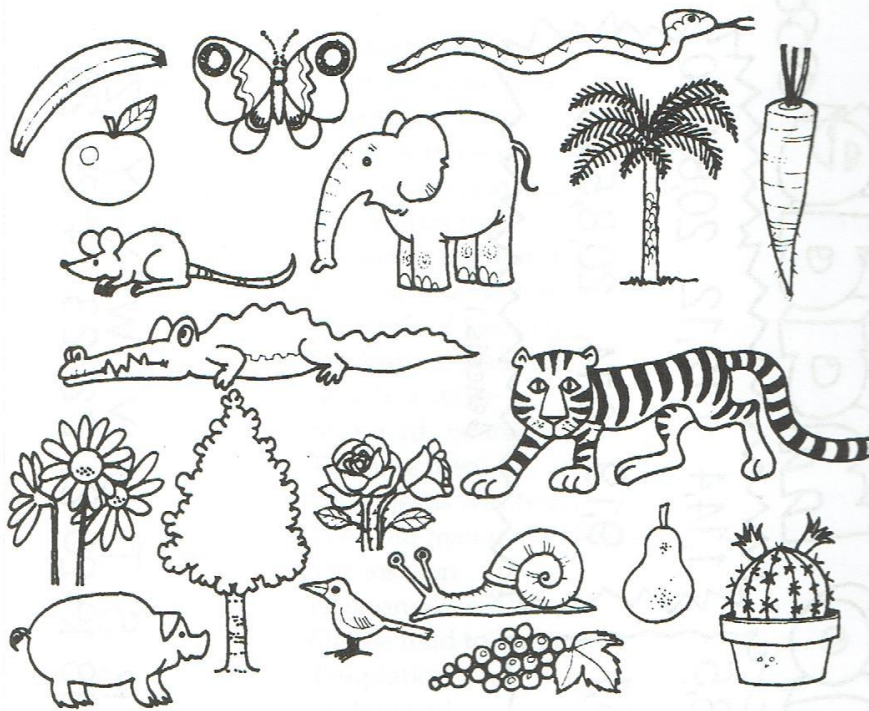
5th May – All age worship with Ms Rush

12th May – Reverend Rutlidge plus the annual church meeting.

19th May – Mrs Davis followed by Christian Aid lunch. Don't forget that the Testimony Service is at Wesley Chapel at 6.30pm. See above.

26th May – Reverend Brown and Holy Communion. Café church with Reverend Rutlidge at 3pm.

Read Genesis 2:15-end

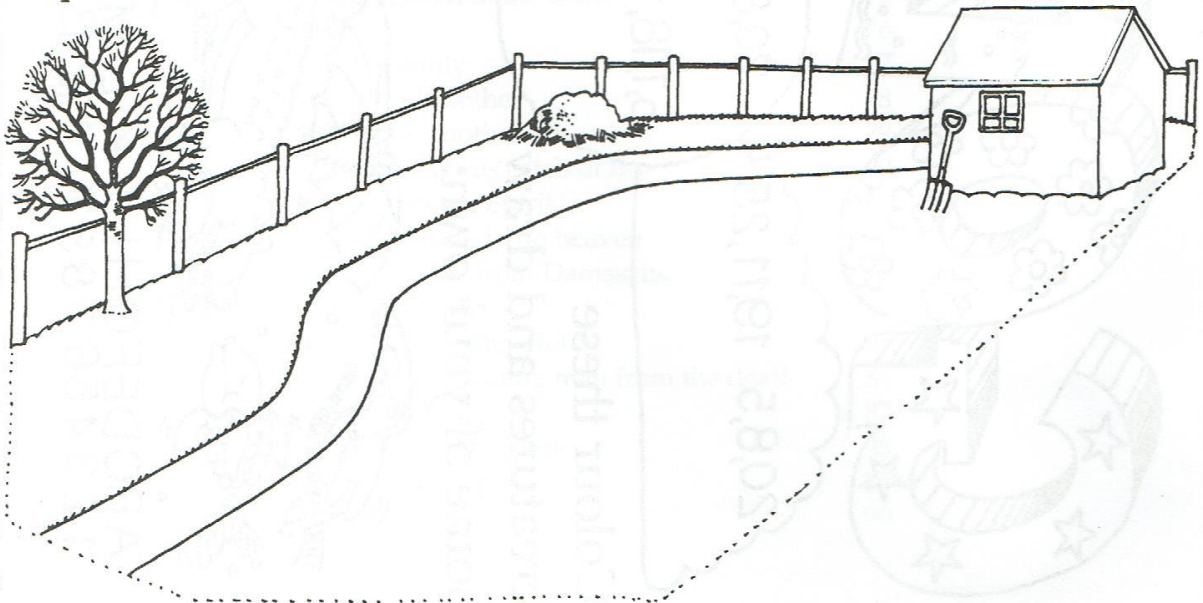


Can you name the plants and animals?

- ☐ BANANA
- ☐ APPLE
- ☐ BUTTERFLY
- ☐ SNAKE
- ☐ MOUSE
- ☐ ELEPHANT
- ☐ PALM TREE
- ☐ CARROT
- ☐ ALLIGATOR
- ☐ TIGER
- ☐ FLOWER
- ☐ FIR TREE
- ☐ PIG
- ☐ ROSE
- ☐ BIRD
- ☐ SNAIL
- ☐ PEAR
- ☐ GRAPES
- ☐ CACTUS

God lets us help

The garden is rather dull – can you brighten it up with some flowers and trees?



A riddle:
Why did God make the woman?

Answer:
Because after he had made the man, he thought, 'I must be able to do better!'