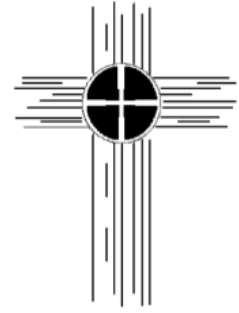


The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church November



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Message from Karl

Greetings! November appears to be the month for remembering. On the 1st and 2nd, there's All Saints and All Souls, not widely marked within Methodism, but upon which the communion of saints and the faithful departed, respectively, are acknowledged. The 5th sees us called to ensure that 'gunpowder treason' should never be forgotten, as the old rhyme goes, before we move to Armistice Day on the 11th and Remembrance Sunday on the 12th, which need no introduction. Less well known, the 20th marks the Transgender Day of Remembrance, commemorating those killed across the world for simply trying to lead authentic lives. As if this wasn't enough, 2017 brings with it particular anniversaries, including the five-hundred years since an obscure Augustinian monk named Martin Luther is thought to have pinned ninety-five points of contention with the Church to a chapel door in Wittenberg, the event that

was the catalyst for what we now call the Reformation.

A common theme running through these is that of violence, from the martyrdom of early Christians at the hands of the Roman Empire, to the mechanised slaughter seen in the mudbaths of the Somme and Passchendaele. Indeed, the recent BBC series *Gunpowder*, based on the stories of the Roman Catholic conspirators behind the Gunpowder Plot, was slammed by both viewers and critics because of its graphic (if historically accurate) depictions of torture and execution. Yet, what was interesting about this series for me wasn't this question, but the focus of a good few commentators on parallels between Robert Catesby, Guy Fawkes and so forth and modern-day terrorists. While rightly seeking to call out apologies for terrorism, it's telling that the same people seemed to have a blind-spot when it comes to state violence, despite the show's unflinching depictions of the brutality of those who no doubt saw themselves as the defenders of peace. What we choose to see and remember matters.

Rachel Mann's excellent book *Fierce Imaginings* reflects on the First World War and what one might say of Christ in its aftermath. She writes, "God in Christ is all about passion: he becomes our victim, handed over to us, the subject of our jealousies, fears and our desire to be in control"; hence, "this is a man thoroughly

caught up in and destroyed by the violence of the world". And yet, God "invites us to commit to another way", for "this risen God is not one who glories in his sacrifice, nor comes seeking revenge". God's invitation is to "reconciliation", and "the challenge is to make a commitment to a Way of going on which rejects silencing, objectification and injuring". For Mann, this is enabled by the Eucharist, by the regular sharing of bread and wine, which can never be the same each time because it involves taking into our very selves the divine Victim who is also our Redeemer. In other words, this is a remembering (or perhaps re-remembering) that transforms.

So, my invitation to you throughout this month of remembering is to twofold. Firstly, if we are to hear the voices of those who were and are silenced, we need to have courage to question the narratives of the powerful and privileged, for remembering is rarely a neutral act. Secondly, reconciliation will only come about through a commitment to real peace, shalom, which is about more than simply the absence of violence; it's about fullness of life, and begins in the everyday re-remembering God brings about. Are we willing to allow our remembering to be transformative, so we might be true channels of peace in a hurting and broken world?

Every blessing, Karl

£600+, yes £600+, was raised for charity so a stunning achievement all round.

Everyone was appropriately dressed for at least one occasion (who knows which one), as you can see from the photos!



Harvest Supper

This year's Harvest Supper took place on Saturday 30th September and featured a fantastic pot luck supper in the lower hall followed by a music hall singalong in the church. Over 70, yes 70, guests enjoyed the evening with Mick Taviner as MC and Alison Bullett, Gloria Taviner, Sarah Moore and Doreen Downey leading the singing. A huge



The Organ Fund



As announced last month, the Church Council has given the go-ahead for a major refurbishment of the organ, to ensure its viability for generations to come. Over the next few months we will be seeking your support for a number of different fundraising schemes so that everyone can feel truly involved in something which is central to our worship and outreach at NMMC. The 'new' instrument will have many new and exciting sounds, will be much more reliable, will have a movable console and will be used in all sorts of ways which are not possible at the moment, including being played with the piano, solo recitals, orchestral concerts and a community project to encourage young musicians to learn to play it; again ensuring the future of our musical tradition.

We have identified Pipe Organ Services as appearing to offer the best blend of experience, expertise and economy, and the Organ Committee has now met with its Director, Alan Goulding, and the Connexional Organ Advisor for London, Malcolm Starr. We are planning a visit to one of Alan Goulding's recent organ re-developments at Leighton Buzzard in the near future, with a view to securing a start date of April 3rd next year. It is expected that the organ will then be out of use for about 6 months, but unveiled in all its glory well in time for Christmas 2018.

As regards raising the money, you will probably have recently received a letter asking for your support and commitment in the form of a donation or planned giving. We are very fortunate that we have already had several substantial donations, promises and bequests which have got us almost half way towards the somewhat daunting total of around £70k, and we are confident that we can get to the sort of percentage of the total cost where we might attract 'Matched Giving', various grants and possibly Lottery funding. There are also opportunities where smaller amounts will be gratefully received. We have the launch of the Cookery Book to look forward to next month; you are encouraged to buy multiple packs of our beautiful Mosaic Christmas cards, and your £1 and £2 coins are being collected in the Smartie tubes and Marmite Jars in the Welcome Area. Perhaps your household or Organisation would like to organise its own way of adding to our funds? The Committee (Peter and Alison Bullett, Tony Chalk, David Knowles, Gregory Martis-Jones and Mick Taviner) would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has fundraising ideas or connections to possible sponsors.

Alison Bullett

JUST A MINUTE!!

Do you know your Open Woods from your Diapasons? Your Reeds from your Mixtures? Would you like to see a man play a tune with his feet?

Even better, why not come and have a go at playing the organ and looking behind the Big Box in the corner of the church to see what actually goes on?

For a modest donation to the Organ Fund, you can have 'Just a Minute' on the organ and play to your heart's content. If you get hooked and want longer, this can also be arranged.

See Peter after any of the services at which he is playing. Don't be shy! Come and Try!

View from the Pew

Welcome to “A View from the Pew”. This will be a correspondence column - not along the lines of letters to the Times from Disgusted of Tunbridge Wells, rather a series of random musings, reflections, views . . .

Some might spark responses (either in print – or better yet, in person, as it’s a month between issues!), others might simply be of passing interest. Let’s see how it goes.

A View from the Pew

I thought I’d take this fairly literally. My view, Sunday by Sunday, is quite similar to that of last week, and the one before that. Pretty much the same backs of heads, the lovely flower arrangement from the same angle, the closest hymn numbers are the ones on the left. Hmm.

Why do I sit in the same place every Sunday? I’d describe myself as a spontaneous person, happy to try new things (aubergines in chocolate sauce, anyone?) and yet I always head for a seat on the left hand side about two thirds of the way back. Of course, I wouldn’t tuck in if I found a visitor sitting there: after all, it’s not specially reserved for me. On those Sundays I’m happy to sit somewhere (slightly) different. Perhaps it’s that in a busy life, with lots to think about, sitting in the same place is just one fewer decision to make. Or maybe I’m worried that God won’t be able to find me if he doesn’t see me in my usual seat.

So, if one Sunday you see me bravely venturing into another part of the Sanctuary, or even sitting in your usual seat – I hope you’ll welcome me and make me feel at home.

Judith Jewell

Bible Course



Whether you’re just looking or a long way into the Christian faith, this course provides the tools and skills that will help you to read the Bible for yourself. • An interactive journey through the whole Bible • DVD teaching and small group discussion • Course manual packed with notes, quotes and visuals Fridays 12noon (in The Parlour) Bring Lunch – drinks provided Nov. 24th, Dec.1st, 8th, 15th (four more sessions in the New Year)

More info: Rev Stan Brown 07341 846601

Around the Circuit

Chessington

The Chessington Winter Fair takes place on Saturday 18 November, from 11.30am to 2pm. There will be Korean and British food and refreshments, the usual stalls, children’s games, and you can visit Father Christmas. Everybody is welcome.

Concert: Classical Crossover Soprano Mary-Jess will be returning to Chessington Methodist Church on Saturday 18 November

as part of her Winter Tour. The concert starts at 7.30 pm, and tickets are available at £15 each from John Harvey, or on-line at <http://www.amickproductions.co.uk/mary-jess>

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).

December 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 newsletter/magazine.

Please send contributions by Tuesday 14 November to:
circuitoffice@kingstonsircuit.org.uk

Summary of Notices

Summary of October Notices

Church Family News

Carol Dadds has had her knee operation and is recovering at home.

Phyl Hammond wishes to express thanks for the church flowers, which were delivered just after her family heard the news of the death of her son, Andrew, who was living in France. Please pray for Phyl and all her family.

It is with regret that we have to report that **Fred Bradley** passed away on Wednesday 25th October after a brief illness. Please pray for Hazel, Sue and Andrew and all the family at this difficult time. They would appreciate visitors next week.

Monica Shaffer-Fehre is in Keats ward in Kingston Hospital following a fall at home. She does not seem to have any major injuries and is good spirits. She would be very happy to have visitors.

Peter and Alison Bullett have become grandparents! Very many congratulations to Vicky and Lee on the birth of a beautiful baby girl, Ottilie Rose, on Wednesday 25th October, weighing in at 7lbs 12.



THANK YOU ..

.. to all those who helped in any way with the JMA Coffee Morning last Saturday. We raised a grand total of £110
Alan Downey



MOSAIC NOTECARDS

We have had some blank notecards made with a picture of our mosaic on the front. They are on sale on the Bookstall for 50p each or £2.00 for 5. All profits to go to the Organ Refurbishment Fund.

FANCY A SING SONG?

If you enjoyed the Singalong at the Harvest Supper last night, would you like more opportunities to sing for fun? A small group of us visit the White House Nursing Home (Malden Road, on the corner of Motspur Park) on alternate Thursdays, 10- 10.45 am and we could do with a few more volunteers.

It doesn't matter what you think of your singing abilities - we are there to enable the residents to enjoy a variety of songs, and a few laughs. Words are provided, and a cup of coffee. See Alison or Doreen for more details or just turn up if and when you can. See Alison Bullett for dates.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Details of this trip with Rev David & Lorna Bedford are on the noticeboard in the Welcome Area.

HARVEST SUPPER

A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in last week's Harvest Supper. A lot of work went into providing a good meal, fellowship and entertainment for over 70 people. Together with donations on Sunday morning, we collected over £500.00 for Water Aid which with Gift Aid will equate to over £600.00. This is a fantastic amount so well done to everyone concerned.



ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Thank you so much to those who keep Action for Children collecting boxes. I would be grateful if those who have boxes could please bring them in so I can do a yearly deposit. If anyone would like a box, please contact me and I would be happy to bring one in. Thank you for your continuing support. Lucy Turner



3Fs

(Faith, food and fellowship) is at Andrew and Angie Turner's house (52 Acacia Grove) on Friday 3 November from 7.30pm. Beyond

the sharing of food and fellowship, 3Fs participants generally discuss an issue of current interest. And a good time is generally had by those who come. All are welcome. Please just let Andrew and Angie know by a few days beforehand if you are planning to be there. Advance notice: we may be discussing Martin Luther at the next meeting, to mark an important quinqucentenary.....

'NOTES FOR CHANGE' - NMMC ORGAN APPEAL

We want everyone to feel involved in this major project to refurbish our organ. There are opportunities to raise funds in a number of ways, and members of the Organ Committee (Alison, Peter, Mick, Tony) will be pleased to receive your ideas and contributions. £2 coins are being collected in Smartie tubes in the Welcome Area, and, Love it or Hate it, you can also fill your own Marmite jar with whatever denomination you wish. No old pound coins please!

"Helping children and teenagers to manage risk in their real and virtual world today"

Tuesday 21st November, 7.45pm for 8pm at New Malden Baptist Church

The event on the 21st November at New Malden Baptist Church will be led by a real expert in the field – Paul James, a father and foster carer, with a career of over 35 years in school leadership and children's services. It comes highly recommended for all parents/carers of children of any age – get a babysitter if at all possible!

Drinks will be served at 7.45pm and the presentation will start promptly at 8pm, lasting about 90 minutes, with time for questions.

NMBC warmly invite you to attend. There will be no specific charge but those attending will be invited to make a voluntary contribution towards the overall cost of the evening. Tea and coffee will be provided. It is expected that the event will be very popular and so pre-booking is essential. Please contact Sue Atkinson in the NMBC church office: office@nmbc.org.uk or 020 8942 6912 as soon as possible to confirm your place. Please contact Sue for more

information (or see notice in Welcome Area).

WRAP UP LONDON



Dear all:

Once again the time has come for my annual Wrap up London coat collection where I do a collection for Wrap up London in the local area by collecting used or old coats which then get redistributed amongst those who cannot afford coats of their own: to the homeless, to women's and children's refuges and many other worthy people. If you have any coats, jumpers or fleeces, I would be very grateful if you would either drop them round to our house or I would be happy to pick them up by the 9th of November. Many thanks for your continuing support.

Lucy Turner

150th Anniversary slide show

Many thanks to all of you who passed me such lovely pictures for inclusion in the slide show that ran at the 150th Anniversary exhibition. I have finally got around to enveloping them back up and they are addressed to you in the pigeon holes. Please do give me a call if you have any queries.

Andrew Turner

All Saints Kingston Topical Lunch, Thursday 16 November

'Making Kingston greener, cleaner and better'

Kingston changes at breakneck speed. Marilyn Mason talks about how the Kingston Environment Forum works to ensure that the Borough also gets better for everyone. What do you think? Join in this open discussion. Lunch at the ASK East End Café from 12:00 pm – or bring your own sandwiches. Talk starts at 1:00 pm. Finishes 1:45 pm.



We are starting to think about our Christmas fair on Friday 24th November.

We need offers of stalls, things to sell on them, people to man them, people to set up and clear away, refreshment sellers and of course people to buy. We need you!

We have stalls that need sales staff. Please let us know what you/your group will be doing and help to make this into another successful and enjoyable way to begin the Festive Season. We are also in need of people to man the coffee bar on the Saturday morning after the fair.

The money raised this year will be split between the organ appeal and another charity to be confirmed. Christmas hats are optional!

Julie and Alison

Donations required for the fair please: Books, puzzles, DVDs (no videos please), toiletries, craft items, things for the £1 stall, soft toys for the tombola, toys and games, homemade cakes, chocolate for a tombola.

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY DINNER WITH FLANDERS AND SWANN

As the hub church for the Kingston/New Malden Debt Centre St John's church is hosting a fundraising dinner for the work of Christians against Poverty on Saturday 25th November 2017.

The evening will comprise a three course meal (with vegetarian option) plus tea/coffee and a live performance of the wonderful musical comedy songs of Michael Flanders and Donald Swann. Who, having

heard them, can ever forget “The gasman cometh”, “The Gnu” or “A song of patriotic prejudice”?

Whether you would be hearing their music for the first time or reacquainting yourself with it do come along and enjoy a fine meal with good company and amusing entertainment.

Tickets cost £18 per head but why not get a group of friends together and book a table. A table for six people costs £96 (£16 per head); a table for eight people costs £120 (£15 per head). Places are limited so please book soon.

Tickets are available from
sjnmticketsfands@yahoo.com or 020 8942 8478 (please leave a message with contact details)

The evening will begin at 7.30 p.m. (for 8 p.m.) at St John’s Church, Kingston Road, New Malden, KT3 3 RX (opposite Homebase).

On Sunday 29th October the Junior Church had great (and messy) fun carving these pumpkins to show God’s love for the world. Please note the designs are portraying happiness and joy.



Message from our Family Worker

Hi,

I’m sitting at the computer watching the rain fall outside and thinking yuck! The sight of the grey sky and drizzle is making me feel cold and miserable. Yet when it was really hot (do you remember that feeling?), I would have welcomed the odd shower to cool the atmosphere and save the job of watering the garden.

We are so lucky in this country. We do not suffer from severe lack of rain. We have all seen the devastation of a drought, the failed crops and starvation that can follow. No wonder that one of the ways Jesus describes himself as being “The Water of Life.”

Without the rain nothing will grow, there is no flow of the water from one place to another.

Just imagine the River Thames as large dry river bed, no water or plants or animals, boats leaning at an angle unable to float. It would seem so strange. It would be lifeless. Next time you cross a river try to remember all the life it gives to people and animals and plants.

I’m already feeling better about the rain! (Although I do wish it wouldn’t make my hair frizzy!) I’ll rejoice in getting wet.

Love through Jesus

Julia



Services in November

5th November – Mr Masillamani.

12th November – Rev Rutledge – family service and parade.

19th November – Mr Lee -
plus Rev Brown café church and Holy Communion in the evening.

26th November – Revs Brown and Rutledge – Holy Communion.

The deadline for the next issue is 9am 1st December to carolineauty@hotmail.com or in the pigeon hole.

Diary Dates for November

Friday 3rd
10.30am **Friday Fellowship**
7.30pm **3 Fs at the Turners' house**

Saturday 4th
10.00am **Coffee Bar – Memory Walk – Glynis Fox**

Tuesday 7th
7.00pm **Senior Badminton**

Wednesday 8th
2.00pm **Home Instead Memory Café in the Welcome Area**

Saturday 11th
10.00am **Coffee Bar – Royal British Legion – The Hamptons**

Sunday 12th
3.00pm **Music in New Malden presents Robert Bridge (Pn). Works by Chopin, Janacek and Ravel**

Monday 13th
7.30pm **Wives & Friends – Crafts**

Tuesday 14th
2.15pm **Trinity Homecare Memory Café in the Welcome Area**
7.00pm **Junior Badminton**
7.30pm **Meeting Point – The Life and Times of Revd Donald Finnan**

Saturday 18th
10.00am **Coffee Bar – Inner Wheel**

Monday 20th
7.00pm **Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert**

Tuesday 21st
7.00pm **Senior Badminton**

Friday 24th
4.30pm-7.00pm **Christmas Fair**

Saturday 25th
10.00am **Coffee Bar – Christmas Fair overflow**

Monday 27th
7.30pm **Wives & Friends –St Andrew**
Tuesday 28th
7.00pm **Junior Badminton**



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nmmc@hotmail.co.uk
newmaldenmethodistchurch.com

GOD'S LOVE COMES FREE OF CHARGE!



- How much is the pen? ☐
- How much is the drink? ☐
- Does the pen cost the most? ☐
- Is the balloon cheap? ☐
- Can you buy 3 things for a £1? ☐
- What does it cost to buy all the things? ☐
- Is anything free? ☐

Draw some things you have had as presents and write underneath who gave them to you.

Most things cost money.
Some things are expensive.
God gives us his love.
It cost him his life.

Which of these things must you do to win God's love?

