



Autumn in all its' colour





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Church Website :
newsletter@newburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Beware the familiar!

I recently attended a prayer breakfast, something I do often. There someone read out a verse from the Bible. Thankfully that is not unusual either. On this occasion she mentioned the chapter and verse before quoting it in full. I confess as soon as I heard the Bible reference I said to myself 'I know what is coming, I know it well, I have known it for more than 40 years'. It is a verse to encourage us to pray and to assure us that God hears. Sure enough as the verse was read out I rehearsed it word for word in my mind and I was just preparing to move on when I was brought up short by a questioning 'voice' in my mind which said, 'you are not listening and you are not doing what it says'. I know by now this is the Holy Spirit. I know his gentle but firm voice of challenge, so I thought through the words of God again and soon tripped over the words 'humble themselves' in the first sentence.

To pray requires humility, something I was definitely not exhibiting in my arrogant and confident assertion that I knew the meaning of this verse and that it had nothing to say to me. On occasion we pray because we have no choice, circumstances are so desperate we can only pray; all other options are closed to us. We are humbled by the circumstances and our lack of resources. However most of the time when we are praying about our personal needs there are things we can do without the need to ask for God's help. It is an act of humility to seek God's face, to involve him in what is going on in our lives. 'We can work it out' was the cry of the human heart and mind long before it became the lyric of a popular song. Yes there are often things we can do but these things are done more effectively and the right things will be done if we pray in humility before, during and afterwards. Pride is a sin I struggle with and God knows that too!

In case you haven't worked it out by now the verse I had heard and listened to again is
2 Chronicles 7:14.

Peter



News from Angela now settled in Kent!

Thank you all so much for the lovely flowers which you sent me . They are lasting very well . I feel I have settled in nicely and it is lovely to be able to visit the family so easily - I went to share birthday cake with my granddaughter on Sunday afternoon!!

I miss everything about Newbury Methodist and am alternating between the Tenterden Methodist and the Parish church of St Mildred. We had an LA at the Meths. last week and it made me wish for Alan, Erica and Val and power point - so appreciate what you have! The parish church family service for Harvest was interesting - short and sweet. Several others from Oak Tree Court go to St Mildred's and I think may go there more often except that it is a 9.30 service!!!

Next week I am on holiday in Cornwall so I hope it stops raining as I should be walking. By the time I return the clocks will have changed and Remembrance Day will be on us and I plan to attend the service at the War Memorial.

I am reading your notices on the web site so keeping up with news.

With love to you all

Angela

Stuart Farrimond News October 2019

As many of you know over recent months Stuart has had surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy to treat a returned brain tumour growth.

In the latest scan result, his consultant reported that he was struggling to see any tumour at all, far exceeding his expectations. As the medical profession consider his cancer to be an incurable, and assume that it will recur at some point in the future, he will continue to take high dose oral chemotherapy tablets for much of the next 12 months.

As a family we have been and continue to really appreciate your prayers and support, and are so thankful to God, for medical treatment and pharmaceuticals leading to this amazing result.

Maree



Sheila Hunt wrote to the church after her attendance at our Harvest Service and with her permission I am including a copy in this month's Newsletter, and well done to Sid and everyone else for making visitors welcome when they attend our services.

When my good friend Sid invited Bernard and me to a Harvest Festival service last Sunday, my first reaction was to turn down his kind invitation as Sunday is always SWIMMING DAY for my autistic friend Bernard. As Sid worked it out that the times worked perfectly- church followed by swim-and as Bernard was keen to do both, we met Sid and Caron at the church gate. What a very enjoyable and interesting service! Even the seats were comfortable, and the interior of the church looked so beautiful and inviting. Bernard sang with gusto and later asked if we could make it a regular event. I'm more than happy to go along with his wishes.

Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome we received. I'm away this weekend, but look forward to our next visit to Newbury Methodist Church where the organ is played beautifully.

Sheila Hunt and Bernard Johnson.

(We look forward to seeing Sheila & Bernard again soon)



J.O.Y

As I said at our last meeting I have now researched a number of places for our Christmas Meal.

The Carnarvon Arms although a lovely menu was expensive plus a 12% surcharge for a group.

The Rampant Cat is as good as ever although it has gone up by £2.00 per head this year. 2 courses £22.95 - 3 courses £26.95

The Carpenters Arms is a good menu priced at: 2 courses £19.95
3 courses £24.95

The Woodpecker menu is slightly more basic menu but cheaper:
1 course £15.95, 2 Courses £18.95, 3 courses £22.95.

Would you please let me know your thoughts asap.

All, but The Rampant Cat, require a £10 deposit on booking.

I will obviously need to book asap

Many thanks

Doris



October update on current needs at West Berks Foodbank

Urgently needed

UHT Milk

Low Stock

Sponge Puddings (long life not chilled)

Jam

Tinned Custard

Washing up Liquid

Tinned Meat

Soup

Long Life Fruit Juice

Well Stocked

Please No Pasta or Beans



Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Harvest Appeal.
We raised a total of £1,020.25
(Harvest Supper £245, Envelopes £653.85 & Harvest Stall £121.40)

WEDNESDAY BIBLE GROUP

We meet twice during November, on Wednesdays 13th and 20th at 7.30pm. We shall continue our study of St John's gospel using the study guide 'John's Gospel: exploring the seven miraculous signs'. If you want to deepen your knowledge of God by discussing the Bible with others, this is the group for you and a warm welcome awaits you.

Why not come along to one of the sessions and see what we do? Just bring yourself – Bibles are provided. Please contact Rosie on N. 31231 to check on the venue – we hope to meet in warm houses during the winter rather than in the church foyer. Our final meeting dates for 2019 will be December 4 & 11. All welcome.

Rosie Greenhalgh



Mens' Fellowship Christmas dinner
at the Craven Arms, Enborne.
Thursday December 12th - 7.00 for 7.30pm

STARTER

- Game Terrine with a toasted ciabatta and salad.
- Salmon Mousse with brown toast and salad
- Prawn, chicken and noodle spring rolls with papaya & cucumber salad
- Roasted Red Pepper, tomato & basil soup (v / gf/ vegan option available)

MAIN

- Turkey with all the trimmings (gf option)
- Duck confit, black cherry and port sauce with roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables
- Seabass with champ mash and a prawn and caper sauce. Served with seasonal vegetables
- Butternut squash, chestnut mushroom & spinach curry (v / gf / vegan)
- Pork Medallions with sage and stilton crumble. Served with roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables

DESSERT

- Chocolate & Clementine torte with cream (gf)
- Mandarin & Cranberry spiced cheesecake with cream
- Christmas Pudding with a brandy sauce
- Sticky toffee pudding with ice cream (vegan option available)

Two courses £21.95 Three courses £24.95

RSVP Myles m.munsey1@ntlworld.com or telephone 01635-846764

Calling all knitters!

When I worshipped at the URC, we used to have a group who knitted squares to make up into colourful single blankets for Berkshire Women's Aid. These are put on the beds of every child coming into the Refuge, and they then go with the children to their new home when the family is re-settled. Our leader was Margot Allen.

Margot has continued making the blankets since the URC closed and she tells me she is now on her 80th blanket! However, over the years most of her band of knitters – including me – have fallen by the wayside and she would really value some assistance. Could any of the knitters in the church help with this valuable project - either knitting squares or with donations of double knitting wool?

How to knit a 7" x 7" square in plain knitting

You will need:

Double knitting wool This can be any colour, except black. It can be any yarn e.g. wool, acrylic etc. (Be aware that wool sold as 'double knitting' can vary in thickness.)

3.75mm knitting needles (or 3.5mm if your wool is a bit too fine, or 4mm if it is too thick).

A ruler

Method – knitting diagonally (Makes for a firmer, more exact square which is easier to assemble.)

Cast on one stitch.

At the beginning of the next row, cast on another stitch.

Increase by one stitch at the beginning of each succeeding row, until the work measures exactly **seven inches** along each edge. (Depending on how tightly or loosely you knit, this will be approximately 58 rows.)

When the work measures the correct size, knit **one plain row** then decrease by one stitch at the start of each row from then on.

Cast off the last stitch.

(Please measure carefully and keep all the edges firm.)

If you need any tuition or advice – from this diffident knitter! - please contact **Anne Jones** (01635 38106 / amjones@btinternet.com) (Or do you have double knitting wool that you can donate?)





The town flag day on Saturday 28th September raised £487.18.

On Saturday 23rd November, 3pm at St Mary's, Shaw, there will be a concert by the Cromwell Singers. Retiring collection for Christian Aid.

On Saturday 30th November, 7 for 7.30pm in St George's Church Hall, a barn dance with band Mo'Cairde and jacket potato supper. Tickets £12 must be purchased beforehand and will be available from Rosie from 3rd November.

Advance notice that on Thursday 12th December there will be a coffee morning from 10am to 12 noon in St Nicolas' Church Hall. I shall be appealing for good quality bric-a-brac and cakes nearer the time.

Rosie Greenhalgh

Sunday Roast



On Sunday , 24th November at 12.30pm we will be going to the Royal British Legion for our next Sunday Roast Dinner together. The Managers are very friendly and keen to accommodate us. It is a lively and happy atmosphere. On the day there will be two meats. You can have one or some of each and plenty of vegetables.

This will cost £7.50 and if you want a homemade pudding, usually either a pie and custard or a crumble or ice cream for an extra £2.00 (£9.50 for dinner & pudding). Please add your name to the list which will be on the Wesley Hall notice board from the 10th Nov



Saturday October 12th

A very big thank you to all who contributed cakes for this Shell Group and Youth Club event, they were very much enjoyed by parents and children alike.

It was a wonderful answer to prayer to see so many children accompanied by Mums & Dads.

The time of “contemporary “ worship was enjoyed by all. Thank you Alan for leading our action song. The children were pleased to be presented with a certificate of membership which will hopefully be a reminder of their being part of our church.

Thank you for those who joined us for the worship, the tea and the games.

There were 58 of us altogether in church on a Saturday afternoon.

Wonderful.

Doris



christian
aid

Barn Dance

with supper

dancing to

Mo'Caide

Saturday 30 November 2019

7pm for 7.30 - 11.00 pm

St. George's Church Hall

Wash Common

Ticket only event. Buy early!

Tickets from David Oats 01635-43380

Adult £12 Young person £6

Licensed Bar & Raffle

Registered Charity No. 1105851



CTNA

Worship & Mission Together

Volunteers are needed for the Community Christmas Day Lunch (25th December!) at St. Georges Church. Help is needed for preparations on the 24th and also the lunch on the 25th. This is a great opportunity to show the love of Christ by serving those, especially the elderly who would not get the opportunity to spend Christmas with their families.

Work to be done includes:

Prep hall and vegetables Christmas Eve, driving, kitchen help, entertainment, and companions on Christmas Day.

If you have a few hours to spare, for more information contact Joanna Abraham on 07828244119 or marinaoabraham@gmail.com.



Please pray for Richard Littledale (Minister at Newbury Baptist Church) as his responsibilities now include West Berkshire Council Chaplain. His new book Postcards from the Land of Grief is now available from Shoemakers.

Wrapping with Love

7-15th December Kennet shopping centre
CTNA will be wrapping Christmas presents over a cup of tea and biscuits. If you would like to help please contact Carolyn Bramhall by email: carolyn@h4t.org.uk





CTNA

Worship & Mission Together

Sunday Evenings at KCC

iGNITE

Informal creative evening
encountering God

6TH OCTOBER / 20TH OCTOBER

3RD NOVEMBER / 17TH NOVEMBER

1ST DECEMBER

6:00 - 7:30 PM



CTNA

Worship & Mission Together



We also welcome back to James McMahon who takes over from Erin as the YMCA worker for Newbury. Thank you to Erin for her hard work and we pray God's blessing on her as she gets married and moves to Horsham.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Prayer for Newbury

Sunday 3rd November | 6pm
St Nicolas Church Newbury

Refreshments available

CTNA
Worship & Mission Together

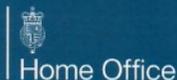


Children are being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime. Know the signs to spot.

County lines gangs use children and vulnerable people to courier drugs and money. A young person who is involved in county lines activity might exhibit some of these signs:

 <p>Persistently going missing from school or home, or being found out-of-area</p>	 <p>Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes or mobile phones</p>	 <p>excessive receipt of texts or phone calls</p>	 <p>Relationships with controlling, older individuals or gang association</p>	 <p>Leaving home or care without explanation</p>
 <p>Suspicion of self-harm, physical assault or unexplained injuries</p>	 <p>Parental concerns</p>	 <p>Significant decline in school performance</p>	 <p>Significant changes in emotional well-being</p>	

If you see something that doesn't feel right, or looks suspicious, concerning a child or young person you should report it to Thames Valley Police, online or call 101, or 999 in an emergency. Alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111



JPIT Newsletter



 The Church of Scotland

 The Methodist Church



Dear Friends,

At the Joint Public Issues Team, we want to see churches who are alive to justice, and empowered to act for change. We love hearing stories about how you're doing this on the ground, and seeing how change is happening in all kinds of ways.

This month, we've seen the power of collective action. Over 100 of you wrote to your MPs, and we finally received a reply from the PM to our letter expressing concerns about the effect of a no-deal Brexit on those locked in poverty. Our Church leaders have spent time at the Labour and Conservative Party Conferences, and you've started buying tickets to our conference. You can find out about all of this, and more, below.

However, we realise that being people who care about justice and peace has been particularly tricky over the last few months. There hasn't been much peace in UK political life, and the coming months do not look any less tumultuous.

In anticipation of this, we leave you with a prayer from Revd Dr Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference:

Lead our leaders, God of wisdom

guide them past the lure of power or self importance

keep their eyes focussed on the wellbeing of all people,

give them courage to tell the truth, empathy to listen

and enduring compassion for the voiceless.

When the paths of our opinions diverge,

the way seems treacherous or our criticism destructive

then, for heaven's sake,

call us all to account, to apology and to compassion

so that together we can be people of hope, truth, kindness and justice.



Location:
The Riverside Centre
Riverside Court
Derby

Ticket sales for our conference are now open!

We're really looking forward to welcoming you to Derby on 7 March 2020, to look at the big challenges we all face – rethinking economic structures and taking radical steps towards climate justice, and how we can all act – in faith, for people and for planet.

About this Event

Our environment is in crisis, inequality is growing, and yet our economic system seems fixated on endless growth, while politics is paralysed and coarsened by division.

How must our political and economic assumptions change in order to meet these challenges?

How can we model new ways of living as individuals and as churches?

How does our hope in God's future empower us to live a hopeful, abundant life on a planet with finite resources?

JPIT's 2020 national conference Renewal and Rebellion: faith, economy and climate invites you to join with us in looking at the big challenges our world faces, rethinking economic structures and taking radical steps towards climate justice, and how we can all act to bring lasting change – in faith, for people and for planet.

Through panel discussions, workshops, poetry, art and conversation, we hope to inspire and resource people to speak, pray and act boldly for justice and peace over the next decade.

You will need to choose a workshop to take part in at the conference. Full workshop descriptions can be found [here](#).

Keynote Speakers Include:

Ed Miliband, MP and co-host of 'Reasons to be Cheerful' podcast

Katherine Trebek, Wellbeing Economist

Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD

Anthony Reddie, Director of Oxford Centre of Religion and Culture

Ross Greer, Green Party MSP

You can find out more information about the conference, including a running order of the day and additional information about accessibility on our [website](#).

Unique. Symbolic Gifting

Did you know?

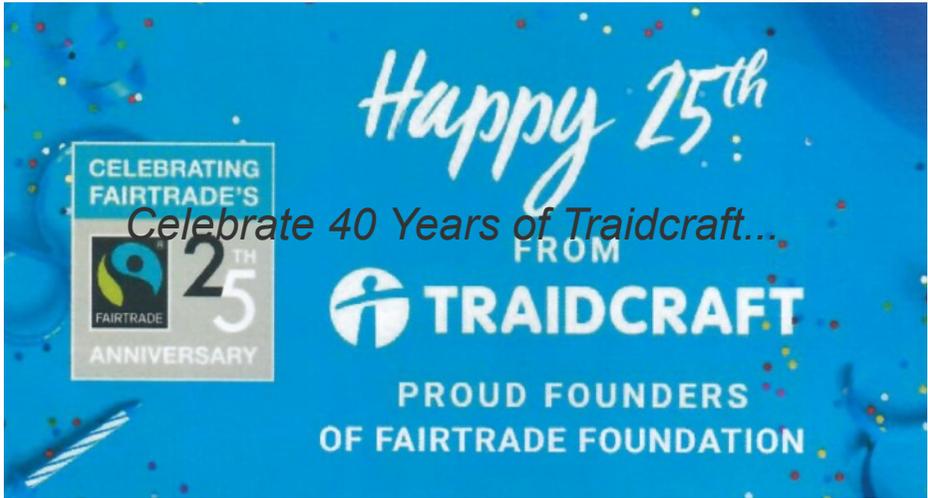
The average person in the UK uses 6 tonnes of carbon per year, which is way above the world average of 1.4 tonnes. One way we can offset our carbon output is to plant trees – so why not invest in an olive tree sapling in Palestine, to call your own?



Did you know?

It's 25 Years Since We Co-Founded the Fairtrade Mark.

That makes it the same age as The Lion King film, the Eurotunnel and TV series, Friends.



Ethical Gifting

Available from Traidcraft Website



Anniversary Bamboo E-Coffee Cup

Our tactile, rich navy, reusable coffee cup has been lovingly made from natural, rapidly renewable bamboo fibre, meaning that regardless of whether you're a flat white, cappuccino or latte-lover, you can choose to re-use wherever you go



A time travelling adventure to Egypt

Felpham Methodist Church

More than 100 young people aged 3-14 came together in Felpham, West Sussex for a time-travelling adventure to Egypt exploring the biblical story of Joseph through drama, crafts and games.

Over 40 volunteers from local churches joined the team to put on 'Felpham Holiday Special', which is run by Scripture Union, in partnership with churches and Christians. Originally held on the nearby beach, the event is now in its 101st year.

The Revd Dan Balsdon, Methodist minister at Felpham Methodist Church where many of the events were hosted, said, "We've had an amazing week with the young people who have shared fun and laughter as we explored the story of Joseph and considered what we can learn from the story to help us live our lives today. The team have been incredible, devoting their week to working with the young people."

EVANGELISM

Wickham Music Festival -Meon Valley Methodist Circuit

The Wickham Music Festival took place in the summer, a family friendly fun event in the Hampshire countryside.

The Elemental Tent, run by the Meon Valley Methodist Circuit, provided Celtic Christian outreach at the festival and a chance for rest and relaxation, a cuppa, a chat and cake. This is the fifth year the churches have brought the tent to the festival. The tent also offered arts and crafts, give-aways and was the venue for a harvest festival service. The festival takes on a different feel at night and each evening a labyrinth was installed outside the tent.

Martin Letts, senior steward at Swanmore Methodist Church who are part of Meon Valley Circuit, commented, "The sun always shines at Wickham Festival. This year it shone powerfully from morning till evening and people of all ages seem ready to smile, to chat, to befriend and to belong.

"We all have worries and have to face difficulties but we've all been given free choice. Sometimes we make good choices, sometimes not-so-good, so a chance to share thoughts with others can be helpful. That's where we came in, to listen, to pray and to help find answers to life's questions, big and small."



LEARNING AND CARING

Funstation - Banbury Methodist Circuit

“Funstation”, organised by Banbury Methodist Circuit, had young people racing to join them during the school holidays when a Scalextric track was among the activities on offer.



Alternating between the town centre church of Marlborough Road Methodist Church in Banbury and Hinton Methodist Church in the growing village of Woodford Halse, families of all ages came to enjoy activities, games and crafts. There was a baby and toddler area with soft play equipment and games for older children including air hockey, Lego and a giant Connect 4.

At Marlborough Road, the young people were able to play table tennis and even race against each other with Scalextric cars. The arts and craft activities had a biblical theme with the children making Pharaoh headdresses as well as calm down jars and friendship bracelets.

The activities were organised by volunteers from the churches who willingly give up their time and chatted with families. The summer of activities were all supported with prayer. As many as two hundred people visited per session with great feedback from those attending.

Julie Swann, Children and Families Worker for Banbury Circuit, commented, “While we are thrilled at the popularity of the events, we are very aware that it is not about numbers but about building relationships and being a first step into church, where we can build further ministry with families.”



SERVICE

Adavu, the 101st survivor - Birmingham Methodist District

The government estimates that there are between 10,000 and 13,000 victims of modern slavery in the UK. Other organisations, such as the Global Slavery Index, estimate that the figure could be tenfold that number.

Modern day slavery is when people are recruited, transported or harboured under threat, coercion, and deception for the purposes of being exploited - that exploitation could be sexual, labour, forced criminality or domestic servitude.

Adavu, a project led and supported by the Birmingham Methodist District, has been providing long-term support to survivors of modern slavery and raising awareness in the West Midlands since 2011. The values of the Adavu Project echo the Birmingham Methodist District beliefs - to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice. This summer, Adavu reached a milestone by helping their 101st survivor.

Survivors face financial, legal and emotional challenges alongside recovery as well as the physical effects of being exploited. Adavu's support workers meet with each client and, together, identify their immediate needs such as accommodation, clothing, food, access to healthcare and benefits. They then identify longer-term goals that may include higher education, employment or voluntary work and help survivors connect with local communities and organisations, cultural groups or places of worship.

Healing On The Streets

Please meet at 10:45am in Pret's (middle of Northbrook St)
for team prayers.

We will then minister in Northbrook Street
from 11am to 1pm.

Training provided on ,the day so all abilities,
from all churches are welcome.

2nd November, 7th December

Save the Date



**Christingle Pizza and
Praise**

Saturday 7th December

at 5pm

Wesley Hall

the connexion - Autumn 2019 issue is out!

The latest issue of the connexion magazine is out in hard copy and online. This issue includes articles by Tom Donaghue, Evangelist at Cliff College, on connecting people for God; Emma Nash, Mission and Community Engagement Officer, on leadership; and the Revd Roger Hides, Superintendent of Ceredigion Circuit, on how companionship and nourishing food is bringing people in Wales to God.



December 2019 Newsletter

Any information or articles for inclusion in this edition should be with me

No later than Sunday 24th November 2019

Email information should be sent to
newsletter@newburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Contact details:

Rev Peter Bennett-

Email : minister@newburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Senior Steward

Email : steward@newburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Other Email addresses can be found on our website.

Electronic Version of the Newsletter

Newsletter is now available and distributed in electronic format **in colour**. As we currently do not print the entire magazine in colour this is a great way to enjoy the it. If you have not already told me but would like it electronically instead of in paper hard copy format please let me know and I will add you to E-Mail distribution list

On our Website

You can now read the current and previous newsletters on our website at:

www.newburymethodistchurch.org.uk/newsletter

