

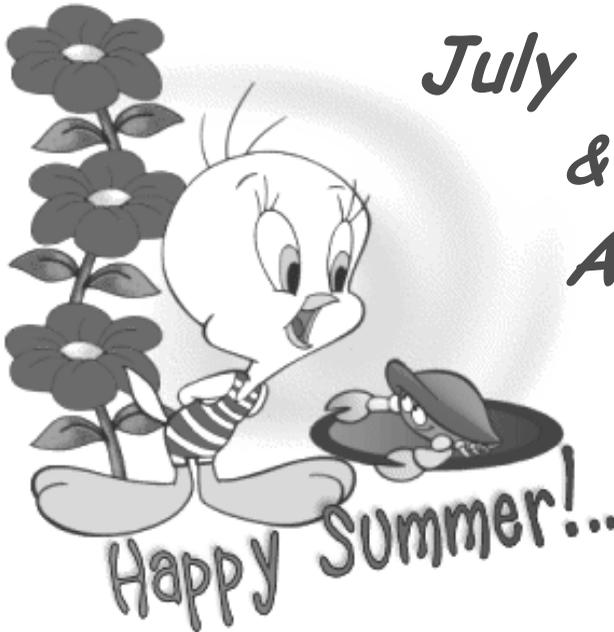
The Methodist Church
BANBURY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

2016

Circuit Website <http://www.banburycircuit.org.uk>

CIRCUIT MINISTERS

Rev Lin Francis ☎ 01295 262602 bancir@outlook.com
Rev Victoria Bravette ☎ 01295 709717 shalomvob@btinternet.com
Rev Chris Gaynor ☎ 01295 271403
Rev Lynda Spokes ☎ 01295 253508



July
&
August



DEADLINE for the **SEPTEMBER EDITION** is
TUESDAY 16 AUGUST

Please include contributions for events occurring up
to and including at least Sunday 16 **OCTOBER**

Send contributions to
Margaret Smith: 49 Queensway, Banbury OX16 9NF
circuitnews@emjay.org.uk or ☎ 01295 278841

Lin's Letter

Pray, pray, pray and pray again.

A little boy of 3 was with his family when I recently visited for a funeral planning conversation. His nanna told him to be quiet. On his asking why, she told him that everyone needed to listen to what this lady had to say. As you can imagine, he kept talking and we needed to talk and listen around him. Listening is about hearing, learning, and understanding, paying attention and attending to someone, which isn't always easy.

At the end of last month's newsletter I said: "My prayer for you is that together we might all continue to listen to his (God's) voice and have life in all its fullness". Being able to listen is a gift, listening is important but listening to God is vital. I wonder what attention you have given God and what you have heard him say to you this last month.

Prayer was the essence of Jesus Christ's relationship with the Father. He prayed for himself and his mission, and he continues to pray for all believers. He had a practice of prayer: He prayed regularly, He often prayed alone but not always. There were specific times in his life when he prayed – before his death, when he was on the cross, at his baptism, when he chose the apostles and before his transfiguration. When do you pray?

So, what characterised Jesus' prayers? He prayed in communion with God, we see this in Matt 6:9 with the words of the Lord's prayer and he also submitted himself to God's presence and with all of this he gave praise and thanks to his Father. What characterises your prayers and who and what do you pray for? The scope of Jesus Christ's prayers were wide ranging; praying for children, for his disciples, for his persecutors, for himself and for all believers.

In May's newsletter I talked to you about two groups that we were setting up as part of our Circuit review. One group looked to the future; exploring what the circuit is about, how its mission is to help the local chapels, and importantly how can we see the next years pan out. The second group looked at new and different ways of serving God. These meetings were productive. The minutes/notes that were taken are available to everyone, so if you would like to see them, do please let me know. One thing that came from both of these meetings was that we need to be praying for this circuit and for all our churches and chapels.

We all know that Jesus taught his followers about prayer and continued his ministry of prayer throughout his life. The circuit leadership team has talked about how we can help you with your prayer life. To this end we have created three prayer cards, one for each of the partnerships in this circuit, hopefully by now you will have received yours, if not please chase me up. These prayer cards will be written and issued each quarter. In the

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

next quarter we hope that each church will write their own prayers, letting Victoria or myself have them.

Let us all continue to pray as Jesus does, pray for the future of God's work in this place.

"Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus". 1 Thessalonians 5: 17

May God continue to bless you.



July and August Lectionary Readings 2016

July 3

2 Kings 5: 1-14

Psalms 30

Galatians 6: (1-6) 7-16

Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

July 10

Amos 7: 7-17

Psalms 82

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

July 17

Amos 8: 1-12

Psalms 52

Colossians 1: 15-28

Luke 10: 38-42

July 24

Hosea 1: 2-10

Psalms 85

Colossians 2: 6-15 (16-19)

Luke 11: 1-13

July 31

Hosea 11: 1-11

Psalms 107: 1-9, 43

Colossians 3: 1-11

Luke 12: 13-21

August 7

Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20

Psalms 50: 1-8, 22-23

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

August 14

Isaiah 5: 1-7

Psalms 80: 1-2, 8-19

Hebrews 11: 29-12: 2

Luke 12: 49-56

August 21

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Psalms 71: 1-6

Hebrews 12: 18-29

Luke 13: 10-17

August 28

Jeremiah 2: 4-13

Psalms 81: 1, 10-16

Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

Luke 14: 1, 7-14



MARLBOROUGH ROAD

CAMEO

(Come And Meet Each Other)

Meeting at 2.30pm

on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month
in the Wesley Room.

Men and women of any age are welcome
to share in a varied programme.

Money raised goes to the
'Methodist Church World Mission Fund'.

14 Sept Communion: Rev V Bravette

28 Sept AGM and Members Afternoon

Although held at Marlborough Road, this
meeting has members from other churches.

Why not come and join with us???

Singing the Faith Drop-In

Saturday 2 July - 10.00am to 12.30pm

An informal occasion, led by Tony Swift
and the Marlborough Road Music Group.

The aim is to give an opportunity to hear
and learn some of the songs/hymns in
our new hymnbook.

It will take the form of an hour (10am-11am)
singing, half an hour refreshment break and
then another hour (11.30am-12.30pm)
singing.

Come into town, do your shopping and drop
in for a sing and a coffee, stay the whole
morning or just a part - as suits you.



Piano & Organ Recital

Saturday 23 July at 11.00am

Tony Swift will be playing many kinds of
music - requested by members of the
congregation.

The Recital will be followed by Lunch.

Tickets: Recital only (Yellow) £5

Recital & Lunch (Blue) £8

To help with the catering, please buy your
lunch tickets at least a week in advance.
Proceeds to Marlborough Road Church Funds.

NEITHROP

Chapel Fellowship

Wednesdays - 7.30pm

Enquires to Valerie Gainsley

vjgainsley@uwclub.net ☎ 01295 369244

6 Jul Favourite Hymns

20 Jul Christine Lester: Craft
Making something (not too difficult)

3 Aug Samaritans

17 Aug Margaret & Jeff Smith
Slides of the Scottish Borders

31 Aug Tabletop Games

14 Sept Harvest

EASINGTON

Summer Chapel Fund-Raiser

Cream Teas & Stalls

Saturday 2 July

2.00pm to 4.00pm

Cakes, Crafts & Gifts

Handmade Greetings Cards

We extend a warm invitation to our friends
around the circuit - bring your family, friends
and neighbours



Ladies' Fellowship

Tuesdays at 2.30pm

A varied programme of speakers, quizzes
and slide-presentations is followed by
a chat over light refreshments.

All are welcome

Second-hand Collection

Are you planning a summer clear out?

Do you have any unwanted

CLOTHES HANDBAGS SHOES

We collect all of the above and have been
successfully recycling them to raise funds
for our chapel.

If you have anything you would like to
donate, or would like to organize a
collection for your chapel, contact Archie
Buzzard ☎ 01295 258817

MIDDLETON CHENEY

All Saints and Methodist Churches

Strawberry Fayre

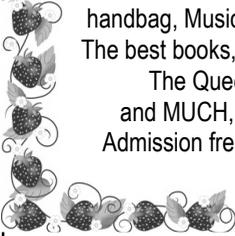
Saturday 16 July from 2.00pm to 4.30pm

Strawberry cream teas, Competitions,
Raffle, Stalls, Games,

Exhibitions: To include 'A Queen for All
Ages' - displays by the village on aspects of
Her Majesty over 90 years.

Find out what's in the Queen's
handbag, Music from the decades,
The best books, Royal Residences,
The Queen's animals
and MUCH, MUCH MORE.

Admission free, all proceeds to
All Saints and the
Methodist Church



HINTON at WOODFORD HALSE

Come and join with us for a

Free coffee, tea, cakes and biscuits

First Saturday every month,
10.00 am - 12 noon.

You may also buy gifts for a chosen charity.

*The Stagecoach bus number 200 stops
right outside Hinton Methodist Church.*

St Mary Woodford & Hinton Methodist

Royal Afternoon Tea

Saturday 23 July - 3.00pm
at **Hinton Methodist Church**

Sandwiches, Cakes & Tea

Squash for the children

Adults £5 - Children £1



CHACOMBE

Coffee n' Chat in the Schoolroom

Friday 8 July: 10.30am - 12 noon

Chacombe Anniversary

&

Queen's 90th Birthday

Saturday 9 July at 2.30pm

Plant Sale/Book Sale et
Followed by Cream Tea

&

'Stroll Through the Sixties'

An hour of live No.1 Songs & Recollections
of being a Banbury schoolboy in the 60s.
Reminiscences welcome and valued from
those of a certain age.
Concluding Raffle

*Dedicated to those who never even
got close to Woodstock!*

CROPREDY

Coffee with Bring-and-Buy

2nd Friday every month 10.30am - 12 noon
includes

Combined Church/Chapel Fairtrade Stall

Chapel Anniversary

Sunday 3 July at 10.30am

Preacher: Rev Barry Lawless

Tea/Coffee & Biscuits to follow

Praise Evenings - 7.00pm

Wed 27 July: Patricia Haley

Wed 25 August: Hazel Staggs

Fairport Festival: 11-13 August

At the Methodist Chapel

from 9.00am to 3.00pm

Bread & Soup

and lots of goodies

It would be nice to see you.

Everybody welcome at all our events

Faith and Boulders

A flightless bird called Faith began to carry boulders;
For years she took these weights strapped between her shoulders;
And as you might expect the sweat poured like a fountain,
But only time will tell if Faith can move a mountain.





GREATWORTH

We would like to invite friends from around the circuit to join with us for our **Annual Tea Party** on the afternoon of **Saturday 13 August**, from **3 o'clock** onwards. It is a very sociable occasion with dainty sandwiches, lovely cakes and other delights. We would love to welcome you.

We would also like to thank those who joined with us for our concert in June. It was very successful and raised an appreciable amount for the funds. We appreciate your support.

ADDERBURY

Picture Shows are Back

Advance notice of a date for your diaries. ***Northern Adventure - Into the Arctic Winter*** is the title of Val Trinder's next picture show, which will be on **Friday 14 October** in Adderbury Methodist Church at **7.30pm**.

There will be light refreshments and any donations will go to WaterAid.

Come and see some spectacular views of dramatic mountains, wild vistas and the northern lights; there's even a husky ride!

Val's cards and her 2017 calendar will also be on sale.

The Bible in Fifty Words

God made
Adam bit
Noah arked
Abraham split
Joseph ruled
Jacob fooled
Bush talked
Moses balked
Pharaoh plagued
People walked
Sea divided
Tablets guided
Promise landed
Saul freaked
David peaked
Prophets warned
Jesus born
God walked
Love talked
Anger crucified
Hope died
Love rose
Spirit flamed
Word spread
God remained

(Anon)

Quiet Day at Chacombe Chapel

Tuesday 2 August - 10.00am - 3.00pm

GLIMPING GOD IN PEOPLE

A day of shared worship and reflection led by Hazel Stagg ☎01295 660 294

We will be looking at Old and New Testament stories so please bring your favourite Bible.

Tea provided but please bring a packed lunch.

The programme will be in three parts so please feel free to attend part of the day only if you prefer.



LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

LAs are the responsibility of church stewards but may be led by any member of a congregation. If you would like help in knowing how to organise an LA, or if you want to know where to find worship resources, come to Fairway.

On **Wednesday 27 July 2016** between **2.00pm and 4.00pm** in the new Fairway Church there will be time set aside to help and resource you.

Lin Francis: Circuit Superintendent

A SPECIAL DAY

Sunday, 3 July will be a special day for the Banbury Circuit, but more especially for Rev John Mills, who spent much of his early life in this circuit.

At the Methodist Conference, which this year is being held in London, John will be ordained.

Many people in the Banbury Circuit will remember John's connections with Marlborough Road in particular. John's father, Jim Mills, was a Local Preacher in the Circuit and caretaker at Marlborough Road for two periods, around 1966 to 1970 and then around 1980 to 1990. His mother, Zoe Mills, also known for her nursing career at the Horton Hospital, was a member and regular worshiper at Marlborough Road until her death in May 2013.

Latterly John along with his wife Anita and three children, lived on Cyprus where John taught at the military school for the children of those serving in the British Forces. It was from Cyprus that John first did his Local Preacher training and then actually candidated for the ministry from Banbury Circuit. It was here he did the practical work in order to complete his portfolio and during that period, and since, John has led worship and preached at many of our churches.

After training at Wesley House, Cambridge, John was stationed to the East Solent and Downs Circuit, living in Southsea on the edge of Portsmouth.

Now, having completed his two years of probationary service and studies, he has been recommended for ordination. So on Sunday 3 July, John and all the other Ordinands from around the country will be "Received into Full Connexion" at Westminster Central Hall at 10.45am. Then in the afternoon, along with ten other Ordinands, he will be ordained at Chelmsford Cathedral at 4.30pm. There will be other ordinations taking place at St Marylebone Parish Church; St Margaret's Church, Westminster; Surbiton Hill Methodist Church; Wesley's Chapel; and Hinde Street Methodist Church. Altogether there will be forty-two Ordinands.

Your prayers are requested for all those who are going forward for ordination, but especially for John Mills, as he embarks on this next stage of his development and ministry, both on Sunday 3 July and also in the future.

*Rev Rob Anning
Supernumerary Minister, Rugby and Daventry Circuit.*



Circuit Supper Club

You will no doubt remember reading in the May newsletter that the leaders of the Circuit Supper Club were retiring and we were looking for new leaders.

Sadly, **nobody** has come forward to help take on this responsibility, so it looks as if this work will come to an end. I am sure that like me, you feel that we need to test if this is God's will. Please pray that if this supper and speaker work is of God's will, volunteers will come forward. If you feel that God is calling you to lead this, not to do the cooking but to head up this club, then please let me know ASAP.

If I haven't heard from anyone before the end of July I will contact all those who have previously enjoyed this fellowship to let them know that the Supper Club has finished.

Lin Francis ☎ 01295 262602



The Arthur Rank Centre
Supporting Rural Communities and Churches



Last year at the Arthur Rank Centre we began 'Rural Mission Sunday', a real opportunity for rural churches to celebrate who they are and give thanks for their community. This year the date for 'Rural Mission Sunday' is 17 July, but you can mark this at any time over the summer to suit you and those you work with. The 2016 theme is 'Sow and Grow', so why not celebrate the seeds you sow as a church?

Material may be found at:

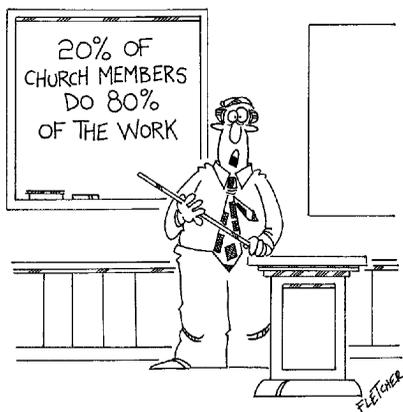
<http://arthurrankcentre.org.uk/about-arc/support-arc/item/9407-rural-mission-sunday>

More Laughing Methodists

Does anyone have a spare used copy of Val Trinder's book "*More laughing Methodists*" please?

The title is now out of print but we still receive the occasional request to buy one. Rather than disappoint our prospective buyers, it would be good to be able to offer them second hand copies if there are any unwanted ones around. If you can help please speak to Val ☎ 01295 811139, or by email at val.trinder@btinternet.com

Thank you.



"So, how do we get that 20% to press on to greater achievement?"

What's going on in Heaven?

A newly arrived soul in Heaven was met by St Peter. St Peter and the soul took the A-tour around Heaven. They walked side-by-side inside a large work room filled with angels. St Peter stopped in front of the first section and said "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received." The soul looked at the section, it was terribly busy with many angels sorting out petitions written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world.

They continued on until they reached the second section. St Peter told the soul "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the living persons who asked for them". The soul noted again how busy it was. There were many angels working hard at that station because so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally, at the farthest corner of the room, they stopped at a very small station. To the surprise of the soul, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgement Section" St Peter told the soul. "How is it that there's no work here?" asked the soul. "So sad," St Peter sighed, "after people receive the blessing they asked for, very few send acknowledgements." "How does one acknowledge God's blessing?" asked the soul. "Simple," St Peter answered, "Just say, "Thank you, Lord"." "What blessings should they acknowledge?" asked the soul:

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet and spare change in a dish you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness you are more blessed than the millions who will not even survive this week.

If you have never experienced the fear of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation you are ahead of 700 million people in the world.

If your parents are still alive and still married, you are very rare.

If you can hold your head up and smile, you are more blessed than all those in doubt and despair.

If you can read this article you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

"Have a good day, count your blessings, and if you want, pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are."

For the attention of the Acknowledgement Section:

"Thank you Lord!" "Thank you for giving me the ability to share this message and for giving me so many wonderful people with whom to share it."



WHICH BOOKS?

How did you do in last month's quiz? Here are the answers. . . .

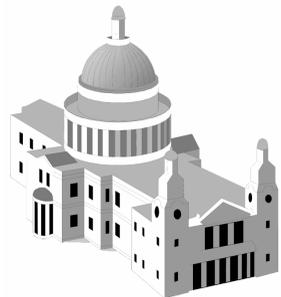
1. Officials who hear and decide.....Judges
2. Records of events in order of time..... Chronicles
3. To take particular notice Mark
4. Short, familiar sentences Proverbs
5. A piece of work Job
6. An outgoing..... Exodus
7. Divisions of a play Acts
8. Jews..... Hebrews
9. Monarchs Kings
10. Disclosures Revelation
11. Figures..... Numbers
12. Expressions of grief Lamentations

CATHEDRALS

Can you identify the Cathedrals from the clues given below?

Example: To inter a saint Bury St Edmunds

1. He marched them up and down
2. Floating offal
3. The Queen's box
4. Not good to be sent here
5. A shade of green?
6. A Victorian Prime Minister
7. A well know English cheese
8. Get up in a meadow
9. A breed of cattle
10. A little bird's monument
11. Person - a part of the body - hesitation
12. A Saxon isle
13. 1st March
14. A murky stream
15. A good place to fast
16. A cowboy's weapon
17. Where townswomen cross the water
18. A famous rabbit's home
19. An apple
20. Rangers at home





DATES for your DIARY

Further details - elsewhere in this newsletter

Tip: To keep the dates readily available,
pin this page to your home notice board

(MC = Methodist Church)

- Jul 2 10.00-12noon..... Coffee Morning Hinton MC at Woodford Halse
 Jul 2 10.30am-4pm..... Flower Festival Final Day St Leonard's Church
 Jul 2 10am-12.30pm..... Singing the Faith Drop-in Marlborough Rd MC
 Jul 2 2pm-4pm..... Cream Teas & Stalls..... Easington MC

Jul 3 Ordinations

- Jul 3 10.30am..... Chapel Anniversary Cropredy MC
 Jul 6 7.30pm..... Chapel Fellowship Neithrop MC
 Jul 8 10.00-12noon..... Coffee with Bring-&-Buy Cropredy MC
 Jul 8 10.30-12noon..... Coffee n'Chat..... Chacombe MC
 Jul 9 2.30pm..... Anniversary & Queen's 90th Birthday..... Chacombe MC

Including 'Stroll Through the Sixties'

- Jul 16 2pm-4pm..... Strawberry Fayre Middleton Cheney MC

Jul 17 Rural Mission Sunday

- Jul 20 7.30pm..... Chapel Fellowship Neithrop MC
 Jul 23 11.00am..... Organ/Piano Recital & Lunch Marlborough Rd MC
 Jul 23 3.00pm..... Royal Afternoon Tea..... Hinton MC
 Jul 27 2pm-4pm..... LA Resources Fairway MC
 Jul 27 7.00pm..... Praise Evening Cropredy MC
 Aug 2 10.am-3pm..... Quiet Day..... Chacombe MC
 Aug 3 10.00-12noon..... Coffee Morning Hinton MC at Woodford Halse
 Aug 3 7.30pm..... Chapel Fellowship Neithrop MC
 Aug 9 10.00-12noon..... Coffee with Bring-&-Buy Cropredy MC
 Aug 11-13. 9am-3pm..... Fairport: Bread & Soup Plus..... Cropredy MC
 Aug 13 3.00pm..... Annual Tea Party..... Greatworth MC
 Aug 17 7.30pm..... Chapel Fellowship Neithrop MC
 Aug 25 7.00pm..... Praise Evening Cropredy MC
 Aug 31 7.30pm..... Chapel Fellowship Neithrop MC
 Sep 14 2.30pm..... CAMEO Wesley Room, Marlborough Road MC
 Sep 14 7.30pm..... Chapel Fellowship Neithrop MC

Regular Weekly Meetings

- Tues 2.30pm Ladies Fellowship..... Easington MC