

THE METHODIST CHURCH BANBURY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER JULY/AUGUST 2012

Looking Forward!

Rev Rob Anning, Superintendent Minister, writes:

My first Superintendent Minister told me that July and August were always quiet months and so I should use them for rest and recuperation. I have never found that to be the case although I always felt I could do with the rest! Yes, certainly things change during the Summer, with fewer meetings, but the space created is a space for reflecting on the past, considering where we are up to at the present and thinking of where we need to be in the future.

This Summer will be no different as the Circuit Leadership Team begin to plan and prepare for the Autumn of 2014. What? I hear you say, 2014, why plan so far ahead? Well, in 2014 the Circuit have already agreed to drop from two-and-a-half ministers to two ministers. Rev Dorothy Hewitson will be completing her three-year half-time appointment. I myself will be retiring but will hopefully be replaced.

All this means that things will have to be different. So the time between now and Autumn 2014 needs to be used wisely to plan, prepare and adjust ourselves to a new shape and pattern of being Banbury Circuit.

The Circuit Leadership Team have already entered into discussions about this. At this stage, everything is exploratory, nothing is set in concrete. In the end, it will be the Circuit Meeting which will have to agree and approve any changes. But it is the view of the Circuit Leadership Team that we cannot afford to leave things to the last minute and we cannot afford to stay as we are.

So what might the changes involve?

- Greater use of lay leadership in pastoral care, leading worship and chairing meetings.
- Churches being paired together: one church with two buildings.
- Combining of church councils for paired churches.
- More sharing with our ecumenical partners, such as the Church of England.
- Grouping our churches into smaller geographical areas in order to support each other.
- Sharing resources with our neighbouring circuits.

These are only ideas at this stage, and the Circuit Leadership Team does not claim to have all the ideas or answers.

So we are asking everyone in the Circuit to “get your thinking caps on”, use your imaginations, and let the ministers and circuit stewards have your thoughts and ideas. Use those spare moments that the Summer might offer to reflect and think. And, of course, pray for our Circuit and it’s future.

CREATING SAFER SPACE

The final training opportunity for all those throughout the Circuit who are required to undertake Safeguarding Training because of their role in the church will take place at Upper Boddington Chapel, on Thursday, 5th July starting at 7pm (please note the start time).

If you have not yet completed the 2½ hour foundation training session, then please do try to make it to this final session.

If you have any problems regarding non-attendance or transport, please ring Les Kelland, or Hazel Stagg, or Rob Anning. (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)

The list of those who are required to attend, provided centrally by the Methodist Church, is as follows:

Presbyters with an active preaching or pastoral ministry
Lay employees & Volunteer Workers with pastoral responsibility
Pastoral Visitors
Anyone working with 0 – 18 year olds in the name of the church
Anyone working in activities targeted at adults who are vulnerable (e.g. luncheon club for the housebound)
Church stewards
Circuit stewards
Local preachers
Worship leaders
Those training for local preaching or worship leading
Church and circuit safeguarding representatives
Choir/music group/drama leaders – where there are 0-18 year olds or vulnerable adults in the group.

Warmly invited but not mandatory

Leaders of other organisations, working with 0-18 year olds or vulnerable adults, who use church premises
Remaining Choir/music group/drama leaders
Any other group leaders within the church, who may have adults within their particular group who are vulnerable
Property stewards and other keyholders
Caretakers
Church/circuit meeting secretaries

CIRCUIT SERVICES

Greatworth, at 6pm on 22nd July and the Covenant Service at Marlborough Road at 10.30am on 2nd September.

HOW TO LEAD A “LOCAL ARRANGEMENT” SERVICE

This session in the “How to do it” series of seminars has been arranged for Wednesday 18th July at Middleton Cheney, assemble at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. The session is aimed at church stewards and anyone involved in leading services designated as “Local Arrangement” on the plan, but anyone interested is welcome to attend. The session will be led by Val Trinder, Circuit Local Preachers’ Tutor and will include interactive discussion and practical exercises. If you would like to attend, please let Val know (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)

CIRCUIT QUIET DAY

Theme: 'STUMBLING BLOCKS
AND STEPPING STONES'
Venue: Wroxton Methodist Church
Date: Saturday, 22nd September
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

The cost for the day will be £5. Please bring your own packed lunch. We will 'picnic' together at lunchtime, as we share fellowship. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available throughout the day. There will also be ample opportunity to enjoy a stroll around the village and visit the ducks on the pond!

If you would like to book a place, please let me know. I should like to have firm bookings and your contribution towards the cost of the day by Tuesday, 11th September.

Dorothy Hewitson

HOLIDAY CLUBS SUMMER 2012

Indoor Sports, Bible teaching, craft activities for children aged 5-11, older ones most warmly invited as helpers.

GOING FOR GOLD led by Middleton Cheney Anglicans in the Methodist Church, afternoons of the week, 23rd – 27th July. Please contact Hazel Stagg or Jenny Smith (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)

ON YOUR MARKS at Upper Boddington Methodist Church, mornings of the week 20th – 24th August. Please contact Hazel Stagg or Audrey Ellis (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2012

July 1st

Wisdom of Solomon
1:13 – 15; 2:23 – 24 or
Lamentations 3:23 - 33
Psalm 30
2 Corinthians 6:7 – 15
Mark 5:21 - 43

July 8th

Ezekiel 2:1 – 5
Psalm 123
2 Corinthians 12:2 – 10
Mark 6:1 – 13

July 15th

Amos 7:7 – 15
Psalm 85:8 – 13
Ephesians 1:3 – 14
Mark 6:14 – 29

July 22nd

Jeremiah 23:1 – 6
Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11 – 22
Mark 6:30 – 34, 53 – 56

July 29th

2 Kings 4:42 – 44
Psalm 145:10 – 18
Ephesians 3:14 – 21
John 6:1 – 21

August 5th

Exodus 16:2 – 4, 9 – 15
Psalm 78:23 – 29
Ephesians 4:1 – 16
John 6:24 – 35

August 12th

1 Kings 19:4 – 8
Psalm 34:1 – 8
Ephesians 4:25- 5:2
John 6: 35, 41 – 51

August 19th

Proverbs 9:1 – 6
Psalm 34:9 – 14
Ephesians 5:15 – 20
John 6:51 – 58

August 26th

Joshua 24:1 – 2a, 14 – 18
Psalm 34:15 – 22
Ephesians 6:10 – 20
John 6:56 – 69

August 30th

Deuteronomy 4:1 - 2, 6 – 9
Psalm 15
James 1:17 – 27
Mark 7:1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 - 23

50 YEARS SERVICE

Congratulations to Madeline Gibbins on receiving her 50 years award from Girlguiding UK, for her work in Guiding at Marlborough Road. Well done and may you enjoy many more years with Banbury Afternoon Trefoil Guild.

CIRCUIT SUPPER CLUB

The Circuit Supper Clubs starts again on Thursday 27th September with our new Caterers, Georgina Smith, of Devour Versatile Catering. Speaker: Our rural Churches and Community Co-ordinator Mr Michael King speaking on his experiences abroad working with different Christian Communities.

Thursday 25th October – Speaker: Mr Mark Billen on ‘Creating Books for Children’. He has been recommended and the evening should appeal particularly to those with young grandchildren.

Thursday 22nd November – Speaker: Mr Andrew Harter and his wife on the formation and work of their special School for youngsters with behavioural problems and touching on their work with ex Prisoners.

Further details of speakers and subjects for 24th January, 28th February and 28th March to follow. Possibility of a trip on the Oxford Canal and a visit to Bletchley Park if we can get enough interest see you in September.

ADDERBURY

A talk will be given on Thomas Chippendale the cabinet maker

By David Gibbard

On Wednesday, 11th July at 7.30pm

All funds raised will go to Adderbury Methodist Chapel

Everyone is welcome

BODICOTE PRAISE EVENINGS

Leaving behind us the cold and dark evenings (we hope!), Praise Evenings have started up again in the chapel. These are an informal time of hymn singing, prayers and readings, lasting an hour, followed by tea or coffee. All are welcome to share with us, so please come and (if you can) bring a friend.

Forthcoming dates are as follows: Friday 20th July, and Friday 31st August commencing at 7.30pm.

Dorothy Hewitson

CHACOMBE

Coffee Morning

Our weekly Coffee Mornings are now being held on Friday mornings from 10.30am – 12.00 noon in the Schoolroom. These meetings are very popular, an ideal opportunity to get together for a chat over a cuppa and a delicious piece of homemade cake.

Everyone welcome.

Bible Study

We have enjoyed some interesting and lively sessions led by Hazel with a variety of takers. We are now going to have a short break but there will still be an ongoing study group to be held at a different venue for anyone who is interested. Further details contact Hazel Stagg.

CROPREDY

Praise evening 24th July at 7 pm lead by Hazel Stagg

Fairport Soup Kitchen at Cropredy Chapel open from 9 am to 3pm Thursday to Saturday 9th to 11th August

All proceeds to Chapel funds

GREATWORTH

Since last November we have been having an "Open Doors" session every Monday morning from 10 o'clock until midday. A variety of activities are on offer including carpet bowls, jig-saws, board games etc. and there are refreshments: friends from the circuit are warmly invited to come along to any session.

Jubilee – On the Sunday we had a well attended joint service with the Church of England in a marquee and led by Rev Rob Anning. It was the special put together by Churches Together. Thanks to Rob for fitting us in to his busy schedule for the day. We all enjoyed it. On Monday and Tuesday of this weekend the Chapel and the Greathworth Craft Group held a very successful Art and Craft Exhibition. There is a wealth of artistic talent in Greatworth. Thanks to all who helped.

**HINTON METHODIST & ST MARY'S CHURCH COFFEE MORNINGS
WOODFORD HALSE**

Gods love is free so is our coffee and tea (And cakes and biscuits!)
You'll be very welcome to come and relax and chat between 10 and 12 o'clock in
Hinton Methodist Church on the first Saturday of every month

HORNTON

Coffee mornings are continuing on Friday mornings 10:30 – 12 noon and are proving to be very popular. 'Jiffy Services' are held in Chapel 1st Sunday in month at 3:30 pm and Thursday 'After School Club' is from 3:30 – 5 pm.

Yard Sale, Saturday 7th July at Langway Villa, Bell Street, Hornton from 11am - 2pm. Books, Bric a Brac, Cakes, Bring and Buy. Refreshments including hot dogs. Come along snap up a bargain and enjoy the garden. Proceeds for Hornton Methodist church funds.

MARLBOROUGH ROAD THURSDAY CLUB 7.30 pm

5th July – Meal out (venue to be advised)
2nd August – Evening in Shirley's garden
6th September – AGM & faith supper (bring along a dish to share with others)

Enquiries: – Shirley Davies, *(contact steward or see paper copy for contact details)*

MIDDLETON CHENEY

We still have no organist, and Nigel Souch programmes our hymnal machine each week for Sunday service. Would preachers please send by e-mail nigjon7@aol.com or telephone 01295 275334 by Friday evening at the very latest their choice of hymns. An order of service in advance, and as Nigel does not read music, it would also be helpful if the preferred tunes are noted for him too please. Please contact Iris Bean on 01295 710681 if you require readers. Thank you very much!

UPPER BODDINGTON

Thank you to friends from the Circuit who came along to our annual sale of plants. At the end of the sale £1854 had been raised and, as we are still selling plants at the time of writing, we hope that figure will continue to increase. The money raised will be used to pay for running costs of our Church such as insurance and electricity.

Thank you, too, to people who supported the three coffee mornings we held to raise funds for the Hosannah Children's Home in India. The money from the coffee mornings together with the collection at our Anniversary Songs of Praise evening raised £802 and a cheque for that amount has been sent to the Home.

On July 14th we will be having a coffee morning, together with our Anglican friends, to raise funds for Christian Aid. The event will take place in the Chapel schoolroom, 10am - 11.30am. There will be a cake stall and 'bring & buy' stall. Please call in for coffee and a chat if you are in this area at that time.

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other)

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons each month except July and August at Marlborough Road at 2.30 pm and welcome Men and Women of any age to share a varied programme. The money we raise goes to the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission. We will resume on Wednesday 12th September.

DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER EDITION

THURSDAY 9TH AUGUST

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARY TANNER,

(contact steward or see paper copy for contact details)