

THE METHODIST CHURCH BANBURY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2014

Remember, Remember.....

At a funeral before I moved here in August, I was told that the family had discovered that they had celebrated their mother's eightieth birthday a year late! She obviously didn't want her son to know how old she really was. Funerals are often a time of reminiscing, and families discover all sorts of information about their loved ones. The date of the birthday, the actual 'real' name and place of birth are typical pieces of information which are found to be different than previously known.

November is the month in which we seem to have to remember all sorts of things and often, there seems to be slight anomalies. Here in the West we observe the feast of All Saints Day on 1 November, to celebrate all Christian Saints, known and unknown. It was apparently originally kept on the first Sunday after Pentecost, as it still is in the East. All Souls' Day is the commemoration day of the souls of the faithful departed, on 2 November, the day after All Saints Day. My previous Circuit held an All Saints' Day Memorial Service on the 1 November each year. Is it me, or shouldn't this be on 2 November? Ours here, makes more sense. So please do come to Marlborough Road on Sunday 2 November at 6.00pm for our Remembrance/Memorial service.

Remembrance Sunday is celebrated on 11 November. In association with the British Legion we traditionally remember those who died whilst serving their country in the two World Wars. As society has changed and more conflicts have been fought, we now remember all who have died in all conflicts.

As society has changed and the needs of people who mourn and grieve are brought into the public eye, many resources have been written. The Churches Together publication – 'Beyond our Tears' is one such excellent book. Within all the commemorations of various tragedies; including Dunblane and the Soham murders, the Christian message of hope and of God's comforting love stands out. The Bible Society have produced a book called 'Hear my Cry' a book for when there are no words. People who do not come into the Church, except on occasions like funerals, are searching for help. As practising Christians, we need all the help we can get, in order to help those who grieve.

Within our Communion Service we use symbols and words to help us remember Our Lord; words which tell of his death, resurrection and ascension and symbols to be used as an act of remembrance.

Remembering comes in all sorts of ways, but we must do this with a sense of thanksgiving along with the sorrow that inevitably exists.

So as we journey through November, remember what you have to remember, but do so knowing the words from Romans 8: 35-39 'Nothing can separate us from the love of God.'

With every blessing, Lin

THANK YOU

As I write this, I have been retired for six weeks. It has been a busy time: there are still lots of jobs to do on the house; I have bought another motorbike and ridden it a bit; Pat and I have attended two funerals of family and friends (one in the Isle of Man); we have had my mother-in-law stay with us for a week; and of course, we have been trying out some new churches in the Rugby and Daventry Circuit, discovering different ways of welcoming strangers, and learning to worship again, now from the pews. It has been a hectic few weeks.

Pat and I would like to thank everyone in the Banbury Circuit for the wonderful farewell service which was held at Hornton. We both found it an emotional occasion but a necessary part of saying goodbye and dealing with the grief of leaving a group of people we have lived and worked with for the last five years; people we have grown to love.

We want to say “thank you” for the generous monetary gift that you gave us, which was a real surprise in its size, and for the many individual gifts which we received from people around the Circuit.

Finally, a big “thank you” for putting up with me for the last five years as your Superintendent Minister. Both Pat and I have nothing but happy memories of Banbury Circuit, for your care of us, for the encouragement and support given in carrying out my ministry, and for opening up yourselves, sometimes in intimate and personal ways, and allowing me in to your lives.

We do hope we will meet you all again in the future.

Rob and Pat Anning.

CIRCUIT SUPPER CLUB

The next circuit supper club meets on Thursday, 27th November at 7 for 7.30 pm at Marlborough Road Methodist Church. Our speaker is the Rev Wendy Biddington telling us about the work of Green Pastures, a Christian Care Home and its rebuilding in the centre of Banbury.

Please book with David Hughes on 01295 253891 by Monday, 24th November at the latest for yourselves and any friends who will be welcome. The cost per head to include a two course meal and speakers expenses is £10 per head. If anyone is only able to come for the talk please arrive by 8.25 pm and just make a contribution towards expenses.

Again I am appealing for car drivers who can offer one or two seats in their car, please ring Vernon Hurst on 01327 702565 with your name and telephone number so I can get back to you.

COMMUNION WINE

Communion Wine is now available for those who require it, from Marlborough Road Church. There is a box of wine in the minister’s vestry. The cost is £5 per bottle. Please sign the notebook and put the money in the bank bag provided. I would appreciate if you could let me know when there are only 6 bottles remaining, so that I can order new stock. Any queries please contact me – Carole Vincent – Senior Communion Steward – 01295 720809 – carolejv@freeuk.com

Kidlington Methodist Church

presents the



**British Methodist
Youth Choir**



in concert



Saturday, November 29

7.30pm

Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 2BP

Tickets

£7 (concessions £5)

available from

01865 373958 or malcolm.bromhall@gmail.com



British Methodist Youth Choir
A Mission in Song

REPORT FROM SEPTEMBER SYNOD

Synod met on Saturday 20th September. Banbury Circuit was represented by four people. The Synod welcomed a new Secretary, Rev Alan Bolton.

Synod reflected on matters discussed at Conference: There will be a review of church buildings and societies by the newly appointed Director of Mission. Safeguarding: all ministers must attend Leadership training this year. Conference decided not to promote boycott or sanctions but to apply prayer and reflection concerning the difficult situation in Israel/ Palestine. Conference strongly encourages Anglicans and Methodists to work together where possible; to plan mission and worship together, and share deployment of ministry and other resources.

In addition, the District notes that: It is proposed that Local Preacher training be changed. The working hours of the District Safeguarding Officer have been increased and a Safeguarding chaplain, Rev. Dr. Brenda Mosedale, appointed. Many churches have not completed their annual property returns; District grants are likely to be withheld where returns are outstanding. Synod paused in silent prayer over the same sex marriages issue.

Hazel Stagg

ITEMS REQUIRING A NEW HOME

We have some items in Wroxton chapel which need a new home. If anyone would like first refusal on anything on the list, please give me a ring on 01295 252251 and we will arrange a collection or delivery of said items.

Water urn	First Aid box
Teapots	Oak altar table and chair
Jugs	Electric organ and stool
Wine glasses	Small wooden cabinet
Communion glasses and holder	Hymns and Psalms – hard, soft back, large print and music versions
Green set of dinner plates, tea plates, cups and saucers (over 40 of each)	Hymns supplement
Small amount of cups and saucers (off white with brown rim)	2 small wooden tables
Sugar bowls and dessert dishes	Lectern
Small amount of wooden handled cutlery	Font
Vases	Blue plastic child's chairs
	Disabled toilet frame

Cheryl Messer (on behalf of the Circuit Stewards)

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 2014

2nd November

Micah 3:5 – 12

Psalm 43

1 Thessalonians 2:9 – 13

Matthew 23:1 – 12

9th November

Wisdom of Solomon or 6:12
– 16

or Amos 5:18 – 24

Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18

Matthew 25:1 – 13

16th November

Zephania 1: 7, 12 – 18

Psalm 90:1 – 8, (9 – 11) 12

1 Thessalonians 5:1 – 11

Matthew 25: 14 – 30

23rd November

2 Samuel 23:1 – 7

or Maccabees 2:15 – 29

Psalm 93

Matthew 28:16 – 20

30th November

Ist Sunday of Advent (Year
B)

Isaiah 64:1 – 9

Psalm 80: 1 – 7, 17 – 19

1 Corinthians 1: 3 – 9

Mark 13:24 – 37

CHACOMBE

Harvest Festival – We had a very enjoyable Harvest service taken by Rev. Barrie Lawless which was well attended. The latter part of the service was held in the schoolroom where there was an impressive display of arts and crafts submitted by local people. The sale of the fresh produce raised £38 and this amount was made up to £50 and sent to Water Aid. The dry goods were taken to the Beacon Centre. Fruit punch and cakes were served at the end of the service.

Bible Study – Our sessions are held on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 2.00 pm. in the home of Joan Boyles. Further details contact Hazel Stagg.

Coffee & Chat – These gatherings are held on alternate Friday mornings in the schoolroom from 10.30 am – 12.00 noon. Come and have a good natter and enjoy some delicious homemade cake. Contact Joan Boyles for further details.

EASINGTON

Please come and join us on our annual Christmas coffee morning and browse our craft stalls. It is on Saturday 29th November from 10 am – 12 noon

GRIMSBURY

MHA are holding a Christmas Fayre at West Court
on Saturday November 29th 12 – 2 pm
Soup and rolls available

Saturday December 20th
MHA Christmas Party

Hosted in partnership with Grimsbury Methodist Church
Christmas Spectacular Show presented by Tickled Pink Productions at 2pm followed by Buffett Tea
Advance Tickets on Sale at £5 each
Please contact Lorraine on 01295 258859

MARLBOROUGH ROAD THURSDAY CLUB 7.30 pm

6th November – Margaret & Jeff Smith – Slides
4th December – Carol singing with choir

Enquiries: – Shirley Davies, Tel. 01295 258193

MIDDLETON CHENEY

'**WRAP & FILL**' – We are again taking part in the Samaritan's Purse/ Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal.

In covenant with All Saints Church, we have 'wrapped and filled' boxes for the last 7 or so years, and sent over 200 last year. There will be a session Saturday 15th November, in the Methodist Church Schoolroom from 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child sends gifts to disadvantaged children round the world, all in a gift-wrapped shoebox. If you are able to help, we would gratefully welcome gifts of goodies, empty shoeboxes (7" x 12" x 5"), wrapping paper, and money towards the shipping of the completed boxes. Leaflets with full details will be available from Middleton Library, and The Butler's Pantry, and completed boxes can be dropped off during their normal opening hours. Or contact Mary Phipps 01295 712894 or Carol Souch 01295 275334. The last day for completed boxes is 15th November to allow time for them to be sent on to the next stage.

Please do come along and join in, as we are also running a coffee morning and it's a lovely social occasion! Hope to see you there!

Bible Study Group – Led by Hazel Stagg 1st & 3rd Tuesday afternoon of the month 2.15 p.m. at the home of Jane Bullock (*see paper copy or ask a Steward for contact details*). All are welcome. Contact: Hazel Stagg 01295 660294

NEITHROP CHAPEL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7.30pm

ALL WELCOME

November 12th – Kevin Wyles – ‘From Thatch to Fire’

November 26th – Phyllis Maycock – Christmas Crafts

December 10th – Christmas Carols and Readings. Please bring along some nibbles

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other)

12th November – Nigel Deakin of the Beacon

26th November – Christmas Flowers – Margaret Hughes

10th December – Christmas meal

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons each month except July and August in the Wesley Room 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.

MANY THANKS

I would like to thank the circuit for the card I received from the Circuit Secretary thanking me for doing the newsletter for the past 12 years. I have enjoyed doing it. Lorraine Squire of Grimsbury Church will be taking over from December/January and her details are at the bottom of the newsletter.

Mary Tanner

DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER/JANUARY EDITION

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

CONTRIBUTIONS TO LORRAINE SQUIRE

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CIRCUIT WEBSITE <http://www.banburycircuit.org.uk/>