



THE METHODIST CHURCH BANBURY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015

What do you want to do with God?

The hymn 'O Thou who camest from above' is often sung at funerals. The last verse seems to be appropriate in this context. However, the other verses seem all about growth and commitment. The words of the third verse really make me think of how we, as God's people, speak God's words in our everyday lives. He gifts us to share His story, how effective are we at telling that story? More importantly, what do we expect as a result of sharing it? Look at this verse with me.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me.

Charles Wesley, Hymns & Psalms 745, v.3

These words describe a concept of Christian holiness, Methodism's traditional way of speaking about growth in discipleship. They highlight the pure gift of the Spirit.

What is your heart's desire? Is it to work and speak for God? So often we say that we are God's hands, feet and voices here on earth, working for his Kingdom, showing his love through the Good News and example of Jesus. This then must show that we want to work with Him. So if it is our desire to work and speak for God, then, having spoken and worked for Him, surely we must expect some response. We must accept that we will have made a difference to someone or to a situation.

This is the tough bit. We do not always want to accept that we do make a difference or even like the consequences of our actions! By speaking out, by encouraging new people in our churches, by changing anything, we will make a difference, life in the church and in God's Kingdom will be different. Terrorist action has affected our everyday lives, just think back to 9/11 – banking and identity checks are so very different now.

Our actions affect others, whether we know it not, whether we like it or not. I heard of how a lady who had paid for her travel on a bus refused to let an elderly lady who had free travel on a bus, have a seat. Her decision was simple. The lady who had paid, felt entitled to the seat, as the other hadn't paid she didn't have as much entitlement! The individual needs of the elderly free-travel passenger were not even considered. The effect of the actions of the one person had a huge impact on the other person.

The change in the law allowing same sex marriage has an impact on the Church. At Conference this year there was conversation about Marriage and Relationships. We have all been asked: if we have

strong belief about what marriage and relationships should be like? How do you work out what you believe? Do you find yourself chatting to family and friends beyond the church about relationships you are not sure about? Do you ask yourself what God's view of marriage and relationships might be? Do you wonder what to think? An invite to a gathering at Marlborough Road to feed in our conversations on this subject is included in this newsletter.

The Circuit Meeting gave permission for us to have a Circuit Review. We will again examine whether our chapels are Progressing, Planting, Parked or need Pruning. The effects of the last review have moved all of the chapels on – where is each chapel at now. Re-examine the gifts God's has given you and your chapel to use. Are they used effectively and properly for God? If they are, there will be growth, and others will grow in faith and discipleship. Allow the Holy Spirit to stir up your God given gifts to enable His story to be told. But, don't be surprised of what a difference you will make!

With every blessing,

Lin

Marriage and Relationships

- Do you have strong belief about what marriage and relationships should be like?
- How do you work out what you believe?
- Do you find yourself chatting to family and friends beyond the church about relationships you are not sure about?
- Do you ask yourself what God's view of marriage and relationships might be?
- Do you wonder what to think?

The Methodist Conference has asked us all to talk together about these things.

We can grow in confidence about our faith, our Methodist tradition, and how these relate to everyday family and friends' conversations about these crucial questions of our time.

To help with this the Northampton Methodist District has arranged gatherings at which we can talk together.

You are invited to come and join the conversation.
Get your views heard. Hear what others have to say.

Tuesday 8 December 2015, 7.30pm at Marlborough Road, Banbury

Come along to whichever is best for you.
No need to book. Just turn up and join in.

MARLBOROUGH ROAD

The sale of *Brewers, Brokers and Builders* has gone very well, with a healthy surplus already made towards the Church Redevelopment Fund. Copies are still available in an A5 version, at a cost of £10 per copy, with an online version available on the Marlborough Road Church website. Please contact Alan Vincent if you would like to order a copy: e-mail avbloxham@gmail.com or phone 01295 720809.

Marlborough Road Thursday Club 7.30pm

Thursday 5th November

Holiday Slides - Margaret and Jeff Smith (Bring & Buy)

Enquiries to Shirley Davies 01295 258193

CAMEO

(Come And Meet Each Other)

Meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday Afternoons in the Wesley Room at Marlborough Road at 2.30pm

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

Money raised goes to the 'Methodist Church World Mission Fund

11th November - The Reverend Victoria Bravette

25th November - Generation Games Age UK

These meetings are held at Marlborough Road but it is a circuit meeting with members from the other churches.

Why not come and join us???

Banbury Methodist Circuit Supper Club

The circuit supper club meets again on Thursday November 26th at 7 for 7.30pm at Marlborough Road Methodist Church with a talk by Mrs Sarah Wallis (Katie Lee's daughter) entitled 'Fifty Years of Music' which will include her favourites, influences and what music means to her.

Please make your bookings along with any music loving friends who can come with David Hughes on 01295 253891 by Monday November 23rd at the latest with any special dietary requirements. The cost for the evening is still £10 per head which includes a two course meal and speaker expenses. We hope to see you there.

Vernon and David

NEITHROP CHAPEL FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - 7.30pm

Enquiries to Valerie Gainsby.

HINTON METHODIST CHURCH AT WOODFORD HALSE

Come and join us for a free coffee, tea, cakes and biscuits every first Saturday in the month from 10am - 12pm

You can also buy gifts to support a chosen charity.

The stage coach bus number 200 stops right outside Hinton Methodist Church.

CHACOMBE

Bible Study

There will be two sessions in November, Tuesday 3rd and Tuesday 17th at 2pm. In the home of Joan Boyles. For further details contact Hazel Stagg.

Coffee n Chat

Our Coffee mornings have returned after a summer break. These will be held on Friday 13th and Friday 27th in the schoolroom 10.30am - 12.00pm. Everyone welcome.

GREATWORTH HALL

Last year we hosted an open day for the circuit here on the farm. Would there be any interest in our arranging another next year?

I would suggest a Saturday in April, or perhaps an evening in May or early June. Please let me have comments and ideas. The sheep will be lambing in early April, although I cannot guarantee one giving birth again!

Ring me on 01295 760348 or email ross@greatworthhall.com

Ross Adkins

A message from **UPPER BODDINGTON**

Christmas Coffee Morning. We will be raising funds for our Church with a Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday, November 28th, 10am - 12 noon. There will be a cake stall, gifts and a bring and buy stall. Please come and join us. We look forward to seeing you.

Our Coffee and Chat sessions continue to take place on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 10am - 11.30am. Please call in and have a chat if you are in this area on those days.

CROPREDY

GIFT & CRAFT FAIR.
Saturday 7th November 12 - 4pm
Gift & Craft stalls
Ploughman's lunches
Tea & Cake

Sponsored Organ playing throughout the afternoon something for everyone.

The Bible study group continues to meet on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.15pm
Contact Maggie on 01295 750423

ADDERBURY

Thank you to all those who supported our Photo Exhibition and Craft Day on 10th October which raised £479.40 for WaterAid.

Val's 2016 calendars "Landscapes of Britain" are still available for sale price £5.

Please contact Val on 01295 81139 or at v.m.trinder@brinternet.com



Saturday 7th November 10am - 12pm coffee and cake morning at

GRIMSBURY CHAPEL

Hosted by Georgia and Harry Williams Parker (ages 13 and 11 years)

Children raising money for Children

Daventry Methodist Church



Children and Families Worker

An exciting opportunity exists at Daventry Methodist Church for the strengthening and development of its family-centred work by sharing God's love with children and their families in both the community and the church.

We are looking to recruit a self-motivated person confident in expressing their own Christian faith who has a passion for creating, supporting, encouraging and participating in new and existing opportunities. You will have practical experience of working with children, young people and their families and work alongside an existing team of volunteers to fulfil the objectives of this role.

Salary –	£9,880 p.a. plus expenses
Contract –	20 hours per week
	3 year initial period
Start date –	By negotiation
Closing date for applications –	14 November 2015
Interviews to take place –	30 November 2015

Interested? An information pack with application details is available on our website www.daventrymethodist.org.

There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder be a committed Christian. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Daventry Methodist Church, Golding Close, Daventry, NN11 4FB.

We invite you to peruse the information pack that follows, as well as the church's website, to better understand who we are and what we are seeking to achieve. If, having explored all these sources, you would like to know more, please feel free to contact Keith Hiscock on kemhiscock@tiscali.co.uk

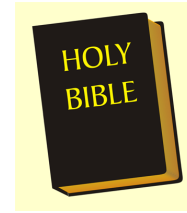
Lectionary readings for November 2015

Nov. 1st

Wisdom of Solomon 3:1 - 9
or Isaiah 25:6 - 9
Psalm 24
Revelation 21:1 – 6a
John 11:32- 44

Nov. 15th

Daniel 12:1 – 3
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11 – 14 (15 – 18)
19 – 25
Mark 13:1 – 8



Nov. 8th

1 Kings 17:8 – 16
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:24 – 28
Mark 12:38 – 44

Nov. 22nd

Daniel 7:9 -10, 13 – 14
Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b – 8
John 18:33 – 37

Nov. 29th

Jeremiah 33:14 – 16
Psalm 25:1 – 10
1Thessalonians 3:9 – 13
Luke 21:25 – 36

Faith Under Fire - Simon Guillebaud

Saturday 28th November 2015, 7.30pm

Banbury Salvation Army, George Street Free Entry

Simon Guillebaud is passionate about challenging people to make their lives count. He will share some 'crazy' yet amazing stories of God at work in Central Africa (in a literal and spiritual war-zone) and the lessons learnt in the crucible of suffering that apply equally to us here in the UK - stories of death threats, demon-possession, witchcraft, miraculous healings and more.

Bestselling author, speaker, social entrepreneur, family man, cyclist and charity founder, Simon Guillebaud ('More than Conquerors', 'Sacrifice' and 'Dangerously Alive') had a very clear call to Burundi in 1999, when it was regarded as the most dangerous country on earth. Having unexpectedly survived 7 years of genocide and civil war, he set up Great Lakes Outreach with the vision to transform Burundi and beyond through holistic mission, working with gifted local leaders of integrity



OPERATION Christmas Child 2015

Shoebox bursting with joy

A shoebox wrapped in cheery paper and filled with small gifts and goodies is probably the first and only Christmas present needy children around the world will ever receive. Please join us to support this project run annually by Samaritans Purse - it's easy and rewarding!

Perhaps you would like to do a box with a friend or colleague? You just need a medium size adult shoebox (approx 7" x 12" x 5"), wrap the lid and base separately, then fill with suitable new goodies either for a boy or girl in one of three age groups: 2-4 yrs, 5-9yrs or 10-14yrs, and include a donation of £3.00 to cover distribution costs (can be paid on-line to Samaritans Purse).

Or come and help at our popular Wrap & Fill session on Saturday 14th November from 9.30am to 2pm in the Methodist Schoolrooms, Queen Street, Middleton Cheney, OX17 2NP.

You will be very welcome; we are very sociable and include a cuppa and biscuits!

We welcome contributions of goodies, empty shoe boxes, and money donations towards the cost of getting the boxes to the needy children.

Coffee / tea & Cake mornings will also be held at the wrap and fill session for anyone who would like to drop in for a while - all donations will go towards the shoeboxes.

Leaflets with full details of how to do a shoe box, including a list of suitable items, are available from All Saints and Methodist Churches, the library & The Butler's Pantry, which are also drop off points during their normal opening times; or please call Mary Phipps on 712894 or Carol Souch on 275334.

Final date for dropping off completed shoeboxes is Wednesday 18th November.

**Please note the next newsletter will cover news and
forthcoming events for
December 2015 and January 2016**

**THE DEADLINE FOR THIS EDITION IS
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19th**

Please forward contributions to
Lorraine Squire, 19 South Street Banbury OX16 3LB

lorraineasquire@gmail.com

Tel: 07971000665

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

