

THE METHODIST CHURCH BANBURY CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2011

We are what we eat!

Rev Rob Anning, Superintendent Minister, writes:

As we enter the season of Autumn, so we begin to celebrate Harvest. When you read this, most of our chapels will have completed their thanksgiving services for all that God has provided for us as individuals and as a Church.

Naturally, our harvest thanksgiving is centred on food but we should not lose sight of the many blessings and benefits of all kinds that God showers into our lives.

As Paul reminds us in his first letter to the church in Thessalonica: *“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances”*.

I heard a discussion on the radio about hyper-active children. One of the participants, a doctor, commented on what should have been the obvious but is something we often forget: *“We are what we eat”*. Perhaps it’s a case of not seeing the wood for the trees although all of those who have been on diets will know only too well the truth of his statement.

It struck me that as Christians we should take note of that statement: *“We are what we eat!”* John’s gospel, chapter six, is all about food; Jesus feeds the 5,000 and Jesus tells us that *“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live for ever”*.

Jesus feeds our whole being, strengthening us in body, mind and spirit. At harvest time we give thanks for all that creation offers to keep our bodies together. It is also our responsibility to ensure that we feed our whole being by receiving regularly from the Lord’s table, reading the Bible and sharing in fellowship, which feeds our souls, and engaging in conversation with God through prayer.

The strength of our faith is dictated by the spiritual food that we eat, both in quality and quantity.

CIRCUIT DAY

Saturday 8th October – 10.30 am to 2.30 pm
At Marlborough Road Church
Coffee, Refreshments and light lunches
Display of the entries to the Photographic Competition
Any Church requiring a stall at £5.00 each please contact Cheryl Messer or Cicely
Lewis (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*)
Set up your table from 9.00 am

BACK TO FRONT!

The Mustard Seed has a new home! We have moved from the back of Marlborough Road Methodist Church to the front! To access the new shop you simply come through the main doors of the church ... and you'll find us straight away. The big move took place on Monday night and we've still got a few things to sort out but do call in and see us in our new home. The Mustard Seed is open from 10am – 5pm Thursday and Friday and 10am – 4pm on Saturday ... we look forward to seeing you.

CIRCUIT SUPPER CLUB

The next supper will October 27th – 7 for 7.30 pm at Marlborough Road Church with Mr Bob Foster on “The Story of the Mary Rose”.

Please book with David Hughes (*contact steward or see paper copy for contact details*) by the evening of Monday October 24th at the latest.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER 2011

October 2nd

Isaiah 5:1 – 7

Psalms 80:7 – 15

Philippians 3:4b – 14

Matthew 21:33 – 46

1 Thessalonians 1:1 – 10

Matthew 22:15 - 22

October 23rd

Leviticus 19:1 – 2, 15 – 18

Psalms 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1 – 8

Matthew 22:34 – 46

October 9th

Isaiah 25:1 – 9

Psalms 23

Philippians 4:1 – 9

Matthew 22:1 – 14

October 30th

Micah 3:5 – 12

Psalms 43

1 Thessalonians 2:9 – 13

Matthew 23:1 - 12

October 16th

Isaiah 45:12 – 23

Psalms 99

JUNE CIRCUIT MEETING

Owing to the late date of the June circuit meeting, the summary of business was not included in the newsletter but a few copies were distributed separately to the churches. There was however some important business discussed and decisions made which we felt everyone should read. So the following is the paragraph about finance extracted from that summary. If you wish to read the summary in full please speak to your local steward or contact me directly. Notes of the September meeting will be included in next month's newsletter.

“Finance: The major item of business was to consider our budget and long term financial position. A budget of £139,327 for 2011-12 was approved unanimously. After a lengthy discussion the meeting also agreed to continue to subsidise our income from reserves in order to prevent major increases in the assessments. However, it was recognised that although we have healthy reserves at the moment following the recent chapel sales, we cannot do this indefinitely. The meeting therefore accepted that from 2014 we should plan to become a two minister circuit in order to break even, or as near as possible, and avoid the need to use our reserves in this way. The situation may change however, given that circuit boundaries within the district may be altered. There was also a discussion about assessments and the implications of chapels struggling to pay. The Superintendent presented proposed assessments recognising such difficulties. It was agreed that Treasurers should discuss these and agree final assessments together at a further meeting.”

I am also pleased to report that Mrs Cheryl Messer from our Marlborough Road Church was appointed at that meeting to serve as an additional Circuit Steward. We welcome her to the Leadership Team.

Val Trinder, Senior Circuit Steward

ADDERBURY

We invite friends from the Circuit to our regular “first Saturday Coffee Morning” 10.30 – 12 noon. All welcome.

BODICOTE

Coffee Mornings: - Bodicote will be opening the chapel for a coffee morning on the 3rd Saturday in the month 10.30 -12.00. We hope any friends near by will join us in fellowship. We hope to make this a regular get together so please come and join us.

Praise Evenings: - These will now take place on Fridays (not Thursdays!), beginning at 7.30 pm. If you would like to join us for a time of informal praise and worship, then please make a note of the following dates in your diary: - 21st October, 18th November and 16th December.

Ladies Fellowship: - As part of our continuing outreach in the village, a monthly ladies meeting will commence in September, on Fridays at 2.00 pm. We would be delighted to see you there (whether you live in the village or not), and encourage you to bring along a friend. The dates are as follows: - 7th October, 11th November and 9th December

CROPREDY

We hold a Bible study meetings every Wednesday, for details of time and venues please contact Hazel Stagg.

Come and join us at our Praise Evenings, singing hymns and listening to selected readings followed by a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. The October Praise evening is on the 26th October at 7 pm and will be led by Sarah Underdown. This is becoming popular with people attending from other Chapels all are welcome.

The soup kitchen during Fairport was huge success and the soup team would like to thank all those who helped and supported them. We sent a generous donation to the East African Appeal with a balance to Chapel funds.

We join the circuit in welcoming Michael King and his family to our circuit but oh a Birmingham city supporter Up the Villa.

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

Our Harvest Festival service is on 2nd October at 11 am. After the service we will be sharing the harvest gifts with a bring and share lunch. Monies raised from the lunch will go to MRDF.

On that afternoon at 3.30 pm there will be the monthly JIFFY service (Jesus is Fun For You) a service aimed at young children and their families.

Our usual weekly Coffee, Cake and a Chat takes place every Friday from 10.30 to 12 noon. We would love to see you at any of these events.

MARLBOROUGH ROAD THURSDAY CLUB 7.30 pm

6th October – Mobile cinema (film to be decided)

3rd November – Dr Ruth Champion – Slides on Southern Peru etc and bring and buy

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

MIDDLETON CHENEY

THEFT OF LEAD LOCALLY – Doubtless, most of us have read in the papers, or heard on radio or TV the increase in the theft of lead and other metals. Not least have we been made aware of the massive haul of lead from Warkworth Church, which is just over the fields from Middleton Cheney. This church is one of the six in the Benefice which includes Middleton Cheney, Chacombe and Greatworth. Warkworth is the third of the six to have had their lead stolen plus the security cameras, AND the thieves came back a second and third time to steal the lot!

I am an observer at All Saints, Middleton Cheney PCC, and was present at the meeting when it had been discovered that the lead had been taken, and the people were devastated. They only knew it had gone when their precious ceiling had been damaged, and there was water on the floor. That was the first time, and subsequently, the replacement lead was stolen during the time the scaffolding was still up!

The cost to Warkworth amounts something like £100,000 of which the insurance will cover only a fraction of this. Therefore, there are three points here. The importance of using Smartwater on our Methodist premises, and keeping an eye on what is going on. I announced during our notices, that there was an item in the All Saints weekly news sheet highlighting the problem, as thieves are apparently operating at any time of the day or night. SO, if you live, or drive past, or walk your dog near Churches or Chapels off the beaten track in particular please do your duty and report anything suspicious.

Carol Souch Steward, Middleton Cheney

NEITHROP - MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING AND CAKE STALL

Come and join us, between 10.00 and 11.00 on the first Saturday of the month, for a chat over coffee/tea and biscuits. Stall also includes fruit pies/crumbles, preserves and books. Also some Fairtrade food items for sale.

**NEITHROP CHAPEL FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS
HELD ON WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30**

The meetings will be held alternately between Neithrop Chapel and the lounge of Yule Court, Boxhedge Square.

5th October – Margaret and Peter Whittle - a new presentation from this inspiring couple ending with the Chinese Scarf Dance, afterwards they will be selling their crafts for Katherine House Hospice **Yule Court**

19th October – Quiz with jacket potato and salad – Archie Buzzard. **Chapel**

2nd November – Working on interesting buildings – Ray Cherry **Yule Court**

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.

12th October – Rev Rob Anning

26th October – Mrs Eileen Burgess

The money we raise goes to the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission.

COME AND MEET US!!!

**DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EDITION
THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER
CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARY TANNER,
(contact steward or see paper copy for contact details)**

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