

Fresh Expressions...



Sorry to keep going on about bread but it is just one of the exciting things that is happening in my ministry at the moment. I write this after just having baked bread with about 25 young people (with their parents/carers and a great team of helpers). We baked our Turtle rolls and gave bread rolls away to be smothered with Jam, Chocolate spread or squeezey cheese and shared. When was the last time we had 25 children in our Sunday Schools?

It may not be on a Sunday but we are getting young people through the doors. Like our bread making at CPSO many of these people were coming into church for the first time, and we hope it won't be the last time. Our challenge is to make church/worship a place they want to come.

Both bread making ventures involved taking risks, and as a church we should not be afraid about taking risks. Both ventures are about shaping community. Strangers are strangers no longer. It is a place and space where all are welcome: a place where we can share stories.

I am no bread making expert, I am picking it up as I go along, but the thing that excites me is that transformation when shaped dough becomes baked bread. That sense of achievement when you first see your bread taken from the oven. There was a wonderful moment when one of the youngsters willingly gave some of her rolls so all could be fed. There is something scriptural about that – God was truly in this place, it was a moment of meeting – communion.

September sees the start of another new Methodist year, the cycle of meetings and the routine begins. But in our church life let us create opportunities for fresh expressions, let's take risks and be surprised by God. *Richard*

It's now a year since Nicola Milbourn joined us as Children and Families Worker for Bushey & Oxhey and St. Andrews.

You'll have seen Nicola around the church and read in The Link of all the things that she has achieved in hugely extending our work and outreach during the year.

Nicola has covered a lot of ground in a short time and her work continues into a second and third year. Grants were obtained from the District, the Circuit and the Rank Trust which were conditional on each of our churches raising £5,600 each year to fund this new and exciting post.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in year one. If you would like to support Nicola's work financially in year two then please speak to our treasurer, David Evans.

Richard

District Synod

**It is our Circuit's turn to host the above.
It will take place on 15th September at Queen's
School, Aldenham Road from 10 to 4**

Help will be needed in various capacities.

Please be willing to set aside an hour or two to support the Circuit when the list of jobs is circulated.

Thank you.

First Thursday

Come along to a new monthly event in Oxhey.

It's an evening meeting, part social / part informative, for anyone interested in family matters.

We will meet on the first Thursday of the month from 7-9pm with a chance to chat over tea or coffee.

There will also be a speaker on a topic of particular interest to families.

Topics planned are interactive and informal, led by a mix of experts in their fields sharing their knowledge and experiences, and informed local people sharing their interests.

Where?

Bushey and Oxhey Methodist Church

When?

The first Thursday of the month, 7-9pm

How much?

No charge for the meeting; a small donation for teas and coffees

Topics?

6th September; Supporting children in school

4th October; First Aid for Families

1st November; Learning to Read: How do children do it?

6th December; Crafty Christmas decorations for children and adults

For further detail please email Mary Rees

maryhandelrees@gmail.com

Harvest Thanksgiving 2018

Oct 7th 11.00am

Supporting *New Hope* Community Garden

As usual our Harvest Festival will also be a Parade Service when we welcome the Cubs and Beavers.

This year we have decided to support a local charity and will be giving all the money raised to *New Hope*, specifically to support the work of their Community Market Garden on the Rickmansworth Road.

The Community Market Garden is set in a one acre tranquil environment near to Cassiobury Park. *New Hope* service users can volunteer, developing their skills and confidence while gaining the health benefits of seeing plants grow and watching wild life such as caterpillars develop and change. It also serves as a vital link between *New Hope* and the community. It has been granted the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

The Community Market Garden also hosts a wide variety of different activities: learning opportunities, wellbeing courses and experiences for both people accommodated by *New Hope* and further afield.

Rebecca Palmer, *New Hope's* fundraising manager will join us for the service and tell us about the work *New Hope* is doing with Watford's homeless. After the service there will be a sale of produce followed by a "not very" frugal lunch to which all are invited.



The loneliness of caring

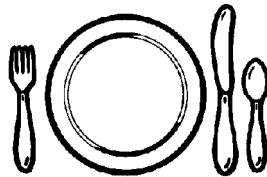
Are you a Carer?

We would like to invite you to a short Service specially for Carers followed by tea, coffee and cakes at Bushey Baptist Church on Sunday 9th of September at 4pm.

An opportunity to meet other Carers. If the person you care for is able to come with you they would be very welcome.

Wheelchair access from the Aldenham Road entrance and plenty of parking is available (see our website info@busheybaptist.org.uk) or phone our church office 01923 801 643 for more information.

Harvest Lunch



*We are proposing to have a Harvest Lunch after the Service on 7th October. Please offer to make some kind of casserole or similar other dish to be shared. Speak to Pam Conquest at church or give her a ring on 01923 466514
Thank you*

Circuit Event

West Hertfordshire and Borders Circuit Welcome Service

Refreshments from 5.00pm

**6.30pm Sunday 9th September
at
Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church**

To formally welcome Rev'd Charles Ekuban
and Rev'd Christine Taylor

Preacher: Rev'd David Chapman, District Chair

All are welcome

The Methodist Prayer Handbook is now available to
order from the Methodist Publishing website:

www.methodistpublishing.org.uk

This year's theme is



September Messy Church is on the 9th at 3.00pm
At Bushey & Oxhey Methodist Church, King Edward Road

This month's theme is

Following Jesus

Activities include: an obstacle course, dressing up, foot-prints, cross making, feet biscuits, making and following mazes.

Followed by a family meal

Come and see!

Bring a friend

For children and adults together

All are welcome.

For more information: Marian Jordan: 0208 386 9504
Debbie Lim: 07545558126
Nicola Milbourn: 07712660907

You'll see on page 13 that Mary Rees has written a piece entitled 'Memories of my Mum'.

We felt this might be the beginning of a series of similar pieces. If you could contribute a couple of memories - it could of course be your Dad - that would be most interesting.

It doesn't have to be typed - longhand is fine but if you have a computer you could send it as an email attachment.

FAMILY News

On Sunday 5th August we welcomed **Daisy Frances Henry-Baird** in to the church at her baptism. We wish God's blessings on her, her family and friends.

***Kay Barker** will be 95 on 2nd September. We send our congratulations and wish her a Very Happy Birthday.*

Congratulations to **April Koyelo** who has sung for us on several occasions (Sumbo's daughter and Sarah's sister) . She married her fiancé, Pierre, at a civil ceremony in Paris earlier in the Summer. The English celebration was held at Hatfield in August. We wish them every happiness in their life together.

*We were sorry to hear of the passing of **Ethel Frost**, from Field Road, whose husband was very active in the Scouts many years ago.*

We were also saddened to hear that **Ralph Cannard**, Ted Miles' son in law had died recently.

We send both families our sincere condolences and remember them in our prayers.

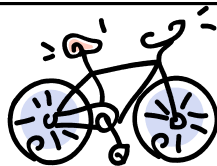
We also remember all those who are no longer able to worship with us, **Kay Barker, Margaret Barnes, Angela Kidd, and Jill Thornton.**

From the Church-English Dictionary:

Gideons

An association of Christian businessmen with terrible memories. They've left their Bibles in hotel rooms all over the place.

**Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust
Bike 'n' Hike**



The annual sponsored Bike' n' Hike is on Saturday September 8th. The event raises money for maintaining historic churches in Beds & Herts.

This church is on the route and **if you would like to take part or could offer a couple of hours on that day to be at the church** to welcome people as they pass and offer them a drink, please speak to David Evans.

There is a poster on the notice Board in the Meeting Point.

Prayer Line



If there is someone that you would like us to pray for, please contact any of the people below. We just need a name. God knows the rest!

Pam Conquest
01923 466514

Karen Wheeler
01923 802061

Dorothy Steele
01923 447584

Sheila Billings
01923 254622

A prayer for a time when we are beginning a new Methodist year.

God of the journey from year
to year,
We offer you our thanks
For the patience you have
shown us
at the start of each new day;
for the blessings you still offer
when we don't know what to
pray;
for the grace you extend
to us
even when we turn away.

God of the journey from year
to year,
we stand in need of grace.
Take the imperfect that we are
and use us as your hands;
take the words we try to say
so some might understand
that Jesus came into our
world
to bring God's love and grace to us,
and walked the path we follow
towards a promised land.

John Birch, in *The Act of Prayer*,
Praying through the lectionary

Action for Children is one of the charities we support in our benevolences and usually on Action for Children Sunday in July. It was founded by a Methodist minister, Revd. Thomas Stephenson in July 1869 as The Children's Home and has maintained links with the Methodist Church ever since. Here are a few facts about its founding, and development, later called the National Children's Home and now Action for Children - names which reflect the changing role of the charity.

1869 Revd Thomas Bowman Stephenson, with two colleagues established *The Children's Home* in Waterloo.

1871 Stephenson recognised the importance of the role of women in the care of children and in the same year was profoundly affected by the work of the Kasserwerth Deaconesses in caring for the sick and wounded on the battlefield.

1873 a training department for men and women was set up in Bethnal Green

1879 The first probationer sisters were introduced. They were 'old girls' of the Children's Home and became 'Sisters of the Children

1890 Stephenson advocated the setting up of a Deaconess Order

1892 by this time an estimated 140 women were working as Sisters in various capacities including 47 of whom were Sisters of the Children.

1898 A training facility was set up to train the Home's Sisters

1933 The work of the Homes and the Sisterhood continues to flourish and Rev John H Litten, now principle of NCH (National Children's Home) plans to establish a dedicated training School and Hostel for the Sisterhood. It opened in 1935.

1936 Ordination of the Sisters was established.

For the history to the present day. See next month's Link.

Nicola is away.



Over the Summer she has been involved in all kinds of activities, including camping, (at least twice!) planning for next year's Junior Church and Messy Church, baking bread with a 'horde' of children and their parents as well as all the things she does regularly.

She will update us next month (if she hasn't been washed away!)

Memories of my Mum

When I think of my mum I often have a couple of pictures in my mind.

The first is of her coming home after the Sunday morning service, putting the potatoes on before she had even taken her coat off. Dad would come a bit later after chatting with people. We had to eat lunch fairly promptly so that Dad could prepare for the evening service. As a minister's wife her life revolved around Dad's work although she didn't take naturally to some of the duties, for example flower arranging or taking a role in the various ladies' groups. I remember her saying once, "it's the first time I've been out in the dark for months and I'm going to the sewing circle!" However, she managed, with all the upheavals of moving every few years, not to mention bringing up three children on not much money.

The second picture is later when we had all left home. When we visited she could hear our car in the drive and when we opened the front door I could hear her whistling (badly) in the kitchen. She was busy cooking all the things that she knew we liked – a special soup with homemade bread, a casserole with dumplings, a chocolate cake. Her cooking and care for us was an outward expression of her love.

So that's how I think of her, always busy and always with us.

Mary Rees

Free Church Service at St Albans Abbey

12th Sept. 11am Preacher : Revd Colin Pye, Regional Minister.
Central Baptist Association

The service is followed by a Fellowship Lunch in the Abbot's kitchen

Thinking Lunches

These are sessions held between 12.30 and 1.30 on the first Thursday of each month at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans AL13 3XG. Drinks are provided but bring your own lunch. Car Parking is available in The Maltings car-park.

The September speaker on 6th is Matthew Forsyth, Churches and Volunteer Officer London & South East - 'All We Can'

Everyone Welcome

Thank you to everyone who has given stamps for the Leprosy Mission, plastic milk bottle tops for Hertfordshire Air Ambulance (washed please), food, nappies and toiletries for Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership and sewing machines, tools etc for Workaid (contact Chris Jordan,

christopher.j@ntlworld.com

Bushey & Oxhey still supports all these charities so donations continue to be very welcome.

Church Diary - September 2018

Sun 2nd 11am Morning Worship; Mr Chris Nash
Thurs 6th 7.30pm Beckett/Monks House Group,
77 Harrow Way Carpenters Park
Sat 8th All day - Bike & Hike (see p.9)

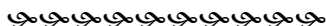
Sun 9th 11.00am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
Rev'd Richard Lowson
3.00pm Messy Church (see p. 6)
6.30pm Circuit Service to welcome Rev'ds Charles
Ekuban and Christine Taylor (see p.5)
Mon 10th Jordan's Housegroup, 2 Park View, Eastbury Road
Wed 12th 11.00am Free Church Service St Albans Abbey

Sat 15th District Synod at Queen's School (see p 2)

Sun 16th 11.00am Morning Worship: Mrs Elisa Gusmao
Thurs 20th 7.30pm Becketts/Monks House Group
27 Hampermill Lane

Sun 23rd 11.00am Morning Worship: Mr Maicolm Lindo

Sun 30th 11.00am Morning Worship: Rev'd Richard Lowson



Dates for the future:

Sun 7th October 11am Harvest Festival and Parade Service
(see p 4)

Tues 2nd October 7.45 pm Church Council

REGULAR EVENTS

Sun. 11.00am MORNING WORSHIP

There is a children's corner in the church. All young children are invited to make use of this during the service. There is usually a story and activity available outside during part of the service for children over the age of 3..

Sun 3..00.to 5.30 Monthly on 2nd Sunday MESSY CHURCH

Mon. 4.45 to 6.00pm BEAVERS (6-8yrs)

6.30 to 8.00pm CUBS (8-10yrs)

8.00 to 10.00pm NOMADS' House group (see below)

Wed. 8.00pm to 10.00pm JORDANS' House group

(see below)

Thur. 8.00 to 10.00pm MONKS/BECKETT'S House group

(see below)

Fri. 7.30 to 9.15pm SCOUTS (10-14yrs)

Weekdays 10.00am to 12.00 BOFFEES coffee shop

Housegroups meet approximately fortnightly. Please contact one of the following – Pam Conquest for NOMADS W466514 (Mondays) Chris Jordan 020 8386 9504 (Wednesdays) Marion Monks 020 89507151 or Dorothy Knight;ey W245117 (Thursdays)

CONTRIBUTIONS: The Editor welcomes articles from all who wish to share information or express an opinion. ☎ 020 8386 9504

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Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the stance or opinion of Bushey and Oxhey Methodist Church.

Enquiries about receiving copies of the LINK please, to Miss Frances Jaggard who is the Link distributor. (01923 232462)

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nicolamilbourn.cfw@gmail.com

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curlyjordan@hotmail.com

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Cub Scout Leader Mr. Paul Hulin W 266753

Scout Leader Mr. Paul Sturgess W 461243

Group Admin. Mr. Barry Hulin W 233981

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dorothy.knightley@hotmail.co.uk

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THE LINK: A monthly journal of all aspects of church life at
Bushey and Oxhey Methodist Church

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All items for inclusion should be with the Editor for the **14th
day of the previous month please.** Thanks.

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