

***The Link***  
**September 2023**

Welcome back Joy!

By the time you read this, our minister Joy should be back from her break in Botswana where her two sons live. (Air Traffic Control permitting!)

She may have managed to visit Zimbabwe but the political situation was probably too uncertain as they are about to have presidential elections and there is much unrest.

We hope Joy has had a peaceful and restorative time and wish her God's blessings for the coming Methodist year

**Our Stewardship Sunday** is 10th September  
See overleaf

**Our Harvest Festival** is the Second Sunday in  
October, 8th See pages 6 and 7

# STEWARDSHIP

On the Sunday 10th September we shall be celebrating Christian Stewardship and considering our role.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in words and mission.

One of the ways that Bushey and Oxhey does this is through Stewardship.

Before the pandemic we had Stewardship weeks and Stewardship Sundays . We even had an annual Stewardship meal. However, times have changed, many churches have seen their congregations fall and ours is no exception. Sadly, a number of our congregation have died or have become housebound or for various reasons have chosen not to worship as often as they used to do before the pandemic.

Through everything Christ remains with us and we, as his disciples, need to consider how we can continue to be stewards of the Methodist Church here in Bushey & Oxhey.

Sunday 10th September will be Stewardship Sunday this year. It will be a time when we ask those who are associated with our church to think and pray about how they support the church and continue to be Christ's disciples.

Stewardship comes in a wide range of forms. Some people fill the positions that the church needs to ensure it remains open and continues to provide regular worship services. Others read bible passages, prepare prayers of concern, run Boffees, look after the maintenance of the building, do other jobs behind the scenes and most importantly lead our worship when we don't have a preacher. Could you help with any of these, if you don't already, or is there something else that you feel you could do to support our church?

Then there's the finances.....

Our church needs to raise nearly £600 each week just to pay the Circuit assessment which pays the ministers' stipends, the costs of the Circuit manses and contributes to the running of the District.

The running costs of our church: heat, light, repairs and maintenance etc. are in addition to this. Fortunately, at the present time our lettings cover about half of our costs but the other half has to come from collections and donations. Are you able to contribute more to the church than you currently do?

The cost of living crisis affects everyone including our church but if everyone increased their giving by a small amount each year it would make a huge difference to our finances. It's a fact that if the church lost its main letting, the preschool, its finances would soon be in a very poor state and we would find it difficult to pay all of our bills.

We could reduce the amount we give to other charities but surely that is a significant part of the mission of our church which is to help those who are far worse off than we are.

On Stewardship Sunday please think and pray about your time and talents and how you use them as one of Christ's disciples.

David Evans, Church Treasurer

September 2023

Some of Murphy's Laws (Thanks to Edna Facey)

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in the dark

Change is inevitable except from a vending machine

He who laughs last thinks slowest

# FAMILY News

Most of this will be old news that you already know about but its included for those who don't know or have forgotten!

**Handel Rees** continues in Forest Village Nursing Home in Borehamwood, just off the high street (Shenley Road).

***Pam Conquest** continues to receive daily care and weekly physiotherapy. She has been in hospital recently but is now much better and home again. We try to involve her in the church flower rota. Visits and phone calls are always welcome.*

We heard recently of the death of **Edith Lloyd (nee Meyer)**, a member of this church from the late 1940s. We send our condolences to her family. Our thanks to her daughter Sharon who has written of Edith and her family's involvement with B&O. Please see opposite.

*We continue to remember in our prayers those who are no longer able to meet with us: Margaret Barnes, Mick and Pam Conquest, Angela Kidd, Margaret Prior, Handel Rees,*

## **A note from the World Service and Mission Committee**

For a number of years the church has supported the Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership (WTRRP) with regular donations from the congregation of food and other items such as nappies. We have also had a Tins and Treats service in aid of WTRRP.

In recent times the charity has stopped giving out food to its service users, instead giving them vouchers to spend at local supermarkets and shops. With this in mind, we have decided to continue the Tins and Treats service which is still very much appreciated, but will give items placed in the box in the Meeting Point and at Harvest to the Watford Foodbank who are providing food and other items to more people than ever. We will also be seeing how we can support the Red Trust which operates a Foodbank in the Bushey area.

## Edith Lloyd (nee Meyer)

Her daughter Sharon writes:

**Edith first joined the church as a teenager in the late 1940's, early 50's. She married my father John Lloyd in the church in 1957.** She then moved to Harrow for a short time before returning to Carpenders Park in 1960. We, her children, (6 in total) were all christened in the church and attended Sunday School.

As a family we were involved in Brownies, Youth Club and BOMADs etc. My eldest sister Debbie married in the church in 1987.

As a family we then moved home a few times; Garston, Chipperfield and then Markyate and were less involved. In 2003 we returned to the church for the funeral of my father.

In 2017 my mother moved to Cambridge to be nearer to my two sisters, Debbie and Vyvienne. She did, however always remain interested and attached to Bushey and Oxhey Methodist and it was a big part of all our early lives.

Boffees is open!

11.00am - 1.00pm on Tuesdays.

Why not come in for a drink and a chat. Babies and toddlers welcome (with an adult!!)

Tell/bring a friend

## Harvest Thanksgiving 11am 8th October 2023

### All Good Gifts around us.....

**As last year we are not asking for fresh produce this year** (although home-grown stuff is always welcome) but we would like plenty of tinned and dry goods which will go to the Watford Food Bank.

A list of particularly suitable gifts appears below

For our Harvest Appeal this year we are supporting **Practical Action (see opposite)**

Please donate to this cause the money you would have spent on buying produce and attending a Harvest meal plus any additional donation expressing thanks for our supply of food so readily available.

### **Watford Food Bank-**

would very much welcome  
these items as Harvest Gifts:

#### **Tinned foods:**

Meat  
Fish  
Vegetables  
Sweetcorn  
Soup  
Tomatoes  
Rice pudding

Sponge puddings  
Custard

Pasta Sauces

Rice

Biscuits

Long life fruit juices

Long life milk (UHT)

Cereals - all kinds

Sugar

Teabags— plain  
breakfast type

Toiletries such as soap,  
shower gel etc are also wel-  
come as are nappies of all  
sizes.

# HARVEST APPEAL 2023

## Practical Action

Some of you may remember a ground-breaking book written in 1965 by E F Schumacher entitled 'Small is Beautiful'. This pointed out the inappropriateness to developing countries with limited resources of aid based on large scale technologies.

In response to this idea UK registered charity, Practical Action (originally Intermediate Technology Action Group; ITAG) was set up. Following initial successes in farming it developed working groups on energy, building materials and rural health. It now has 7 regional offices working on over 100 projects.

It works directly with poor communities to develop appropriate technologies in food production, agro-processing, water, sanitation, small enterprise development, building and shelter, climate change adaptations and disaster risk reduction. The emphasis is on intermediate technologies based on local needs and skills already possessed.

These projects are in four different regions of the developing world: Latin America, East Africa, Southern Africa and South Asia.

Currently its particular focus is on Peru, Bolivia, Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh and Nepal.

More detail is available on the Practical Action website And information about the ideas of E F Schumacher can be found on Wikipedia.

## **At St Albans Abbey this Autumn:**

Organ Concert: 10th September 3pm Free admission

*Exhibition: Art of the Abbey.*

19th September—1st October

A multi-media art exhibition by local artist Martin Clark exploring the Cathedral from different perspectives.

Admission free, donations welcome.

*Renaissance: Illuminating the Past*

24th-28th October

Experience the Light Show with friends and family from 6pm

Late Shows for over 18s: Enjoy a glass of Prosecco with the light show.

Book tickets through the website using Code LIGHT23 for early bird access.

## **A Prayer for Harvest Time**

Those who are the hungry people of the world

Wait for crumbs to fall from our rich tables

Lord forgive us when we are deaf to their cries.

Those who are the poor of the world

Long to share in our harvest of plenty.

Lord forgive us when we close our eyes to their needs.

Those who have no harvest to thank God for

Are waiting to receive from the harvest he gave us to share

Lord forgive us our greed and our fear, our selfishness and our neglect.

Lord forgive us when we remain silent when we should speak  
and that we speak when we should have silently lived out your  
love.

Forgive us and make us new, for Christ's sake. Amen



# Church Diary: Sept, October, November 2023

## September

**Sun 3rd** No service at B&O. St Andrews 9.00am and CPSO 10.00am

**3.00pm** Circuit Welcome Service for Revd. Helen Roberts at Redbourn followed by refreshments.

**Sun 10th 11.00am** Morning Worship with Holy Communion:  
Revd. Joy Mayisiri

Wed 13th 11.00am Informal Prayer & Fellowship in the Meeting Point

**Sun 17th 11.00am** Morning Worship Revd. Joy Mayisiri

**Sun 24th 11.00am** Morning Worship: Local Arrangement

Wed 27th 8.00pm Jordans' Housegroup, 2 Titian Avenue

## October

**Sun. 1st** No Service at B&O. 9.00am at St Andrews,  
10.00am at CPSO

**Sun 8th 11.00am** Harvest Thanksgiving with Church Parade  
Revd Joy Mayisiri

Wed 11th 11.00am Informal Prayer & Fellowship in the Meeting Point

**Sun 15th 11.00am** Morning Worship Local Arrangement

**Sun 22nd 11.00am** Morning Worship: Local Arrangement

**Sun 29th 11.00am** Morning Worship: **United Service at B&O**  
Revd. Joy Mayisiri

There are usually two Housegroup meetings each month. Please check with the Jordans for up to date arrangements: 020 8386 9504



## November

**Sun 5th Nov** No service at B&O 9.00am at St Andrews,  
10.00am at CPSO

Wed 8th 11.00am Informal Prayer & Fellowship in the Meeting Point

**Sun 12th Remembrance Sunday** Morning Worship Revd. John Fellows.

**Sun 19th** 11am Morning Worship Revd. Joy Mayisiri  
Holy Communion

**Sun 26th** 11am Morning Worship Local Arrangement.

★ ★

From the Celtic Oral Tradition:

You are the peace of all things calm  
You are the place to hide from harm  
You are the light that shines in the dark  
**You are the heart's eternal spark**  
**You are the door that's open wide**  
You are the guest who waits inside  
You are the stranger at the door  
You are the calling of the poor  
You are my Lord and with me still  
You are my love, keep me from ill  
You are the light, the truth, the way  
You are my Saviour this very day.

★ ★

BUSHEY AND OXHEY METHODIST CHURCH  
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Beavers	Mrs. Gill Hulin	W 233981
Cub Scout Leader	Mr. Paul Hulin	W 266753
Scout Leader	Mr. Larry Cummins	07986425755
Group Admin.	Mr. Barry Hulin	W 233981
Boffees Coffee Shop	Mr Chris Jordan	020 8950 3846

There is a Housegroup meeting usually the first & third Wednesday of the month but please check with the Jordans:020 8386 9504

Church Website: [www.busheyandoxhey-methodist.org.uk](http://www.busheyandoxhey-methodist.org.uk)

THE LINK: A quarterly 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 **14<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month please.** Thanks.

**ROOM BOOKINGS:**

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Mr David Evans: email: [busheyoxheybookings@gmail.com](mailto:busheyoxheybookings@gmail.com)

Scout Premises: Mr. Barry Hulin W 233981