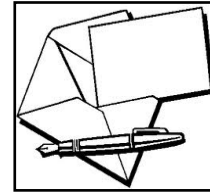


***St. John's Methodist Church
Whitchurch***

June 2018
Newsletter

Message from the Manse



Dear Friends

Over the last few weeks, like most people, I've been receiving plenty of messages from organisations that are keen to tell me they want to stay in touch with me. This is of course to do with the new Data Protection Regulations or GDPR. As the deadline approached, the messages seemed to be adopting a somewhat desperate tone; more than one message said "Is this Goodbye?" as a sort of Emotional Blackmail. I never knew I was so popular!

And yet of course much of this communication is done for a particular point as businesses and charities want to be able to send me adverts, appeals, or in some cases want to be able to pass my details on. Very few are because they are interested in me personally.

The church isn't unaffected by GDPR - at some point we may have to ask members and friends if it's OK for us to keep their contact details on our list for example - but of course our communication has a rather different focus. We exist to share the Good News, and to share with one another in fellowship and love; and part of that is expressed through our caring about one another. We listen, we speak, we share. In doing so, we're seeking to do the will and follow the example of Christ our Saviour, who on so many occasions took the time to listen to those who came to him, who spoke into people's hearts and minds, and who shared in people's joys and sorrows to witness to God's grace and truth.

God Bless,

Rob

Preachers for June

3rd	Local Arrangement (<i>theme—Jonah</i>)
10th	Rev Rob Weir(<i>theme - Jonah/ HC</i>)
17th	Brian Faulkner (<i>theme –Jonah</i>)
24th	Mrs Yvonne Needham (<i>theme—Jonah</i>)

Stewards Rota for June

3rd	Maurice Latham
10th	Avril Bradfield
17th	Peter Shingler
24th	Robert Hewson

Junior Church Rota

Date		Leader	Assistant
June	3rd	Helen Trigg	Chris Crowther
	10 th	Helen Trigg	Wendy Proffitt
	17 th	Briony Myles-Hook	Janet Lees
	24 th	Brenda Aumeer	Chris Crowther
July	1st	Helen Trigg	Wendy Proffitt

Bible Study -

To tie in with Bible Month, there will be a series of Bible Studies based on Jonah. These will be at Church at 7:30pm on Tuesday 5th, 12th, and 26th June; Cafe Church, which will meet on Thursday 21st June, will also be looking at Jonah.

Steward's Letter



It's that time of year again when we all become very busy with our gardens & thoughts of summer holidays. After such a long cold, wet winter, Spring did finally arrive, and we could see all the beauty of God's wonderful creation come into life all around us - the colourful blossom of the trees, the bulbs sending forth their flowers and the chatter of the birds as they go about raising their new families.

As we go forward into our new Church Year following the AGM, may I take this opportunity to thank Mike Nimmo for all the service he gave the Church as Senior Steward & the guidance he gave me on taking up the role of Steward. I hope you will all give Maurice Latham your full support as he takes over this very important role in the life of St John's, and welcome Brian Faulkner in his new role as one of your Stewards.

You will have noticed the improvements to the flower borders - for this we must thank Gordan & Joan for their hard work. It was especially pleasing to see them working together again after all they have been through over the past year.

It takes a lot of work by a number of our church members to keep St John's functioning well. Now we need some more volunteers to go into the future. Firstly, we need someone to take on the role of co-coordinator for the Christmas Fayre we hold in the Civic Centre each year. This is one of our biggest fund raisers and has been successfully carried out by Chris Crowther but now for personal reasons she needs to reduce some of her work load so please can someone step forward to take on this role.

Secondly, we need a work party in the summer to clean down and paint the iron work around the outside of the Church windows. If you would be able to help please let me know.

As I continue to write this letter it is the 22nd May, the day we remember the death of 22 people who had been out enjoying the concert in Manchester Arena when that crazed individual decided to explode his bomb. It is times like this that can make me question my faith, what is God's plan for us. Then I look around and see all the good work people do for each other for no reward other than it seems right to do. Let us pray that our faith may continue to grow and one day the world may see peace.

God Bless you all

Pete

From Cheshire South Circuit

Safeguarding Training for June

Places on these sessions are limited to 25. It is therefore essential that you book a place. Contact Rob on 01270627774 or email chester.stoke@btconnect.com

People who went through the basic course 4-5 years ago are required to attend an Update course if still in post. Book in at one most convenient.

June 2018

Thurs. 7th	7.15-9.45pm	Update	Wesley Place (Hall)
Mon. 18th	2-4.30pm	Update	Malpas

Hankelow Methodist Church are hosting a concert by the North Shropshire Methodist Youth Choir on Saturday 30th June at 7.30pm. Tickets on the door priced at £5 and all proceeds for Motor Neurone Disease Society.

Betley Chapel are holding an Open Day on Saturday 23rd June displaying their archives. Coffee and cake in the morning, light lunches and afternoon tea are being served.

Churches Together

Churches Together in Whitchurch will hold their AGM on Tuesday 19th June at St John's. The business part of the meeting will start at 7pm with a talk from Shrewsbury Street Pastors following at 7.30pm. All are invited to attend to what should be a very interesting talk.

Mike and myself have stood down as representatives from St John's to Churches Together and, therefore, one or two replacements are needed. Please speak with one of us if you are interested in the work of Churches Together and we will give you further information of what is entailed.

Hazel Nimmo

Hospital Chaplaincy

The Whitchurch Community Hospital has a Chaplaincy Team run by Churches Together, and they're looking for volunteers - especially any men that want to join! If you have an hour or two a week, and would like to be a part of this, please speak to Rob Weir who will pass your details along.

Pray Think Act

The next Pray Think Act Meeting is to be on 20th June at the Manse. We're looking at setting up some groups for exploring faith, and, as part of the meeting, will be looking at resources to help in that, and thinking about ideas to encourage us to be a church that prays for one another and others, individually and together. All are welcome!

World Snooker championships 2018

Why were the competitors drinking Chinese water? Have we not got enough here in Britain?

Report from Church AGM held on 6th May 2018

Rob opened the meeting after our Morning Service.

Election of Stewards:

Mike Nimmo is stepping down after 17 years as a steward (6 years in this stint. **Rob Weir** gave his thanks and appreciation for everything Mike has brought to the life of our church and looked forward to his future contributions. **Maurice Latham** will replace him as **Senior Steward**. **Rob Hewson**; **Avril Bradfield** and **Peter**) were all re-elected for a further year. **Brian Faulkner** has agreed to act as Steward where his commitments as Lay Preacher and taxi driver permit and was elected unanimously. **Rob** thanked the stewards for all they do and invited anyone else who would like to stand as a Steward to speak to him.

Election of Additional Representatives to Church Council (up to 15):

The current Representatives are:

Derek Morris	Dorothy Faulkner	Andrew Fawcett
Michael Mulliner,	Chris Crowther	Audrey Darlington
Helen Trigg	Vic Trigg	Lucy Chidlow
Jim Walwyn	Jenny Marston	Janet Lees

Rachel Dimelow was proposed as an additional church representative.

Briony Myles-Hook has agreed to continue the role of **Church Council Secretary**.

Jane Cliffe has agreed to continue as **Church Treasurer**.

Hazel Nimmo is willing to continue as **Pastoral Secretary**

These appointments were put to the meeting and all approved.

Representative to Circuit Meeting : For information purposes. **Jane Cliffe** as Church Treasurer. **Chris Crowther** *Note: The church is entitled to send a 3rd representative as we have more than 50 members.*

Reports:

14 reports were included in the May Newsletter and distributed before the meeting.

Jim Walwyn updated the **Refurbishment Report** to say that all the money is now in place and the work is going out to tender. **Rob** thanked **Jim and others** for all their work. Jim thanked **Gordon Davidson** for offering to improve the borders outside the church.

Dorothy Faulkner updated the **Family Committee Report** to say that the donation made to Church Funds was £250 and not £200. **Mike Mulliner** thanked the group for providing so many opportunities for good fellowship.

Churches Together in Whitchurch . Rob reminded everyone that we need a representative for this group. **Rob Weir** is vice-chair and **Helen Trigg** attends as Christian Aid representative.

Finance Report: This was circulated at the meeting by **Jane Cliffe** and a copy is on the board in the vestry.

Pray Think Act Report. **Rob Weir** summarised the work of the group and reminded everyone of our new **Mission Statement**. This is an Open forum for those wanting to look at the direction of the spiritual life of our church and all are welcome to attend.

Tuesday Fellowship Report: **Janet Lees** outlined the variety of topics studied in the last 12 months and the range of materials used, resulting in thought-provoking and inspiring discussions.

Last June, the group followed the Bible Month Initiative on James and they also studied the lectionary reading for the Sunday following the meeting. In the Autumn they learned about the Sister Religions Christianity, Judaism and Islam from a Christian perspective using a dvd based programme of studies and from January they were inspired by 6 of the world's greatest Revivals in a series called "Do It Again Lord". Please see Janet if you would like to come along.

Prayer Meeting Report **Janet Lees** reported that this small group of JL MM LC and EJ meet regularly to pray for our nation and other nations, St John's revival and people within St John's. They welcome your prayer requests which are treated with total confidentiality.

Minister's report: **Rob Weir** said that he has enjoyed his 5 years here and is looking forward to at least 3 more. He is beginning to see what God is doing here at St John's and he appreciated the contributions everyone makes to life at our church.

There was no AOB so the Meeting closed at 12.06 pm with members saying the Grace to one another.

There is a copy of the minutes on the board in the Vestry.

Briony Myles-Hook (Church Council Secretary)

PRAYER REQUESTS



Thank God for the many ways He continues to bless and encourage us at St John's.

Pray for those known to us personally who are in any kind of need: particularly members of St John's who are ill, house-bound, in care, lonely or bereaved.

St John's

At this time of Pentecost, when we celebrate the gift of God's Holy Spirit, let us ask God to pour out His Holy Spirit afresh on us His Church, so that we will be renewed and refilled, and equipped to be His witnesses in our families, our town and our nation.

Our Nation

Let us thank God for some of the good things happening in our nation:

New figures collected by the Church of England suggest that over a fifth of students at Oxford, Cambridge and Durham colleges regularly attend chapel services – not all the colleges responded to the questionnaire, so the number may very well be higher! Give thanks for all these young people who are worshipping God whilst at university. Pray God's protection upon them.

Give thanks also for the ministry of the evangelist J. John and pray for the success of the 'Just One' initiative to be held at Priestfield Stadium in Gillingham on Saturday 9th June. Pray that many people will come to know Jesus as their Saviour and Lord as a result of this event.

The World Centre for Prayer is hosting a national day of prayer in Birmingham on Saturday 9th June. Give thanks for the work of WCP and pray that many Christians will respond to this call for prayer on behalf of our nation.

Give thanks for the many prayer groups, large and small, that are interceding on behalf of our nation. Ask that they may be sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and pray according to the will of God.

Politicians on the Island of Guernsey have rejected the legalisation of assisted suicide. They will review end of life care with the aim of increasing palliative support for individuals and their families. Give thanks for this decision and pray that people will indeed receive the help and support they need at the end of their lives. Pray that the church will have an active part in their care.

Despite experiencing strong opposition, Culture Secretary Matt Hancock has ordered a change in the law to clamp down on what have been called the ‘crack cocaine’ of gambling machines. The maximum stake for fixed-odds betting terminals is to be slashed from £100 to £2. Give thanks for this brave decision and pray that nothing will thwart its implementation.

*Praise the Lord, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits -
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

Psalms 103 : 1 - 5

From a Birthday Text Book called Bible Gems:

June 1st: The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Ps 33

Thou who hast given me eyes to see
And love this sight so fair
Give me the heart to find out Thee
And read Thee everywhere

Rotas for June

Book Stewards

3rd	May Arthan
10th	Gwen Reeves
17th	Mary Scott
24th	Sue Davies
July 1st	Beryl Pozniak



Tea & Coffee Rota

3rd	Sheila Latham & Dot Charlesworth
10th	Ruth Dawson & Einwen Kelly
17th	Mary Scott, Gwen Reeves & Dorothy Faulkner
24th	Elizabeth & Peter Shingler



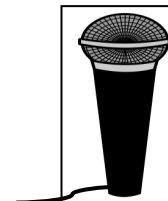
Flower Rota

3rd	Ruth Dawson
10th	Sarah Lunt
17th	Jean Fisher
24th	Joan Cook
July 1st	Sheila Latham



Sound System Operators

3rd	Andrew Fawcett
10th	Wendy Proffitt
17th	Gordon Davidson
24th	Mike Nimmo
July 1st	Jim Walwyn



Letter from Tilstock

Dear All,

As I have said many times, our heating system is going to need a complete overhaul. It is so inefficient the whole system except the boilers will need replacing. This will be Phase 2 of our refurbishment programme. On Sunday 6th May I found the long room was extremely hot so there must be a problem as it was a hot day and at that point I turned the heating off. The chapel temperature is currently 17.5 degrees which is more than it has been all winter! The recent gas bill was £350 for the month. December and January was almost £800 for each month. We cannot afford gas bills of this order. Turning the heating back on will only raise the temperature by a couple of degrees at most at a cost of £350 a month.

If we can manage without for the summer we will save ourselves a considerable amount of money. You cannot have a better or easier way to raise funds! So bring an extra jumper to church with you!

We are so Lucky!

The weather in April was a month of extremes. First it was too cold, then too wet and then too hot so how can I do any gardening? By mid-May it was too hot and dry. Sitting with Sheila having our morning coffee on the backyard, the sun is pushing through the early morning fog. We could see the great tits busy, to and fro, feeding their youngsters; a wren building his (or her) nest in the sun house; a blackbird nesting by the potting shed and a skylark singing high up near the clouds, so high I could not see it any more but it was wonderful to hear its song. Then disaster! I saw a magpie in the blackbird's nest stealing the eggs. On closer inspection I found the nest to be empty. All the blackbirds were extremely agitated. They must have known that they were under watch all day. Magpies are the one of the vandals of the bird world. However, next day the blackbird was singing again at the top of his voice with his very best tunes. As long as we have magpies we will never have too many small birds in our gardens and fields.

Maurice

Regular Church Activities

Mondays 9:30-11:30am: Parents & Toddlers (*Term time*)
1st, 2nd & 4th Tues. 7.30pm: Fellowship at Church (June only)
1st & 3rd Thurs. 7.30pm: Prayer Group at Church
Thursdays 7.00pm: Music Group Practice

Dates For Your June Diary

Tues. 5th/12th/26th 7.30pm Bible Study – Jonah
Weds. 6th 7pm Local Preachers Meeting @ St. John's
Fri. 8th 7pm Church meal at Willey Moor pub
Monday 11th 7pm Church Council
Weds. 13th 10.30am Ladies Coffee, meet at Costa Cafe
Tues. 19th 7pm Churches Together AGM followed by
at 7.30pm a talk by Shrewsbury Street Pastors
Weds. 20th 7.30pm Pray, Think, Act –meet at the manse
Thurs. 21st 7.30pm Café Church
Tues. 26th 2pm Network—speaker: Tom Allison

Other dates to note

Sun. 10th 2-4.30pm Cream teas at Prees Green Chapel
Sat. 16th 2.30-4.30pm Afternoon tea at Brown Knowl
Sun. 17th 2.30pm Service at Bradley Chapel
Sat. 23rd all day Betley Chapel Open Day (see note)
Sat. 30th 7.30pm NS Youth Choir Concert, Hankelow (see note)

Future Events

Mon. 2nd July 3pm Events Committee

July/August Newsletter

Please let **Jim Walwyn** have all your submissions for the July/
August 2018 Newsletter by 24th June.

**BENJAMIN'S CAFÉ &
DELI**



Delicious Breakfasts,
Lunches & Brunches at
good prices.

We offer freshly prepared food
from our deli, to eat in our café or
to take out.

3 High Street, Whitchurch, SY13 1AW

Tel: 01948 664726



*W*HITCHURCH
*P*HOTOGRAPHY

**FOR ALL YOUR
PHOTOGRAPHIC NEEDS!**

01948 664 664

**Weddings, Passports,
Studio Photoshoots,
Printing, Framing and
Canvases**

whitchurchphoto@gmail.com

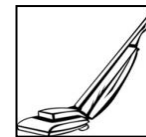
Taxi!

The following drivers are available to transport you to the
Sunday morning service. Please 'phone before 9:30am.

3rd	Brian Faulkner
10th	Hazel Nimmo
17th	Sheila Latham
24th	Jim Walwyn

Spick and Spanners

7th Helen Trigg, Wendy Proffitt & Brenda
Aumeer



21st Chris Crowther, Dot Charlesworth & Lynn Fowler

**The Most Famous Bread & Cake
Makers in Whitchurch!**

WALKERS



BARLOWS

**Your local electrical
store**

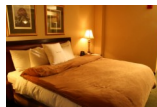


**High Street
Whitchurch**

**SPLISH SPLASH
“Olde Worlde Charm!”**

A Family run
Bathrooms Bedrooms &
Kitchens Business based at 46a
High Street Whitchurch

Speak to Vincent about your new
project! Or re-vamp your existing
kitchen, bathroom or bedroom



GALAXY

Computer Services

**Your local computer ex-
perts**



**Call Will or Matt 01948 665855
Top of High Street in
Whitchurch**