



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

**July/August 2022  
Newsletter**

**ST. JOHN'S METHODIST CHURCH**

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**Junior Church/BBT**

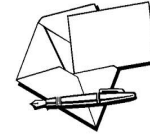
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## Message from the Manse



Hello friends,

Summer is here and hopefully the sun will continue to shine. With the children off school, the summer is filling up with holidays and days out with friends as well as juggling work commitments. It's always surprising how much children seem to grow up over the course of the summer holidays. I learnt some years ago that buying the uniform at the beginning of the holidays was never a good idea because as soon as September arrived their trousers that were too long or big around the waist are now too short and too tight around the middle.

Some of the best summers I had when I was child, were those spent playing in the garden, climbing trees and falling out of them, making perfume using petals from mum's roses, learning to ride my bike without stabilisers resulting in a trip to A & E and bringing all sorts of "pets" home such as frogs from the stream. I once brought a jar, full of stick insects, home that ended up breaking and for weeks my mum was finding stick insects all over the house and in the kitchen cupboards. My parents of course, probably didn't enjoy those summers as much as I did, but they are memorable and bring a smile to our faces when we think about them.

They say, '*all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy*', and I think that's true. There is so much pressure on children to grow up, to be independent and take on responsibility. The pressure of the world are hard on us as

adults, so why do we then impose that pressure onto our children? When the summer comes it's important to allow the children, and ourselves to relax and grow in other ways. Maybe you will get time to go away to the beach somewhere, or trekking in the Lake District or to simply holiday at home. Just taking time out of what, for many people has returned this year to being the rigours of our usual weekly routine is a good thing every now and again. We all need a break.

Now, I wonder when you last had a Mars bar? No- I haven't gone 'off piste' this month into advertising! But in thinking about work-life balance – work and rest - I had a sudden flashback to the old television adverts for Mars – 'A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play'. This was a fabulous slogan first adopted for the chocolate bar in the 1960s, dropped in 1997 but re-introduced briefly ten years later with a video of monk's bell ringing! I'm sure you must have seen that, but if not, it's available on YouTube!

The premise of the video was that eating a Mars bar 'aided exercise', which nutritionists amongst us might take dispute with, but nevertheless, the original slogan has remained memorable. We all need work, rest and play and getting the balance right is important for our physical and mental health. None of us can go flat out at work without risking 'burn-out' and none of us can just rest without losing the ability to move and be productive, and if life was just play I'm not sure what we might achieve in life. But many of us find it difficult to get the balance right.

And what about our spiritual wellbeing? How often do we wonder if we are achieving the right balance there, or ignoring our spiritual needs completely? Jesus knew how

to withdraw often and find space and time to 'just be', to connect with God and to pray. He knew the importance of getting the balance right and in doing so was better equipped and able to be there for others to help them to achieve inner peace and rest.

*He said: "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

*Matthew 11:28-30*

This summer, why not re-evaluate your 'work, rest and pray' balance and see if any adjustments need to be made. Jesus is waiting to hear from you.

Every blessing for a summer that is filled with all that is good and refreshing

Rev Donna

### **Whitchurch Community Choir**

The choir uses our building for rehearsals and are inviting church members, family and friends to an Open rehearsal on Monday 11th July from 7pm. The choir will perform a selection of their repertoire and then coffee and biscuits will be served. All are welcome.

## STEWARD'S LETTER



May this year we relaunched our Midday Concerts after a poor start, with a problem with our organ (our guest organist was not impressed) we were very lucky that amongst our congregation we had someone who was able to fix the issue with a rubber band and it has been OK since.

After this disappointing start we went from strength to strength. Thanks must go to Chris. C. and all her helpers in the kitchen.

In June 2022, we celebrated our Queen 's platinum Jubilee, with much celebrating up and down the country. We held our Jubilee coffee morning at St. John's, it was well attended, and we welcomed many new faces. It also was a good fundraiser, making a total of £248:00.

God Bless you all.

*Maurice Latham.*

### Hope in Times of Crisis

Christian Aid week 2022

Thank you to everyone who supported Christian Aid week this year. We raised a total of £1,111.44 as follows

£250.06 Coffee Morning at the Civic Centre.

£145.47 Collecting buckets on the High Street

£50 Sponsored 300,000 steps

£413.51 Pew collection at Joint Service

£232.40 other donations

£20 E-envelope

Many thanks to everyone who helped!

Briony & Helen

*An interesting account:-*

“In June of 1941, Hitler’s Army began a rampage through Ukraine, razing towns, unleashing death squads, and massacring Jews by the hundreds of thousands. In one village in the Pale of Settlement, virtually the only region of the Soviet Empire in which Jews were permitted to reside, four Jewish brothers enlisted in the military, said goodbye to their parents, and walked off to fight the Nazis.

By the war’s end in 1945, only one of the brothers, named Seymon, was still alive. He returned to find that the Nazis had torched his entire village, burning his parents to death. Seymon’s family was dead, and his beloved Ukraine was in ruins. The Nazis had murdered between 1.2 and 1.6 million Ukrainian Jews.

Seymon married a fellow Ukrainian Jew who had survived the war by fleeing her city, in which the Nazis had killed 5,000 Jews. Two years later, in the same city, they had a son, Oleksandr, keeping alive the family line that the Nazis had brought a razor’s width from extinction. Thirty-one years after that, Oleksandr had his own little boy.

That boy is Volodymyr Zelensky, who has grown up to be the President of independent, democratic Ukraine. Today, he leads his outmanned, outgunned, ferociously defiant nation against the onslaught of Russia. As Russia dashes itself against the will of his people, Zelensky, the survivor of survivors, summons the resilience of his ancestor. He does not bend.”

*Submitted by Edna Perry*



## **MIDDAY CONCERTS**

Many thanks to Chris, Elaine and Rachel for organizing the Midday Concerts, after a three year gap. The invited artists gave varied performances which were well received by those who came. It was supported from the town, surrounding area and even a couple on holiday and of course our own people.

Most people stayed for a light lunch, thank you to those who gave to this, prepared and cleaned up afterwards.

It is good to open up our doors and invite people in. Donations were received for Ukraine and the Church Heritage Fund, which so far has amounted to £770. Conversations are taking place around using this money to support some Ukraine that are living in this area. If you were unable to attend and wish to give, please speak with our Treasurer or one of the church Stewards.

Again, many thanks to all. We look forward to next year!

## **Garden Party**

Grateful thanks to Lynn & Lawrence Fowler for inviting us into their garden and providing lovely cakes, which has added another £140, making this over £900 raised for the Church Heritage Fund and Ukraine.

Brian.

## BIBLE MONTH

This normally is held in June but St. John's delayed this a month, as other services were planned last month.

This year's book is Isaiah, which is one of the larger books with 66 chapters. The book of Isaiah is found roughly in the centre of the Bible. It is not an easy book, so it may come as a challenge.

You could read two Chapters a day, which if you started before the beginning of July is manageable. Choosing to read one chapter a day, means you are doing this over two months, rather than one.

As I am one of the Preachers, I have decided to get ahead by reading more than one chapter a day. Please feel free to borrow a Bible from church if you need to.

The suggested heading for the four weeks are:-

10 th July Tough Love

17 th July A Light to the World

24 th July The Faithful Servant

31 st July A New World

We are grateful to Graham, Mike and Rev. Jenny for being willing to lead the congregation in Themed Worship.

Brian.

### ***From The Months by Sara Coleridge:***

Hot July brings cooling showers,

Apricots and gillyflowers.

August brings the sheaves of corn,

Then the harvest home is born

### **Action For Children**

Some members of our congregation of our church have already asked when I will be collecting the Action for Children boxes for this year. Well it's been a year since the last collection, so the time has arrived!

I will start collecting in July going into August/September, but the earliest you provide me with your box the easier my role will be. If I'm not present in church on the Sunday you attend please leave your box with the steward who will keep it safe for us.

However if there's anyone else in the church congregation who would like a collecting box, remember that £0.50 per week ends up as a donation per year of £26. Please contact me and I will be delighted to provide a box.

Thank you in anticipation  
David Whiteley

### **Churches Together**

The AGM of Churches Together is set for July 7th at 7pm in the Beacon Centre. All are invited. This is an opportunity to have fellowship with our local Christian friends and after the short amount of business each church will give a brief insight into the life and work of their church. Please come along if you can.

*A letter from Edna and Ivan Perry:-*

Dear Friends at St. John's,  
It is with pleasure my husband, Ivan, and I join you. Age never comes without its changes and one being for us is that the services we enjoyed once at Market Drayton, when the singing of the music group extended the length of time, is no longer something we can cope with. Back aches, mild sleep apnoea (working keeps me awake!) and general aches and pains mean that the service at St. John's is to our liking. Also we can still do a little preaching which is our joy. Market Drayton circuit is well off for preachers. Our dear family understand this and we hope to share in the work of our new church family as far as we are able.

Blessings  
Edna and Ivan

**Zoom Services**

The next Zoom services will be on Sunday 17th July at the earlier time of 3.00pm and Sunday 21st August at 4.00pm. Everyone is welcome for a short service and time of fellowship.

Contact Avril for the link.

*Sign in the window of a butcher's shop:  
Do try our pork pies. You'll never get better!*

### Bumps, Babies & Tots for July

Bumps Babies and Toddlers takes place each Monday from 9.30-11.30am. Any mums, dads, nanas, grandpas and other carers and their children are welcome to join us for craft, toys and coffee in the long room and guild room and singing, stories and prayers in the church. We are keen for more people in church to join our rota of helpers so if you would like to help or just want to come and say hello, please speak to Briony. If we have enough volunteers we hope to offer some sessions during August.

### BBT Rota for July

<b>Date / Leader</b>	<b>Setting up</b>	<b>Gen &amp; Craft</b>	<b>1 to 1</b>	<b>Tea</b>	<b>Open up</b>
27/6 Kathryn	Briony	Chris	Brenda	Sarah	Pete
4/7 Kathryn	Mike	Dot	Elaine	Hazel	Pete
11/7 Briony	Briony	Chris	Brenda	Sarah	Pete
18/7 Kathryn	Mike	Dot	Chris	Hazel	Pete
25/7 No BBT?	School	Holi- days?			Pete

### Preachers for July

3rd Rev Donna Broadbent-Kelly *baptism*  
10th Graham Dimelow  
17th Brian Faulkner  
24th Mike Valentine  
31st Rev. Jenny Arthurs

### Stewards for July

3rd Andrew Fawcett  
10th Brian Faulkner  
17th Robert Hewson  
24th Peter Shingler  
31st Maurice Latham

### Sound for July

3rd Andrew Fawcett  
10th Sarah Lunt  
17th Norman Gollins  
24th Brian Acty  
31st Mike Nimmo

### Tea & Coffee Rota for July

3rd Hazel & Mike Nimmo  
10th Lynn Fowler & Helen Thompson  
17th Chris Crowther & Elaine Gollins  
24th Ruth Dawson & Einwen Kelly  
31st Sheila Latham & Dot Charlesworth



### Preachers for August

7th Rev Jon Chesworth  
14th Rev Brian Acty  
21st Martin Woodhall  
28th Rev Edna Perry

### Stewards for August

7th Brian Faulkner  
14th Andrew Fawcett  
21st Robert Hewson  
28th Peter Shingler

### Sound for August

7th Andrew Fawcett  
14th Sarah Lunt  
21st Norman Gollins  
28th Brian Acty

### Tea & Coffee Rota for August

7th Brenda Aumeer & Nancy Millington  
14th Sue Davies & Dorothy Faulkner  
21st Linda Jenkins & Sarah Lunt  
28th Elizabeth & Peter Shingler



### **Spick & Spanners for July**

7th Chris Crowther, Dot Charlesworth &  
Lynn Fowler

21st Helen Trigg, Brenda Aumeer &  
Rachel Dimelow

### **Spick & Spanners for August**

4th Einwen Kelly, Ruth Dawson &  
Sheila Latham

18th Nancy Millington & Gwen Reeves

### **Reporting scams—the basics—from Age UK**

If you suspicious about...

...a call — hang up.

...an email— forward it to:- [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

...a text message forward it to 7726, which is free of charge.

### **Important words**

*from Grace magazine Summer 2000*

The six most important words... “I admit I made a mistake.”

The five most important words... “You did a good job”.

The four most important words... “What is your opinion?”

The three most important words... “If you please.”

The two most important words... “Thank you.”

The one most important word... “We”.



## **PRAYER REQUESTS**



Pray for those known to us who are ill, housebound, in care, lonely, bereaved or in any other kind of need.

### **St John's**

Help us to be a loving, caring community and to respect differing viewpoints. Help us to prayerfully consider the question of whether to allow our church building to be used for same-sex weddings. Let God guide our thoughts, speech and decisions.

### **Our Town**

Pray for the school children as they come to the end of a school year some finishing or having completed exams. Let it be a time of physical and mental renewal for them.

### **Our Nation**

Pray for wisdom for our leaders as they make decisions on our behalf in the current world-wide crises. Help them to be respectful of one another even if they disagree with policies.

### **Our World**

Pray for the people of Ukraine wherever they find themselves. Give them hope of life returning to some kind of normality in the coming months. Don't forget to pray for other areas of the world which are suffering from war, drought, flooding and persecution

## Dates for your Diary

### June

Sun 26th 4pm Circuit Service at Broomhall & Sound

### July

Fri. 1st 9.30-12 Civic coffee morning

Thurs. 7th 7pm Churches Together

Mon. 11th 7pm Community Choir Open House

Thurs. 14th 10.30am Ladies Coffee at Jones's

Sun. 17th 3pm Zoom service

### August

Sat. 6th 11am Thanksgiving Service for Derek Morris

Thurs. 11th 10.30am Ladies Coffee at Jones's

Sun. 21st 4pm Zoom Service

### Regular Activities

Mon. 4th, 11th and 18th July 9.30—11.30am BBT

Mon. 4th and 18th July 1 -4.00pm MORE

Mon. 1st and 15th August 1 -4.00pm MORE

### September 2022 Newsletter

Please let Vic Trigg have all your submissions for the next Newsletter by 21st August. Send material to:  
email: vic@triggfamily.org.uk or tel: 01694 771865

*This magazine costs 25p to produce. Contributions towards this expense would be gratefully received. The proceeds from advertising in this magazine will be used solely for 'Access for All' improvements to our church. Inclusion of an advertisement in this magazine does not imply an endorsement of the products or services of the advertiser by St. John's.*

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**Taxi! for July**

3rd No taxi available	10th Pete	258215
17th Brian 664898	24th David	667193
31st Sheila 880218		

**Taxi! for August**

7th Hazel 667857	14th David	667193
21st Hazel 667898	28th Sheila	880218

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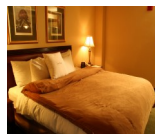
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## WALKERS

