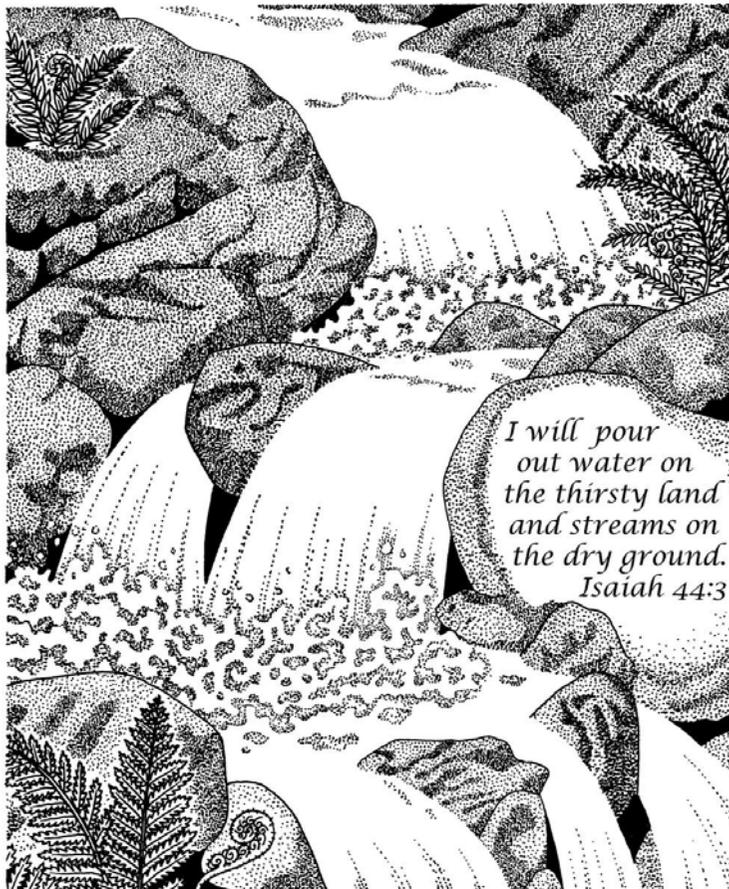


NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

Chapel Lane



March
2018



March 2018

Mondays	9.30am – 10.30am Pilates
Tuesdays	9.15am – 10.13am Pilates 10.30am – 11.30am “
Fridays	9.30am – 10.30 am Pilates (not 30 th)
Sat 3 rd	12 noon – 2pm Lent Lunch at Tylers Green M.C.
Thursday 8 th	10.30 am – 12 noon CAMEO Club
Tuesday 13 th	9.am Silent Prayer “ 7.30 pm Circuit Meeting at Wesley Methodist Church
Wed 14 th /28 th	9.30am – 11.30 am Strings Music Group
Sat 17 th	12 noon – 2pm Lent Lunch at Naphill at Stokenchurch C of E Church.
Thurs 22 nd	11.30 am – 4pm Wycombe Youth for Christ <i>Easter Unwrapped</i>
Fri 30 th	10.30 am Good Friday Service followed by tea/coffee and hot cross buns.

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Wednesday Fellowship takes place at 2.15pm and will resume on 7th March after the winter break. We will continue to study The York Course. All are welcome to the weekly meetings.

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Thanks, God bless.

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March 2018

Sunday 4 th	10.30am Pam Sweet
Sunday 11 th	10.30 am Rev Greg Hargrove <i>Mothers Day</i>
Sunday 18 th	10.30 am <i>L. A.</i>
Sunday 25 th	10.30 am Rev John Richey <i>Holy Communion</i>
Friday 30 th	10.30 am Good Friday service





Letter from our Minister for February

As you read this letter, we're almost through Lent and fast approaching Easter, when we celebrate the most important feast in the Christian calendar.

I guess Lent however is not always associated with Good News, particularly if this means we need to face up to the challenges around us. Lent in the forty days and nights, the Church takes us into the wilderness, to pause, to pray, to meditate and reflect on the various readings of scriptures, to take us on a journey with Jesus. On this journey one can recognise that Jesus lived his life having to face real temptations, which was a true measure of his humanity.

Although we're never likely having to face death to overcome temptations; temptation is something we need to endure, however, the wilderness is something we need never have to face alone by depending upon our own resources. We are tempted; we all fail and sin. I'm sure there have been times in your life, mine also, when we may have wondered if there is a way out of the wilderness. All of us need to hear like Jesus the love of God, his Father that recognises us as his beloved children. So, when hearing that voice calling us to repent, it is the call to stay with the one who loves us. The Gospel challenges us to change our minds about the way we think, to change our hearts about parts of the Gospel we ignore, and to change our ways about habits of sin. Let's be clear, Jesus spiritual battle with 'Satan' was not overcome in the wilderness, it

ended with his death in Jerusalem. For Jesus overcoming temptation was his lifetimes work.

Our lifetime's task is no less a spiritual battle, we've temptation to overcome. So, not to over-spiritualize will share a story of an Indian Chief standing with his grandson on a reservation, telling him of all the battles, won and lost on an Indian land, but said the greatest battle to be won is one that takes place within every human heart where two wolves (spirits) live:

The first wolf is bad: it's filled with: anger – envy – jealousy – sorrow – regret – greed – arrogance – self-pity – guilt – resentment – vendetta – inferiority – lies – false pride – superiority and ego. **The second wolf is good:** it's filled with: joy – peace – love – hope – serenity – humility – kindness – benevolence – empathy – generosity – truth – compassion and faith.

After a few moments pause – the grandson asks: 'Granddad which of the two wolves wins?' The chief replied... "My son this depends upon which one you feed."

Each of us will have varying degrees of the bad and good wolf living within us and that Lent serves to remind us of our need to begin facing up to the bad wolf within. The Good News is that we have the word of God that informs us. When we align ourselves to the word of God, the good wolf surfaces, thereby we find ourselves on the road that draws us nearer to the kingdom of God.

Every Blessing

John
Blessings

News from Wycombe Youth for Christ:

A testimony written by Laura Ingle a parent.

As a Christian, I know how difficult it can be to be strong in faith at school, so I was really pleased to see The Zone (led by the WYFC team) taking place at Beechview school when my son joined the school in 2015. The club was free, huge fun and attracted a wide range of his friends from all backgrounds. It gave him space to discover more about the Christian faith, and meet incredible Christian people, unmediated by his parents!

He learned about lots of elements of faith in a really fun way and we were blown away when he decided he wanted to be baptised after learning more about its meaning at The Zone and seeing a baptism service at Church. He pursued this with our vicar and was baptised after learning more about its meaning, aged 8, along with a number of adults and teenagers a few months later. Rebecca from Wycombe Youth for Christ delighted him by attending in support!

His sister has joined since and, partly as a result of The Zone, both of them are confident talking about their faith at school. It is not something to be shy about – their friends have a positive view of Christianity because of the presence of the team.

We are about to move out of the area and both children are sad to be leaving The Zone but they have talked to the leaders about the move and they have offered support and prayer and this has been a great help.

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NAPHILL Methodist Church – THE FUTURE

The church council met on the afternoon of Thursday 8th February and after discussion formally voted to “Cease to Meet” i.e. close the church.

The final Sunday service will be on 1st July. On the following Saturday, 7th July, there will be a service of celebration for the life and witness of Naphill Methodist Church followed by tea in the church hall.

All members of the congregation will need to decide where they wish to worship after 7th July and Revd John Richey will be consulting all church members about to where they wish their membership to be transferred.

Where possible arrangements will still be made to try and help those who require transport to get to a Sunday morning service – probably at Cryers Hill.

If you have any queries or concerns about this process, please talk to one of the stewards or to Revd John Richey.

Roy Slocombe
Church Council Secretary

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THE WAY I SEE IT: Mothers and Mothering

The American invention, “Mother’s Day”, will be celebrated on Sunday 11th March, though the cards, boxes of chocolates and reservations for deliveries of flowers will be in the shops long before. It’s a very nice idea, as most of us love our mothers dearly and welcome a chance to celebrate their importance in our lives.

I say “American invention”, because long before Mother’s Day there was a Christian event, marked nowadays in the Church Calendar, with the title ‘Mothering Sunday’. It’s still widely observed in churches on the fourth Sunday of Lent, and yes, that’s 11th March, too.

The difference between them is subtle but profound. 'Mother's Day' is about who she is, particularly in our lives. 'Mothering Sunday', as its rather awkward name implies, is about a quality which we recognise in mothers but can be present elsewhere – to 'mother' someone.

We have all needed mothering, from time to time, and not simply when we were tiny and helpless, literally dependent on our mothers for our sustenance and survival. During the years of **the last War I was 'mothered' by my grandmother. Sometimes a friend acts in this role for us, when we feel lonely or helpless. 'Mothering' means caring deeply, sustaining, supporting, whatever the cost.**

That is why God, whom we usually call 'Father', is sometimes spoken of in the Bible as 'mothering' us, gathering us in His arms of love, even feeding us like a mother. On 'Mothering Sunday' we celebrate so much more than our own beloved mums. We celebrate the whole glorious notion of care, compassion and nurture. And of that care, very often our own mothers are the very best examples.

Canon David Winter



Easter prayer

Almighty Father,

When life is difficult and the way seems too hard, help us to remember the reality of Easter; of the resurrection of Jesus; of His wonderful saving work on the cross, overcoming death to offer us life for all eternity with you.

There is so much we don't understand, Lord, but you know everything, you are in charge and we can trust you even when we can't work things out.

Thank you for the hope, peace and joy that you alone can give - and all because of the resurrection of Jesus. Thank you that He is alive today and able to help us whatever our situation. Help us to be your Easter People, reaching out with your love and life.

In Jesus name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

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Community fridge receives warm welcome

Janet Holmes, a team vicar in Telford, Shropshire, has responded to shocking statistics around UK food waste, resulting in the launch of Brookside Community Fridge.

After participating in the Make Goodmissional entrepreneurship course, a partnership between Church Mission Society, Matryoshka Haus and the Pickwell Foundation, Janet worked with others in her community to bring the idea to fruition.

The fridge, hosted in a local community centre, is a place where anyone can put in and take out food – so supplies are donated by both individuals and local businesses, and anyone in the community can come to make use of them. The team saw the idea in London, and

managed to secure some funding from the Sainsbury's "waste less, save more" initiative.

It seems a simple solution to the issue of food waste – yet it has caught the eye of local media, and the fridge has been featured on Midlands Today TV news and the project co-ordinator, Sam Smith, was interviewed by BBC Radio Shropshire.

To learn more about the Make Good missional entrepreneurship course, which helps bring good ideas like this to life, go to:

www.pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

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How often do you read the Bible? How often do you pray?

A recent poll of members of the Church of England has found that 60 per cent of people who say they are Christians also say that they never read the Bible. 36 per cent say they never attend church. 33 per cent say they never pray.

The figures, from ComRes, which was asked to do the poll, reveal that many people who claim to be Christians do not actually do the most basic activities associated with being a Christian. Of all the self-confessed Christians whom ComRes polled, those who said they were followers of the Church of England were the least observant.

Rachel Jordan, the Church's national mission and evangelism adviser, said the survey had given it 'a real sense of the scale of the task ahead... we, as a group of leaders across denominations committed to evangelism, wanted to devise a measure which shows us who the most committed people are – those who themselves might be willing to take on the task of spreading the good news of Jesus.'

March	4th	11th	18th	25th
<u>Steward</u>	Janice	Moira	Margaret	Joy
<u>Welcome</u>	Christine	<i>volunteers needed</i>		
<u>Flowers</u>	Moira	Janet	Isobel	Janice
<u>Transport</u>	Moira	Janet	John	Roy

Transport: *please phone on Saturday if possible, or **before 9.15 am** on Sunday*

Phone numbers: John Jones-564469, Roy Slocombe-564955, Ruth Isaac-564066, Janet Judge-563186, Moira Lewis 562817

(NB If you are unable to fulfill your planned duty, please arrange for someone to take your place).



MINISTER: **REV JOHN RICHEY**
01494 526747

CONTACT **MISS MARGARET BRACEY,**
STEWARD **199, MAIN ROAD, NAPHILL, BUCKS.**
01494 563337

STEWARD: **MRS JOY PEMBERTON: 01494 562918**

STEWARD: **MRS JANICE SLOCOMBE: 01494 564955**

STEWARD: **MRS MOIRA LEWIS: 01494 562817**
Art Classes **Mrs Joy Pemberton 01494 562918.**
Welcome Rota **Mrs Joy Pemberton**
Flower rota **“ “ “**
Church Council **Mr Roy Slocombe: 01494 564955**
Newsletter Editor **Mrs Moira Lewis : 01494 562817**
e-mail: moirajlewis@hotmail.com

Treasurer and
Gift Aid Sec **Mr Roy Slocombe**
Wednesday **Mrs Betty Jones tel: 01494 564469**
Fellowship

Network Secretary **Margaret Bracey: 01494 563337**
Communion **Betty and John Jones: - tel: 564469**

Stewards

Church web address:

<http://www.highwycombemethodist.org.uk/naphill.php>

To find out more about Christianity visit: www.christianity.org.uk



[christianity.org.uk](http://www.christianity.org.uk)