



KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



July - August 2016

SERVICES FOR JULY/AUGUST



- 10 Jul 10.30 Rev Rachel Bending, Family Service
- 17 Jul 10.30 Rev Rachel Bending, Holy Communion
6.30 CIRCUIT SERVICE - Greenford Methodist Church
say farewell to the Rev's Peter & Suva Catford - all
welcome to come, thank them and wish them well.
- 24 Jul 10.30 Local Arrangement
- 31 Jul 10.30 Rev Randolph Turner
6.00 Bible Study - 'We Make the Road by Walking'
- 7 Aug 10.30 Local Arrangement
6.00 Bible Study - 'We Make the Road by Walking'
- 14 Aug 10.30 Mrs Esther Ackah
- 21 Aug 10.30 Rev Rachel Bending, Holy Communion
6.00 Bible Study - 'We Make the Road by Walking'
- 28 Aug 10.30 Local Arrangement



CIRCUIT WELCOME SERVICE FOR NEW MINISTERS

This service will be held on Saturday, 3 September, at Hanwell Methodist Church at 4.00 pm to welcome the new ministers, Rev Yemi Jaiyesimi and Rev Shirlyn Toppin, joining our Circuit. All are invited and encouraged to attend so that we can give our new ministers the warmest of welcomes.

The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

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Dear friends,

There is no doubt that the past month has left us much to grieve over. Wars carry on still in the Middle East and elsewhere causing many to flee their homes to seek and become refugees. In the USA a mass shooting at a nightclub in Orlando left many dead and grieving. In the UK the police debate over the referendum often became aggressive, inward looking and led some to feel threatened and under attack and then to feel misled following the result. The murder of the MP Jo Cox shocked us all. Racist graffiti has been put on the door of the Polish Centre in Hammersmith which appears to be connected with the referendum vote. A father has been convicted of beating his 6 year old daughter to death. ...I could go on. At a recent service when I asked what people would like to pray about the first answer was "Where do we start?"

It seems all too appropriate that, as I mentioned in last month's magazine, the circuit's summer worship series this year takes as it's focus Psalms of Lament. The American pastor and scholar, Walter Breuggemann, calls these Psalms of Dislocation. Lament is the feeling of grief arriving from the acknowledgement that all is not as it should be. In Hamlet's words "The time is out of joint—O cursèd spite, That ever I was born to set it right!"

But lament does not leave us in our grief but enables us through God's grace to transform and heal. It stops us looking at things from our own point of view alone but enables us to join with God and others in grieving the things which separate us from each other, God and God's Kingdom. As such it causes us to revise our assessments of how things are, and stops us from attributing blame and looking for scapegoats. It is, therefore, an antidote to our blame culture and places compassion at the centre of all we do. It is not comfortable for it requires us to sit with our grief and be willing to be changed by it rather than trying to box it up and push it out of the way, but it essential for our spiritual maturity and health and a primary mechanism for the coming of God's Kingdom within and among us. Only once we have faced reality and grieved all that is wrong can we truly and realistically praise God.

May God bless you in all you lament and in all the joys that life brings with love.

Rachel

Joint statement following the EU referendum

The Revd Steve Wild and Jill Barber, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, have released the following joint statement following the EU referendum.

The people have spoken through the democratic process. We recognise that the result will cause pain to some people who voted with passion and integrity and that now is the time to move forward together with goodwill. The structures have changed but our hopes for a fair, just and equal society continue. We must now gather the political will to tackle poverty, climate change and the refugee crisis.

This Referendum has shown both the best and the worst of our democracy. It is to be celebrated that major constitutional change has happened peacefully and transparently; something that is all too rare in the world even today. We are saddened that the referendum debate has at times promoted feelings of fear and even hatred and racism. We do not believe that most people, however they voted in the referendum, wanted this. It certainly does not represent the kind of country that Britain wants to be. We must be careful now that these narratives do not shape the way that we do politics in the future.

As the future of our role in the EU is negotiated, we cannot cut ourselves off from Europe. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Europe, and particular in our sister Churches, and assure them that our love and commitment towards them is undiminished.



*Whatever you are doing we hope you all
have a happy and peaceful summer break.
See you again in September.*

Editors



From the Joint Public Issues Team After the Referendum –

A recommitment to the Common Good

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

This week the people of the UK have made the significant decision to leave the European Union. Across our communities, including in churches, some will face this with dismay; others with celebration. We are already seeing some of the political consequences, including the decision by David Cameron to stand down as Prime Minister later this year.

The pattern of voting has revealed differences within the British people which will be interpreted in various ways. These should not become the tools of division, but spur us to find the common resolve and respect to overcome them. Together we are facing a time of significant change.

Whatever view we might hold about the referendum result, this is a time to recognise that the well being of the UK and its people does not solely depend on its place in the European Union. Fairness and justice for all were never going to be the automatic consequences of being inside or outside a particular institution. They will only become realities if, as a country and as citizens, we intentionally pursue them both at home and abroad.

Our aims for the kind of society we want to live in remain the same. People disagreed whether the kinds of issues we will continue to face – climate change, peace and security, sustainable agriculture, welfare, trade and the movement of people – would be better dealt with by being in or out. We have voted for out. But the aim of pursuing a just society has not changed. After months of sometimes damaging debate we must recommit ourselves to work together for the common good.

Many of the issues we face cannot be effectively addressed in isolation from our near neighbours or indeed worldwide partners. While the

structures may change our work towards justice and peace must continue alongside our European sisters and brothers.

We believe that every human being is made in the image of God. Any narrative that undermines this, or promotes division and discrimination, runs contrary to the values of God's Kingdom. Our prayer is that we might turn away from the language of fear or self-interest and recommit to this sense of our common humanity.

We now face an inevitable process of change, and with that will come uncertainty. As a people of faith, we can draw strength from recognising that God's purposes prevail beyond any political alliance or union. As God's Word expresses the intent that every nation shall be blessed, we have a place within the wider world that includes a responsibility towards those who are the most impoverished and needy.

As the implications of this historic decision continue to emerge, we call upon those who lead us to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly in the ways of God's Kingdom.

God of every nation and people,
At this historic moment we pray for all who are affected by the
decision that we have made.
Whatever differences this has revealed within our own society,
may they not eclipse what we have in common.
Where the narratives of political debate have caused harm and
division
help us to reclaim the true values of our shared humanity.
Where exaggeration and distortion have generated suspicion
and fear
may truth and honesty restore hope and goodness.
We pray for all the nations of Europe
that you will help us to find ways of living and working together
to pursue the mercy and justice that you require.
We recommit ourselves – together – to the values of your
eternal Kingdom
and pray that along with all people
we might help your world become more as you intended.

AMEN

Posted on [24 June 2016](#) by [Phil Jump](#)

One of district chairs

Rev'd Jenny Impey will be leaving in September.

She writes:

"It has been a tremendous privilege to serve the District for the first 10 years of its life and a joy, in partnership with others, to oversee the vision of the London District become a reality with its increasingly diverse leadership and developing conversations about mission and ministry.

The opportunities are endless within the vast variety of churches and communities that constitute the district. The challenges continue to abound as we learn what it means to be the people of God called Methodist in all our diversity, being and sharing good news within this incredible global city and beyond.

Whilst it doesn't always feel like it on a day to day basis, when we step back and take a clearer look, the resources we have been given in terms of property, finance and people are truly remarkable. As I prepare to move on, my prayer is that through worshipping and working together you will be able to more fully recognise those gifts; and that through the encouragement and care of one another, together with wise and creative stewardship those gifts might be liberated and used in fresh ways for the sake of the kingdom...

Our task is to continue to be open to the new ways into which God leads us and the sometimes surprising people God calls us to partner in mission."

BOYS BRIGADE'S 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN SEPTEMBER

The BB will be celebrating its 50th Birthday on Sunday 18th September. This will take the form of a Church Parade (10am), a Service of Thanksgiving and a social meeting afterwards. We have invited dozens of Old Boys and Ex-Staff to join us on that day. Please book the date in your diary.



Family News

It is with great pleasure that we learn that **Emilia Sassa** and **Raimundo Baptista** are to be married at Kingsdown on Saturday, 23 July, at 2 pm. Their children **Aleisha** and **Junior** (Ramundo) are already active participants in Junior Church. Congratulations, many blessings and sincere good wishes from the Kingsdown family.

Kathleen Loveridge has now moved from Balfour Road, so please use her mobile phone number to contact her at present: 07711 956010.

We send sincere condolences and prayers to **Patrick Teye** on the death of his mother **Matilda** on Thursday, 23 June 2016.

A further happy event to report is that the **Rev Roger Dunlop** is to be married to **Catherine Morris** at Northwood Methodist Church on Saturday, 17th September 2016, at 2.30 pm. Again, congratulations, many blessings and sincere good wishes from the Kingsdown family.

The **Rev Cecil Smith** died on 4 June 2016 and a cremation service took place on 9 June at Breakspear Crematorium for family and close friends. This was followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at Pinner Methodist Church on Tuesday, 21 June, led by the Rev Susan Male and the Rev John Swarbrick, and was attended by a good representative number of the Kingsdown family. A buffet reception in the church hall gave family and friends the opportunity to reflect on Cecil's life. Our sincere condolences and prayers to Cecil's wife **Barbara** and their children **Kate** and **Alan**.

Eileen Cox, a former member of Kingsdown, died on the 21 May 2016. Her funeral took place on 14 June, with a committal service at Mortlake Crematorium led by the Rev Steve Hawkes (Eileen's nephew). This was followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Barnabas Church, Pitshanger Lane, conducted by the Rev Justin Dodd. Rev Steve Hawkins gave the sermon and the tribute - which included memories contributed by Eileen's friends - along with his own personal memories. A buffet lunch followed the service, which was an opportunity for friends from various aspects of Eileen's life (such as university, holidays, meditation group, church) to meet with each other and Eileen's brother and sister. Sincere condolences to family and friends of Eileen.



The latest edition of the Connexion is out.

You should find a copy in the foyer or online at

<http://methodist.org.uk/media/2174445/the-connexion-magazine-issue-5-0416.pdf>

Amongst other great articles you'll find a picture and comments by our deacon Lemia Nkelah on page 20.

Jesus would be banned

A professor at Oxford University claims free speech in the UK has eroded so much that Jesus Christ would be banned from preaching on university campuses if he were alive today.

Speaking at the Hay Festival, Professor Timothy Garton Ash called for a rethink on new counter-terrorism legislation. He said: "Some of you may know that in the new counter-terrorism legislation, the securocrats in the Home Office are trying to impose on universities a so-called prevent duty, which would call on us to prevent even non-violent extremists speaking on campus. Now non-violent extremists? That's Karl Marx, Rousseau, Charles Darwin, Hegel and, most clearly, Jesus Christ who was definitely a non-violent extremist. The Home Office wouldn't want him preaching on campus. This is a real threat, I think, to free speech and one we have to fight back against."

Introducing his new book *Free Speech: Ten Principles for a Connected World*, he said it was not just the state that was endangering free speech. He said individuals are too quick to say they're offended. He's calling on universities to 'hold the line' in order for free speech to survive.

Have you ever wondered why doctors describe what they do as practice?

CHRISTIAN AID NEWS



1. Christian Aid Week 2016 is now over and at Kingsdown it has gone extremely well. The final result is not known at present, but even though we had to 'drop' 3 roads, I'm hopeful that our final total will be a little in excess of £3,000.00. Thank you for all your support and generosity, and it was good to see a 'new' face amongst our supporters!

Since this is the only time during the year we do House-to-House collecting say, from time to time, "We are from Kingsdown on Northfield Avenue". This year, more people than usual, have said "I/we go to your book sales!" It's good to know that so many people see our adverts and then come along to the Hall - and obviously enjoy our Book Fairs.

2. In the May Messenger I mentioned the **LAMBTH PALACE GARDEN OPEN DAY** - the Archbishop of Canterbury's garden. I hope you have booked the date in your diary - **FRIDAY 5 AUGUST 12-3 pm**. Entrance fee is £5 and refreshments sold - in aid of Christian Aid. You will also be able to buy plants from a Plant Stall, so come prepared. You will also have the opportunity to chat with the Christian Aid London Team.

3. Join our week of **CLIMATE ACTION 10-16 OCTOBER**

Following on from the inspiring Speak Up lobby in June 2015, we are joining with the Climate Coalition to plan a week of climate action from 10-16 October 2016.

Thousands of us will have the opportunity to attend a diverse range of local events across the UK. Why not come along and ask your local MP what progress has been made since June 2015?

Together we can reach our vision of 100 per cent clean energy in a generation, so that everyone can live life to the full.

Find out more by visiting christianaid.org.UK/climate week.

Ruby Warne

From the General Church Meeting

This year's General Church Meeting was held on Sunday 5th June during and after the morning service. The continuation of the meeting after the service was attended by 26 members and adherents.

During the morning service, the congregation heard reports about the work of Boys Brigade, Babies & Toddlers, the Tuesday Club, the Winter Night Shelter and Foodbank. Rachel asked people who have official roles or who carry out various tasks around the church to stand and a large proportion of the congregation stood up. They were all thanked for their dedication and work.

Stewards and Church Officers

The current stewards agreed to continue and were re-appointed. However, Kath Jarrett will stand down when she moves house.

The full list of stewards is as follows:-

Esther Ackah, Emily Campbell, Tom Cheriyan, Sybil Corbin, Kath Jarrett

Faith Hodge resigned as a Vestry Steward during the year and Akin Phillips will stand down from 1st September. However, Raimundo Baptista and Kathleen Loveridge both agreed to become Vestry

Stewards from 1st September. The full list of Vestry Stewards is:

Raimundo Baptista, Jill Richardson, Kathleen Loveridge

The existing Communion Stewards agreed to continue and were re-appointed. The full list is of Communion Stewards is:

Violet Cordon, Ivy Hanson, Jill Richardson, Rita Safta, Janet Smith, Eileen Tobias

The following were re-appointed in their current roles:-]

Secretary to Church Council

Gerald Barton

Treasurer

Derek Matthews

Technical Manager (Property)

Janet Smith

Safeguarding Officer

Sybil Corbin

World Service & Mission

Olwen Britton

The position of Pastoral Secretary remains vacant.

Church Council

Rachel Bending emphasised the importance of the Church Council as the prime decision making body of the church. It is therefore important that all members of the

Council attend as regularly as possible. Records showed that the attendance of some members over the last couple of years had been patchy and they were encouraged to attend more regularly.

The Church Stewards, but not the Vestry or Communion Stewards, are 'ex officio' members of the Church Council as are the Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, Technical Manager, Safeguarding Officer, Secretary of the World Service & Mission Committee and Pastoral Secretary.

In addition to the ex officio members, the following were re-elected as congregational representatives to the Church Council.

Christina Cheriyan, Rekha Cheriyan, Juliet Edwards, Ivy Hanson, Rob Hutchings, Blossom Jackson, Chris Marlow, Akin Phillips, Keji Phillips, Lita Stoll, June Thompson, Eileen Tobias

Les Goodchild had resigned during the year and was thanked for his service on the Council, and also his continuing service with the Property Committee.

The Treasurer, a Steward and two others elected from the Church Council serve as church representatives to the Circuit Meeting. In recent months, George

Lafford from the King's Hall Class Meeting had replaced Chris Marlow as a representative. The other representatives to Circuit Meeting agreed to continue. The full list of representatives is:-

Esther Ackah, George Lafford, Derek Matthews, Janet Smith

Rachel Bending told the meeting that the current Circuit Policy Committee was to be expanded to include a representative from each church. It was agreed that the Church Stewards should choose a representative from amongst themselves to attend the group.

MWiB

Jill Richardson and Olwen Britton were unanimously re-appointed as representatives for MWiB.

Social Events Group

Violet Cordon said that she and some others would like to form a group to organise social events at the church. Church Council will be asked to approve setting up the group. The group should report to the Council. The group will comprise Violet Cordon, Brenda Glassman, Blossom Jackson and Janet Smith.

Thanks

Thanks were extended to all involved in the running of the church, in particular:-

Janet Smith and other members of the Property Committee.

Hazel Pennells for her work as Lettings Officer.

Members of the Finance Committee
Junior Church leaders and assistants.

Pam & Alan Smith for producing The Messenger and maintaining the church website

Annegret Matthews expressed her appreciation for Rachel's work in leading the Sunday evening Bible Studies.

Safeguarding

The meeting was told that there was a need to complete new DBS checks. Also, that whilst Circuit staff had been trained in their leadership roles, other safeguarding training was 'on hold' awaiting new training materials from the Connexion.

Rachel Bending asked all members and adherents to be aware of what happens at church and to raise concerns with her or Sybil Corbin if they are not happy or sure about any situation.

Themed Worship

People's reactions to themed worship based on 'We Make the Road by Walking' had been reviewed at the recent Worship Consultation. The Sunday evening Bible Study had been asked to consider further themed worship. This was likely to be based partly on the lectionary and partly on particular themes relevant to particular times of the church's year.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

Gerald Barton
Secretary to Church Council

EALING AUTUMN FESTIVAL TRUTH & RECONCILIATION - to thine own self be true

This exhibition takes an abstract view of Truth and Reconciliation. It leads us along a path to see how we can restore mutual respect and understanding in the light of what we believe to be true. These themes are repeated in all varieties of art and in our personal relations.

View at Hanwell Library from 9-21 July - Open Day 16 July, or Greenford Library 23 July - 4 August - Open Day 23 July. Other venues include Northolt, Pitshanger, Ealing Central, Northfields Libraries - continuing through to December. Further details on sheet in Church Foyer.

From the Church Council

The most recent meeting of the Church Council was on 7th June, just after the General Church Meeting. The Council meeting was attended by 12 members out of a total of 25.

First of all, the planned church 'Away Day' was discussed. The Away Day will be on Saturday 1st October from about 10.00 am to about 4.00 pm at the Kairos Centre in Roehampton. Members of the King's Hall Class Meeting will be invited to join us.

Possible topics suggested for the day included –

- Similar to our first Away Day, ie a future vision for the church.
- What the church wants to be – remain as it is or embrace change in order to develop and grow.
- Prayer and different forms of prayer, although it was also felt that this could be too personal a topic for wide discussion.
- Some combination of these as prayer and spirituality are important themes in the life and development of any church.

Rachel Bending and Sybil Corbin will consider these ideas. As before, the Council thought it would be

good to have an external 'facilitator' for the day.

Please put the date in your diaries! A coach will be organised to take us there.

Derek Matthews circulated accounts for the first 9 months of the financial year. These showed that church finances are currently £14,100 better than the budget for the year. This would probably increase to £15,900 by the end of the church's financial year (31st August). This is mainly because income from lettings is significantly higher than was budgeted (although the lettings budget had been kept cautious). Also there is an underspend on organist's fees as we do not yet have an organist 'in post'. At the end of the financial year, any surplus would be transferred to the Major Repairs Fund.

Rachel Bending told the meeting that the 'assessment' we pay to the Circuit would rise next year as the Circuit needs to move to a position of financial balance. In recent years the Circuit has used reserves to fund part of ongoing expenditure, a practice it needs to stop.

Sybil Corbin reported that new paper DBS forms had been received

and would be passed to the relevant people to complete. In addition, Council members and everyone who has keys to the church will be required to make Safeguarding Declarations.

No dates for safeguarding training were yet available because the Methodist Church centrally is reviewing training materials following the Past Cases Review. Once the new training materials are available, it will also be necessary to review and update our church Safeguarding Policy. Rachel Bending added that in future there will be stricter supervision of ministers. Some of this will trickle down to the supervision of other church leaders.

On the subject of church maintenance, Janet Smith reported that she was obtaining quotations for the replacement of the lighting in the Arena. This is likely to be expensive. Work is needed because a number of the existing lights are poorly secured and need replacement. In addition, Janet was obtaining a proposal and estimate for the installation of a fire alarm system comprising detectors, sounders and call points at appropriate points throughout the building, including the flat and Russell Room. This has arisen because a system of smoke

detectors in and around the hall entrance hall malfunctioned on the day of the elections for the London Mayor and the system had had to be completely de-activated.

The north side of the church is being affected by Japanese knot weed from the back garden of the adjacent house. This is a very invasive weed which can also affect the foundations of buildings. Janet Smith is writing to the owners of the house, although as the house is split into flats and let, it is not clear how to contact them. If there is no response, we will be able to ask Ealing Council to take action. Readers may like to note that allowing knot weed to spread is an offence punishable by a fine and a maximum of 2 years in prison, so it's a serious issue.

Following the General Church Meeting an offer had been made to contribute towards the cost of a paid gardener. It was thought that half a day per fortnight should be sufficient to look after our grounds and that any gardener should be a contractor not an employee of the church. Council agreed unanimously to pursue the option of a paid gardener. Janet Smith will investigate possible gardeners.

On a lighter note, Council agreed to approve the setting up of a group

to organise church social events, as was suggested at the General Church Meeting. The group will comprise Violet Cordon, Blossom Jackson, Brenda Glassman and Janet Smith. Council suggested one event per quarter would be an appropriate aim.

All would be welcome to attend. The Circuit would be asked to contribute towards the funding of the event. This could include some of the funds received by Kingsdown from the King's Hall morning congregation when it became a Class Meeting.

The centenary of King's Hall in Southall falls on 11th October 2016. A celebration is proposed for 15th October at Hamborough School (adjacent to King's Hall). The outline timetable for the celebration is:-

It is hoped to create display boards outlining the history of King's Hall which can be put on the hoarding outside the building.

The next meeting of the Church Council will be on 21st September 2016 at 8.00pm.

2.00pm Hamborough School will be open for people to arrive
3.00pm Service
4.30pm Food and refreshments

Gerald Barton
Secretary to Church Council



BABIES & TODDLERS GROUP

This term has gone well with new and regular families attending. At this time of the year some of our older children will be leaving for nursery school in September and we are always sad to see them go. Parents and carers seem to appreciate our volunteer team for their dedication and care. We will be finishing for the summer on Wednesday, 20 July 2016, and wish everyone a happy holiday time.

Jill Richardson

A complex system that doesn't work is often found to have evolved from a simpler system that worked just fine.



Refugees: To all the people we can

One of the major problems facing the world today is the growing number of refugees. According to the UN, more than 43 million people worldwide are now forcibly displaced as a result of conflict and persecution. Since the conflict in Syria began in March 2011, over 4.8m Syrians have fled from their country because of violence, conflict, and a complete collapse of Syria's infrastructure. We now face one of the worst humanitarian crises in recent history.

These refugees have limited rights and often arrive in urgent need of food and water, safe shelter, and basic services.

95% of these refugees are still close to home, in the countries immediately neighbouring Syria. Over 2.1 million Syrians registered as refugees by UNHCR are in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon.

This increase in population has put additional demands on these countries and created tensions in communities, with large refugee camps being erected and refugee populations moving into the local communities.

Over 2.6 million refugees currently live in camps worldwide and have been displaced for more than five years - some for over a generation.

Most of Syria's refugees have no prospect of returning home in the near future amid a conflict that has become increasingly complex and intractable. The majority of refugees are living either in temporary shelter, such as tents, or they are in substandard living accommodation. They are in desperate need of help to meet their basic needs and to cope with the trauma they have faced.

All We Can, has been responding to the refugee crisis since March 2013, with a particular focus on providing opportunities for refugees to not only survive, but to have access to resources and activities that helps restore dignity, build resilience and hope within extremely challenging circumstances.

John Bunyan – the man who wrote Pilgrim's Progress

After the Bible, John Bunyan's wonderful Christian allegory, the Pilgrim's Progress, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than one hundred languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic.

Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.

Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than fifty books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church.

Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote Pilgrim's Progress. It was not only Bunyan's greatest book but was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.

Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable imagery in the Pilgrim's Progress covers the whole Christian gospel from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31 August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier of Jesus Christ had received his summons to 'go home.' Calling his friends together he says, 'My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ... My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His battles, Who will now be my rewarder.' ... So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...

Property Committee



A number of people have said could we put the date of the Property Committee meetings in the Messenger.

Notwithstanding, I do have a workbook in the front Church Foyer (under the Notice Board) for anyone to put any works they might have noticed that need doing, but hey ho. a date is what they want and a date is what they are going to get.!!

The next Property Committee meeting will be held on 31st August, at 8 pm (Wednesday). Any matters to be raised under "Any Other Business" please give to one of the Property Committee:

Janet Smith, Derek Matthews, Kathleen Jarrett,
Kevin Lovell, Dave Lewis, Sue Barton, Steve Palmer

**Thanks
Janet Smith**



We hope **Mary Newman** of Pitshanger will not mind if we repeat the following from her 'Remember in Summer' published in the June-August 'In-touch'.

I forget which of our lovely local preachers used this as a benediction. Why don't we all think of it each day this summer?

Give time to that which matters most.
Share your gifts with those who need the most.
Show your gratitude to those who have blessed you the most.
Be still with the one who loves you most.
And live the now of every moment and every day,
To the glory of God. Amen



A Walk in the Park

On a visit to St Martin's in the Field's the other week to look at their Embroidery Exhibition I decided to first take a walk in St James Park. Stopping on the bridge over the lake to admire a duck who sat serenely on a lone nest in the middle of the lake I started chatting to an older woman. She informed me she was from Switzerland but had trained as a nurse and midwife at St Mary's Paddington over 50 years ago, had got married and divorced in the UK before going home to Switzerland. She made frequent visits back to England however as she had spells of homesickness for this country.

I then walked on and sat on a bench next to four or five lively French schoolboys chatting and enjoying a lunch break. A few minutes later however they started to look bemused when an elderly French lady stood behind the bench and started to harangue them for being in the park. 'Why aren't you in the museums? she demanded to know. 'They are free in this country. Where are your teachers? Go and tell them the museums are free here.' She went on repeating herself in this manner for several minutes as the boys tried to explain they had been to a museum the day before. As they then walked off (presumably to find their teacher) she made a scathing remark about 'teachers today' before stomping off carrying her several bags.

As I sat on enjoying a rare burst of sun a young woman walked past and asked in a foreign accent if I had a tissue to wipe some bird poo off her sock and shoe. I handed her a wet wipe (and told her it was considered lucky in this country) She sat on the bench and told me in very good English that she was from Korea and was going to Edinburgh University in September on a two month student exchange scheme to study chemistry. In the meantime she was staying in London on her own and was off to Cardiff for a few days the following day. Apparently she was aged 21 years by UK dates and 23 by Korean dates. Don't think I could travel around South Korea on my own at any age.

But what an interesting city London is when tourists from across the world can be met in such a short space of time

June Thompson

Hymns we have loved and lost

What hymns do others miss?

These past couple of weeks alone I have sung four or five new hymns from Singing the Faith and there is no doubt that there are some great new hymns in this book (and some 'iffy' ones in my opinion)I still regret however that some 'favourite' well known hymns have been left out of Singing the Faith. How sad for example that a new generation of children will not get to sing 'Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of Lord' in Methodist Churches.

One hymn that we no longer sing but which I feel would be particularly appropriate in these current times is Thy Kingdom come O God

Thy kingdom come, O God!
Thy rule, O Christ begin!
Break with thine iron rod
the tyrannies of sin!

Where is thy reign of peace,
and purity and love?
When shall all hatred cease,
as in the realms above?

When comes the promised time
that war shall be no more,
oppression, lust, and crime
shall flee thy face before?

We pray thee, Lord, arise,
and come in thy great might;
revive our longing eyes,
which languish for thy sight.

Men scorn thy sacred Name,
and wolves devour thy fold;
by many deeds of shame
we learn that love grows cold.

O'er lands both near and far
thick darkness broodeth yet:
arise, O Morning Star,
arise, and never set!

Words: Lewis Hensley, 1867 (altered)

Still I guess I should be grateful that Guide me o thou great Redeemer is still in!

June Thompson

Longfield Avenue - NO LEFT TURN!!!



The council will start enforcing new turning restrictions at the junction of Longfield Avenue and Uxbridge Road from Monday, 4 July.

Drivers who break the restrictions face a penalty charge notice of £110 (reduced to £55 if paid within 14 days).

As part of a road safety trial in Ealing town centre, drivers are no longer able to turn left onto Uxbridge Road from Longfield Avenue. There is also a ban on motor vehicles turning right from Uxbridge Road onto Longfield Avenue.

The changes came into effect in April and the council say they are 'designed to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists using Longfield Avenue and to reduce rat-running by drivers'.

***Road sign outside the gates of a cemetery:
Drive carefully. We don't mind waiting for you.***

The views expressed in articles in The Messenger are not necessarily those of Kingsdown Methodist Church or the Editors.

Data Protection - Kingsdown Methodist Church maintains a database of basic information relating to members and the community roll. Keep the Minister informed of any changes to your personal details. The database is maintained in accordance with the guidelines of The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ to whom any formal requests for access to the data must be addressed.

Poem written by Allan Ahlberg

PLEASE MRS BUTLER

*Please Mrs Butler
This boy Derek Drew
Keep copying my work, Miss
What shall I do?
Go and sit in the hall, dear.
Go and sit in the sink.
Take your books on the roof, my lamb.
Do whatever you think.*

*Please Mrs Butler
This boy, Derek Drew
Keeps taking my rubber, Miss.
What shall I do?
Keep it in your hand, dear.
Hide it up your vest.
Swallow it if you like, my love.
Do what you think best.*

*Please Mrs Butler
This boy Derek Drew
Keeps calling me rude names, Miss.
What shall I do?
Lock yourself in the cupboard, dear.
Run away to sea.
Do whatever you can, my flower.
But don 't ask me!*

Submitted by Janet Smith

**Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder
and your hand over my mouth.**

WARNING

*When I am an old woman I shall wear purple
With a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves
And satin sandals and say we've no money for butter.*

*I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells
And run my stick along the public railings.
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.*

*I shall go out in my slippers in the rain
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens
And learn to spit.*

*You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go.
Or only bread and pickle for a week*

*And hoard pens and pencils and beer mats and things in boxes.
But now we must have clothes that keep us dry
And pay over rent and not swear in the street
And set a good example for the children.*

*We must have friends to dinner and read the papers.
But, maybe I ought to practise a little now;
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised
when suddenly I am old, and start to wear purple.*

Submitted by Janet Smith

We had a vote at Kingsdown

*We had a vote at Kingsdown
At the May Church meeting
What shall we do, was the question
With the garden and the grounds*

*Oh, came the replies,
we must have grass
It looks so good and rural
In this green and pleasant land.*

*Ah, said a few, what about the upkeep,
Grass grows, needs cutting and attracts the weeds.
This question fell on stony ground
No answers were forthcoming*

*So, a few diligent souls set forth,
With fork and spade in hand.
Over the years the grass was cut
The barrels flowered and looked grand.
But, alas, we are all getting on in years
Backs, knees are not the same.
The grass does not respect our of age,
it just grows and grows and g r o w s.*

*What about a gardener, what a good idea
We will have to pay him/her that is pretty clear.
So now we will be seeing, a man with hoe in hand
Keeping the garden going
In this green and pleasant land.*

*With apologies to Wordsworth
Submitted by Janet Smith*



TELEVISION

When did television start? I bet you didn't know that it started on 22nd August 1932 when the British Broadcasting Corporation introduced its first regular TV service in the London area. By the summer of 1949 television began to be available outside London and 1954 saw the first daily news bulletins and weather forecasts. Colour pictures arrived at the end of 1969.

Lots of people moan about what is on television and what a waste of time it is, but there are good things to say for it too. Without the news reports of famine in Africa would we have had Live Aid? And what about Comic Relief and Children in Need?

TV entertains and educates. It helps us to relax, and it can also help us to pray by showing us the world. We see the natural disasters of weather like tsunami and hurricanes. We see people hurt and made homeless by war. And we turn to God and ask Him to help those who suffer and we pray for them, remembering that we are God's hands here on earth.

EYE SEE YOU

All the answers to this Bible quiz are to do with eyes and seeing. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. What is the name of the village where Jesus healed a blind man? (Luke, chapter 8)
2. What eye can a camel go through more easily than a rich man? (Matthew, chapter 19)
3. Joseph talks about his eyes and the eyes of which one of his brothers? (Genesis, chapter 45)
4. What did Moses see in the desert at Horeb? (Exodus, chapter 3)
5. Where did Jesus send the blind man to wash his eyes? (John, chapter 9)
6. What are the eyes like of the one who rides a white horse? (Revelation, chapter 19)

Why do beavers spend a fortune on the internet?

They never want to log off.



How do you stop the batteries in your Play Station running out?

Hide their trainers.

-
- Answers: 1. Bethsaida
2. the eye of a needle 3. Benjamin
4. a burning bush 5. the pool of Siloam
6. like a flame of fire.

EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

JULY

- Mon 11 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 12 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Wed 13 1– 3 pm Babies & Toddlers (weekly)
(term time only - finishing for summer 20 July)
- Thu 14 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm CBSI UK Bible Studies in the Foyer
8 pm Circuit Meeting at Hanwell
- Fri 15 10.15 am Coffee Morning in Foyer - everyone welcome
BOYS BRIGADE 6.30-7.30 pm Anchor Boys, 6.30-8.00 pm
Junior Section, 7.30-10.00 pm Company Section (most
Fridays throughout month) Summer session ends 8th July.
- Sat 16 10.00 am to 12 noon Coffee & Chat - everyone welcome
10.00 am to 5.00 pm Acton Hill Flower Show (see p.13)
- Sun 17 6.30 pm CIRCUIT SERVICE AT at Greenford - 'farewell'
service for Rev's Peter and Suva Calford.
- Tue 19 2.00 pm Kingsdown Club -The Tea Party - Dave Entertains

Future Events

AUGUST

- Wed 31 8 pm Property Committee meeting.

SEPTEMBER

- Sat 3 Circuit Welcome Service for the ministers joining our Circuit, Rev Yemi Jaiyesimi and Rev Shirlyn Toppin, will be at Hanwell Methodist Church at 4.00 pm. All are invited. (See p.2)
- Thu 15 World Service and Missions Committee meeting
- Sat 17 10 am-12.30 pm Kingsdown Book Fair in aid of 'All We Can'
- Sun 18 10th Ealing BB 50th Birthday celebration

OCTOBER

- Sat 1 The Away Day from about 10.00 am to about 4.00 pm at the Kairos Centre in Roehampton. Everyone will be welcome to come.

Sat 6 May 2017 - Concert by Heinz Chapel Choir