



# KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



*April 2017*

## SERVICES FOR APRIL 2017



- 2 Apr 10.30 Rev Oluyemisi Jaiyesimi  
9 Apr 10.30 Rev Shirlyn Toppin - Palm Sunday



### GOOD FRIDAY

- 14 Apr 9.30 Gather at Kingsdown for a Walk of Witness to Christ  
the Saviour via St Mary' Church, South Ealing for a  
short outdoor service at 10.45 am.  
tba (pm) Meditation for Good Friday

### EASTER DAY

- 16 Apr 8.00 Rev Shirlyn Toppin - Holy Communion  
10.30 Family Service for Easter Sunday  
23 Apr 10.30 Local Arrangement  
30 Apr 10.30 Rev Dr Jennifer Smith  
6.30 Faith Exploration Study Group - "God's Plan"



### The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

Copy deadline for the April 2017 issue is Friday 21 April 2017

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Dear friends

As I write this we're nearing the end of a week when there has been an attack on Parliament causing the deaths and injury of many on Westminster Bridge and of PC Keith Palmer within the Parliamentary Estate.

This week has also brought news of a deepening famine in Africa and of the situation in Mosul and elsewhere. Comic Relief has also brought to our attention the plight of many whose stories are often silent but whose lives are constant struggles merely to stay alive and safe. In the face of events like these we may feel much: deep grief for those effected and for a world that seems so broken; anger at those who cause so much harm and, maybe a deeper anger that things are this way, an anger at God perhaps. These feelings and the questions they provoke are inevitable and healthy. They resound through our scriptures and sing in our hymns.

We may also find ourselves feeling hopeless: there is just so much hurt out there, so much wrong - what could we ever do, what could anyone ever do to change it? The media have been full this week of pictures of the notice boards at tube stations. On one the writer repeated words of his mother: look for the helpers. There are always helpers. Another wrote "Bad things do happen in the world... but out of those situations always arise stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things." In each of those places of grief, pain and destruction there were people responding in extraordinary ways to the need of those around them. As well as the immediate responses in Parliament and on Westminster Bridge there are many stories of later responses - the Muslim restaurant owner who offered refreshment to the emergency services for example. Add to this the thousands who marched and stood in silence on Saturday carrying messages of hope and unity as they celebrated the life of the EU.

As we enter the Easter season we are called to look for and live for signs of resurrection and abundant life in our world while also grieving and being angered by the places of death, hurt and harm. May God give us the strength, the wisdom and the inspiration to do so.

May this Easter season be a time of blessing for you and all you love.

with love  
*Rachel*

# In response to events in Westminster - 22 March

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Dr Roger Walton and Rachel Lampard, have called for prayer during this time following the attacks in Westminster, London.

*"We ask all Methodists to join us in prayer as we unite with others across the UK in the wake of today's attack at Westminster.*

*"We pray for those who were attacked and their families, for the emergency services who responded so quickly and for the whole country at this time."*

The Revd Gary W. Graves, Secretary of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church has shared his prayers with the Church and the country as well:

*"Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you and your colleagues, the members of your churches and all of London and the UK this day. Lord, in your mercy."*



A prayer offered by Methodist Central Hall, Westminster and the London District of the Methodist Church.



*Loving Creator God,  
In the midst of chaos and uncertainty, grant your peace.  
To those injured and frightened by events in Westminster, grant your healing.  
To the police, those who work in Parliament and members of the public, grant your protection.  
May those who are motivated by hate be transformed by love.  
May those who care for a broken world be strengthened by love.  
May we be guided by your Spirit as we try to find words of comfort and be guided in our actions by the example of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.  
Amen.*

## From across the world -

Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches has written a letter of condolence and sympathy to the WCC member churches in Great Britain.



Read the letter:

[http://methodist.org.uk/media/2557706/terror-attack-london\\_letter-wcc-0317.pdf](http://methodist.org.uk/media/2557706/terror-attack-london_letter-wcc-0317.pdf)

Bishop Rosemarie Wenner of the Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche in Germany has written to the Church in solidarity.

Read the letter

[http://methodist.org.uk/media/2557283/mcib\\_solidarity.pdf](http://methodist.org.uk/media/2557283/mcib_solidarity.pdf)

Pastora Mirella Manocchio of the Opera per le Chiese Evangeliche Metodiste in Italia (OPCEMI) has shared their thoughts and prayers with the Church.

Read the letter

[http://methodist.org.uk/media/2557289/10067\\_17\\_tmc.pdf](http://methodist.org.uk/media/2557289/10067_17_tmc.pdf)

Dear UK Friends

We at the National Council of Churches in the US grieve over yesterday's terrorist attack in London and hold all of your people in our prayers.

Grace and Peace,  
Jim Winkler,  
General Secretary,  
US National Council of Churches

**Tolerance, understanding and cohesion are our greatest weapons against hatred and terrorism.**

# Faith Leaders Vigil

Victims of the attack on Westminster Bridge and at the Palace of Westminster this week were remembered by faith leaders in a vigil and a minute's silence at North Green, Westminster Abbey on Friday 24th March.



The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, was joined by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster; Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth; Sheikh Khalifa Ezzat, Chief Imam at the London Central Mosque; and Sheikh Mohammad al Hilli of the Shia Muslim Council.



## ***Family News***

As you read this I will be starting my sabbatical. Thank you all for the many good wishes and the love and prayers. I look forward to returning in July refreshed and reinvigorated for the challenges that the coming years will bring. Know that my love and prayers are with you as I travel.

Love



Please keep in your thoughts and prayers **Ivy Hanson** and her family as they mourn the death of Ivy's son-in-law from cancer, following what had been the very recent happy occasion of her granddaughter's wedding.

Also taken from our weekly Prayer Book for your prayers are **Bernie**, who has throat cancer; Dad, **Alf**, who is very ill with cancer and just about to start treatment; **Sean**, who was buried on St. Patrick's Day (17 March) and his wife **Ann** and son **Anthony**.

There are a number of our Kingsdown family with ongoing health problems and we send all good wishes for successful treatment where possible, feeling sure that those in close contact will be offering support, help and comfort in each individual's hour of need.

Particularly keep in your thoughts and prayers our Minister Rachel as she embarks on her sabbatical. We wish her much spiritual refreshment.

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## ***Prayer for Resurrection Power***

Thank you Father that, because of what Jesus achieved on the cross, we can be resurrection-powered people; empowered to live each day confidently, whatever life's challenges may be, knowing that our security is in you alone.

In Jesus you have overcome the world and its troubles and have defeated death. When the world seems overwhelming Lord, help us to keep Jesus as our compass and to come safely to the one who has the words of eternal life. Help us to hear those words and respond in trust and anticipation.

Thank you Father for giving us your Son and your Spirit. Thank you for your life-giving Easter work. In Jesus name. Amen.

**By Daphne Kitching**

# Good Friday Walk of Witness

## Friday 14th April



Churches Together in Central Ealing are grateful to Anne Clifford and her large team of volunteers who successfully staged the powerful and dramatic re-enactment of Jesus' Passion on Good Friday in both 2015 and 2016 on Ealing Broadway. (Pictures from 2016 can be viewed on:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k3keibav66zykw/AACf\\_jN9zrAY31flzNNN nyaAa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k3keibav66zykw/AACf_jN9zrAY31flzNNN nyaAa?dl=0)).

Many positive comments were received from people who were present and we hope you and your church also found the Ealing Passion last year an inspiring part of your church's Holy Week reflections.

Despite the strength of these two occasions the decision has been made not to stage a Passion Play this year. Hence Churches Together in Central Ealing is organising a Walk of Witness for Good Friday on April 14th.

The arrangements will be similar to previous years with a concluding open-air service in the garden of Christ the Saviour Church from 10.45am - 11.05am (approx.)

Two processions will walk, one from Ealing Abbey and one from St. Mary's Church into the centre. Copies of the Order of Service will be available for those participating.

**As in previous years, we will leave from Kingsdown at 9.30am to walk via Lammas Park to join the procession at St Mary's, South Ealing.**



# Boys' Brigade News



On Saturday 18th March we took thirteen of our keenest Junior Section Boys to Uxbridge for the West London Battalion Drill Competition. 10th Ealing Company has always excelled in this disciplined event and we've held the main trophy for the past two years. In 2015 we also captured the Younger Boys' Shield too, a very rare occurrence.

So the pressure was on for our Boys -- could we make it a hat-trick of victories in this our 50th birthday year.

There was stiff competition from other local companies but our lads (Younger boys and Main Squad) showed great calmness under pressure and there was considerable tension in the hall as we gathered to hear the reading of the results for both events.



The first trophy to be awarded was for the Younger Boys and our Squad were rightly acclaimed champions. And then, the scores for the main competition were announced in reverse order. We were delighted to hear our great Drill rivals, 1st Uxbridge, announced as runners-up because that

meant we'd done it! We had lost only six marks out of a possible 130 and there was much applause from our parents and supporters.

What a fantastic occasion it was -- a hat-trick of victories and a double-shield day as well. Best of all, in this very special year, we had the son of one of our founding members in the squad, carrying on the family tradition -- well done, James Marlow!

If you'd like to see the Boys in action please come along to our Annual Display on Friday 19th May in Kingsdown Hall starting at 7pm -- you will be most welcome.

**Tony Plews  
Captain**

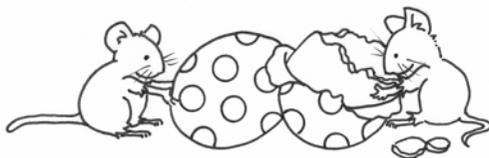
**Great result Tony. Congratulations!**

## ***CAN YOU BE TOO CHRISTIAN?***

A report for the BBC has said the corporation is "too Christian" and should increase coverage of other faiths. An internal review found the broadcaster should have more programmes about the Muslim, Hindu and Sikh religions.

Aaqil Ahmed, the BBC's head of religion and ethics, is the author of the report which was handed over to the Director General Lord Hall. In a statement, he said: "We do look at the number of hours we produce, and measure that against the religious make-up of society. We also carry out checks to give us a better understanding of how we represent the different faiths across the various BBC channels and services.

Christianity remains the cornerstone of our output and there are more hours dedicated to it than there are to other faiths. Our output in this area is not static. It has evolved over the years and we regularly assess it.



## **FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

The most recent meeting of the Church Council was on 15<sup>th</sup> March and was attended by a mere 7 members out of a total membership of 23. Two non-members of the Council also attended the meeting. Although there were 8 'apologies for absence', this turnout was, it has to be said, disappointing as the Council is the governing body of our church. As a result the proposed discussion topic 'ministry and direction of the church next year' was not discussed.

The accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 were formally presented and approved by the Council. These show a healthy surplus for the year of about £33,000 on an income of about £98,000. Much of the strength of the income comes from revenue from lettings of the hall, Russell Room and church flat. However, a number of property issues are looming and these will absorb a significant proportion of our surplus income.

Within the next couple of years Kingsdown will have to register as a charity in its own right. Until now we have operated as a charity under a Statutory Instrument that has exempted churches with incomes of less than £100,000 per annum from the need to register in

their own right. This arrangement will expire in the next couple of years and all churches will need to register with the Charity Commission. In order to avoid the likely last minute rush of churches registering, we will aim to complete registration by mid-2018.

New safeguarding materials are beginning to emerge. Our Safeguarding Officer, Sybil Corbin will attend a 'training the trainers' session within the next couple of weeks. We can then decide how the new training should be rolled out to all who should receive it. At District level a new system of supervision for superintendent ministers is being piloted. It is intended that the system will be extended to cover all ministers in due course. All this comes from the results of the 'Past Cases Review' of safeguarding undertaken by the Methodist Church and, as a general point, we are all asked to be aware of what is going on around us and raise any safeguarding matters that we are not happy or sure about with our ministers and Safeguarding Officers.

On the property front, new lighting has been installed in the arena, hall and hall annexe, stage and the choir and minister's vestries. The new lights are more fuel efficient,

so will run at lower cost. Thanks are due to Alan Smith for his work on this. Consideration is now being given to the lighting in the church worship area where a number of the 'stadium' uplighters have failed. Specialist advice is being sought on appropriate lighting systems for a worship space. The repair or possible replacement of the windows in the church is also under active consideration. Beyond these items, we plan to move on to looking at different forms of heating to replace the electric storage heaters and full re-decoration of the worship area, although that clearly needs to be left until other work affecting the space has been done.

It was formally clarified that leaders of our outreach groups (Babies & Toddlers, Kingsdown Club, Night Shelter, BB etc) should be invited to attend meetings of the Mission & Outreach Committee. This reflects the fact that when the former World Service & Mission Committee was re-named Mission & Outreach its remit was extended to include oversight and support of our outreach groups. Previously it had been concerned mainly with charity fundraising via the book fairs and proposing the Charity of the Year, but now has a broader remit covering 'outreach' as well. On that score, the Council heard that the Night Shelter at Kingsdown (four

Sunday nights from late November through to Christmas) had operated successfully without serious problems, that the Babies & Toddlers group is very busy and that the BB is currently over-subscribed.

It is pleasing to report that Hazel Pennells has volunteered to become Pastoral Secretary, a role that has been vacant since the former secretary Derek Matthews resigned when he became Church Treasurer. A new secretary for JMA is being sought, however.

Following discussion at the Mission & Outreach Committee and at Church Council, the stock of books for the book fairs has been reduced to a more manageable level – the previous volume of books was such that they had to be stacked for storage at heights beyond safe handling levels. Thanks were expressed to all those involved in this process.

The next Northfield Traders Day will be on 15<sup>th</sup> July from 2.00 – 6.00pm with a theme of garden/tea parties. In addition and in a bid to increase the popularity of Northfields Avenue, a regular 'Northfields Market' offering artisan produce and street food is planned on the third Saturday of each month from 10.00am – 2.00pm (the first took place in March). Traders are also pressing Ealing Council to arrange

rubbish collections from cafés, restaurants and businesses along Northfields Avenue at around midnight. Currently the Council collects in the morning and rubbish gets left out overnight with the result that some of it gets broken open by foxes and strewn along the street. Night-time collections would significantly reduce this problem.

Now, some dates for your diaries:

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm - concert at Kingsdown by the Heinz Chapel Choir from the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July after the morning service – annual Church General Meeting.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 6.30pm at Ealing Green – farewell service for Rev Dr Jen Smith and her husband, Rev Dr Keith Riglin. This service will also include thanks to Cathy Snow for her work as one of our Circuit Stewards.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 6.30pm at Acton Hill – welcome service for Deacon Ramona Samuel and also to welcome Rev Shirlyn Toppin as minister at Acton Hill, and Rev Rachel Bending as Superintendent Minister of our circuit.

Whilst thinking of ministers coming and going, a job description for an Associate Pastor for Kingsdown and Ealing Green is in the process of being finalised. The intention is to advertise so that interviews can take place shortly after Rev Rachel Bending returns from sabbatical leave at the end of June. The Associate Pastor will have care of Kingsdown and Ealing Green from this September until a new minister can be 'stationed' in September 2018.

Finally, the next Church Council meeting will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 8.00pm.

**Gerald Barton**  
**Secretary to Church Council**



**Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position. - Anon**



Heinz Chapel Choir

# FIRST CONCERT OF ENGLAND SCOTLAND 2017 TOUR

## AT KINGSDOWN

### SATURDAY 6 MAY 7.30 PM



For more than 75 years, the Heinz Chapel Choir has presented a cappella music from a variety of time periods and cultural traditions and in a wealth of languages. The Choir's home for the majority of its Pittsburgh performances is the Heinz Memorial Chapel on the University of Pittsburgh campus. The Heinz Chapel Choir is currently under the direction of its tenth conductor, Dr. Susan Rice.

Choir website: <http://www.music.pitt.edu/hcc>

Choir Videos: <http://www.pitt.edu/~heinzcc/videos.html>

**VOLUNTEERS - TICKET SELLERS - CAKE MAKERS - TEA  
POURERS - USHERS - CHOIR WELCOMERS - ARE YOU  
WILLING TO HELP MAKE THIS EVENT RUN SMOOTHLY AND  
SUCCESSFULLY?**

**CONTACT ALAN SMITH 07802 446 835 OR E-MAIL  
MAGAZINE@KINGSDOWNMETHODIST.ORG.UK**

# THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Please note in the Church foyer there is a grid showing regular Church bookings and also a Church calendar on which all occasional lettings are entered. This includes not just the obvious birthday parties and concerts but is also intended to keep a record of every church administrative meeting such as Church Council, Finance Committee etc.



Thankfully the community bookings of our Church have become so frequent, popular and varied that it is now essential to pre-book any and all rooms required for Church business meetings and it can no longer simply be assumed that there will be a room free if you have not booked it on the calendar.

Should you wish to make a booking on a date that is already taken on the calendar, please speak to Hazel regarding availability of other rooms on that date to avoid any clashes.

Kingsdown's premises continue to be a central hub for the community and full use of the calendar will allow us to maintain its use efficiently and effectively.

**Hazel Pennells**

## ***EASTER EGGS ARE LOSING THEIR 'EASTER'***



Next time you are out shopping, have a look at the Easter Eggs on sale. How many of them actually mention Easter?

It seems that many of the best known brands have quietly dropped any reference to the Christian festival, and now sell Easter products labelled simply as 'chocolate egg' or even 'egg'.

David Marshall of The Meaningful Chocolate Company says 'A lot of businesses, quite often, are not comfortable with the religious aspect of the festival.'



## **CHRISTIAN AID NEWS**

### **We believe in life before death.**

Do you remember Morsheda? Last year for Christian Aid Week 2016, CA focused on Morsheda, a Bangladeshi woman whose life was constantly affected by flooding.

Following Christian Aid Week, Morsheda's home was moved to higher ground and the land on which her old home stood was submerged under river water. Her home was rebuilt with support from Christian Aid partner GUK. Morsheda and her family now have a latrine as well, and she also received two lambs and two goats with the funding from a Christian Aid project. When asked by GUK how it feels to be safe, Morsheda replied "Last year when you came to my house we were kneed deep in water. Today, despite the flooding, we are standing in a dry place I am much safer now."

### **And this year? The focus is on REFUGEES**

Christian Aid was set up by the British Council of Churches in 1945 to support the hundreds of thousands of refugees who had lost their homes and possessions in the Second World War. Christian Aid Week was launched in 1957 to raise funds for this vital work that was still continuing in the long running aftermath of the war

For 60 years tens of thousands of dedicated volunteers have come together for Christian Aid Week each May to raise vital money for those most in need. Today, more than 65 million people are displace worldwide. How might it feel to have to flee far from home, not knowing if you'll every return? Orphaned at the age of eight, THEODOR DAVIDOVIC fought in the Serbian resistance against Germany as a teenager. In the chaos across Europe after the end of the Second World War he lived in refugee camps in Germany and Italy for two years.

He says "The camps were like the refugee camps you see nowadays, filled with tents. We were allocated one blanket each and had to gather straw or grass to make a mattress."

Seventy years on, Theodor has built a life in Scotland, but is still deeply moved by the support he received as a refugee. He says he owes his life to the help of organisations, including Christian Aid, which gave him

something he could rely on: warmth and food, the chance to feel safe, hope for his future.

“It was Christian Aid who fed us, and I will never forget it. That is why I volunteer for Christian Aid. Those who contributed to the Christian Aid funds helped me to survive. I feel I owe my life to the cause. I get emotional about it still; it was an unpleasant time. That’s why - being saved by Christian Aid with the food they gave me - that’s why I’ve take it upon my shoulders to pay back to the people who have been good to me during my plight as a refugee.”

Theodor’s dedication and faithful witness is an inspiration to us all. Today, Christian Aid is working in Serbia and Greece as well as in the Middle East - working with incredible partners to offer those same small comforts and seeds of hope which made all the difference to him.

In August 2016, the CA team met with a number of people in camps in Greece, who were showing such resilience and bravery in uncertain times. One family’s story stayed with them, full of compassion and generosity in the midst of so much uncertainty and hardship.

NEJEBAR and her family faced a choice between staying in Afghanistan or undertaking the treacherous journey to Greece. Nejebar’s husband, Noor, was working as a teacher when the Taliban announced they would kill anyone, like him, who worked for the government. When they carried out that threat on another family member, taking out his eyes before killing him, Nejabar’s family fled for their lives.

Now in Greece, all they have is a tent. There’s no school for their children or clear idea of what will happen to them. They thought they would stay there for 10 days, but it’s already been six months and there’s no end in sight. Throughout, Nejebar has been the rock at the centre of her family, holding them together. But she hasn’t stopped there. Despite her meagre circumstances, she has welcomed two young brothers, Faraidoon and Fanzad, into her home. They don’t know where there parents are or if they’re even alive. Nejebar is giving them refuge as they wait for news.

Nejebar says “We hope that we will get out of here and we have hope for our children’s future. Our wish is to get out from this situation. We only want a peaceful life.”

## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 2017**

The normal resource for Christian Aid Week have been received - including posters and a seven-day devotional booklet 'I was a stranger' which everyone can use during CA week. Each day you will find a short passage of scripture based on the hymn 'When I needed a neighbour' - stories of refugees, and then our response. After the last reflection there's a card to post (freepost) via Christian Aid, to our Prime Minister. (I shall be delivering cards to our London Team.)

### DATES FOR CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 2017

#### SATURDAY 13 MAY

Annual Book Fair (see poster) with books, cakes, plants, gifts, bric-a-brac and a Traidcraft stall.

#### SUNDAY 14 MAY

Christian Aid Sunday in the UK. Envelopes will be in the pews for your donations on Sundays, 7 May/14 May and 21 May.

#### MONDAY 15 MAY TO SATURDAY 20 MAY

House-to-house collecting.

#### SATURDAY 20 MAY

FLAG DAY in the London area - Northfield Avenue and West Ealing.

#### SUNDAY 21 MAY

CIRCLE THE CITY - sponsored walk.

#### SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

RICHMOND PARK SPONSORED WALK. Full details nearer the event.

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### DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

You will have seen the DEC appeals for the East Africa Crisis. Today, in my newspaper "Stop cholera - save lives - Don't delay, donate." Sixteen million people in East Africa are on the brink of starvation and clean water is scarce; cholera is at risk of becoming widespread.

This is by far the quickest way for your donation to be used. The 13 charities involved include Christian Aid, Tearfund, Cafod, Oxfam, Save the Children, etc, which all have numerous partners in these East African countries. If you haven't already donated, please consider the DEC appeal.

**TOGETHER WE'RE STRONGER**

**Ruby Warne**

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

# BOOK FAIR



**Books** **Cakes** **Gifts** **Plants**  
**Traidcraft** **Bric-a-Brac**

## Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May

10.00am to 12.30pm

Proceeds to:



## Easter faith

Three years after the Russian Revolution of 1917, a great anti-God rally was arranged in Kiev. The powerful orator Bukharin was sent from Moscow, and for an hour he demolished the Christian faith with argument, abuse and ridicule. At the end there was silence.

Then a man rose and asked to speak. He was a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church. He went and stood next to Bukharin. Facing the people, he raised his arms and spoke just three triumphant words: 'Christ is risen!'

At once the entire assembly rose to their feet and gave the joyful response, "He is risen indeed!" It was a devastating moment for an atheist politician, who had no answer to give to this ancient Easter liturgy. He had not realised he was simply too late: How can you convince people who have already experienced God, that He does not exist?





# East Africa Famine Appeal

More than 7 million people are at serious risk of starvation in Yemen, and millions more are severely malnourished in Somalia and South Sudan - chronic food insecurity across these nations has led to the grim reality that a huge number of people are at serious risk of dying of hunger.

Since then, the true extent of the need has been highlighted by the United Nations. Stephen O'Brien, UN Humanitarian Coordinator, defined the current situation as a "critical point in history".

The collective action of individuals and churches has already been inspiring, with more than £100,000 given in response to the East Africa Famine Appeal. And with millions facing starvation across East Africa and the wider region, communities have risen to the challenge.



For many, the response to this appeal has been deeply heartfelt. Sister Eluned Williams MBE, a former Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, said: "I cannot imagine what it is like not to know where tomorrow's food is coming from. It is just so horrendous and the very dignity of people is



Methodist  
relief and  
development

## East Africa Famine Appeal

stripped away. What I can give might only be a little, but if many give a little then I hope lots of people who are in great need will be helped.”

The funds already raised for the appeal will be used across a number of countries including Yemen, Somalia and South Sudan.

In Yemen, life-saving food will be distributed by All We Can’s local partner to some of the most vulnerable families. In South Sudan and Somalia, All We Can’s partner has already begun providing nutritional support for the most malnourished victims of the food crisis. In South Sudan, it is responding in one of the regions flagged by the United Nations as most severely affected by the famine.

In Somalia, money already raised will be supporting 16,000 people to access nutritional supplements. In 2011, more than 260,000 people died as a result of famine - approximately half were children under the age of five.

The need is vast - and The Methodist Church in Britain continue to urge people to respond quickly, generously, and collectively to this catastrophic situation by supporting the appeal being managed by All We Can.

£10 could provide life-saving nutrition for an acutely malnourished child.  
£15 could provide a vulnerable individual with food aid.  
£90 could assist 80 families with treatment and support to prevent diseases linked with malnutrition and famine.

Gifts to this emergency appeal will enable All We Can and its partners to respond quickly to those in greatest need.

**To support the East Africa Famine Appeal go to**  
**[www.allwecan.org.uk/famine](http://www.allwecan.org.uk/famine)**

**Or ask for a donation envelope from Alan Smith**



# EALING TRINITY METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

## QUILT EXHIBITION

Saturday APRIL 29, 11 am -3.30 pm  
EALING GREEN CHURCH

PRESENTER: Jackie Smith

Bible Study on one of the quilts- 'Living Waters'- 2.0 pm



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## Good Friday

I was standing in line at the bank when there was a commotion at the counter. A woman was very distressed, exclaiming, 'Where will I put my money?! I have all my money and my mortgage here!! What will happen to my mortgage?! You can't do this to us!'

It turned out that she had misunderstood a small sign on the counter. The sign read: WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY.

# Are you a Twitcher?!



Do you want to see a Stork's nest live - then log onto the Internet and go to:

<https://www.birdfood.co.uk//webcams>

Live pictures from sites in the Netherlands - nine nests to choose from. Fascinating viewing.

## *If I were a fish*

*If I were a fish  
I think I would wish  
That there wasn't so much rubbish in the sea.  
All those plastic bits -  
My guts are having fits!  
With all that stuff people dump in beside me.*

*By Nigel Beeton*



## What now?

An engineer, a manager, and a programmer were driving down a steep mountain road. The brakes failed and the car careened out of control. Half way down they managed to stop by running the car against the embankment, narrowly avoiding the cliff's edge.

Shaken by their narrow escape from death, the manager said, 'So, we need to organise a committee, have meetings, exchange ideas, and develop a solution.' The engineer disagreed: 'We haven't time. I have my trusty pen knife here and will take apart the brake system, isolate the problem and correct it.'

The programmer objected: 'Nonsense! We must all push the car back up the hill and see if it happens again.'

## **BT OPENREACH CALLING, OR ARE THEY?**

Over the last few weeks I have received several phone calls from "BT Openreach", or so the caller said. The last call went like this –

Ring ring.... Caller display showed 'WITHHELD'. Hmm... I picked up the phone and said "Hello" in my sceptical voice.

The line crackled and eventually someone said in an accent clearly not English, "Hello, my name is XXXX and I'm calling from the technical department of BT Openreach. How are you?"

"I'm fine, how are you?"

"Thank you asking. I'm calling because....."

I cut in quickly, "How long have you been working for BT Openreach?"

Suddenly the line went dead.... Funny that.

Firstly, any 'cold' caller must display a number, so that's the first give-away. However, we have one or two genuine callers whose numbers are 'withheld', so I/we can't just ignore them.

Secondly, BT Openreach, or plain Openreach as it will soon become is the operator responsible for all of BT's lines and cables throughout the country, including the lines into people's houses. The various telecoms providers such as Virgin, TalkTalk etc all use BT's lines to one extent or another, including the final connection into your house. So, the customers of BT Openreach are telecoms providers, not individual householders. So why would BT Openreach phone us? We're not their customers. Our telephone and broadband account may be with BT, but that's not the same as BT Openreach.

In other words, it's just another tedious attempt at a scam.

**Gerald Barton**

On the next page we are reprinting some more information about 'Vishing' - an instance of which Gerald has detailed above and 'Phising' which has grown in volume - the Editors receive several 'Phising' mails every week and many really do look genuine until you do a detailed check.

All the Banks and Credit Card companies have a 'Phising' address to which you should forward any suspicious mail.



## **'VISHING'**

This involves a fraudster making phone calls to a victim, posing as bank staff, the police or other officials, and companies in a position of trust.

This call may be made to coerce the victim into:

- sending their money to another account for 'safe keeping' or 'holding'
- withdrawing cash and handing it over to the fraudster for investigation
- giving personal financial information, which can then be used to access their victim's finances

### **REMEMBER**

1. Don't be afraid to terminate the call and say no to requests for information.
2. Never share your security details with a third party. It is important to keep your account and security details safe.

If you receive a telephone call and you think something's not right, just hang up. Before calling the Bank or Credit Card Company back, make sure the caller has also hung up and you have a clear line, or ideally use a different phone line, and call them on the number on your card or bank statement.



## **'PHISHING'**

This is where people receive emails directing them to a website where they are asked to provide confidential, personal or financial information. Whilst these emails may appear to come from a legitimate site, these emails are designed to steal your personal information which can then be used to access your accounts. This is known as 'phishing'.

### **REMEMBER**

If you are suspicious about an email that claims to come from your bank or credit card company, don't open it – forward it to [phishing@ \(your bank\)](mailto:phishing@(your bank)) and then delete it. The finance industry take these matters very seriously and will investigate suspicious emails sent to them.



## EASTER SYMBOLS

At Easter it is all bunnies, eggs and lambs in the shops. Why are they symbols of Easter?

One of the oldest Spring symbols in the world is the egg - it promises new life as in Spring, fluffy yellow chicks are hatched from eggs.



The hare was a symbol of the moon and is connected with Easter because the date of Easter depends upon the full moon. Over time, the hare became a rabbit, because there are more rabbits around than hares!

The lamb represents Jesus and links His death to that of the lamb sacrificed on the first Passover. Jesus is called "the Lamb of God."

## EASTER WORDSEARCH

All the words hidden in this word-search are to do with Spring and Easter - can you find them all?

D	C	A	G	M	Y	N	N	U	B
A	D	H	A	R	E	T	U	L	I
F	U	B	I	N	A	G	P	O	P
F	C	M	I	C	R	S	G	Y	M
O	K	A	Y	R	K	S	S	E	O
D	P	L	N	E	D	R	A	G	S
I	I	C	R	O	C	U	S	A	S
L	L	B	G	N	I	R	P	S	O
B	U	F	L	O	W	E	R	D	L
U	T	D	U	O	L	C	D	U	B

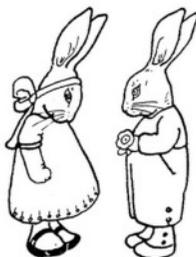
bird blossom bud  
bunny chick cloud crocus  
daffodil duck egg flower  
garden grass hare lamb lily  
spring tulip

**How do baby hens dance?**

Chick to chick.

**Why does the chicken go to the theatre?**

For hentertainment.



**Which rabbits were famous bank robbers?**  
Bunny and Clyde!

## EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

### APRIL

- Mon 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 4 2.00 pm Kingsdown Club - A talk by Janet Smith
- Wed 1 pm Babies & Toddlers commences (weekly)  
**(term time only) (resumes 19 Apr)**
- Thu 6 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm CBSI UK Bible Studies in the Foyer
- Fri 7 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 **(term  
time only) (resumes 21 April)**
- Sat 8 10.15 am-12 noon Coffee & Chat - everyone welcome
- Tue 11 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Tue 18 2.00 pm Kingsdown Club - AGM and Bingo



### Future Dates for your Diary

- Sat 6 May 7.30 pm Concert at Kingsdown with Heinz Chapel Choir from Pittsburgh USA**
- Fri 19 May 7 pm Boys' Brigade Annual Display in Kingsdown Hall
- Sun 9 Jul** (after morning service) Annual Church General Meeting
- Sat 15 Jul Next Traders Day in Northfield Avenue (please read more detailed information on **p** in the Church Council report).
- Sun 23 Jul 6.30pm at Ealing Green – farewell service for Rev Dr Jen Smith and her husband, Rev Dr Keith Riglin.
- Thu 27 Jul 8 pm Next Church Council Meeting

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.