

Brackley Methodist Church

3 Mar 2019

www.brackleymethodistchurch.com

Minister: Revd Patricia Olivent-Hayes 01280 706062 patricia.olivent@btinternet.com

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Welcome to worship.

If you are new to our church, please make yourself known to one of the Stewards and join us for coffee after the service.

An induction loop provides sound for hearing aid wearers during worship.

This week

| | | |
|------|---------|---|
| Sun | 10.30 | Morning Service led by Rev Steve Mann |
| Mon | 9.30 | Noah's Ark – Sheila & Joe Bowley |
| Tue | 2.30 | Tuesday Fellowship – Jenny Boxwell |
| Wed | | |
| Thur | 10.00 | Housegroup at 8 Cross Keys |
| Fri | 10 - 12 | Helen & Gareth Evans |
| Sat | | |
| Sun | 10.30 | Morning Service & Holy Communion led by Rev Pat Olivent Hayes |

Information for the next **Notice sheet** should reach Sonia Keen (23 College House telephone 703254 sonia.keen@btinternet.com) by 9am on Friday

If you have anything for the **Church Website** you can contact Ali Bromhall at ali.bromhall@gmail.com

THERE WILL NOT BE A NOTICE SHEET NEXT WEEK. PLEASE KEEP THIS ONE FOR INFORMATION.

Praying....

Please consult the Prayers board in the Hall. Requests for prayer may be pinned there. Please pray for the following preachers who are elsewhere today. Rev Pat at Trinity Methodist Church in Graaff- Reinet, Vera at Thornborough (11am). Next week Malcolm will be at Towcester (10.30).

Serving....

Today:

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| flowers | Joan Riddell |
| steward | Debbie Munn |
| welcome | Margaret Bolton & Alice Ross |
| music | |
| coffee | Norma Phillips & Beth Miskimmon |

Next week:

| | |
|---------|----------------------------|
| flowers | Vera Sheader |
| steward | Helen Evans |
| welcome | Roger Geyton & Roy Quigley |
| music | Lynne Cargill |
| coffee | Cherry Almy & Vera Douglas |

17th March 2019

| | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| Flowers | Vera Sheader |
| steward | Bill Crisp |
| welcome | Dorothy Glover & Joan Boatwright |
| music | |
| coffee | Joyce Wallace & Sheila Bowlley |

News....

Circuit Event – next Sunday here at Brackley Methodist Church from 3pm, there's a circuit gathering asking the question 'How do we help our church to grow?' and we will be helped in considering the twin themes of evangelism and discipleship by Maggie Gill and Paul Kybird.

For much of the last 23 years Maggie has been with Jackie Pullinger's

organization, St Stephens' Society, living and working among the poor and broken in Hong Kong and mainland China. She is now based again in the UK, but travels regularly to parts of Asia where she helps train and mentor leaders and helpers working with the poor.

Paul worked as Training and Development Officer and District Development Enabler for the London District of the Methodist Church from 2000, and has recently retired from his role as Development Worker at Nuneaton Methodist Church. A tea will be served at 4pm and there will be an evening service at 5pm during which we will welcome Paul as a newly accredited preacher in the circuit.

Rev Steve Mann

I will be leading **Lent Studies** on Thursday afternoons at College House from 2.30 - 4pm. They commence on Thursday 14th March for 5 weeks and we will follow the theme of "Jesus the Good Shepherd" based around Psalm 23 and how it meets today's challenges.

Rev Pat

Lent Lunches will be held at the Methodist Church on Fridays during Lent- 12.30 to 1.45pm. Soup and rolls, and fruit, is provided by a different church each time, with donations to a charity. Everyone is **most** welcome. The dates are 15, 22, & 29 March, and 5 & 12 April.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness - 19th April at 10.30

We will meet at the Methodist Church at 10.30, before walking down to Burgess Square for an Act of Witness there. We will then walk back to the church for coffee and hot cross buns. If you are not able to walk down you can remain in the church. The Walk of Witness is a statement to our town of our Christian belief, faith and unity - please join in if you can.

Malcolm Bromhall will be running a 'life course' for Lent called '**From Now On**'. Based on the film **The Greatest Showman** the course will explore the themes

of faith, hope, doubt & diversity as seen in the lives of P T Barnum and his circus of misfits! The course will run for five weeks starting on Monday March 11 at 7pm (*although each session will be self-contained so if you can't attend all five sessions don't worry*). Sessions will take place at Silverstone Methodist Chapel but folk from the Brackley and Towcester area will also be warmly welcome. Help with transport may be available! For further information or to register, contact Malcolm on 07887 947 569.

Reminders....

Minutes of the **Church Council Meeting** are in the vestry. If you would like a copy please ask Sonia for one.

The new rotas are available on the table in the Hall.

Pause for Thought...

At the end of time, billions of people were scattered on a great plain before God's throne. Most shrank back from the brilliant light before them. But some talked heatedly - not with cringing shame, but with belligerence.

'How can God judge us?' one asked. "What does he know about suffering?" snapped another - a young Albanian who removed his shirt to reveal a bullet scarred back. "In Kosovo we endured terror shootings torture!" he yelled. Stretching out across the plain there were hundreds of other groups. Each had a complaint against God for the evil and the suffering he permitted in this world. Before God could be qualified to judge *them*, he must first endure what they had endured. Their decision was that God should be sentenced to live on earth - as a man!

"Let him be born into a hated race. Let the legitimacy of his birth be doubted. Give him a task so difficult that even his family will think him out of his mind when he tries to do it. Let him be betrayed by his closest friends. Let him face false charges, be tried by a prejudiced jury and convicted by a cowardly judge. Let him be tortured. At the last, let him see what it means to be terribly alone. Then let him die. And let there be no doubt that he is dead."

As each group leader had announced his portion of the sentence, loud murmurs of approval went up from the throng of people assembled. But when the last had finished pronouncing sentence, there was a long silence. No-one uttered another word. No-one moved. For suddenly they all knew that God had already served his sentence.

Malcolm Bromhall
Pastoral & Outreach Worker