

The Aspect

Our Vision: To grow as a Christian Community
Reflecting God's Love.

Harvest Festival

Lord. We thank you for our festival day.
We celebrate with thanksgiving your gift of Harvest.



Offering our gifts,
We pray for those in need of food, drink and
shelter.

See inside for details of Harvest Festival services

**Dene Holm, Gravesend and Swanscombe
Methodist Churches and Community Centres.**

July-August- September 2015

This magazine is free - Please take a copy

Gravesend Methodist Church and Community Centre

Registered Charity No 1132238

A very warm welcome to our Sunday Worship Services

Sunday Worship Services 11.00 Gravesend Milton Road.

Evening Communion Service 1st Sunday in Month.

Church: Milton Road Gravesend DA12 2RE (front) Tel :328249

Halls: Wilfred Street,Gravesend,DA12 2HA (Rear) Tel :328249

Minister: Rev Noreen Daley – Lee Tel :395637

e-mail: noreendaley1@hotmail.com

All correspondence to be addressed to the Church address.

Church Stewards

Mrs Sheila Allison,Senior Steward. Tel: 535881

Mrs Hazel Davis. Tel: 822570

Mr Titus Mak. Tel:07453594545

Mrs Mary Onisimo. Tel: 536779

Mrs Fran Spencer. Tel: 746628

Mr Emmanuel Eshun. Tel: 354277

Mr Steve Brereton. Tel: 325656

Miss Velma Williams. Tel: 364881

Church Treasurer: Mr Michael Butler. Tel: 362740

Church & Hall Bookings.Gravesend:Mr Robert Hawkins Tel:536702

e-mail:roberthawkins38@btinternet.com

Care team.

Pauline Wood: Tel: 533722 Alan Wood: Tel: 533722

Fred Hollick: Tel: 361434 Linda Brereton: Tel: 325656

Miss Joyce Woodcraft: Tel:365771

Magazine Editor.Mr Robert Hawkins Tel: 536702

Gravesend Methodist Church Website.
www.gravesendmethodistchurch.org.uk

The Parable of the Sower - Matthew 13 v.1-23

Dear Friends.

September for us is the month of Harvest. Every harvest is about three simple and basic factors – the Sower, the seed and the soil. For Jesus these three elements were decisive in His parable of the Sower.

When we discuss this theme we do not normally spend much time on the Sower himself, yet the story sheds some light on the vocation of Jesus and the way he brings life to men and women. He places great importance on persuasion and patience. His is the way of kindness. He allows time for growth. There is in his sowing a kind of 'divine carelessness, a feature of other parts of his ministry. He chose a most unpromising group of men for His disciples, most of whom had no special gifts or abilities. Yet He had faith in his Father's grace. Some of the seed would undoubtedly be lost as many things interfered with its growth, but still our Lord was willing to trust so much to the unseen.

The seed, too, featured high on his list of priorities. For Him it was quite simply 'The word of God' – for us, the Bible and its contents. In Jesus, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and it is His Gospel that we are commanded to share. The seed has a strange way of bearing fruit in unexpected places and in unexpected ways. We have to be faithful in our proclamation of his Word in whatever way is open to us and then be content to leave the rest to Him.

But what of the soil? This is the variable factor. It is the same seed and the same sower, but there is a vast difference in soils. There was the path and the birds came and devoured the seed. The life with the hard surface is a common condition. It is the secular life that has lost all sense of the sacred. It is easy to be covered by a crust of selfishness which makes us less responsive to God and our fellows.

The seed which fell on the rocky ground is a reminder that it is easy to support the work of God when times are relatively easy, but when they

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become more difficult it is then that our faith is put to the test. The Christian life calls for consistency in the face of every adversity. It is true also of the soil in which the thorns grew. It was what the farmers call 'dirty soil'. It was rich in itself, but was contaminated by the thorn seed. It typified those of us who have great potential but produce so little because we allow our lives to be adversely affected by unimportant things. True happiness and fulfilment is only possible as we discover what God wants us to do and then gladly go and do it.

The 'good ground' is an encouragement to all of us. What rates of interest in our investment – 30%, 60% and even 100%! When the seed of God's Word falls into the heart that is ready to receive it, it is one of the most wonderful happenings in human experience it makes everything else worthwhile.

This is an old story, but it is ever new. We need to ask God to deliver us from hardness of heart, to keep us faithful in the face of difficulty, to seek to reach the fullness of our potential and remember to praise him for every success achieved in his Name.



*God's world is good.
We like it.
He made the sun to give us light
And to keep us warm.
The trees to give us fruit.
God's world is full of twinkly stars,
Beautiful flowers and furry animals.
God made us.
God wants us to be happy.
God loves us.*

Seen in 'Prayers for a fragile world'

GRAVESEND SISTERHOOD

I am sure our ladies have been enjoying the lovely summer weather, spending time away on holiday and with their families.

Our last meeting is on 13th July and is our usual Garden Party, held this year in the Jubilee Room. My thanks for all who will be bringing the food, which will be delicious. With perfect weather, lovely food, what more can we want.

Our first meeting in September is on Monday, 7th at 2.30 pm. We would welcome any new members to join us. Our planned speakers are listed below.

Sheila Allison

Speakers:

July:

6th	Mrs Sally Partington.
13th	Garden Party.

Summer Break

September:

7th	Open Meeting.
14th	Mrs Yvonne Lee.
21st	Deacon Vic Downs/ Mrs Anne Downs.
28th	Mr Richard Arnold

Melva Mann



Somehow, as you sip your tea, your mind continues to settle of its habitual rush. Your words and musing slow down and sift deeper. Your relationships- even your relationship with yourself-are granted space for a leisurely stretch.

Transforming Communities.

A few years ago a friend of mine walked into his local church, expecting a normal midweek Bible study. As he entered, he saw a group of people sitting around in a circle as usual, so took a seat, noticing absent-mindedly there seemed quite a few new people this week. In fact, as he looked closer, he realized that he didn't recognize any one in the group at all. Looking at his watch, it dawned on him that he had got the wrong day, and had stumbled into the wrong meeting. By this stage, however, it had started, so he could hardly leave. A middle-aged woman was speaking about the kind of week she'd had, and how she had managed to avoid 'it' (whatever 'it' was) for most of the week apart from a few minor slips. As each person took their turn to speak, my friend realised he had stumbled into a meeting of the local branch of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Before long he mumbled some embarrassed apologies and left, but not before the meeting had made quite an impression on him. There seemed a measure of honesty, admission of failure, celebration of success and mutual encouragement in a common struggle that he had rarely found in the previous weekly Bible study meetings, which had been rather dry academic discussions by comparison. The people who had gathered for the alcoholics' meeting came because they knew they needed help. They were anything but a respectable gathering of well-brought-up citizens doing the socially acceptable thing. They were desperate and wanted to change. And the group was slowly helping them to do just that.

He found himself wishing that church was a little more like this. He had accidentally discovered something about church that his own experience of it had not taught him; that it was intended to be a transforming community. But what does transformation actually mean? The kind of transformation offered by Alcoholics Anonymous is freedom from addiction to alcohol, but what kind does the church offer? Moreover, how does it happen? How can we help grow churches that transform both individuals and communities, and generate effective evangelism?

Celebrate Sea Sunday 12 July 2015

With the Sailors Society

Remember the 1.5 million seafarers who keep the world turning.

The Sailors Society is an international maritime charity that provides practical, emotional and spiritual help for merchant seafarers at home, in port and at sea.

With a presence in over 50 global ports and 23 countries, we aim to transform the lives of seafarers and their family all over the world.

On Sea Sunday each year we remember the tireless work of the merchant seafarers who labour around the clock to transport 90% of the world's trade by sea. Without them, the supplies that we rely on in the UK would noticeably run down within a fortnight! Working long contracts for an average of 9-12 months away from home can be a very lonely job. Seafarers sacrifice times with their families, often missing special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and Christmas.

Chaplains and volunteers board ships in ports talk and listen to the crew. And pass information to various other Chaplains and volunteers through out the world, perhaps contacting and helping families. Sometimes if the ship is in port long enough meetings and social events are held.

The world wide network of communication provides a service that easy contact is made where ever the seafarer might be.

We pray for the awareness of, and thankfulness for the wonderful work of seafarers and our reliance on them.

This is also an opportunity for us to remember our reliance on God and to thank Him for all of His provisions and faithfulness.

Did you know that there is a Church on the Oceans a missionary vision for the 21st Century?

Action for Children Sunday 12th July



Action for Children Sunday is a time for the Methodist Church to celebrate the work we do together throughout the year. It usually falls on the second Sunday in July, as this is closest to the anniversary of their founding on 9 July. Our morning worship at 11am that day, will celebrate their work.

Coffee morning at church on **Saturday 11th July** – looking for lots of support – Please do come along. All proceeds that day to Action for Children.

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I am afraid that, at the moment, Action for Children are unable to take ink cartridges and old mobile phones for recycling. I will let you know when the situation changes.

Thanks

Robert Hardy - Treasurer - Gravesend Action for Children Support Group



Young people these days face many trials and temptations, with the world being motivated by greed and desire. We pray that they will have the courage to resist peer pressure and will be motivated by faith and love instead. Open the hearts of this generation to give selflessly in all aspects of their lives for the glory of God. Let them be an example to all.

Megan Thomas, Youth President 2014/2015



Lord, we know that you are all goodness and you want the best for your children.

We look forward in hope to what you will do in the world.

Here is the latest news about our 21st Century Project fundraising.



The current total raised towards the project is, at the time of writing, £36,773.46 – Well done everyone!

We counted our Blessings for Lent – and raised a total of £318.58

On Saturday 16th May we held a Spring Market and raised £713.27

A Cream Tea/Garden Party will be held on Saturday 18th July - 2pm – 4.30pm – at the home of Joyce Woodcraft – Tickets are now on sale at £5 per person, please come and enjoy some lovely tea and scones and some lovely company!

In September we have two events taking place:

On Saturday 19th from 3pm until 6pm a Celebration of Harvest and the 21st Project (phase1)

It will be celebrated with various International Foods, so if you have a speciality from your culture please let us know – we hope to have as many as possible represented. We are hoping that local dignitaries will also be present so do please make every effort to support this free event.

On the following Saturday (26th) there will be an Organ Recital to celebrate the 50th birthday of the church organ – please pass this date on to any organ loving friends you may have – this will be a free event but donations will be invited.

Other dates for your diary include:

A Family quiz evening on Saturday 14th November

An 'Eat Around' after morning worship on Sunday 22nd November

A Christmas concert by 'Fiddle & Faff' on Friday 11th December at 7.30pm

More details of these nearer the time but do please keep the dates free.

Thank you all for your continuing support. Robert Hardy

TAOIST TAI CHI

Some members of Gravesend Methodist Church may have come across our Group on a Monday morning carrying out strange looking moves in the Large Hall.

Since the building work has been taking place we have been “banished” to the Parlour. A much smaller room and we were all a little concerned about the lack of space but over the past couple of months, in our temporary abode, we have found we are all working closer together (pun intended). It has brought us a lot of fun, we are more aware of those around us and our normally quiet exercise time is interspersed with giggles and “Whoops, Sorry” as we dodge outstretched arms. Moving in Unison has become much easier to understand.

We are looking forward to moving back to the original hall once building work has been completed. From what we are able to see the finished building will be fantastic and will serve so many needs in the Community. Our Good Wishes go to every one concerned with this Project now and in the future.

Once we have more space anyone interest in joining our Group would be made welcome. We work with people of all ages and needs and Taoist Tai Chi can be very helpful for those with health problems.

We can't guarantee that our current soundtrack will be running but we can guarantee that you will find a friendly togetherness and a fun filled two hours will be available to all who would like to learn Taoist Tai Chi.

We also have an evening Class on Tuesdays at Deneholm Church & Community Centre.

You can contact me via Sheila or Bob.

Eileen Bardoe

CIT for Taoist Tai Chi Society of GB

**Cream Tea
Garden Party
Sat 18 July anytime
between 2 & 4.30pm**



**At 197 Lower Higham Road,
Chalk DA12 2NW**

**£5 per person and bring
your own seats please**

Proceeds to C21st Project

Cultivate the spirit of celebration in your life by making room for laughter. Deliberately seek it out. Begin today as you smile at someone and find something worth laughing about. As the laughter permeates your life, the spirit of celebration will take root in your heart and you will rediscover the meaning of another proverb:

“A cheerful heart has a continual feast” (Proverbs 15:15 NIV)

The Association for Church Editors

In July 2002 the Church magazine passed into my hands, with a handshake, and a cup of tea. Suddenly it was my 'baby'. First issue September.

So, I talked to God and myself about what was to be published.

After much deliberation the decision was to produce an A5 booklet with

interesting articles to read. Church and

Outreach. At the same time a modern

technique of presentation was adopted. A5

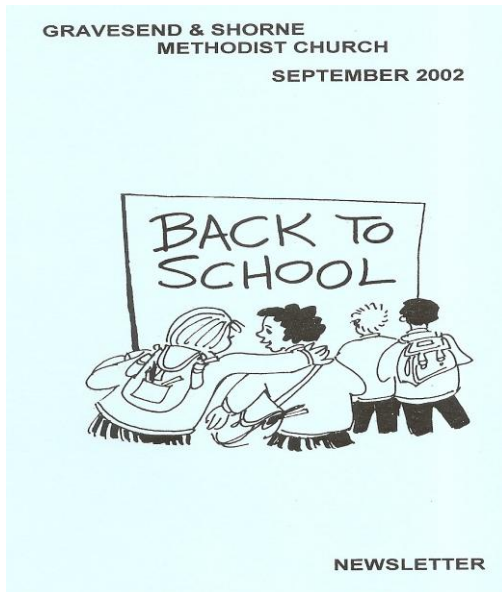
double page masters. The front cover was

simple with no pictures of the Church

My computer then, was an old one with very

low capacity, so it was continually being

down loaded onto floppy discs.



Eventually the magazine presentation was

adopted by the Church Council and changed

to a bi-monthly publication.

Techniques have moved on:

My master pages are now produced as A4 versions and sent down the line, checked by the printer, and sent it to his magic print machine, which then transforms them into an A5 booklet.

I also have lovely lady who proof reads for me.

I became a member of the Association of Church Editors

The Association of Church Editors is a not-for-profit group which exists to provide practical help and advice to those concerned with producing

Church-based communications. The aim of the Association is to foster the highest standards of editorial communications between Churches of

all denominations and their immediate communities. Any one who supports the production of Church newsletters and magazines may join.

I attend various workshops and seminars which have helped me produce a good standard of Magazine.

Each year the magazine is reviewed for an improved presentation.

But it is your magazine; tell me what you think about it. Bob The Editor.

North Kent Methodist Circuit. Local Preacher Accreditation.

A service was held on Sunday May 17th at Gillingham Methodist Church for the Accreditation of Local Preachers for:

Sarah Crouch Derek Gallagher Irene Shepherd
Eddie Vincent Colin Waldock

The service was led by Rev Gary Watt in his usual style with Brian Davies as the Preacher.

Each Local Preacher has to undergo much training, reading and writing of notes. Each local preacher in training has a tutor and a mentor. Each Local preacher at the service had their tutors say a few words about them. Very lovingly of course.

For the service each Local Preacher chose songs, which were well known.

And sung with great voice by the congregation of a packed church. The admission was carried out by the Rev Clifford Newman. The Presidents Letter was read by Judith German.

Local Preachers have to undergo much training, be approved by the circuit; this takes a long time as well as sometimes having jobs and working.

They feel they are called by God for this ministry and need our support, blessing and prayers.

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned. This is why it says: When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people."

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-16

Prayer Concerns

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell or recovering from illness:

Jean Wright, Anne Smith, Fred and Val Hollick, James cousin Emma, Keith Bush, Morag Wigzell, Rev Thelma Campbell, Maggie (Oasis Bookshop), Dolly (John McKinnons sister), Marjory Stevens. Kathleen (Sheila's Cousin). Pat Rowlands.

Dee Bennison, Joan Greenwell, Don and Pat Philpott, Hayley Power, Susan Boucher, Barry Errington, Gladys Greenstreet, Lois Heaver, Joan Hoadley, Margaret Homewood, John Thorne, Ian and Don Williams.

Those who need our prayers:

Maxine Fielder and family, Mary Onisimo and Family, Rosalind Freeman, Mitchell Curtis, Lesley Smith – Charles and friends Bridget and Terry, Trevor Blake-Morris, Dennis Allen and Elizabeth, Brian Greenhow, Alan and Pauline Wood, Joyce Woodcraft and Family, Noreen Daley-Lee and Family, Sue (a friend of Marians), The family and friends of Mark Papworth.

Also:

The Street Pastors, Gravesham Foodbank and clothing for the homeless and the Gravesend 21st Century Project improvements.

Our fellowship Groups

For the life of our Churches and their families.

For the two church priorities of Whole Life discipleship and work with Children and Youth especially Junior Church.

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Pray that as we have sought God's forgiveness. He will enable us to share it with others, that as we have asked for His mercy. He will help us to offer it to others and as we have received his love, that he will help us to show this same love to others.

What is a Harvest Festival?

Harvest festival is a celebration of food grown on the land.

Thanks giving ceremonies for a successful harvest are both worldwide and very ancient. In Britain, we have given thanks for successful harvests since pagan times. We celebrate this day by singing, praying and decorate our Churches with baskets of fruit and food in a festival known as "Harvest Festival, usually during the month of September.

Harvest Festival reminds Christians of all good things God gives them. This makes them want to share with others not so fortunate. In Schools and Churches, people bring food from home to a Harvest Festival Service.

After the service, the food put on display is given to people in need.

When is Harvest Festival?

Harvest festivals are traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the Harvest Moon. This is the full moon that appears closest to the autumn equinox (about September 23rd) in two years out of three, the Harvest Moon comes in September, but in some years it occurs in October.

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Everglow.

*The sinking sun lies low
 Within the twilight sky.
 Gently bowing sleepy head,
 Leaves its domain on high;
 But, deep within my soul there lies
 God's Sun of righteousness,
 Which ne'er shall set; shall I forget
 My Saviour's faithfulness?*

CREAM TEA AFTERNOON



**Dene Holm Methodist Church
Thursday 30th July 2015
2pm till 4pm**

- Stalls
- Home Produce
- Competitions

Raising funds for the great work of



For more information contact

Melva 01474 334155

Gravesend Street Pastors

Gravesend Servant Evangelism.



As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations we intend to stand on the front steps of the Gravesend church and give away apples and invitations to our celebrations to all who pass by

This will take place on Saturday 19th September.

10.30am – 11.30am

Volunteers and apples are required.

Please turn up on the day.

Many thanks. The servant evangelism team.



Gravesend Flowers for Harvest festival.



Let's make our Church look really bright and vibrant.

Donations for flowers are welcome.

Please see Pauline Butler, Val Hollick



*God's bright sunshine overhead,
 God's flowers beside your feet,
 The path of life you must tread
 Can little hold of fear or dread:
 And by such pleasant pathways led,
 May all your life be sweet*

Opening to new opportunities!



This will also include the celebration for the opening of Phase 1 of the 21st Century Project.

**Gravesend Methodist Church
Harvest Celebrations.
Sunday 20th September at 11.00am.**

Please bring non-perishable Harvest Gifts



Tins, Jars, razors, soap, Toothbrushes,
Toothpaste, deodorants, shampoo etc.
Packets of crisps. Pot noodles etc

To be distributed amongst Homeless charities.



Harvest Festival weekend 19th-20th September.



We would be grateful if your organisation or individuals would decorate a window in the Church for this lovely thanksgiving occasion Make the Church sparkle on this Harvest day.
Margaret

Lord of the harvest.
We offer you our worship.
We adore you and thank you
For the beauty and the bounty
Of the world you have made.
Lord of the harvest,

Dene Holm Methodist Church and Community Centre Midsummer Madness – Dene Holm Summer Fete

The weather was (fairly) kind to us, enabling us to hold the fete in the garden again this year. The theme was “Nursery Rhymes” and several stalls were suitably decorated. The winning stall was “Mary, Mary Quite Contrary”, the card stall run by Mary and Kathy. Our usual stall-holders were joined by some new friends who were raising funds for their own charities – good outreach in our community – and of course they made a donation to church funds.



A recent addition to the varied organisations using the church premises during the week is the Marshall Academy of Irish Dance. We were lucky to see the girls put on a very impressive display of Irish dancing, in their pretty costumes. The Academy is very new and hoping to recruit more dancers – they meet on Saturday mornings and Thursday evenings.

At the time of writing, we had raised around £380 with some still to come, which is a good effort and slightly up on last year. Thank you to everyone who made the event a success.

Dene Holm Harvest Celebrations

Our Harvest Festival service this year will be on Sunday 20th September, and will be a parade/family service followed by a harvest lunch – all welcome. The menu is still to be decided, but numbers will be limited, so register your interest as soon as possible! Tickets will be available from 1st August.

The food donated at the service will be sent to the Salvation Army for their pantry, which is then distributed locally to those in need,



*God never abandons anyone on whom He has set his love,
Nor does Christ the good shepherd ever lose track of His sheep.*

J.L.Packer

These words of wisdom appeared anonymously on the internet . They have a deep meaning that is worth contemplating. You could think of them as a further Ten Commandments to follow, with fewer 'Nots'!

Layman's Ten Commandments.

Prayer is not a 'spare wheel' that you pull out when in trouble, but a steering wheel that directs the right path throughout the journey.

So why is a car's windscreen so large and the rear view mirror so small? Because our past is not as important as our future, so look ahead and move on.

Friendship is like a book. It takes only a few minutes to burn, but it takes years to write.

All things in life are temporary. If they go well enjoy them...they will not last forever. If they are going wrong...they can't last that long either.

Old friends are gold, new friends are diamonds. If you get a diamond, don't forget the gold! Because to hold a diamond, you need a base of gold.

Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, "Relax, friend, it's just a bend, not the end."

When God solves your problems, you have faith in His abilities; when God doesn't solve your problems remember that He has faith in your abilities.

A blind person asked St. Anthony: "Can there be anything worse than losing eyesight?" He replied "Yes, losing your vision!"

When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes when you are happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

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Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles...it takes away today's peace.

Author Unknown.

You might like to spend time thinking about these and how it might change your perspective...Here's a final one-
Live simply, love generously.care deeply. Speak kindly, and leave the rest to God.



The Typesetters Knight Mayor.

I have a spelling chequer
It came with my pea see.
It plainly marques for my revue
Miss steaks eye cannot see.

Eye strike a quay and right a word
And weight for it two say
Weather I am wrong or write-
It shows me straight away.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee four two late,
And eye can put the error rite-
It's rarely,rarely grate.

I've run this poem threw it
I'm shore yore pleased to no,
It's letter perfect in it's weight
My chequer tolled me so.

With apologies to my proof reader :Sheila Allison.

Let's have a Larf

Why are married women heavier than single women?

Single women come home, have a look in the fridge and then go to bed.
Married women come home, see what's in the bed and go to the fridge.

It was mealtime during an airline flight. "Would you like dinner" the steward asked. "What are my choices?" enquired the passenger."Yes or no," he replied.

Did you hear about the two boys who were arrested for stealing used batteries; the other for the theft of fireworks.
Police charged the first boy and let the other off.

How many women can one man marry?

A little boy who attended his first wedding worked that one out pretty quick: The answer is 16.Four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer.
Comes to 16.

What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?

Answer:Ruthless.

A young man was asked to describe his mother-in-law:

"Generally speaking, she's generally speaking."

The graduation banquet was about to begin when the master of ceremonies was informed that the invited clergyman would not be able to attend. He quickly asked the main speaker to give the blessing.

The speaker nodded, rose, bowed his head and in all sincerity, said:
"There being no clergyman present, let us thank God."

Children's Logic:

"Give me sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant". The teacher took the small boy to one side to correct him. "Don't you what pregnant means?" she asked. "Sure," said the young boy confidently, "It means carrying a child."



Circuit Service.

Sunday 19th July 4.00pm

At Union Street Methodist Church Maidstone

We say farewell to:

Rev. Clifford Newman

Rev John Yapp.



Circuit Service

Sunday 30th August 4.00 pm

At Union Street Methodist Church Maidstone

WE WELCOME.

Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard

Rev Kan Yu

All are welcome



As we walk through life on earth we will experience daily situations that will reveal our character. Jesus gives us the example of kindness and gentleness. He was full of sympathy and affection, and always loved with mercy.

This is the back page that was!

Please look at the back page.

What's going on?

People have expressed their concerns in the fact that their events are not mentioned in our "Dates for the Diary" nor mentioned in 'The Aspect'

The Editor and the booking secretary try to glean information from various sources but unfortunately we are not mind readers.

Therefore as with any other news media, unless you tell us we don't know. A simple fact of life.

If you want your organisation or event to be published please contact the Editor.

At Gravesend:

"In order to save unnecessary expenditure and allow your activities to be advertised, please ensure that you put your groups meetings in the Church diary (which is in the office) at least two weeks in advance and then heating can be arranged, Similarly cancellations should also be notified."

Please remember to switch off any lights not needed and lock/alarm the premises when not in use.

Please Note:

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Thank you for your courtesy.

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July-August-September 2015

Dene Holm Methodist Church

A very warm welcome to our Sunday Worship Services.

11.00 am and 4.30pm. Parade and Family service 3rd Sunday in the month.

Senior Church Steward	Mr Ian Angel	Tel:358505
Stewards	Mr Martin Prater	Tel: 812330
	Mrs Janet Jones-Butler	
	Mr Alan Fielder	
Church Family Secretary	Mrs Diane Law	
Church Treasurer	Mrs Sylvia Angel	Tel: 358505
Church Bookings	Mrs Sylvia Angel	Tel: 358505

Swanscombe Methodist Church

Milton Road Swanscombe DA10 OLS

Senior Steward ;Janet Errington Tel 01322 387096

Sunday Worship Service

10.45 am: All our services are 'All age Worship'

Coffee Morning held on the second Saturday of each month at 9.30pm.

Ebbfleet Rainbow Centre

Rose Street Northfleet DA11 9EQ Tel:321221

Centre open Tuesday – Thursday 10.00am – 2.00pm

NEWS FROM SWANSCOMBE CHURCH

We celebrated with the new Mr and Mrs Ernie Norman on 17th May when they came to church to have their marriage blessed. There are photos of the occasion in this magazine. We pray that they will be very happy together for all the years to come. Our next special event is our Church Anniversary service on 28th June at 10 45 a.m. The preacher will be Gill Gray and there will be a salad meal in the church afterwards.

There will be no Coffee Morning in August but they will start again on the second Saturday in September from 9 30 to 11 00 a.m. In October the Coffee Morning will be replaced by an all- day Craft Fair with refreshments and we hope that this will prove to be an exciting and **profitable venture.**

The Harvest Festival will take place on 27th September, led by Sara Crouch and it will be followed by a faith meal in the church. The exterior of the church has been rendered or cladded and we are now waiting for it to dry before the interior can be painted. We have had more problems with children climbing onto the roof and damaging the tiles so we have had anti-vandal paint applied to the walls and flat roof to keep the children away.

Please remember Noreen and her family in your prayers and also Susan Boucher, Barry Errington, Gladys Greenstreet, Ray Heaver, Jean Hoadley, Margaret and Alan Homewood, John Thorne and Iris and Don Williams.

Autumn Craft Fayre

Saturday 19th October

9.30am - 4.00pm

Now taking bookings

If you would like a table: £10.00 per table

Contact Lois on 07837188515

Swanscombe Wedding Blessing.

On Sunday 17th May we celebrated with Jean and Ernie the Blessing of their wedding which had taken place on Wednesday 13th May.

The Church was full of family and friends, the service was taken by Janet and members of the congregation also took part. The reading for the service was taken from 1 Corinthians Chapter 13 verse 4 – 8a and verse 13 also known as the 'Hymn of love', it is also often noted for being the most loved chapter in the entire New Testament. Paul wrote these chapters to the Corinthians to help them with their Christian life and faith. Our service started with the hymn 'This is the day' and finished with 'Come and celebrate'.

After the service we all enjoyed wedding cake and non-alcoholic wine!

We wish Ernie and Jean many blessings as husband and wife.

Below the poem said at the Blessing:

The Perfect Pair

Some things in life are always better, when there found in twos, like cheese and pickle, Ant 'n' Dec and gloves and socks and shoes.

Just ask Noah, he believed the best things come in pairs, BOGOF deals in Morrison's and picnics with teddy bears.

Some things in life don't really work without a partner in crime.

We're all born as a jigsaw and all missing a piece, but Jean found bliss when she found hers in Ernie.

Some things in life go hand in hand, like ducks and Ayles-berry and Jean and Ernie are concrete proof some things are meant to be.

And now with this rhyme I think that it's time to bow out gracefully, with love, and luck I wish you both the perfect pair, eternally.

Jean and Ernie
Waiting for the
service to start



Jean and her daughters

The wedding cake



Side by side with Christ your Saviour, may you daily walk with him

**Cream Tea
Garden Party
Sat 18 July anytime
between 2 & 4.30pm**



**At 197 Lower Higham Road,
Chalk DA12 2NW
£5 per person and bring
your own seats please
Proceeds to C21st Project**

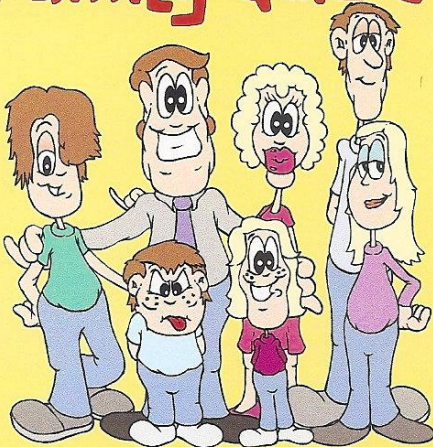
**50th Anniversary
Organ Recital**
by Bruce Davis
& Michael Bell
BA FRCO

**7.00pm Saturday
26 September**
Entry Free - Donations to
our C21st Project

**Gravesend Methodist Church
& Community Centre
Milton Road, Gravesend
DA12 2RE (near clock tower)**

Proceeds to the
C21st Project

Family Quiz Evening



*A quiz
evening
with a
twist*

**Sat 14 November
6.15 for 6.30pm**

Teams of 6 - £5 per head

**Gravesend Methodist Church
(near clock tower) Charity No. 1132238
www.gravesendmethodistchurch.org.uk**

Proceeds to the
C21st Project

**A Celebration of Harvest
and the C21st Project
(Phase 1)**

**3 - 6pm Saturday
19 September**



International Foods