

Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 15th May 2022

*Give thanks to the Lord because he
is good, because his faithful love
endures for ever.
1Chronicles 16:34*



Notices

Sunday Worship 15th May. The service will be led by LP Martin Smith. The service starts at 9:30 am.

Next Sunday Worship with Holy Communion 22nd May will be led by Robert Zachar.

Sunday 15th May circuit live stream worship 10:30 will be led by *Julien Myles*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxDzHlx6vYM>

The next Sunday circuit live stream, 22nd May, will be led by Robert Zachar.

Dates for your calendar

- **Newington AGM date confirmed for 16th May 2pm at church.** Thank you Chris for sorting this for us. Please send your reports to Chris in time (ASAP)
- **Please remember** in your diary the special joint services which will take place every time there is a fifth Sunday as follows: 29th May in Sittingbourne, 31st July in Newington, 30th October in Bearsted
- **Rev Tony Graff - a farewell service** will take place at Gravesend Methodist church on 31st July 4pm.
- **Collection of medical supplies and Bibles for Ukraine** – speak to minister if you want to contribute
- **There will be opportunity to attend seminar about Local arrangements.** Run by Naomi O. And Bonni B.P. Date TBA
- **Thank you all** coming to support the family and pay respect to Ernie S. The service of thanksgiving was blessed with organ music and amazing singing.
- **Steve**, our new gardener began his work on our Church garden this Wednesday.
- **UK Paper Band concert. 28th May 6.15 to 7pm.** Entrance by donation on the evening. To book your seat please message or call Paul on: 07939 604253

- **Local Preachers reaffirmation service 22nd May 6:30 pm at St Luke's**
- **Collection for Ukraine.** I was approached by a team of volunteers organizing deliveries of medical, hygiene items for Ukraine. They would like to add Bibles to each parcel. If you have a spare one or want to buy a new, possibly Ukrainian that will help as well. The next lorry leaves on 25th May. (First aid kits or individual bandages, plasters, hygiene items, baby nappies etc.) Contact the minister if you are interested.
- **Food Bank appeal.** Swale Food Bank urgently needs donations of food. If you are interested in supporting this mission please speak to the minister. We have a good relationship with the FB manager in Sittingbourne. They cover Swale area. Unfortunately after the pandemic we were not able to reopen the Food Bank hub in Sittingbourne Methodist church due to a lack of volunteers, but continue to support the warehouse with donations.

Reflection on God's word

All creation in worship. Psalm 148

The opening reading from Psalm 148 leads us into worship. Scripture constantly calls us to give Glory to God, to praise him. An act of adoration of his majesty wants to be the permanent outcome of our relationship with God. The language is wrapped around this theme. Not only people but the whole creation, visible and invisible, living and lifeless forms are participating on this act of worshipping God. I still hear the organ played by K.M. and the congregation singing "Angels voices ever singing" at E.S funeral service. It almost felt like there was a precise number of voices balanced with altos and basses and the walls of the church responded. It really felt like we were inside a bell and everything just vibrated whether it was voices, music or shivering goose bumps on our skin. A wonderful experience. Jesus said on one occasion that if the sound of worship is silenced the stones will carry on. And another place to quote is about how God appoints infants to receive worship and praise.

But we can't ignore reality. There is silence. There is terrible silence.

The world decided not to worship God. World prefers manmade idols, it adores creation instead of its creator.

There is a fine line between these two sides. Worship God and worship creation. As we observe creation and its beauty we wonder, respect and even fear. Taste the fruits, smell the perfumes, and feel the fresh wind, cool water and heat of the sun. Everything just feels great. And it is great. It is right to enjoy life of course, but it is not the end of it. What would you do if you do not like it? It is easy to feel good when we have a purpose in life and everything around us is ok, but what if it all crumbles down? What will we worship then? What purpose is left?

True worship begins when we search for answers and Christ reveals himself to us. Yet not everyone makes that spiritual step forward and asks: "what are these? Who made them?"

Worship begins in this point when we are curious enough to ask: "who are you?" An act of worship is also a powerful step forward from our problems, fears. Instead of blaming God or falling into despair we turn to him with open hearts to search for truth. Whole creation worship Lord and let all people join in this orchestra. AMEN

People and places for prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ
is the way, the truth and the life:
Grant us to walk in his way,
To rejoice in his truth,
And to share his risen life;
Who is alive and reigns with you,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and for ever. Amen

(MWB, collect for fifth Sunday of Easter)

We remember those who died and their loved ones. Audrey G, Margaret S., Peter W., Ernie S.

Please send news, prayer requests and any other contributions for inclusion in the weekly newsletter to robert.zachar@gmail.com **Bank details for Offerings:** Newington Methodist Church, HSBC Sittingbourne. Sort Code 40 – 42 – 04, Account 70614696. If you prefer to send a cheque contact our church treasurer Chris Ch.



a concert by
UK Paper Band

UK PAPER BAND

Action for Children

**6.15 FOR 7.00PM
SATURDAY
28 MAY 2022**

**6.15
Coffee
& Cake!**

Entrance by donation on the evening, to book your seat please message or call Paul on 07939 604253.

At Sittingbourne Methodist Church

The poster features a background image of brass instruments (trumpets and trombones) and a group photo of the band members at the bottom. The text is arranged in a clear, bold layout with a dark blue background.