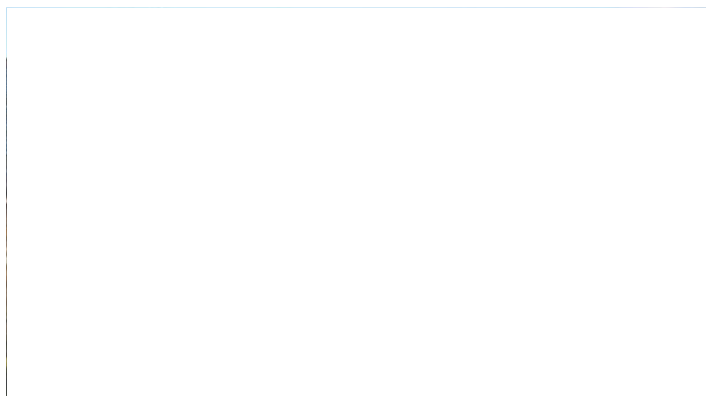


Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 11th October

The church building
at Newington
remains closed for
Sunday services.



Notices

- **Sunday on line service at 10:30am, Harvest** – will be led by Vic Downs The service can be found on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uk0WC16lr7Q> or join by telephone: 020 3481 5237 (charged at the standard national rate); when requested enter meeting ID 742 958 8134 followed by #; press # again when asked for a participant ID
- You're also invited to join in the **Newington social catch-up before the service at 9am** online using Zoom at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fTVH1pk2z4&feature=youtu.be> (or use meeting ID 462 809 8433) ... or join by telephone: 020 3481 5237 (charged at the standard national rate); when requested enter meeting ID 462 809 8433 followed by #; press # again when asked for a participant ID
- **Sunday's service on line**, on 18th October will be led by Rev Naomi Oates
- **Sunday morning service in Sittingbourne 10:30 (indoor)**, Please book in advance on this phone number: Paul **07939604253**
- **Bring your chair and Bible** every Sunday from 3 to 3:30 pm in the front garden at Sittingbourne Methodist Church.
- **Newington Church council** 19th October 2020, 2pm Monday. The reports will be circulated asp
- **Birthday** Many happy returns to Bernard G.

Reflection Philippians 4, 4-9

The final chapter of Paul's letter to the church in Philippi carries an encouragement to seek inward peace of heart and mind in Christ. This confidence and joy is available particularly in the times of worries and uncertainties. How desirable a state of mind is that especially in these days!

Imagine you have nothing to worry about! It seems impossible. Even the hardest and toughest of us carry some worries. No matter what face mask people wear, (even if they have no face mask at all) it is for sure that deep inside there are some thorns with the potential to grow so much as to take over our souls' capacity and take over our life. We all have concerns and often worry a lot.

It is not wrong to worry and it actually makes us human beings. What would be life like without things to worry about? Our families, jobs, government, environment, how we look, our health. "*We care so we scare*" was a slogan in one cartoon movie called Monsters Inc. There was a parallel world in which the monsters champions scared children at night and as their victims' screamed the monster team gathered the scream energy into some kind of battery shaped containers and these supplied power for their parallel world.

In all our worries if there is a person to talk to it is a great relief. Someone listening to our concerns, our hidden and perhaps long time stored worries is so important. But it is not good enough to stop at the point of being worried and sharing it in an appropriate place and time. There is more!

Paul is advising us to change our worries into prayer. To gather that internal area of yourself, all those concerns, observations, even anxieties and shift them into the prayer room. That little room in your heart where nobody can see you only your Heavenly Father. Speak to Him and lay it down before Him. Listen to the scriptures as they may become alive in your situation, and trust God. There are prayers, petitions and thanksgiving as Paul is listing in this particular passage. Surely there is a whole new world in that little room of yours and truly no one can take it from you unless you yourself decide to put it a bit lower on your priority list. Prayer cannot be substituted by any other intellectual activity. We can enjoy a variety of relaxation, stress relief, mindfulness techniques and they are very beneficial, but they are not there to replace prayer as Jesus and his apostles established for all believers to practice. Prayer is a unique and powerful parallel world we can enter into in the name of Jesus and listen to the language which is interpreted by the Holy Spirit. We can bring the concerns of this world we live in into our prayer room and experience that transforming power of God. To quote an old chorus as well:

*A little talk with Jesus makes it right, all right
A little talk with Jesus makes it right, all right;
In trials of every kind, praise God I always find,
A little talk with Jesus makes it right, all right.*

(J.P.Ashley)

Amen

People and places for prayer

Draw us, O Christ, by grace irresistible, to the centre of all faith and to the heart of all sacrifice, to the deepest of all wells and to a work that is not our own, even your holy Cross, to which we cling and by which we are held, for your own name's sake.

Amen (Dora Greenwell, poet, 1821-1882)

- Beryl and Peter, Margaret N, Peter and Ian, Heather and Stephen, Elena, Val T.
- All those shielding from Covid-19, new restrictions and public response to government leadership.
- We remember our friends who have died and their loved ones: Audrey, Margaret S.
- Pray for upcoming church council meeting
- We pray for churches in Caribbean and Americas, for its work over a wide variety of lands and languages. We also pray for Chester and Stoke –On-Trent District, UK. (*taken from Day 27 Prayer handbook*)

Riddle

If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you haven't got me. What am I?

(The source from internet)



Answer to last week's puzzler: KNOWLEDGE

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.