

Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 8th August 2021



My whole being hopes and I wait
for God's promise.

Because faithful love is with the Lord,
because great redemption is with our God!

Psalm 130

Notices

- **Sunday service on 8th August in the church will be led by Rev Zachar. Next Sunday's service 15th August will be led by LP Margaret Bowerman.**
- **Sunday 8th August circuit live stream service 10:30** will be led by Bart Woodhouse. Follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdYSr5ZC2PY>
The next Sunday circuit live stream, 15th August, will be led by Tracey Burch.

Dates for your Diary:

- **The minister** will be away from 16th August to 23rd August.

Reflection on God's word Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Therefore after you have gotten rid of lying, each of you must tell the truth to your neighbour because we are parts of each other in the same body.

Be angry without sinning. Do not let the sun set on your anger.

Do not provide opportunity for the devil.

Thieves should no longer steal. Instead they should go to work, using their hands to do good that they will have something to share with whoever is in need.

Do not let any foul words come out of your mouth. Only say what is helpful when it is needed for building up the community so it benefits those who hear what you say.

Do not make the Holy Spirit of God unhappy- you were sealed by him for the day of redemption.

Put aside all bitterness, losing your temper, anger, shouting and slander, along with every other evil. Be kind, compassionate and forgiving to each other in the same way God forgave you in Christ. Therefore imitate God like dearly loved children. Live your life with love, following the example of Christ who loved us and gave himself for us.

These instructions are given to believers as a new way of life. Similar accounts appear throughout all the pastoral letters. Life which imitates God. Some of them are extremely hard to achieve. When I am angry, or get carried away and speak out my mind. But then it says: “**Live your life with love**” – isn’t this a great call? Our lives are often filled with painful memories, unsolved mysteries, unachieved goals, and unexpressed yet important truths. Some are more obvious, some are hidden under the surface. It all affects us. In my country we have a saying that in your 50’s you have the face you deserve. Somehow the life journey is recorded on our faces. Perhaps it is true. I look into some faces and I wonder if they ever can get angry, so loving, calming and kind. If you look into people’s faces you can read their story. What is written on your face?

People and places for prayer

Lord we praise you for your kindness. No matter who we are, or what we have done, or failed to do, your kindness, love and understanding has lifted us up, drawn us back to yourselves and given us the opportunity to start all over again.

Lord, we praise you for your kindness. You gave us life, and you shared our journey every step of the way. Never once have you left us alone. Never for a moment have we stepped outside the orbit of your grace.

Lord we praise you for your kindness. When our lives were in turmoil and we did not know which way to turn- you were there. When our hearts were breaking and pain and sadness all but overwhelmed us-you were there. When all was darkened we were afraid and no one seemed to understand-you were there. When our hearts were filled with joy and we long to break out in to songs of praise and celebration- you were there. You are always there.

Lord we praise you for your kindness which was so powerfully, so wonderfully made known to us through Jesus. **Amen**

- We remember our friends who have died and their loved ones: Audrey, Margaret 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.