

Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 6th March 2022

Man shall not live by bread alone

Like 4:4



Notices

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent. Worship will be led by LP Martin Smith. Martin is back after a long break and we look forward to what he has prepared. Service starts 9:30 am

Next Sunday Worship with Holy Communion 13th March will be led by Rev. Robert Zachar.

Sunday 6th March circuit live stream worship 10:30 will be led by Bonni Belle Pickard.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojylPotZQ_M

The next Sunday circuit live stream, 13th March will be led by Bart Woodhouse.

Dates for your calendar

- **Property meeting** rescheduled from 9th to 11th March 10 am at the church.
- **Church council meeting** on 16th March 2pm
- **Sectional stewards meeting.** We met last Sunday and agreed to have a joint service every time there is a 5th Sunday in the month.
 - May 29th in Sittingbourne, followed by lunch
 - July 31st at Newington
 - October 30th at Bearsted Methodist Church
- **Maundy Thursday communion service** at Bearsted Methodist church, 14th April, 7pm
- **Lent Bible study on ZOOM.** BECOMING CHURCH, Online Lent Course
Tuesdays 7pm via Zoom
 - 8 March: Learning & Growing Together — Rev Robin Selmes
 - 15 March: Breaking Bread Together & Prayer — Rev Robert Zachar
 - 22 March: God's Power At Work — Bart Woodhouse
 - 29 March: A Sense Of Community — Rev Tony Graff
 - 5 April: An Outward-Looking Church — **Rev Naomi Oates**Meeting ID: 929 3964 3962 Passcode 578033

<https://zoom.us/j/92939643962?pwd=K2xDU0MzQzNTdVF1cUdlOHBJczNDZz09>

Reflection on God's word Luke 4:1-13

Jesus is led by the Spirit to the desert where he spent 40 days. It is known to us as Jesus's temptation. Isn't it important to all believers to see that Jesus was tempted just as we are! More power comes with more temptation so we can say that Jesus was tempted a little bit more than us.

I would like us to spend more time on this extraordinary piece from scripture. There are three areas of temptation here which are like a masterpiece of deception. Just pause and try to define what is really wrong, why not do what seems to be obvious. This week we look into the first temptation.

Jesus was starving. The devil said to him: "Since you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread". Jesus replied, "It is written, *People won't live only by bread*"

I am hungry, I have the power to get food, so let's get on with it. It would be absolutely legitimate. But Jesus points out here that sometimes, in fact very often, it is not bread alone that sustains life. On the contrary too much bread can be an obstacle to seeing the deeper meaning of life. We can see Jesus further along on his journey with his contemporaries. He used his power to feed thousands, yet it didn't change the world. But his word, every word he said changed lives and the world for ever and for the better. And today his word is: *People won't only live by bread*

Let us spend this season of Lent pondering on the message we hear from the desert. The message of life.

Amen

People and places for prayer

Prayers for people in Eastern Europe. Ukraine, Russia and neighbouring countries as the war conflict develops with all its pains.

We continue to hold each other in prayer and we pray for the mission of our church.

Prayers for Jenny G. and Bernard.

Ernie S. was admitted to hospital with breathing difficulties. It isn't Covid and hopefully he will be back in Pine lodge next week.

Peter and Beryl W. Peter is now in a care home at Hempstead Valley. This is the same home that Val was in for a while so if you would like to send greeting cards the address is the same.

Elena M. and her family.

We remember those who died and their loved ones. Audrey G, 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.