

Newington Methodist Church

Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, ME9 7JT

News and views for the week commencing 3rd April 2022

Send your light and truth – those will
guide me to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling lace.

Psalm 43:3



Notices

This Sunday is the first Passion Sunday. The service will be led by LP Richard Wade . The service starts at 9:30 am

Next Sunday Worship 10th April, the service will be led by LP Martin Smith.

Sunday 3rd April circuit live stream worship 10:30 will be led by Rev Bonni Belle Pickard.

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

The next Sunday circuit live stream, 10th April will be led by Bart Woodhouse.

Dates and actions for your calendar

- **The minister will be away** from 4th to 9th April. RZ is in Slovakia. Notices will be delivered by Martin S. and the digital version circulated by Friday. If you have anything to add to the notices that week please contact Martin S. Thank you.
- **Maundy Thursday communion service** at Breasted Methodist church, 14th April, 7pm. If you would like to join in and need transport call the minister for arrangement.
- **What is happening at Newington on Good Friday?** Lis has invited us to join in the **Walk of witness**. They will leave St Mary's at 10.15 and gather at the green under the village sign by Playstool Road at 11.00 for a short act of worship. Each of the church communities of The Six will be walking to Newington to meet at 11.00. There will then be refreshments afterwards at St Mary's. All will be very welcome to join the worship and the refreshments. At 2pm there will be a reflection in St Mary's.
- **Joint service with St Mary's will be on 4th September**, the proposal is to hold the service in the Orchard. The Pentecost Orchard service will not take place as the Queen's jubilee celebrations are at the same time and we will participate on the event organised by the village council at the green.

- **The church council agreed** to move our Coffee morning in June to the second Saturday, June 11th, and on the first Saturday we will join in the Queens Jubilee event on the Village green instead.
- **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.
- **Lent Bible study on ZOOM.** BECOMING CHURCH, Online Lent Course. This is a lovely and blessed fellowship you can join if you are looking for time to talk and explore the scriptures. Tuesdays 7pm via Zoom
- 5 April: An Outward-Looking Church — **Rev Naomi Oates**
- Meeting ID: 929 3964 3962 Passcode 578033
<https://zoom.us/j/92939643962?pwd=K2xDU0MzQzNTdVF1cUdlOHBJczNDZz09>
- **New Bible study** via Zoom from 26th April, Tuesdays 2pm. We will look into 1st Letter of John. More details in the poster attached.

Reflection from Good's word Philippians 3: 7-11 (NIV)

But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.

What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord for whose sake I have lost all things.

I consider them rubbish that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ- the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

We are getting close to Easter. This season has its dynamics based on death and the resurrection of Jesus. Historically Easter marks the beginning of the other half of the history chart. The season when God's grace and forgiveness through Christ is proclaimed. Even this season will come to its end. We do not really know how much time there is left for this world or for us individually. What really matters about Easter is how it affects our lives now. I included the words of Apostle Paul who leaves no doubt that Jesus changed everything for him. What is remarkable to note is the shift of values or priorities Jesus can bring to a man's heart.

How has it changed you, knowing Jesus?

Or what do you think needs a change and is Jesus the right person to do it?

Jesus certainly changed this world a lot but a lot also remains the same. We still fight, starve and struggle. Perhaps Jesus forgot to implant a software with all the laws and regulations into our minds. Instead he left us with our own minds to choose. And that is great about him too.

People and places for prayer

God our Father

Grant us the help of your Holy Spirit in our prayers for the benefit of all your people.

We offer our prayers in this season of Lent that we may not be tempted to do wrong as we draw closer to Good Friday and all that Jesus did for us.

We pray for the church throughout the world. We pray for all those involved in the Methodist Connexion and for our circuit and those who serve the Church in whatever role they perform. We pray especially for those in our church in Newington.

That in faith and unity we may be constantly renewed by the spirit for mission and service.

Lord in your Mercy – Hear our Prayer

We pray for the people of the world, where there is strife for the situation in Ukraine that a way may be found to re stabilize the Country. We also pray for Syria Afghanistan and Palestine. For those Countries taking in Refugees.

We pray for all leaders and those involved in negotiations to bring God's peace and love to bear on their decisions.

Love one another with a pure heart fervently; see that you love one another.

Lord in your Mercy – Hear our Prayer

WE pray for those who are suffering with the increased costs to survive and the repercussions of the invasion by Russian forces across the world. We hope that they may be given resources and assistance in coping with their situation with God's Love.

We pray for our local community and for those who we wish to pray for in our close family and friends. Giving a space for us to reflect and be quiet in our busy world.

That in their weakness they may know your strength and in despair may find hope.

Love one another with a pure heart fervently; see that you love one another.

Lord in your Mercy – Hear our Prayer

We pray for those among us with whom we live and work, for all our neighbours and for our outreach in God's name. That we

Love one another with a pure heart fervently; see that you love one another. The word of the Lord may endureth forever, endureth for evermore, Amen.

Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

(Prayers of intercession by Chris Ch.)

We continue to hold each other in prayer. Special prayers for Beryl W. and her family in their loss. May the comfort and peace of the Lord guard their hearts?

Thank you to all church family coming in support and paying respect to Peter at funeral. Thank you also for organising collection in memory of Peter given to British Heart foundation. It was £115.

With sadness we announce that Ernie Slarks passed away peacefully on 30th March in Medway Hospital surrounded by family. Please remember them in our prayers.

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

WePrayForUkraine –

How can you join in?

The Methodist Church is joining with **Churches Together in England**, **Churches Together in Britain and Ireland** and **Christian Aid** to invite churches and Christians from across the UK and Ireland to come together on **Sunday 3 April in an act of witness to pray and light candles for Ukraine**, for an end to the conflict, and for all those affected by the terrible impact of war.



Across the country, churches of all denominations are encouraging congregations to pray for Ukraine and to hold a visible act of witness – including the lighting of candles - in their local community.

National events will also take place in London, Edinburgh, Wales and Northern Ireland. In London, people are expected to come together, light a candle, and pray for the people of Ukraine outside the Ukrainian embassy at 2pm. Whole bundle of resources at:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/news/the-methodist-blog/weprayforukraine-how-can-you-join-in/>

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.