

Dear Friends



Have you ever sat up in the early hours, because sleep escapes you? Whether it is because you are in pain or anxious or fretting over something or your mind is racing in all directions. Then if you look out of the window that speck of light is piercing the darkness and you watch mesmerized as it oh so slowly brightens the dark sky. This miracle happens every single day yet some of us rarely see it.

This is how I feel after the months of darkness we have endured recently, the fretting and anxiety, the sleepless nights mind whirring like a machine but **now** there is that moment when the light is piercing the darkness and beginning to grow and glow. To cover and consume the darkness - this is not just any light but Christ's light.

Although the trial is not over, there are some loose ends, to be tied up, but this is a time we can look into a bright future. This is not to say we can sit back and relax for the light is showing us the pathway we should follow. It is setting in stark contrast from the darkness, the call we are invited to accept. To review what we are doing, to regenerate into what is needed within our community. For these challenging and very difficult times. To take Christ's light into the dark places and brighten each person's day.

The light falls on each of us and Jesus calls each to follow, it is up to us whether we accept his call or not. For he has a place where we fit in his plan. Not to accept leaves a gap that others have to fill and the task gets harder for them.

One of my Dad's favourite sayings was 'Many hands make light work'

This is so true at this time when our community is struggling with rising cost of living and are looking for some help. Can we offer that help? We are doing well under the circumstances, with the workers we have, but as Jesus said '**The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few**'. Could you be added to the team?

If you feel you would like to help in some way please speak with the church leadership team or myself. It doesn't have to be forever a little help when things get busy goes a long way.



Love Lynne

The Church in Hope Street LEP



CHURCH NOTICES

MARCH 2023



LENT

*The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him,
to the one who seeks Him.*

Lamentations 3 : 25

Mission Statement

*Our mission is to help all people understand and respond to the
depth of God's love for them*

Sunday 5th March

Morning Service 10:30am

Rev Andy Coyne

Tuesday 7th March

Prayer & Care 9:30am-10:00am **All welcome Janet**

Coffee Morning 10:00am-11:30am

Church
Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 12th March

Holy Communion

Morning Service 10:30am

Lynne le Masonry

Monday 13th March

Leader's Meeting 2:00pm

Lynne's Office

Tuesday 14th March

Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome Stephen**

Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am

Church
Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 19th March

Mothering Sunday

Morning Service 10:30am

Martin Smith

Tuesday 21st March

Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome Alice**

Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am

Church
Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 26th March

Covenant Service

Morning Service 10:30am

Rev Robert Zachar

Tuesday 28th March

Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome Lynne**

Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am

Church
Alec Stride Hall

Friday 31st March

EASTER Coffee Morning

In the Alec Stride Hall

Friday 31st March 9:30am - 11:00am

RAFFLE BRIC-A-BRAC REFRESHMENTS TOYS

TOMBOLA CAKES AND MORE

ADMISSION FREE

Dates for your Diary

Taketime is a series of relaxing guided meditations
based on the stories of Jesus and the tradition of St Ignatius

Taketime Together *taketime* is meets on Fridays, 11:15am in Church
Please speak to Margaret for more information

Living with Dementia

Meetings are on 1st 3rd and any 5th Thursdays every month.

Please contact Janet for more information.

Contributions welcome for FOOD BANK & COMMUNITY BUS

Thank you for donating food items - packets, tins etc. and toiletries
for the food bank and the Community Bus.

CHURCH MEETING

The next Church Meeting will be in the Church on

Monday 17th April at 2:00pm

Everyone is invited to attend this meeting.

Joined Circuit Services

Rev Robert Zachar has introduced Joined Circuit Services with Sittingbourne, Newington and Bearsted Methodist Churches and Hope Street Sheerness LEP. These services take place once each quarter with each Church hosting in turn and providing a light lunch after the service while the other Churches join this service. As Hope Street is not solely a Methodist Church, Lynne will still be holding worship at Hope Street for those who do not wish to attend the Joined Services. Also, Hope Street and Newington will only host on alternate years. There may be one or two people able to offer a lift

MESSAGES

Sheila would like to thank those who kindly sent her birthday greetings and some beautiful cards - many hand made.

Janet & Linda also say thank you for their birthday cards and good wishes

BIRTHDAYS

25th March Sharon

16th April Eileen

30th April Marie

7th April Sid

17th April Lily

Notices for April should be available from Sunday 28th March

Please let me know if you would like something included