

Dear Friends

I write after an inspiring weekend which saw us celebrate 50 years of The United Reformed Church in Methodist Central Hall Westminster. An echo of our worship together at Hope Street.

There seemed to be a theme flowing through the weekend both in London then at home with John Ellis leading us in worship. The theme of pilgrims.

I go to thinking how we are encouraged to move these days with many wearing trackers that tell us how many steps we have taken, during a day, we are encouraged to set a goal. I am amazed some days of just how many steps I do take, others disappointed because I hadn't had the opportunity to move far from my computer.

One of our favourite hymns reminds us that 'we are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road' which seems to suggest we need to move. Without movement we can become unhealthy not just in body, or mind but in spirit too. How many times have you heard 'We are getting there' - do we know where we are going? John Bunyan in Pilgrim Progress describe the journey destination as 'The Celestial City' also described as 'Heaven'. How do we know the route?

Are we listening to the Spirit's voice. Are you listening or is her voice drowned out by the troubles, the barriers we encounter? Re-tuning our ears to hear the all important voice of the guide within us, can help us keep up the healthy movement, to follow our Lord and reach that destination when our journey comes to a close. What a shame, it would be to stop short. To miss out on the adventures. To fall short of the challenges that could bring so much joy, to leave behind the courage of Christ and stay within our own weakness. To miss the achievements in his name for his Kingdom's people.

No the path is not smooth or easy, it is not so well trodden, however, we are called to walk his way and encourage others to walk with us. Jesus says 'Come', will you take up his invitation? Will we discover what he has planned for us together? We are not called to walk alone. I don't know about you but I don't want to stop short - even if I am tired I want to see what he has planned. So to take up the words on the song 'I will walk one hundred miles and I will walk one hundred more'

Will you walk with me? 'Fellow travellers on the road, here to help each other walk the mile[s] and bear the load'. Together we will encounter all the Grace and adventure God has planned for us.

Blessings

Lynne



The Church in Hope Street LEP



CHURCH NOTICES

MAY 2023



Saturday 6th May 2023

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding."
Proverbs 3:5*

Mission Statement

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

Tuesday 2nd May
 Prayer & Care 9:30am-10:00am **All welcome**
 Coffee Morning 10:00am-11:30am
 Church
 Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 7th May
 Morning Service 10:30am
 Stephen Morgan

Tuesday 9th May
 Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome**
 Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am
 Church
 Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 14th May
Holy Communion
 Morning Service 10:30am
 Lynne le Masonry

Tuesday 16th May
 Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome**
 Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am
 Church
 Alec Stride Hall

Sunday 21st May
 Morning Service 10:30am Joe Gregory to preach
 Local Arrangement

Tuesday 23rd May
 Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome**
 Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am
 Church
 Alec Stride Hall

Wednesday 24th May
 Boundaries Training 10:30am – 1:00pm
 Led by Rev Andy Twilley from URC. Please speak to Janet for more information.
 Church

Sunday 28th May
 Morning Service 10:30am
 Jenny Thompson

Tuesday 30th May
 Prayer & Care 9:15am – 9:45am **All welcome**
 Coffee Morning 10:00am – 11:30am
 Church
 Alec Stride Hall

BIRTHDAYS

30th April	Marie	3rd May	Tanni
5th May	Anne Rymill	18th May	Win Rubidge

*It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of
 Vera Warren on Tuesday 18th April 2023 RIP*

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 take some time 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.

MESSAGES

SEA SUNDAY

Sea Sunday will be on Sunday 9th July.
 This service will be a Local Arrangement,
 so any offers of hymns, prayers, readings, poems or short stories
 would be most welcome.

Thank you, Heather M & Kathy



Spring Raffle



*Sharon will be organising a Spring Raffle
 starting on Tuesday 2nd May and to be drawn on
 Wednesday 31st May at 11:00am.
 This will be in aid of Church funds.
 Thank you for your support with this.*

Notices for June should be available from Sunday 28th May
 Please let me know if you would like something included