

# Rejoice!

MAY 2014



**The Magazine of the  
West Norfolk Methodist Circuit**

Dear Friends,

May will be quite a big month for the Maguire family as our younger son, Edward is to be married on May 24<sup>th</sup>. The wedding is to take place in St Brendan's Church in Tirrane near Belmullet, right on the west coast of Ireland in county Mayo. Patrick, the father of Edward's fiancée Catherine, was born and brought up in this beautiful location. After working for many years near Watford he and his wife Margaret now live in Belmullet, right by the coast.

We visited last autumn and, of course, had a look in the church. My eye was caught by a beautiful stained glass window at the rear of the building, depicting in vivid colours the life of St. Brendan, a sixth century Irish Saint who is clearly honoured and held in great affection in County Mayo. I was interested to discover that Evie Hone, the creator of the window, was a very skilful 20th century Dublin born artist, who also created the East window in Eton College chapel.

Methodists will know that 24th May is the day when we remember the "conversion" or "heart-warming" of John Wesley. Although I don't think this has anything to do with the date chosen for the wedding I will be delighted, alongside a new daughter-in-law, to welcome and learn about a saint and hero of the faith who, for me, is new. Methodists generally don't know as much about Brendan as they do about John Wesley, though I have learned that he too is remembered in May as his Saint's day is on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Brendan was born near Tralee on the West coast of Ireland, several miles south of Belmullet. As with many of the early saints much of his life is in the realm of legend rather than fact. He was brought up by a saintly nun called Ita who taught him three things that God truly loves: "the true faith of a pure heart; the simple religious life; and bountifulness inspired by Christian charity". It is also said that she added three things which God hates: "a scowling face; obstinate wrongdoing; and too much confidence in money". I suspect that John Wesley would have agreed. He would also, as one who travelled much, have approved of Brendan's travels, as Brendan is often known as "Brendan the Voyager". In spreading the Christian message he travelled by coracle from Ireland to England, Scotland and Wales. In one famous saga known as "The Navigation of Brendan" it is even suggested that he may have reached Greenland or North America on a seven year voyage to "A land of promise".

It is good to read of the colourful traditions about some of the early saints and to rejoice in the rich breadth and diversity of the Christian Church. As we celebrate

the joyful day of a wedding I will also think of how we are challenged and enriched by the life and adventures of Brendan who will be gazing down upon us from the window behind us.

Andrew Maguire

**Arrangements for Farewell event on Saturday 5 July at St  
Faith's School,  
Trumpington Road, Cambridge CB2 BAG**

**There will be a service at 4pm followed by a bring your own picnic (drinks provided).**

**It is essential for everyone to have a ticket** to this event and booking forms can be obtained from Beverly Richardson on 01787 882255 or [beverly@suffex.demon.co.uk](mailto:beverly@suffex.demon.co.uk) by 25 June.

**The Trumpington Park and Ride** bus service stops very near the school. It can be found on the A1309 very near Junction 11 of the M11. It is free to park and the return fare if bought from the machine is £2.60 or on the bus £2.90. If you have a bus pass there is no charge. You will need to leave the bus at the Nuffield Hospital Bus stop. St Faith's is on the opposite side of the road.

**The Station** is about 15 minutes walk from the school.

**There is very limited parking** in the school car parks so we would encourage you to make sure any cars that need a parking space are full please. You will be allocated one of 2 car parks — a map will be provided with the tickets.

**We are hoping that you bring a picnic** with you which you can enjoy hopefully on the grass in the sunshine after the service. There will be hot and cold drinks available. If you wish to bring a rug or tables and chairs please do so. We would remind you that no alcohol is allowed on School premises and that if you have any rubbish that you take it home please.

**A Map will be included with your ticket/s.**

# Praying together in the Circuit

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven  
Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. Luke 9: 51  
Luke looks beyond the suffering of Jesus to His ascension,  
When Jesus would be taken up to Heaven, exalted and glorified.

Love's redeeming work is done .... Alleluia !  
Soar we now where Christ hath led ... Following our exalted head ..  
Alleluia ! [Charles Wesley]

Jesus Christ has opened heaven to all believers.  
He has all power and authority.  
He is our Great High Priest interceding for us.  
He calls us to be involved in His mission to the world He loves.

"When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power  
and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria  
and to the ends of the earth.

After saying this Jesus was taken up to heaven". Acts 1: 8

The disciples responded by meeting together for fervent prayer,  
waiting in Jerusalem as they had been instructed.  
Some, who in the Garden of Gethsemane slept as Jesus prayed,  
now pray in great expectation.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May we celebrate Ascension Day.  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June Circuit Celebration Pentecost in the Park  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June Pentecost

As believers, we are called to be witnesses to our Lord Jesus Christ.  
To proclaim an empty cross, an empty tomb,

and witness to our living, reigning, glorious, redeeming Lord.  
Pour out your spirit, convince people of the truth of the gospel.  
" Come Holy Spirit, come " empower us to witness to this generation.

Prayers have been requested for:-

Derek + Viv , Stephanie, Janice, Marie + children. Anne, Amy, Trisha, Linda, Ruth Harbach, Andrew, Mavis, Julia, Rachel, Judy, Dulcie + Neill. Kelly, Kath, Stephen + Victoria, William, Tom . Ken and Norma. Brian and Marjorie Osborne.

Margaret Dean recovering at home; Sheila Nunn in the QE still waiting to go to Papworth, Rev Marie Whitcombe. Rev Ray Trudgian and his wife. Rev. Leslie Stoker, in hospital.

Praying for the Circuit. Mondays at London Road.

We are now meeting at 2.00 pm

Thursdays at Downham Market at 11 am

## **CALLING ALL SINGERS!**

### ***PENTECOST IN THE PARK***

***Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June***

Do you like singing? We are looking for singers to augment the Downham Choir for 'Pentecost in the Park' when we are planning to contribute two items. You don't have to be a member of a choir but please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested. Rehearsals times/venues and/or transport will be sorted when we know who is involved. We anticipate this being a wonderful circuit event and it would be great to have circuit-wide participation in the choir.

John Miles (01366385772) [john.miles@milesfamily.org](mailto:john.miles@milesfamily.org)

## **Circuit Event**



An afternoon helping us, as a circuit,  
to reflect on being welcoming churches

at

**London Road Methodist Church**

on

**Sunday, June 22nd**

**3 p.m.**

**Includes cup of tea (Please bring some cakes!)**

**Concluding worship from 6 p.m.— 6.30 p.m.**

**ACTORS WANTED**  
**For a short sketch in the**  
**Circuit Eve of Pentecost Celebration**  
**PENTECOST IN THE PARK**  
**Contact: Deacon Janet Stafford**  
**01366 388766**  
**screamingalice48@gmail.com**

### **Methodist Women in Britain**

Easter Offering this year takes the title **Risk The Path He Trod**

Christian Mission has always involved risk, for risk is at the heart of the Christian gospel. The call to follow the risen Christ from incarnation, along the path to the cross and beyond, requires us to take risks.

The Easter Offering Service for 2014 takes as its title a line from the hymn, 'One human family' by Rosemary Wakelin, and invites us to 'risk the path He trod' in our own situations and as part of the World Church family, for all mission is 'One Mission' and all are called to engage in God's mission.

This Circuit's Easter Offering Dedication Service will be held at Downham Market on 21<sup>st</sup> May at 2.30pm. We look forward to coming together. All are welcome at our events and services but especially at this service when we dedicate our gifts.

Easter Offering envelopes were available in all churches.

**A note to Church Treasurers:** As last year all envelopes should be opened in the church and the money put through the church accounts. Cheques should be made payable to The World Mission Fund for presentation at the Service. Gift Aid Refunds should be collected by individual churches and also sent to me to pay into The World Mission Fund.

Mary Uttin

# Around the churches



## Dersingham

The various organisations in the church have had a good year according to their reports to the AGM held in April. Our premises are used by several different village groups including an exercise class, aerobics, Scottish dancing, carpet bowls, jigsaw club, slimming world, NCH monthly weigh and play sessions, as well as our monthly community lunches and fund-raising coffee mornings. One organisation had been collecting their loose change throughout the year and presented the church with the sum of £50 as a donation. Such is the respect and goodwill with which the church is held in the village.

The Needles and Pins group meets twice a month. Numbers have risen recently and range from eight to twelve members. They have sent four parcels of knitted goods to Mission Without Borders during the year and have another two ready to go. The jigsaw club too has had an increase in members and has enjoyed a busy year. The Bible Fellowship goes from strength to strength at the Batstone's home on a Thursday evening and the dozen or so members have been following a York course 'Build on the rock - faith doubt and Jesus' which has provided much food for thought.

The Flower Festival celebrating our 124<sup>th</sup> Anniversary takes place from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> May and we look forward to meeting friends from across the Circuit. The theme this year is 'Gardens in the Bible' and it is always interesting (and inspiring) to see how the different flower arrangers interpret the themes. The local schools will entertain us as usual on the Thursday and Friday mornings. The Rev. Alan Callaby of Sprowston, Norwich will take our morning service on



the Sunday (not as printed in the Plan) and the evening service will be a Songs of Praise service.

Rosemary Caink

## **Pott Row**

It is Quiz time again at Pott Row Chapel. Come and join us on Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm start, Teams of up to six people, cost £2 per person, includes tea/coffee, and biscuits. There will also be a raffle, so hope you can join us to raise funds.

For more information and to book a team, please ring Jenny on 01553630369.

Also another date for your diary, Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup>....  
A Strawberry tea.

Best wishes

Jenny.

## **Hunstanton**

Each year the Salvation Army holds a rally in Hunstanton and gives a concert in our church. If you like to sing, come to Hunstanton Methodist Church and join us on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm for a Salvation Army Concert. Fair trade tea, coffee and biscuits included.  
Best wishes

Richard

## **Downham Market**

Ladies' Friendship Circle

Our May meetings are on 7<sup>th</sup> May which will be a Bring and Buy Sale (Green theme) for our own funds.

21<sup>st</sup> May will be a Social evening and a competition to see if you can recognize a childhood photograph. This should be fun.

We had nice evening with Mrs Dudley from Riding for the Disabled. We were able to present her with a cheque for £120.00 made up from our Harvest Festival sale and the blanket we crocheted and raffled

off. This was won by Mrs Standing, who gave it to RDA, which will make some more money for them.

We are having an outing on 14<sup>th</sup> May to Wells and Hunstanton. If you would like to come let Margaret 01366 386055 know, you will be very welcome.

Spring is well and truly here but the temperatures are very variable (good old English weather). The last two Saturdays which were forecast to be warm were not in the morning and selling plants outside the church, under a gazebo in a biting wind was not comfortable. Never mind, at least all the plants are growing well, albeit they need to be watered frequently. Our coffee mornings continue to be a popular venue for fellowship and we have now paid off the bill for the first stage of the double glazing which has been completed. We now have lovely new draught proof windows in the function room, hall, class 3 and vestry. There are a few odd windows of stage two, to be done and then the big push to raise the funds for the church itself. We escaped with a fairly mild winter last year but may not be so lucky this winter and the church was very cold even with the heating on hours before. It would be good to get the church done this year but around £13000 is a lot of money to have to raise.

By the time you read this article we shall have taken part in the Walk of Witness round the Downham churches and celebrated Easter with flowers and lots of lovely music as well as thoughtful prayers and contemplation of Christ's sacrifice. We now look forward to Pentecost in the Park on 7<sup>th</sup> June when families are asked to come for craft activities and fellowship before a service at 3 o'clock followed by a picnic. This is an important act of witness so please support the afternoon. It's good to show the general public that Christians can enjoy their service.

Churches Together has been busy organising a celebration of our local businesses to be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June starting at 4 o'clock with light refreshments, with a service from 5-6, with guest speakers Mike Bennett and Fraser Reich. Everyone is invited perhaps to choose their

favourite hymn and bring a letterhead/compliment slip to represent their business, which will be dedicated as part of the celebration. The Downham Market Food Bank has been very busy with 50 clients in the past 6 weeks. Alex says that the bank is rather short on tinned food, fruit, meat and fish products, coffee, long life semi-skimmed milk, juices, squashes and loo rolls. We have a permanent box in the social centre, to receive donations and Barclays Bank is now an official collection point. If you would like to volunteer to help at the bank please ring Alex 01366 384474.

Our Sisterhood meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> May will hear Connie Cleps talking about the Holy Land and on 28<sup>th</sup> our Bye Bye fellowship meeting closes our sessions until September. This year is galloping away already! I have heard it said that time goes slowly for children as one year is a big proportion of their lives so those of advanced years must expect it to go quicker as a year is such a small proportion of those we have already lived through.

Our prayers at the moment are very much with our Minister Marie, who has been ill for such a long time and also with Maurice and Janet, who are covering her duties. They both arrived hitting the ground running and have not slowed down since. We pray for their continued good health and stamina.

Happy Pentecost to you all; see you in the park.

Joan Macey

## **St Faith's**

The merry month of May gets off to a happy start on May 1<sup>st</sup> with a coffee morning in Gaywood Church Rooms starting at 10.30am. Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> sees the latest in the interesting and informative ACE programme. Daylight is the title of a talk being given by Steven St John who is involved with a Christian charity that supports prisoners while serving their sentence and continues after their release. The evening starts at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome to attend. Coffee is served before people go home. More information

about the Daylight charity is available by contacting St Faith's ACE co-ordinator Jackie Austin on 01553 763343.

On Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May there will be an All Age Worship service beginning at 9.45am when the launch of Christian Aid Week will be reflected during the service. A team of volunteers will deliver the Christian Aid envelopes to homes around the Parish and collect them by the end of the Week.

Plans are underway for the St Faith's Grand Summer Garden Fete in June. Last year the Fete was held in the lovely setting of the Rectory Garden for the first time in many years and it is hoped the weather will be kind enough to continue this tradition. Always a popular event, the Garden Fete attracts large numbers of people and raises funds for the general upkeep of St Faith's Church and its year-round programme of worship and social activities. More details about the Fete will appear in the June edition of Rejoice! Magazine.

In February it will be 40 years since the sharing of St Faith's Church at Gaywood with our Methodist friends and this milestone anniversary will be marked by special services on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Former clergy will be returning for the special service on the day which will also include a lunch, showing of old films about St Faith's Church over the years and an afternoon tea. More details about the day's events will appear in the June edition of Rejoice! Magazine.

Senior Methodist steward Jackie Austin is soon to leave Gaywood to move with her husband, Nick, to their new home in Cromer. Over the years Jackie has taken on many volunteer roles at St Faith's and before leaving she is hoping that others will take over these duties.

Richard Parr

## **Southery**

On Mothering Sunday we joined our friends at St Mary's Church for a very interesting and entertaining service led by the Rev. Canon Stuart Morris. After the service all the ladies received a pot plant and refreshments were served.

On Passion Sunday our service, in which we received Holy Communion, was led by Rev. Maurice Stafford; another good service.

Our Songs of Praise evening service was led by Rev Chris Bishop, he had a very interesting choice of hymns and explained his reasons for choosing them and their origins and the writers. This service was followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Our spring meal, on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of April, was well attended. The tables were decorated with spring flowers, when I arrived the room was full of chatter and cheerful banter. Maggie welcomed everyone then asked Rev. Maurice Stafford to say a prayer. The meal started with a very tasty cottage pie with accompaniments, then came a lovely lemon meringue pie, followed by tea or coffee. We were entertained by Michael Harrison playing his electronic piano accordion, followed by a raffle. It was a very good evening thank you to all who came; we hope you enjoyed it, thanks to those who donated prizes, And a big thank you to Hazel for cooking the meal also to those who helped her. We raised £324-50p for Chapel funds.

Walter Cornwell.

## **Terrington St Clement**

Ralph Perkins has kindly offered to give lessons on Power Point Presentation .If you are interested please contact him on 01366388846 or [rm.perkins38@gmail.com](mailto:rm.perkins38@gmail.com). You need your laptop to practice. If interest is shown a date, time and venue will be arranged. On 28<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm come and hear the Halcyon Singers followed by Afternoon Tea £4. Our Network speaker was Mrs Elizabeth Batstone who spoke about the rich fabric of life. Rev. David Howarth and his wife came to the next meeting and David spoke about his training and ministry and all the people he had met over the years. During Lent we have been "building" a Lenten banner which is displayed at the front of the church. The inspiration to do this came from Helen Maguire, and then we were fortunate enough to be sent a Lenten Cross Liturgy from Barbara Savage. Each week at the beginning of the service we have a different symbol to add to our purple banner, plus

there is a short bible reading and prayer, and then we sing one verse from When I survey the Wondrous Cross. It has really made this time of Lent meaningful and by Easter Day we will have a beautiful banner. (All the symbols are attached with Velcro so we will be able to use this idea again.)

On Mothering Sunday we had a lovely All Age service led by Joella Nash, during which the children gave out handmade presents to their Mums and daffodils to the entire congregation. There were also two very thought-provoking and funny dramas.

Our Easter Coffee Morning on April 12<sup>th</sup> raised £200, during which everyone enjoyed hot cross buns, spent money at the stalls and had a good time of fellowship.

We are looking forward to celebrating 200 years of Methodism here in Terrington. If anyone in the Circuit has any pictures of weddings, baptisms or any other events that took place at our chapel, Helen Maguire would love to hear from you.

We look forward to seeing you on June 14<sup>th</sup> at our celebrations. (See page 24)

## **Hunstanton**

Each year the Salvation Army holds a rally in Hunstanton and gives a concert in our church. If you like to sing come to Hunstanton Methodist Church and join us on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm for a Salvation Army Concert. Fair trade tea, coffee and biscuits included. Best wishes

Richard Webb

## **London Road**

A very big thank you to all the participants at the Carers' Day held at London Road on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

The Magnificent sum of £127.50 was donated after the Soup and Fruit Lunch to the Kings Lynn Food Bank.

David Gifford

## **Stow Bridge**

*A quiz with clues*

1. Give the number of books in the Bible.
2. The number of books in the O.T.
3. The number of books in the N.T.
4. The number of Disciples Jesus called. *Mark 3 v14*
5. The number of days it rained before the flood. *Genesis 7v12*
6. The number of years it took Solomon to build the Temple.  
*1 Kings 6v38*
7. The number of Jacob's daughters. *Genesis 34v1*
8. The number of years the children of Israel were in the wilderness. *Acts 7v36*
9. The number of years Methuselah lived. *Genesis 5v27*
10. The number of years Moses lived.

*We trust you will all have had a meaningful Easter and Pentecost.*  
*Peter Hewitt*

## **Recommended Books**

*Road Transport by Laurie Driver*

*The Cannibal's Daughter by Henrietta Mann*

*Lumberjacks by Tim Burr*

*On the Beach by C.Shaw*

*Will He Win by Betty Wont*

*Carpet Laying by Walter Wall*

**DERSINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH**  
**FLOWER FESTIVAL**  
**GARDENS OF THE BIBLE**

**22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

**2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.**

**Books + Cakes + Cards + Gifts**

**Plants + Christian Books + Fair Trade  
products**

**Coffee + Lunches + Teas**

**Sunday Service 10.30 a.m.**

**Songs of Praise 6.00 p.m.**

**Proceeds for Church funds and**

**The Norfolk Hospice**

**Tapping House**





## ALL WE CAN

The end of World War II was only the beginning of the suffering for millions of people left homeless by the fighting, released from captivity or expelled as an act of vengeance. There were 12 million refugees in Europe alone. 100s of 1000s of Jews who had escaped the genocide sought secure homes beyond their native land. In Eastern Europe millions escaped from the newly installed Communist regimes. Visiting Italy some years after the war I saw families still living in caves. In the 1950s in Lynn I remember how the churches put up a shack and a few belongings on the pavement to show what life was like for displaced persons..

The Methodist Church was quick to meet this overwhelming humanitarian need and in 1945 founded the Methodist Refugee Fund, with its remit expanded soon to become the Methodist Relief Fund.. We know it best as the Methodist Relief and Development Fund, committed to long-term development,. emergency relief and campaigning against poverty and injustice, in response to the command of Jesus to love God and our neighbour.

We have only to switch on the news any day to remind us that the problem has not gone away. The Syrians, Sudans and Palestines of this world are always with us. Today there are 42 million displaced persons in the world. 4 out of 5 in the developing world.. At any moment catastrophes such as tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes may occur. We wonder what we can do. If we support MRDF we already have done something, for without waiting for an appeal to go out they will send practical and financial help straightaway.

My immediate reason for writing this is because the Methodist Relief and Development Fund has changed its name to All We Can (AWC) as part of a relaunch. I quote from the Methodist Recorder: "As part of the charity's plans to increase its impact...during the next five years, the Church Community Action for Neighbours (Church CAN) programme aims to reach 1 million people with sustainable long-term support. Focussed on Methodist church partners it will aim to work with 1000 churches in seven countries. It will be piloted in three countries, two of which have been confirmed as Haiti and Uganda."

But what about that name? Actually it is a very imaginative one and goes back to our Methodist roots. It echoes a famous saying of John Wesley's:

Do all the good you can  
By all the means you can  
In all the places you can  
At all the times you can  
To all the people you can  
As long as ever you can:  
Not a bad rule for any of us to live by

**QUIZ NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> MAY at 7.15 P.M.**

UP TO 6 PEOPLE PER TEAM

£2.50 ENTRY FEE PER PERSON  
TO INCLUDE LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM

ALSO BOOBY PRIZE AND RAFFLE

**VENUE : THE SCHOOLROOM AT  
CLENCHWARTON METHODIST CHAPEL**

In aid of Chapel Funds

To register your team please call  
Stephanie  
On KL 769301

## SONGS of PRAISE

It is said that life is full of surprises. My door bell rang and a friend from further down the road greeted me with four tickets for SONGS of PRAISE at THURSFORD the next day. I never say no! But who could we get to come with us at such short notice? It was a hard task as everyone seemed to be so busy (it was a Sunday! - and it reminded me somewhat of the parable of the wedding feast!)

Eventually teaming up with the Woodhouse transport carrying Stephen and the two Beryls, and our two passengers, we set off in good time hoping to get good seats. When we were given our service sheets we discovered that the service is an annual event organised by the central Norfolk circuit - for a time of praise and thanksgiving which includes supporting a different charity each year. This year envelopes marked THE WATER OF LIFE were attached to the service sheets

On the stage was the Fakenham Town Band with each music stand bearing their colourful emblem. Next was the mighty Wurlitzer with its great many coloured stops, and then we could see the circuit choir. At the far right were the different leaders of the events.

The band played for the first hymn 'Glorious things of Thee are spoken' - the voices present showed that this and all the following ones were very well known.

The choir sang 'Drip Drip Drip' which had been specially written for the occasion, and Danny Wakefield played a piece from Handel's Water Music on the Mighty Wurlitzer.

Chris Roberts, from the chosen charity, explained about THE WATER OF LIFE and how it worked to enable children and adults to have clean drinking water - so essential for life and health. We were encouraged to put our donations into the envelopes attached to the service sheets which were then collected in little round baskets and put on the stage and a prayer was said.

It was a great afternoon and to finish, the town band lead us all in singing the well known hymn 'God is working His purpose out,' followed by the blessing.

We slowly made our way back to the car park - where we had a very interesting and amusing time trying to get back to the road - but that's another story!!

Bill Hone

## **A day for West Norfolk Pastoral Carers**

The day was headed "Open to Prayer", led by Rev. Sister Judith Blackburn.

The first session was "Christian Listening in a Pastoral Context", the need to listen to those we travel alongside.

Session two, "Our own prayerful listening", being in tune with what God is saying to us. we were invited to share with another person in a listening exercise. We had to think of a story or incident from our lives that we would be happy to share. We had to decide who would tell the story first while the other listened then change over. It was a really enlightening experience - we both felt we had been listened to. Later in the afternoon we were asked to sit in silence for at least 30 minutes to reflect. We had been given Bible passages to reflect on. I found that bit rather difficult as my mind and body were suffering from the cold church. I asked myself if I was that undisciplined so I somehow reflected on that. But all in all a good day together.

Rev. Kim Nally opened the day. A special thank you to Kim for all his good input over the years. We will miss his humour, his knowledge of the word. I'm sure we all wish him God's peace in his retirement. We finished with a very special Communion led by Rev Catherine Dixon. Thank you, David Gifford and team, for the refreshments throughout the day.

Please note our next Circuit Pastoral meeting will be at St Germans on Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Phyllis Bowman

# **Pentecost in the Park**

**...the church has left the building...**

**Open Air Circuit Celebration for  
Pentecost**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

**At the bandstand in the Walks, King's Lynn**

**Gathering from 2pm for all-age craft activities  
(children especially encouraged)**

**Procession around the walks at 2.30 – please  
bring a banner if your church has one  
Service at 3pm**

**Followed by a picnic (please bring your own!)**

**A fun and friendly Church-family afternoon out:  
An opportunity for worship and witness together.  
In case of poor weather we will meet in London Road Methodist  
Church**

# **Pentecost in the Park**

## **some practical details**

- This is a Circuit event and we do hope that members from all Circuit churches will feel able to come
- We aim for this to be an all-age event. There will be activities and worship appropriate for children and adults
- For those who are less able to move we have arranged for a car to transport you from the entrance to the Walks by London Road Methodist Church to the bandstand, available from 2pm
- Participation in craft activities and the procession is optional, but please do come along early to join in fellowship as we meet together as a Circuit. Please bring a banner if you have one.
- Sat-nav users: London Road Methodist Church postcode is PE30 5PY
- Some parking will be available at the tax office next to London Road Methodist Church. There are public car parks within a 5-10 minute walk of the Walks. Passengers and picnics can be dropped at London Road. Please leave adequate time for parking. We hope members from the same church or area will car share where possible
- The area around the bandstand is grass. If you would like more comfort, please bring a blanket or folding chair to sit on. Don't forget your flask and picnic, and (hopefully) a hat and sun cream!
- **For more information – or if you are able to help with stewarding on the day, which would be most appreciated – please contact Rev Catherine Dixon on 01553 676918 or revcdixon@gmail.com**

**WE HOPE AND PRAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE WILL BE SUNNY.  
IF THE WEATHER IS POOR WE WILL HAVE OUR CELEBRATION IN LONDON  
ROAD METHODIST CHURCH**



*St. Andrew's  
Methodist Church  
Sheringham, NR26 8SA*

# *Flower Festival*

**3rd - 6th July 2014**

*"Journeys & Adventures"*

Thursday & Friday 10 - 5; Saturday 10 - 6

Sunday 12 noon - 6 p.m.

(The Cafeteria will close at 5p.m daily)

*Stalls - Refreshments - Music  
Admission & Programme - Free*

Festival Worship

Friday Communion 9.15 a.m.

Sunday - Morning Worship 10.30 a.m.

Festival Praise 6.30 p.m.

Proceeds for Church Funds and a donation to  
Sheringham Woodfields School

[www.sheringhammethodist.org.uk](http://www.sheringhammethodist.org.uk)



Methodism's 200th in  
Terrington St. Clement.

You are very welcome at  
our Bicentenary Celebrations on  
Saturday 14th June 10-4p.m

at Terrington Methodist Church,  
Wesley Rd.

There will be coffee, lunches and tea,  
photographic displays, wedding photos and  
church memorabilia.

Sunday 15th June  
10.30 a.m Bicentenary Service  
Led by Rev. David Blacklock.

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME AT THESE EVENTS

If you or a member of your family were married at the Terrington Methodist Church we would love to hear from you as we will have Wedding photographs on display during the month of June.

**On Saturday 28th June** there will be a concert and tea when the photographs and memories of the past will still be on display .



## More on the **BIG PRAY MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>** at **ST CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL, RED LODGE, 10.30AM – 3.30PM**

In order to make the most of **BIG PRAY**, we hope that everyone will take part in two **Options** and take time to experience the **Market Place**. We invite each participant to select three of the following **Options** (register online: [www.eamethodist.org.uk](http://www.eamethodist.org.uk))

Two of the chosen **Options** will be assigned as we prepare for **BIG PRAY**.

**1. Celtic Prayer** What did the Celtic peoples believe and practice in the way of prayer? We will be looking at examples and then writing our own.

**2. Contemplative Prayer** We live in a very noisy world. Sometimes our prayer life can fall into the 'more words' category, as we tell God what we need him to do. Contemplative prayer seeks to abandon words and embrace silence - for it is in that silence that we can often hear God's word to us.

**3. Leading Creative Prayers** An opportunity to consider some of the ways in which prayers for small groups and congregations can be created and shared.

**4. Lectio Divina** We often think of prayer as asking God for what we want. The practice of *Lectio Divina* encourages the other side to that, that of listening to God, using a Bible passage and allowing God to speak to us.

**5. Option for Children** A special opportunity for children aged 3 to 12. We anticipate that most children will want to spend the day in this particular setting, with appropriate resources and personnel.

**6. Photography and Prayer** Rather than taking photos, we will be exploring the spiritual potential of photography and looking at actual examples to lead us into prayer.

**7. Prayer Through Art** Starting with passages of scripture, Jackie Smith will share how she designs her works of art (quilts) and writes prayers to accompany them. There will then be the opportunity to draw out your own designs and write prayers.

**8. Praying the Labyrinth** Explore the journey to the centre of the labyrinth and back. Take off your shoes and slow down. This ancient

pathway, known for thousands of years, has been adapted to our Christian tradition. It leads us to the centre of our being and back again.

**9. Praying through Singing the Faith** Many Methodists have viewed their hymnbooks as books of prayer. To hold a hymnbook and pray familiar words is part of our faith tradition and we shall explore this further together.

**10. Prophetic Healing Prayer** By sharing personal testimony to the Lord's touch, we can move in the flow of the Spirit - that is, 'in the spirit of prophecy' - to re-release a healing touch for the blessing and healing to others.

**11. Signing Prayer** Learn to 'sign' the Lord's Prayer using British Sign Language.

**12. Soaking Prayer** Simply spending time in God's presence, resting rather than striving. Soaking can help us focus on God whilst sitting or lying comfortably, listening to worshipful music and opening our hearts to Him.

**13. Walking Prayer** *"God writes the Gospel, not in the Bible alone, but on the trees and flowers and clouds and stars. (Martin Luther 1483-1546)*  
*"God speaks to us through the 'little book' - the Bible and the 'big book' of creation". (ancient Celtic Christian belief).*

Using these two quotes as a reference point we will prayerfully explore the space around the school.

**Big Pray** will begin and end with worship, whilst the larger part of the day will be spent in workshops exploring different kinds of prayer and/or ways to pray.

**Note:** We require everyone attending **Big Pray** to book in advance. (I am sorry but we will **not** be able to take those who turn up on the day.) Bookings to be made via the **Big Pray** button on the District website - [www.eamethodist.org.uk](http://www.eamethodist.org.uk).

**Note 2:** We can accommodate up to 300 people. **First come, first served.**

If you require further information, please contact Graham Thompson



Any items for the **JUNE** edition should be with the editor by **MAY 12<sup>th</sup>**, earlier if possible. If you don't get an acknowledgment of emails please feel free to enquire if I have received them as some articles have found their way into my spam bin which I don't check very often!

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### Final words

I was so ugly when I was born the doctor slapped my Mum.

Yes, I was ugly. Mum never pushed the pram she pulled it!

My Dad was slumped over the lawn mower, crying his eyes out. I said to Mum, "What's the matter with him?" she said, "He's going through a rough patch!"

Walking on the beach I saw the Tesco manager drowning so I threw him a cork. (Every little helps!)

And if you want breakfast in bed, do you sleep in the pantry?

### A prayer from the Pastoral Carers' Day

Be silent, be still,  
Alone:empty before your God.  
Say nothing, ask nothing.  
Be silent, be still.  
Let your God look upon you.  
That is all He knows.  
He understands, He loves you,  
With an enormous love.  
He only wants to look upon you  
With His love.  
Quiet, still be.  
Let your God love you.

# West Norfolk Methodist Circuit Diary

## May 2014 onwards

Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> District Event Big Pray at St Christopher's School, Red Lodge, 10.30am – 3.30pm See inside for details. **Booking essential.**

Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Wimbotsham 8.30am

Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup> Easter Offering service at Downham Market 2.30pm

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Flower Festival at Dersingham 124<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary

Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Pentecost Celebration in The Walks King's Lynn 2 pm – 5 pm

Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at St Germans 8.30 am

Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup> Welcoming Churches session at London Road 3pm - 6.30 pm

Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup> Halcyon Singers and Afternoon Tea at 2pm at Terrington St Clement.

Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> Farewell Picnic for GT at Cambridge

Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Marham 8.30 am

Saturday/Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> July MWiB Conference at Belsey Bridge

Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast. Watch this space! 8.30 am

Saturday August 30<sup>th</sup> Welcome Service for new Chair of District, Rev Julian Pursehouse at Chapelfields Road Norwich at 3 pm

Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup> Welcome Service for Rev Stephen Oliver at Snettisham at 3 pm

Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Downham Market 8.30am

Monday October 6<sup>th</sup> MWiB AGM at London Road 2.30 pm

Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Southery 8.30 am