

# NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

*Chapel Lane*



“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord,  
“Who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”



***NOVEMBER 2017***

## November

Mondays	9.30 am – 10.30 am Pilates 11 am – 12 noon Pilates
Tuesdays	9.15 am – 10. 15 am Pilates 10.30 am – 11.30 am Pilates
Fridays	9.30 am – 10.30 am Pilates
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.45pm Service at Shelburne Lodge
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	10 am – 12 noon Coffee Morning
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Chapel Anniversary followed by a Buffet Lunch
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	10 am – 11am WYFC Open Prayer Meeting at Christchurch, Flackwell Heath
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> /22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 am – 11.30 am Strings Music Group
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am – 12 noon CAMEO Club
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	2.45 pm Remembrance service at Naphill Village Hall
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Silent Prayer
“	2 pm Church Council Meeting

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**Wednesday Fellowship** takes place at 2.15pm  
We will continue to study the York Course.  
Jennifer King will be our guest speaker on 15<sup>th</sup>



## NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH



### November 2017

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Rev Janice and Brian <i>Honey Morgan Chapel anniversary</i>
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Rev John Richey <i>Remembrance Day</i>
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Rev Angela Singleton
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Rev David Holmes

Dear Friend,

As I sort inspiration to write this Newsletter, my mind was drawn to a hymn written by Fred Pratt Green '**God is here! (H&P 653)**'. What jumped out at me was a line in verse two that reads: '*... Here the cross has central place...*'

I began musing about the significance of crosses as symbols today. There are crosses on the flags of nations in the world. We see sports people making a sign of the cross before entering their competitive sporting arena.

We see all manner of ornate and plain crosses in churches and adorned by people. In thinking about this last point, I recall many years ago being in a Jewellers shop standing behind a woman trying to decide which one of two crosses she would buy. I was mildly amused when after a moment I heard her say: '*I think I'll have the one with the little man on it.*' (True story)

We see the sign of a cross on first aid boxes situated in work places, school environments etc...; a cross people are drawn to if either one has injured themselves or helping an injured person.

We'll see other signs of the cross when people this month will rightly pause and with thankful hearts to remember the brave service men and women as well as children that have died in conflict. Many of their graves depicted by crosses, signs of their suffering and sacrifice. What's not known if those that died were Christians or not, but either way the lives laid down is no less a Gospel imperative that enabled their friends and we ourselves to live in freedom.

As Christian, I'm drawn to Jesus' words, spoken to crowds that were following him and his disciples, which read: '*If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.*' (Mark 8:34) NRSV

In Christian terms the cross symbol stands as a sign of being follower of Jesus; which is not about literally carrying or wearing a cross or not. We see crosses in some Church traditions depicting a dying Christ, to emphasise suffering, in other traditions the cross stands empty, to emphasise resurrection to new life in Christ. Both signs of the cross are equally important because they are inextricably linked; and when Christians wear crosses metaphorically speaking they become true signs of Christ's presence in communities and the world around.

We may, or may not physically wear a cross, however, as disciples our lives point to the significance this symbol has for us and for the world. How do we reflect triumph even through suffering and hope for the future? This is a challenge not only to you and me, but also the whole church.

Every blessing, *John*

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### ***Prayer to remind us to remember***

Lord, at this remembrance time, we remember those who gave their lives in the service and protection of their country, whether many years ago, or in more recent conflicts. We thank you for them and pray for those who loved them.

The death of a loved one, whatever the cause, changes our lives forever and we walk an unchosen path. There are wonderful memories, times to be thankful, but nothing takes away the pain and empty space every day. Thank you, Lord, for understanding our loss. Thank you that when we cry, we know that you cried first, when your friend died. It's all right to cry. It's all right to pour out our pain to you, as we remember...

And Lord, we remember most of all your death on the cross. We thank

you that in this remembering we have hope and meaning and confidence because you rose again; you overcame death. If we put our trust in you we shall live with you forever. Lord at our saddest times, help us to remember your victory and the bigger picture!  
In Jesus name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

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### **Don Turner**

It was with great sadness that we heard that our dear friend, Don Turner, had passed away on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Despite suffering with cancer for a few years, Don was always cheerful, helpful and kind. His funeral service will be held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, here at our Methodist Church, at 10.30 am followed by a buffet reception in the Chapel Hall. At 3.30 pm there will be a committal service at the Hampden Chapel, Amersham Crematorium.

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*On Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>* it is our chapel's 166<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will be welcoming Rev Janice and Brian Honey Morgan, who will lead our service. Rev Janice was our minister until nine years ago, and has remained a good friend.

Rev Janice is now a chaplain of the Royal Navy Marine based at Culdrose naval station. Brian, her husband is training to be a local preacher.

After the service a **Buffet Lunch** will be provided. Do come and join us – all are welcome!

*Canon David Winter, former Head of Religious Broadcasting for the BBC, looks back 30 years to a dreadful day...and the Christian whose forgiveness made world headlines...*

### ***Enniskillen - the bomb that changed history***

I remember vividly the IRA bomb at a Remembrance Day service in Enniskillen in November 1987 that killed eleven people and injured another 63. Actually, what I remember, as with so many such events, is the reporting of it, and especially an interview with Gordon Wilson, whose daughter died beside him.

Her last words, telling her dad she loved him, were heart-rending, and so was his own response then, and subsequently. In the midst of the carnage, he spoke words of deep Christian faith and hope. Later he expressed forgiveness for those who had planted the bomb. In the context of Ulster at that time, this was courageous talk. I was a regular visitor to the Province in the 1970's, and they were scary times.

Over the following weeks and months, Gordon Wilson became a familiar voice, and it was clear that he spoke for many people in Northern Ireland. The Sinn Fein leaders condemned the bomb attack and Republican sympathy for the terrorists dwindled. Out of that dreadful event, the Good Friday Agreement eventually emerged and (whatever happens now) the situation in Northern Ireland was transformed.

I love the fact that it was the 'Good Friday' agreement, made on the day when we recall a death that changed the world. I truly believe that the eleven who died, and perhaps especially Gordon Wilson's daughter, were the martyrs whose deaths saved the Province from endless violence and even civil war.

## ***Walking the Walk!***

Clive Knapman (from Downley Methodist church) has been taking the challenge and setting out on one of the longest walking trips he's ever tackled. Clive's walking 139 miles back packing from Edale to Middleton in Teesdale (!) and is raising money for Medecins Sans Frontieres (Medicine without borders). This charity Clive feels is doing great work helping folk in desperate need and is worthy of support. To support Clive go to his "Justgiving" website and make a donation: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/clive-knapman1> or you can give a cash donation.

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## **COFFEE MORNING!**



*here at Naphill Chapel*  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November**  
10am – 12 noon

**.Cake Stall, Raffle, Traidcraft and more!**

*Come and enjoy fairly traded tea and coffee and  
homemade cakes*

All Welcome

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## ***Christians Against Poverty welcome 7,000 commitments***

Christians Against Poverty has been celebrating the fact that since it began in 1996, not only has it helped thousands of people across the UK to get to manage their debt, but also through its work 7,000 people have decided to become Christians. 1,000 of those people made their decision this year alone.

The founder of CAP, John Kirkby, who gave up a career in finance to start the charity, says: 'It seriously blows me away to think that the little charity I started in my bedroom office in Bradford, with a tenner, has managed to bring God's light into so many lives and increase His kingdom! It gives me so much joy to think that 7,000 people are now walking with God, experiencing His enormous love and bringing that light into other lives too.'

If your personal debts are becoming a burden to you, CAP can help you, too. Just visit: <https://capuk.org/>

### *News from Christians in the Community*

Just a reminder that on the 4th November we have a Coffee/Tea Morning at the Naphill Methodist Church. There will also be Traidcraft products for sale, a raffle, a cake stall and perhaps some Christmassy items! Everyone welcome.

*Norma Clarke*

## *Two Minutes Silence*

In the month, when we think about those who have given their lives in war, the two minutes silence is a familiar act of remembrance. We can use the silence to reflect on those who have suffered in war or on what it means to work for a peaceful world. Or do we end up thinking about lunch or panic that we haven't switched our phone off?

Victor Frankl, a victim of Auschwitz, suggested that the most intolerable of all human conditions is not imprisonment or hunger, but lack of meaning. The two minutes silence enables us to connect with Jesus' message, which offers true meaning to our lives and world. He spoke of giving ourselves in love for each other and the world, 'Love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you' (Matthew 5:44). He also demonstrated such love in sacrificing His own life, 'Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends' (John 15:13). In observing the silence, let's use it to reflect on this sacrificial love, as we remember all those who have experienced pain and conflict.

Of course, we should be serious about silence and stillness in the whole of our lives, not just for two minutes at an act of Remembrance. In busy lives where so much is clamouring for our attention, silence enables us to reassess our priorities and rediscover true meaning in our lives. Jesus made a habit of withdrawing to experience silence. He did this before choosing his disciples, after He heard of John's beheading, after feeding the 5000, after healing a leper, at the Transfiguration and to prepare for His death. 'The seeking out of solitary places was a regular practice for Jesus. So it should be for us.' (Richard Foster).

*Paul Hardingham*



	<b>November</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>
<u>Steward</u>		Janice	Moira	Joy	Betty
<u>Welcome</u>		Ruth	Christine	Evelyn	
<u>Flowers</u>		Janice	<i>Poppies</i>	Ruth	Moira
<u>Transport</u>		John	Janet	Moira	Roy

**Transport:** *please phone on Saturday if possible, or **before 9.15 am** on Sunday*

Phone numbers, (see also on the back of the Newsletter) John Jones-564469, Roy Slocombe-564955, Ruth Isaac-564066, Janet Judge-563186

(NB If you are unable to fulfill your planned duty, please arrange for someone to take your place).



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**Gift Aid Sec Mr Roy Slocombe**  
**Wednesday Mrs Betty Jones tel: 01494 564469**  
**Fellowship**

**Network Secretary Margaret Bracey: 01494 563337**  
**Communion Betty and John Jones: - tel: 564469**

**Stewards**  
**Church web address:**  
**<http://www.highwycombmethodist.org.uk/naphill.php>**

To find out more about Christianity visit: [www.christianity.org.uk](http://www.christianity.org.uk)



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