

# NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

*Chapel Lane*



*SEPTEMBER 2017*

## September

Mondays	9.30 am – 10.30 am Pilates ( <i>not 4<sup>th</sup></i> ) 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
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust <i>Ride and Stride</i>
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	9am Silent Prayer
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am – 11.30 am Strings Music Group
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am – 12 noon CAMEO Club
“	7.30 pm for 7.45pm Circuit Meeting at Flackwell Heath Methodist Church

Please note: There will be no service at Shelburne Lodge this month.

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**Wednesday Fellowship** takes place at 2.15pm  
We will be studying the York Course.  
On September 6<sup>th</sup> our guest speaker is Beryl Taylor



## NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH



### September 2017

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 am Lesley Hatton
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Tony Cooper
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Rev John Richey <b><i>Section Covenant Service Holy Communion</i></b>
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Barbara Sparks <b><i>Harvest Festival</i></b>



## **Letter from our Minister**

Dear Friend,

As you read this letter, the summer holiday season will be drawing to a close. Whether you've been blessed with a summer holiday at home or away, I hope you've found some time to relax and feel somewhat more refreshed. September is the start of the Methodist connexional year, the beginning of a new and familiar church cycle. I invariably begin the new year with a sense of optimism and anticipation of starting over again, the past being the past and the new church year providing that opportunity to look at ways of how we might do things differently in the future.

The final book of the Bible - Revelation, sums up in a variety of images of the promise of a glorious future. Chapter 21 declares: 'Behold, I make all things new...' Eddie Askew reminds that making all things new is about a new view of the world; of people and of creation and what things were meant to be like when we look through the lens of Christ.

I've heard on several occasions folk saying the church needs to be renewed. Of course, this is true; however, renewal comes at a cost, namely the willingness to be changed and not staying as we are. Without this willingness renewal will never be possible. In this connexional year, the cost for you and the good folk of Naphill will be less about finance and more about an emotional cost when it comes to making a final decision about where folk's spiritual home will be as of September 2018.

In the Gospels Jesus encounters many people who long for transformation, and he offers them the means by which their lives can change, however they must face the cost and make the step

of faith – some of them manage it ... others do not. Compare the response of Zacchaeus to Jesus with that of the rich young ruler ... one completely turned his life around, the other went away sad because he couldn't face the cost.

I pray that in the months that lie ahead of us, the life of the church; our worship, our reflection on God's word, our prayerful and sincere fellowship, will become an opportunity for you, me and everyone, at Naphill, to respond afresh to the prompting of Jesus to find a new hope and vision for the future in him.

Every Blessing  
John



*Prayer of thanks to our Faithful Father*

Faithful Father,  
Thank you for your presence with us, all the time. Thank you for your goodness towards us, all the time. Thank you for the forgiveness you offer when we put our trust in Jesus and what He did on the cross, so that not even the most desperate circumstances can cut us off from you. Thank you for the on-going possibility of a new start with bright hope for each tomorrow. Thank you, thank you Lord,  
In Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*



Our **HARVEST Festival** takes place on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September and will be led by Barbara Sparks. We'll be collecting items for the One Can Trust Food Bank based at Wesley Methodist Church. One Can Trust Food Bank, provides emergency food aid for people across South Bucks who find themselves in times of crisis. People are made very welcome when they visit to collect

food and it's a life saver for many people who are often working families on low incomes.

Food items required are:

***Tinned meat especially tinned ham and corned beef; tuna/salmon; tinned potatoes/instant mashed potato; pasta sauce/curry sauce; tea bags/ coffee /drinking chocolate; tinned vegetables; tinned carrots; jam/marmalade /honey/peanut butter/chocolate spread; sponge puddings; Angel Delight/ jelly/custard; rice pudding; breakfast cereals; tinned fruit; biscuits/snack bars for lunch boxes; toiletries: shower gel; shampoos/conditioner; de-odourant; soap***



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!

## **China opens its arms to the Bible – with 30 years help from Bible Society**

Just over 40 years ago, the Bible was a banned book in China. But today, in this largely atheist country, the Bible is a best seller. In China today, you will find churches so full that their congregants spill out on the pavement. Those in rural areas often walk for hours just to attend a service, while more and more city-dwellers can be found in churches – both underground and state-run – on a Sunday morning.

What's more, copies of the Bible – once a banned book in China – are now within reach through local churches and specially-licensed bookshops. And those Bibles are desperately needed. As one Chinese Christian explains: 'The fire of revival has been burning in China for 30 years. But if we want it to keep burning, we need to feed it with God's word.'

It's a remarkable story. And over the last 30 years, the Bible Society has been at the heart of it. Over decades, through working with the registered Church, they have carved out a unique ministry in China. For it was back in 1987, in response to requests from Chinese church leaders, that Bible Society helped to establish the Amity Printing Company. In 2008, it moved to a larger, upgraded facility, the size of 12 football pitches and with the capacity to print 20 million Bibles a year. It's now the world's biggest Bible printing factory!

Bible Society is still hard at work, printing and distributing Bibles across the country, helping to strengthen the roots of the Chinese Church, and to help new believers grow into mature followers of Jesus.

Here's just some of the numbers that describe the Bible Society's work in China:

68 million Chinese Bibles printed from its press since 1987.  
55,000 local churches with whom it is connected.  
77 distribution centres from which it bases itself.  
48 Bible vans taking Bibles wherever they need to go.

**Smile** 😊 😊 😊

### **Heaven**

An elderly Anglican Archbishop and an elderly Roman Catholic Cardinal died within minutes of each other. They arrived at the Pearly Gates together and St Peter ushered them into a waiting room.

An hour or so later, they heard someone else arrive at the gates, and looked out to see a very young man wander in, looking rather surprised. But St Peter welcomed him with open arms, and ushered him straight on through into Heaven. When the Archbishop and Cardinal protested that they should have precedence, St Peter explained, ‘That young man has only been driving for six months, but in that short time he has put the fear of God into more people than both of your Graces have, in your whole lives.’

### **Oldest computer**

The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve. Not surprisingly, it was an Apple. But it had an extremely limited memory: just one byte, and everything crashed.

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### News from Action for Children, High Wycombe and Marlow Support Group

The amount raised so far at the London Marathon is £73,630 with more to come from runners. The Royal Mail in partnership with Action for Children hope to raise £2 million pounds to help with mental health issues.

The Duchess of Cambridge is Action for Children’s new Royal Patron.

Dates for your Diary:

Marlow Autumn Lunch will take place on Saturday 14th October 2017 at 12.30pm and will be held at the Marlow Methodist Church.

High Wycombe Carols will take place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 10am until 1pm, outside Boots, in the Eden Centre, High Wycombe.

Please contact Beryl Taylor if you can help in any way.

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***Women in northern Argentina leading a quiet revolution***

Mision La Paz is a village in the Chaco forest of northern Argentina. It sits on the banks of the River Picomayo, which forms the border with Paraguay. When the Gospel first reached this remote area, there were a number of warring tribes - Wichi, Chorote, Chulupi - as well as hostile white settlers. Nevertheless, a mission was started which incorporated all these groups, and a few years ago a group of women, from the different ethnic groups, took the initiative to start visiting other villages and sharing their faith.

Bishop Nick Drayson of the diocese of northern Argentina explains:

‘They took the name "the Deborahs" as a reminder that sometimes they can't wait for the men to take the lead! The local area is still one of much conflict, especially over land rights. The Anglican church has been deeply involved in advocacy in support of the indigenous movement "Lhaka Honhat" (Our Land) which has managed to broker a deal between white settlers and the government to agree on a shared use of the area of forest along the river and inland which is their traditional hunting ground. The Deborahs major on supporting families, which are under great threat as their culture is eroded.’

The Deborahs are just one example of local women finding their voice and organising themselves into action. More broadly across the diocese, the Mothers' Union has recently enjoyed dramatic growth. AMARE (the Argentine branch of the Mothers' Union) has grown from 50 members to more than 1000 members in a few short years.

In AMARE, women are encouraged to make a commitment to practical ways of showing love in the family, church and community. Some women visit and pray for the sick, minister in other communities and share with their families what they have learned. Some are involved in children's or youth work and some younger people read the Bible to the elderly.

Bishop Nick's wife Catherine, who helps co-ordinate AMARE, has watched as women have found a new voice.

'AMARE gives them a sense of belonging, purpose and identity in Christ, as members of the Anglican Church and also of the MU worldwide,' she says. Because of AMARE there is a quiet revolution taking place.

'The churches have tended to wait for mission partners to fulfil this role of visiting, encouraging and teaching,' she says, 'but with AMARE this is changing as local women are becoming empowered to lead.'

This article is abridged from 'Anglican World', a quarterly magazine produced by the Anglican Communion. To read the full story, plus other news of the Anglican Church around the world, why not subscribe? Visit <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/anglican-world-magazine.aspx>

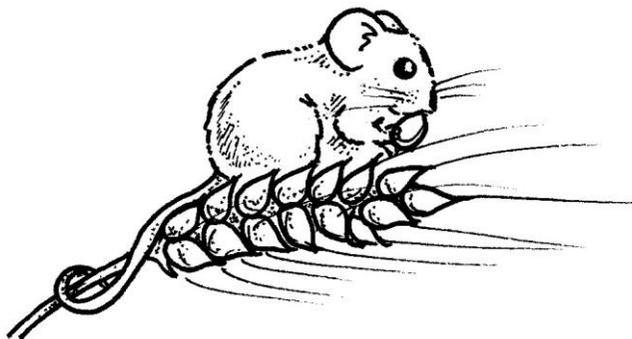
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<b>September</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>
<u>Steward</u>	Moira	Joy	Janice	Betty
<u>Welcome</u>	Christine	Evelyn	Betty	---
<u>Flowers</u>	Margaret/Mary Ann		Ruth	Joy
<u>Transport</u>	Roy	Moira	John	Janet

**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, Don Turner-562645, Ruth Isaac-564066, Janet Judge-563186

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



**MINISTER:**                   **REV JOHN RICHEY**  
**01494 526747**

**CONTACT**                   **MISS MARGARET BRACEY,**  
**STEWARD**                   **199, MAIN ROAD, NAPHILL, BUCKS.**  
**01494 563337**

**STEWARD:**                   **MRS JOY PEMBERTON: 01494 562918**

**STEWARD:**                   **MRS JANICE SLOCOMBE: 01494 564955**

**STEWARD:**                   **MRS MOIRA LEWIS: 01494 562817**  
**Art Classes**                   **Mrs Joy Pemberton 01494 562918.**  
**Welcome Rota**                   **Mrs Joy Pemberton**  
**Flower rota**                    **“                   “                   “**  
**Church Council**               **Mr Roy Slocombe: 01494 564955**  
**Newsletter Editor**           **Mrs Moira Lewis : 01494 562817**  
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**Treasurer and**  
**Gift Aid Sec**               **Mr Roy Slocombe**  
**Women's Fellowship**       **Mrs Betty Jones tel: 01494 564469**  
**Network Secretary**       **Margaret Bracey: 01494 563337**  
**Communion**               **Betty and John Jones: - tel: 564469**

**Stewards**

**Church web address:**

**<http://www.highwycombemethodist.org.uk/naphill.php>**

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



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