

# Good-News Desk!

The Magazine of Tylers Green Methodist Church



Minister:  
Rev. John Richey

New Series No. 125



July 2018



With photographs of our 50th Anniversary and of the following Sunday's Membership Service. Pictured above is Rev Katherine Pickering cutting the anniversary cake.

Dear Friend,

There is a little phrase running through my mind, which I'm sure is one you've either thought or have said yourself many times over the years: 'All good things come to an end'. I confess this phrase I mainly think of when returning to my desk after a relaxing holiday.

However, as I write to you this phrase takes on a greater significance, for this is not only my final letter, but also in Methodist terms I'm soon to 'sit down' after 13 years of Ordained Ministry, eight of which I've spent in the High Wycombe Circuit, but only two years as your Minister in Tylers Green, the folk I grown to love and hold a deep affection for.

Two years has passed by so quickly, which is hardly any time to achieve anything of significance within the life of a worshipping community.

Yet as I reflect, my heart is warmed by the fact how you've embraced the responsibility of not only drawing up the quarterly worship plan but also for dipping your toes into the water of sectional churches choosing to worship together from time to time.

From my one experience of leading such a service and from what others have shared with me about their experiences of other sectional services, I believe not only has the worship life of the various churches been enhanced but also, perhaps without you realising the sectional churches have become a model for the wider Circuit to continue exploring in this way.

This would not have happened without your willingness and encouragement to explore worship in this way, therefore I offer the wonderful folk at Tylers Green (also the other sectional churches) my heartfelt thanks.

I also wish to thank you for your friendship, support and pastoral care and understanding especially over this last year when adverse health became an issue for me; the phone calls, cards and written messages I received heightened my experience of your love and affection.

Pastoral care is what underpins the life of any worshipping community, and Tylers Green has this in abundance, not only has this been my experience but I'm aware that this has been the experience of others also.

I hope and pray that as Vida prepares to come and be your Minister that you give her the love you've shown me, which will make Vida a very happy Minister.

Just to mention that I've met with Vida today, she spoke about the warmth she felt when visiting the Circuit, this has made Vida feel very excited at the prospect of becoming your Minister; Vida herself comes with deep pastoral heart.

I'm not very good at saying goodbye, nevertheless the Teacher in Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us in verse one, 'there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens': my season for activity under God's heaven in this part of the world is soon to come to an end, so, as I said at the beginning, 'All good things come to an end.

So, I close by thanking you for the absolute privilege in allowing me the opportunity to be your Minister over these past two years; it has been one of absolute blessing and joy.

Much love and may God bless you!

John

## **EVENING SERVICES**

On Sundays evenings in July there are services at Holmer Green Methodist Church starting at 6.00pm as follows. All invited.

1st Rev Singa Vinipola

8th Rev Nick Thompson

22nd Jeffrey Orange (note: also preaching here in the morning)

29th Rev Gregory Hargrove

## A Plastic Revolution

*Editor: The Rev Paul Hardingham considers the problem of plastic from a Christian point of view.*

The recent Blue Planet II series exposed just how much plastic waste is an issue in our seas. The Prime Minister has called plastic waste *'one of the great environmental scourges of our time.'* The best estimates suggest 10 million tonnes of plastic ends up in our oceans, contaminating and killing sea life. How should we view this issue from a Christian perspective?

When God created the universe, He saw *'everything He had made, and indeed, it was very good.'* (Genesis 1:31). He calls us to share in His care of creation: *'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves on the ground.'* (Genesis 1:28). Our rule over living creatures is not an excuse to exploit them in a selfish way. As those who made in the image of God, we are entrusted to care for them with responsibility and trustworthiness.

Why do the sea creatures being killed by plastic matter? Because of human rebellion against God (see Genesis 3), our relationship with God and His creation was damaged. No longer do we live with living creatures in harmony and interdependence. Yet after the flood, when Noah rescued the animals in the ark, they are included in God's everlasting promise to protect the earth: *'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that was with you.'* (Genesis 9:9,10). This also points to God's cosmic plan to restore all creation to Himself.

What is our response to be? Where is God calling us, as His people in this time and place, to make a stand in protecting His creation? Time for a plastic revolution?

## Diary and Notice board - July 2018

**BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP** will meet on Monday 2nd July at 2.30pm at 3 Green Street, Hazlemere and on Monday 16th July at 131 Cedar Avenue.

**BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP** Saturday 14th July at 10.00 am. This takes the place of the coffee morning. Please come along and share a 'summer breakfast' and fellowship—it is for everyone to enjoy.

**CHRISTIAN AID** Many thanks to all who contributed to Christian Aid this year. We had 11 envelopes returned totalling £235.00. Added to this the Church donated £50.00 totalling £285.00. Christian Aid will also receive £27.50 in Gift Aid reimbursements.

### **Your prayers are asked:**

For Ann Dickenson now recovering at home

For Dennis and Chris Oxby,

For Rosemary Gillham, recovering from a fall

for little Bertie from The Chase awaiting brain surgery

For John and Ruth Richey as they prepare to move to London

For Ken and Joanne Kingston as they also move to London  
(but not so far away)

For Vida our new minister, as she prepares to join us

For Richard, the new Deacon appointed to the Circuit.

For the members and friends of Naphill Methodist Church  
at the time of church closure.

*A recent letter published in a national newspaper: 'Following the recent major flooding, I find myself out of pocket, due to what I am informed is an 'act of God.' To avoid future financial embarrassment, please could you recommend an atheist insurance company?*



# Celebrating 50 years of Tylers Green Methodist Church in Coppice Farm Road





Laurence  
Hutchinson is  
welcomed into  
membership of  
Tylers Green  
Methodist  
Church





## Serenity Prayer

by Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)

**God grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change;  
courage to change the things I can;  
and wisdom to know the difference.**

*I wonder how many know the prayer goes on to say:*

Living one day at a time;  
enjoying one moment at a time;  
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;  
taking, as He did, this sinful world  
as it is, not as I would have it;  
trusting that He will make all things right  
if I surrender to His Will;  
that I may be reasonably happy in this life  
and supremely happy with Him  
forever in the next.

Amen.



### *And finally...*

*The manager of the garden centre came out of his office to hear Jamie, one of his most trusted assistants, saying to a lady customer: 'No madam, we certainly haven't had any for some time, and who knows when we will get any.'*

*When the customer had gone, the manager tackled him: 'I heard that, Jamie,' he remonstrated, 'and I must say that I am surprised at you. Never, never admit to a customer that we can't get them something. That's what we're here for. If it's out of stock, tell her you'll get it for her soon. Now, what was it the lady wanted?'*

*'Rain,' Jamie replied.*

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Minister:** Rev. John Richey\* - 📞 526747

**Worship Leaders:** Geraldine Nelson and Chris Oxby

**Senior Church Steward:** Peter Stevens\*— 📞 815256

**Church Stewards:**

Toyin Akinwale— 📞 817792

Martin Hellewell— 📞 816168

Geraldine Nelson\* – 📞 815631

Chris Oxby\* – 📞 814982

**Church Treasurer :** Geraldine Nelson - 📞 815631

**Church Council Secretary:** Sue Horley Sue.horley1@gmail.com

**Room Bookings:** Geraldine Nelson – 📞 815631

**Pastoral & First Steps:** Christine Stevens - 📞 815256

**Property :** Peter Stevens— 📞 815256

\* Members of the Church Leadership Team

## Church Premises

Please mention anything requiring maintenance or attention to any of the Property Stewards: Peter and Christine Stevens, Martin Hellewell or Rosemary Newman.

## Good-News Desk

Items for the next Good-News Desk should reach Peter Stevens by the 15th July for the June edition, either on paper or emailed to

psredkite@googlemail.com or 📞 815256

**AUGUST EDITION AVAILABLE ON 29TH JULY**

**Note:** Some items in Good-News Desk are included by subscription to Parish Pump—the resource site for Church Newsletters.



## SERVICES DIARY - SERVICES AT 10.45 a.m. unless otherwise stated.

Date	Preacher/Service Details	Vestry Steward	Welcome Stewards If you are unable to do your turn, <u>please arrange cover!</u>
1st July	10.30 am—SECTIONAL SERVICE AT NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH (Final Sunday Service)	/	/
8th	Rev John Richey and Peter Stevens	Martin Hellewell	Angela Davis & Chris Oxby
15th	Geraldine Nelson (Local Arrangement)	Geraldine Nelson	Christine Stevens
15th	7.00 pm— at The Avenue—Circuit Farewell Service for the Richey's and the Kingston's—see page 2	/	/
22nd	Jeffrey Orange	Chris Oxby	Margaret Hallam and Rosemary Newman
29th	Pam Sweet	Toyin Akinwale	Christine Stevens