



CHEAM METHODIST CHURCH

Cnr Church Hill Road and Chatsworth Road,
Cheam, Sutton SM3 8LJ

NEWSLETTER JULY/AUGUST 2016

Minister: Rev Nik Wooller – 01372 743182
revnik@live.co.uk

Hall Bookings: Audrey Saunderson – 020 8644 6911
www.cheammethodistchurch.org.uk

Church Charity Number: SI 2655/2007

SERVICES AT CHEAM METHODIST CHURCH

Date	Time	Preacher	Service
3 July	10.30am	Mrs Hannah Chun	14 Ordinary
10 July	10.30am	Rev Nik Wooller	15 Ordinary Church Anniversary
17 July	10.30am	Rev John Amankwatia	16 Ordinary Holy Communion
24 July	10.30am	Mr Richard Smith	17 Ordinary
31 July	10.30am	Rev Nik Wooller	18 Ordinary
7 August	10.30am	Mr Nik White	19 Ordinary
14 August	10.30am	Rev Mark Wakelin	20 Ordinary
21 August	10.30am	Rev Nik Wooller	21 Ordinary Holy Communion
28 August	10.30am	Ms Val Imms	22 Ordinary

FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY

- Fri 1st 8.00pm House Group at Mary Freeman's home, 14 Priory Avenue, Cheam
Tues 5th 10-11.30am Cheam Tots – parent/carer and toddler group
Tues 5th 2.30pm Women's Friendly Hour – Christine Crewe, DVD about the Cinnamon Trust
Wed 6th 8.00pm House Group at Audrey Saunderson's home, 105 Abbots Road, Cheam
Sun 10th 10.30am Church Anniversary followed by a cold lunch
Tues 12th 10-11.30am Cheam Tots – parent/carer and toddler group
Tues 12th 2.30pm Women's Friendly Hour – Tony Brett Young, *A Visit to New York*
Sun 17th 9.45am Prayer Meeting
Sun 17th 3.00pm Messy Summer followed by a short service
Mon 18th 10.30-12 Visit of SeeAbility to Cheam
Tues 19th No Cheam Tots
Tues 19th 2.30pm Women's Friendly Hour – Garden Party (last meeting until September)
Fri 29th 8.00pm House Group at Mary Freeman's home, 14 Priory Avenue, Cheam

AUGUST

Please note: There will be no House Group Meetings, Cheam Tots or Women's Friendly Hour until September

SEPTEMBER

- Thurs 1st 7.30pm Circuit Welcome Service for Rev Ung Soon Nguang and Rev Barnabus Alexandra – Wallington Methodist Church

All events are at Cheam Methodist Church unless shown otherwise.

Deadline for September *Newsletter*, Friday 19 August with contributions to Tony Brett Young on abrettyoung@hotmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM REV NIK WOOLLER

As I type this piece we are in the midst of a run of sunny, warm weather interspersed with quite heavy rain. The result of this combination of sun and patches of rainfall has been renewed growth of everything in my garden.

As most of you know I'm not a natural gardener and I get no pleasure from working in it so it's not really surprising that I have found it difficult to subdue the exploding hedges, towering weeds, and contorted bushes.

Nevertheless I am not discouraged, for I have adopted a new strategy of garden management: concentrate on one area before moving to the next. I began with the lawn (well Joe began with the lawn!) and it looks good. My freshly cut lawn has an order about it which stands in defiance against the chaos that abounds in other areas. I know I will

eventually retake the whole garden (or at least some of it) as I conquer and consolidate other areas of it.

Our lives are like gardens. They possess a diversity of activity with some sections that seem to barrel out of control. The demands these areas make upon our time as well as our deficiencies can leave us paralysed and dispirited when we recognise they require better management. There is so much work to do. Where should we start? Why bother?

As with my approach to the garden, I suggest you start simple. Instead of tackling everything at once, identify an area of your life you wish to get back under control. Commit to simple objectives that can produce fruitful results. This yields identifiable improvement that can lift the spirit and spur you on to continue. It can also protect against spreading oneself too thin so that more output is required to see even the smallest advancement. At some point in the future you can move to other worthy objectives. Be patient with yourself, allowing for time to enjoy progress.

In my Bible study I've been reading *Romans 12*. This chapter begins a new section in the letter and is specifically focused on Christian ethics. While the previous chapters have a steady flow, Chapter 12 feels like a barrage of moral instruction. Some of the exhortations seem to lack an obvious context. Combined with the staccato delivery, it is a formidable task to process the material. Following all of the teaching is important, but can feel as overwhelming as drinking from the hose of a fire engine.

So where should we start? I decided Verse 12 is as good as any place. In the New International Version of the Bible it reads: "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

When I consider joy, I think of a positive feeling that isn't dependent on circumstances in the way happiness is. Happiness seems to come and go without warning. Joy is more grounded. Joy fits naturally with hope. Hope is a longing with expectation that an unmet desire will be satisfied. Hope is powerful because there is often little evidence at present to suggest it will be fulfilled. The combination of the two makes for a powerful posture of trust in the Lord that someday it will all be better.

It is unnecessary to define patience and affliction. We all experience distress and hardship. We know patience by exercising it, but also by its absence from our lives when we need it. It must be noted that Paul's faith in Christ colours his view of life.

Everything comes back to Christ. He knew suffering was part of life. However he anticipated persecution, a specific affliction that comes from allegiance to Christ. Read with this background, to be patient in affliction involves resting in the confidence that someday the Lord will intervene.

Prayer is an admission that we cannot change our circumstances or secure what we need. We turn to the Lord in faith that He can and may respond to our cries. The consistency of prayer also brings us closer to the Lord, forging a closer relationship.

The summer is upon us. Let's commit this season to living out these three, simple instructions from Paul in *Romans 12:12*. As we hold steadfast to them, I have confidence that we will see tangible, spiritual growth in our lives.

Let's keep it simple and see how these practices can reap an imperishable transformation. We can master the other instructions later.

God Bless,



FAMILY CIRCLE

Those of us who were able to go to Ryelands Summer Fair recently had a lovely afternoon, and the result was excellent. Jenny Delafond has given details elsewhere in this *Newsletter*. It was good to see so many friends attending, including ministers and local preachers from our circuit churches.

Many thanks for all your prayers for those mentioned in the June *Newsletter*. It is so important to them and does uphold them and strengthen them to know they are in our thoughts. God does answer prayer and Margaret Kingswood is feeling much better and able to eat more. She still needs further treatment and we pray that she will hear soon.

Christine Rippon and I visit Mary Bugden, and we are pleased that she is looking much better. She is however, still waiting for a more comfortable chair and a carer who is able to come later in the day to help her. She is currently having physiotherapy and is getting stronger walking with the frame. Please continue to pray for Alan who also helps Mary when he can. It is good that Alan is able to come to church and attend a luncheon club once a month at the Baptist Church. We need to continue to bring before God those who have been bereaved recently. Gem Wason has been in America attending the funeral of her brother who died at end of May. We remember the Yorkshire MP, Mrs Jo Cox who died so tragically recently and pray for comfort for the family, and all her colleagues. She portrayed a wonderful example as a sincere and compassionate person.

Please continue to pray for our members Bert and Joyce Mealing, Irene Smith, Grace Hine, her family and those we remember who have been bereaved this year. Pray for our minister Nik, who has given us a wonderful ministry for the past five years and is shortly beginning her last year with us. We pray for guidance for her as she seeks her next ministerial post, for the Leadership Team facing the difficult challenge of seeking a replacement for Nik.. We know we will be sharing a minister with Epsom again. Pray for all our ministers and local preachers in the circuit.

Pray for all those on holiday and looking forward to their holidays, that they may return refreshed and renewed. It would be good to hear about your holidays in our next *Newsletter*. Thanks to all who donate flowers for our church services, for a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. These are then given to any friends who are poorly. Please let us know if you have a neighbour whose day would be brightened by flowers from our church. And finally, thank you Father God for your healing, comfort, strength and peace.

Mary Freeman

Margaret Kingswood

Margaret Kingswood has asked us to pass on her grateful thanks to everyone for

their prayers, cards and telephone calls during her illness. She is extremely grateful for everyone's concern. At the time of writing Margaret is feeling better after some treatment but is still waiting for further news from her medical team. Our prayers are with her, Brian and their family.

CHURCH NEWS AND NOTICES

Sunday collections

Totals of recent collections were: 5 June, £191.00; 12 June, £204.60; 19 June, £190.50.

Flower Fund

Donations received recently for the churches flowers were: 5 June, Penny Ball in memory of her mother Miriam; 12 June, Grace Hine's family; 19 June, Grace Hine in memory of her husband, Dennis; and 26 June, Audrey Saunderson in memory of her husband, Len.

Audrey Saunderson

News from Ryelands

Many thanks to all who bought programmes, baked cakes or came along to support the Summer Fair at Ryelands on Saturday 18 June. The total amount raised (£2,580) was the most ever, which included £148 from the sale of cakes and preserves on the stall run by CMC, and helped by contributions from members at St George's.

Methodist Homes Sunday

Methodist Homes Sunday is an opportunity to remember the value of older people and this year the theme is Creating Communities that Care. Please respond generously to this year's fundraising campaign which aims to develop and increase MHA facilities and provide life-enhancing services, such as chaplaincy, music therapy for people with dementia and support services in its Live at Home schemes.

Jenny Delafond

News from SeeAbility

An adaption of the story of the journey of the Mayflower by the Pilgrim Fathers in 1620 is the subject of the Wild Cats Dramatic Society's summer production in July.

All are invited to either of the two performances...

* Wed 20 July, Millennium Centre, Wesley Road, Leatherhead

* Wed 27 July, Fairfield Day Centre in Leatherhead town centre

Both performances begin at 2pm.

A group from the Millennium Centre will be joining us on Monday 18 July at 10.30am for refreshments and a sing song. Offers of cakes will be welcome and an invitation to join us is extended to everyone.

Churches Together in Sutton and Cheam

A meeting of Churches Together in Sutton and Cheam was held at CMC on Tuesday 21 June. Opening devotions were led by Rev Mark Williams and our own minister, Nik, welcomed the meeting with a talk about the triptych that enhances the front of our church.

Items on the agenda included reports about the Good Friday Walk of Witness in Sutton and the Prayer Pilgrimage. The meeting once again agreed to donate £500 to Sutton Schoolswork to go towards financing the booklet *It's Your Move* produced by the Scripture Union. This booklet is given to all Year 6 pupils in the London Borough of Sutton in preparation for their transfer to high school. A fuller report from the meeting will be given at the next Church Council.

Jane Wasbrough

Christian Aid

As a result of an accounting error the sum raised for CAW this year is slightly lower than announced in the June Newsletter. Super Soup lunch raised £43, Count Your Blessings £164.60 and CAW envelopes £289.02. The total was £496.62.

Christian Aid has been invited back to Lambeth Palace to host an open day in the 800-year-old palace gardens. You can walk in these beautiful surroundings between 12 and 3 pm on Friday 5 August. Admission is £5, payable on the door, and there's no need to book.

Cynthia Brett Young

EU referendum

The Methodist Church has joined with the Church of Scotland, the United Reform Church and Baptists Together in issuing a statement about the outcome of the UK referendum. It calls on the nation to find common resolve and respect in order to overcome the differences which have been revealed within the British people by the pattern of voting. You can read the statement on www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/after-the-referendum-a-recommitment-to-the-common-good/

WHO'S WHO IN THE CHURCH

Minister: Rev Nik Wooller. Telephone: 01372 743182; Email: revnik@live.co.uk Nik is available by appointment to anyone who wants to talk about pastoral or other matters, including baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Church Leadership Team: The church leadership team has been elected by church members to be responsible for the day-to-day running of the church and helping to develop policy. Supporting Nik are Senior Steward, David Worthington (8644 5160), Mary Freeman (8644 3999), Brian Kingswood (8641 0016), Jane Wasbrough (8641 4304), Audrey Saunderson (8644 6911) and Tony Brett Young.

Hall bookings: Audrey Saunderson, 8644 6911

Safeguarding: Tony Brett Young, 8652 7622

The *Newsletter*: We welcome contributions for the *Newsletter*, and articles, news, ideas and comments can be emailed to Tony Brett Young at abrettyoung@hotmail.com