

EDGE LANE AND CLAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

July Magazine 2023

Minister: Revd. Joy Rulton

Preachers/Lectionary Readings

2nd July (Droylsden Methodist Church join us)	11:00am	Mr Nick Palfreyman	Genesis Ch 22 v 1– 14 Psalm 13 Romans Ch 6 v 12 -23 Matthew Ch 10 v 40- 42
9th July Action for Children Sunday	11:00am	Mrs Pamela Sewart	Genesis Ch 24 v 34 – 38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45 10-17 Romans Ch 7 v 15 -25a Matthew Ch 11 v 16-19, 25-30
16th July	11:00am	Rev Joy Rulton (HC)	Genesis Ch 25 v 19 -34 Psalm 119 v 105 -112 Romans Ch 8 v 1-11 Matthew Ch 13 v 1-9, 18-23
23rd July At Droylsden	10:45am	Rev Sharon Read (HC)	Genesis Ch 28 v 10-19a Psalm 139 v 1-12, 23 -24 Romans Ch 8 v 12-25 Matthew Ch 13 v 24-30, 36-43
30th July	11:00am	Mrs Daphne Maganga	Genesis Ch 29 v 15-28 Psalm 105 v 1-11, 45b Romans Ch 8 v 26-39 Matthew Ch 13 v 31-33, 44-52

Dear friends,

Seventy-five years ago, the Empire Windrush docked at Tilbury, bringing 802 people from the islands of the Caribbean, invited by the British government to help in rebuilding the country after the second world war. They were by no means the first people with roots elsewhere to make their homes in this country, but 22 June 1948 is remembered as a significant moment in our culture, and is rightly celebrated as a key moment in the growing diversity which enriches life in the UK today.

Yet the story is not all about celebration. Most people with roots in the Caribbean have stories to tell of racism in the streets and shops and on the bus, looking for housing, going to work or school-and shamefully, in the church. The sisters and brothers arriving from Jamaica or St. Kitts brought Methodist membership tickets, but were still discouraged from attending their local Methodist church. Praise God that we have moved away from this in more recent times – indeed, these days the Methodist church names racism as a sin.

At its very beginning, the Bible tells us that God created all people in the divine image and likeness. Part of the joy of being a Christian is the opportunity to look for God's holy presence in people whose way of life is different from ours. How many ways are there to worship God? How many ways are there to pray? As many, surely, as there are human beings-and we have the privilege of being able to share with others in our praise and prayer, learning of God from them as they do from us.

So, there is much to celebrate on this special anniversary. Above all, there is the presence with us of our God, who said: there is no slave nor free, no male and female, no Jew or Gentile-for all are one in Christ Jesus. The differences remain, giving vibrant diversity to life; but at the heart of the Gospel message is the truth that we are all one in Jesus, who loves us so much that he gave his life for us – all of us.

Caroline

CHURCH NOTICES

As we move into July, the 'height' of Summer, we continue to take time to enjoy this season and marvel at God's natural world. May this time be one of relaxation and reflection, a time to ponder and remember that our Lord is with us, sustaining us and guiding us in the paths we are to take.

News Of Friends

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are not well in body, mind or spirit and for those awaiting appointments and treatments. We think especially of Doreen, Jean H, Val G, Betty, Harry, Joan P, Linda, Peter, John S, Jean W, David, Bill. There are so many more names to add to these. We pray that the Lord is with you, upholding you and walking with you as you face these difficult times.

Strawberry Fayre in June

We had a lovely day weather-wise for the fayre and there was a friendly atmosphere throughout with much to buy and eat! Considering the difficult circumstances on the day, we enjoyed the fellowship and community outreach. Many thanks for all the hard work put in by so many people. Looking forward to the next fayre in November.

Some Farewells

At this time of the year when ministers begin to 'move on' we especially think of: -

- Deacon Pru Cahill – the Deacon at Methodist Central Hall and 'Befrienders' along with other roles. We wish her well as she moves to a more rural ministry in Lancashire and thank her for her care and compassion for all whom she met.
- Rev. Bruce Thompson who is 'retiring' from being chair of the Lincolnshire District. We have happy memories of Bruce when he was a 'new' minister in the Droylsden and Openshaw Circuit from 1987 – 1992 and he says that this time at our churches, will always occupy a special place in his ministry. We last saw him at Clayton in 2019 for our 'last' church Anniversary there. We wish him and Karen a happy and healthy retirement.

Prayer by Bruce Thompson

Protecting God,

When we fall, you quietly pick us up;

When we fear, you gently hold on to us;

When the future looks bleak, you nudge us onwards,

Until at last we find ourselves in the place you would have us be. Amen

- Rev. Andrew Charlesworth who is moving to Wales to become chair for Wales Synod Cymru. We trust that his move from Nottingham will be a smooth one and wish him all the very best in the future in Wales.

Dorothy's 100th Birthday

We trust that Dorothy enjoyed her celebrations on this very special day with so many friends and relatives. Her card from the King and Queen is to be treasured. Best wishes in the days to come. Thank you for your friendship and optimism, you are an inspiration to us all.

Rev Joy Rulton

We look forward to welcoming our minister Joy back in the middle of July after her time on sabbatical. We trust it has been a worthwhile time for study and reflection.

A letter from Val G

Mum and I would like to thank our friends from church for their kind visits, calls, cards, flowers and prayers over the last few months. We seem to have put quite a strain on the health service between us. Mum broke her hip and a spell in Tameside was followed by three weeks in Butler Green rehab unit. I am pleased to say she has made a remarkable recovery and continues to get stronger and stronger each day.

Shortly after, I was admitted to Manchester Royal for planned surgery which unfortunately didn't 'go to plan' as I was admitted a week after discharge as an emergency and spent 15 nights under their care. I am still recovering, very weak, but hopefully we will both continue to gain strength and see you all very soon.

God Bless

Val & Betty

Birthdays

Wishing everyone born in July a very Happy Birthday. May your day and years ahead be full of love. God bless you with good health, peace, happiness and long life.

Next Magazine

The August Magazine will be available both on the website and by hardcopy. Everyone is welcome to make contributions by email to **marian.claytonmethodist@yahoo.co.uk** or to Elva by the 26th of July 2023. Thank you.

Pause for thought

A regular visitor to Methodist Central Hall to 'Befrienders' and to GMCC is Roy. In a recent monthly prayer letter, this is what he says;

'I come to GMCC to see the good people and to talk when I have a low mood. I go to the chapel and light candles and to mental health meetings and talk to people in groups. I also attend the church service. I like the hospitality and talking to people and the peaceful times when I get upset. I have made good friends here and there are good staff members'

Here is a thought from Roy

'Friendship is not gifts big or small, Friendship is the greatest gift of all'

Thank you, Roy for your testimony and poetic thought for us all to ponder on.

The U in JesUs

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God even stuck U in the name of His son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U

U're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
And this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention

"Now go into the world and tell them it's trUe
That the love I have shown is not just for U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know, **but it all starts with U.**

Author unknown

Scents of Summer *by Eileen Hay*

Ripe strawberries and new-mown grass,
And perfume in the air
Of roses, sweet peas and lavender,
That make the senses flare.
Each season has its own sweet scents-
In spring, fresh daffodils,
And Autumn's wood smoke makes us think of coming winter chills.
But summer scents bring happy thoughts
of picnics by the sea,
Or city parks with summer blooms
And children running free.
When air is warm it smells so sweet
And lifts our spirits high-
The song of birds, the fresh green grass,
Above, a clear blue sky.

May we all revel in the beauties of summer. Maybe now we are not able to travel far but we all have memories locked in our heads of those happy summer-times.

Let us thank God for all his mercies to us. A Hymn that always comes to mind at this time is 'Summer suns are glowing, over land and sea; Happy light in flowing, Bountiful and free. Everything rejoices in the mellow rays, All earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of Praise'

Action for Children Sunday

The second Sunday in July -July 9th

Action for children is the children's charity of the Methodist church (formerly called the National Children's Homes). The charity was founded in 1869 in response to the poverty and dangers faced by vulnerable and destitute children and young people living rough on the streets. Today, it runs over 500 projects, working with more young people affected by poverty, disability and abuse than any other UK charity. To find out more or to donate, please go to their website, actionforchildren.org.uk. Thankyou.

The 'Big' Banner

Recently this banner from Clayton was taken to Englesea Brook Museum near Crewe to preserve it for the future. Little did we know that it is a significant one, made by George Tutill, who was a famous maker of trade union banners. The church banner is made of silk and beautifully painted in vibrant colours. When it arrived at the Methodist Museum, the curators said it was one of the most beautiful banners they had seen. We can now rest in peace, knowing that it will be well cared for and admired.

Small Talk

- Taking two young grandchildren for a walk, Grandma complimented them on their energy and regretted the lack of her energy! One of the little ones said 'Grandma, you have slow energy'. How very true!
 - A little boy of 4 years old fell on the pavement resulting in a big bump on his forehead. When his older sister came home from school and saw him, she screamed and burst into tears 'What's the fuss about?' he said, I'm not dead, am I?
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July Brain-Teaser

How many words of 4 letters or more can you make from

SUMMERTIME

(No proper nouns, foreign words, plurals or nouns)

Target – 180!

GOD BLESS ALL OUR READERS

ANSWERS

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
 3 'I — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
 10 Group of eight (5)
 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
 19 Attend to (3,2)
 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
 25 Test (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
 2 'The playing of the merry —, sweet singing in the choir' (5)
 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
 8 Minister of religion (6)

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24	M	O	N	A	R	C	H	Y			25	S	T	E	T		

- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
 20 Establish by law (5)
 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)