

WITNESS

MARCH 2019

Newsletter of Washingborough Methodist Church

Our purpose is to:

- Share Jesus's message of love and hope with everyone we meet
- Provide a Christian spiritual focus for the community of Washingborough and surrounding villages
- Support good causes and fight for social justice through our words and actions

www.washingboroughmethodistchurch.co.uk

Dear Friends

We are pilgrims on a journey and companions on the road;

We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load."

So says Richard Gillard in his hymn 'Brother, Sister, let me serve you"

It's a very apt image for a Christian faith community as early followers of Christ belonged to 'The Way' (Acts ch 9 v2) before being called Christians (Acts ch 11 v 26).

During Lent we consider what it might mean to follow Christ; to be companions on the road, helping each other, through the physical journey of life and the inner journey of faith.

Some choose to do this by venturing on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela (where reportedly James, one of the sons of Zebedee, is buried).

As you'll read elsewhere, this Lent we're looking at the journey of faith by following the story of Tom whose son Daniel dies in a storm while walking the Camino to Santiago. Tom sets out to walk the Camino himself, carrying Daniel's ashes, to fulfil his son's goal but becomes aware of his own need of healing and restoration.

He also discovers he cannot make the journey alone and meets 3 companions, each with their own burdens.

Together they reach their goal and "characters not knowingly on a journey to find God are found by God" (Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury).

May that be so for us.

In this time of conversation and discussion about 'what is to be done' may we make our prayer that of St Columba:

*Be a bright flame before me, O God
a guiding star above me.*

*Be a smooth path below me,
a kindly shepherd behind me
today, tonight, and for ever.*

Alone with none but you, my God

I journey on my way;

what need I fear when you are near,

O Lord of night and day?

More secure am I within your hand

than if a multitude did round me stand. Amen.

Grace and Peace

Every Blessing

Melanie

OUR REGULAR EVENTS

Monday

Bible Study 2pm ; Contact Joy Joy Tel 820394 or
Rosemary Lester Tel 795084

Tuesday

Coffee Shop - Hall 10am to 12am
Monthly Ladies Circle 2pm ; Contact Lily Amery Tel
790838

Wednesday (2nd and 4th of the month)

Fellowship Group -7.30pm - Contact Lesley Shapcott
Tel 790644

Blokes Who Sing 7.30pm - Contact Keith Laflin Tel
790277

Blokes at the Bar 8.30pm (last Thursday in Month)
Contact Andrew Shapcott 790644

Saturday

Coffee Morning and Prayer in the Chapel - 10.00am
to 12pm

Sunday

Sunday Club 10.30am - Contact Joan Bennett

Branston Methodist Fellowship Group -

Fortnightly meetings in Branston at All Saints
Parish Church Hall.

The 60 member Group meets for fellowship and
social activities.

Contact Glenys Creasey. 01522 791399.

OUR PREACHERS FOR THE MONTH

All Services 10.30am

Services for MARCH all commence at 10.30am

Sun 3rd : Rev Melanie Greenall Holy
Communion

Mar 10 Lesley Shapcott All Age Worship

March 17th Rev Sandy Osgerby & Mr R
Osgerby - Chapel Anniversary

Mar 24th Our own Worship Team

Mar 31st Rev Melanie Greenall

GENERAL CHURCH ENQUIRIES

Please contact **LESLEY SHAPCOTT** Senior
Steward

01522 790644 OR

Lesley.shapcott@hotmail.co.uk

Tuesday Coffee shop

The Coffee Shop welcomes each and every
one of you to pay a visit and enjoy a warm
welcome and friendship.

Perhaps you might like to help out on
occasions!!

*The best mathematical equation I
have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4
given.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

WITNESS: GRAHAM R PECK

gpeck65@gmail.com

Or

Tel : 792170

Deadline is normally last Wednesday before Sunday of publication

SHEEPWASH TIMES : GRAHAM R PECK

(before 5th of the month)

LADIES CIRCLE

Meet on 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Wesley Room at 2pm

NEXT Meeting

19th MARCH

NEWARK ARCHEOLOGY

“DIGGING UP HISTORY”

On the 3rd THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH a group will meet to pray for our own church's needs and for all those who meet here.

from 10.15-11.30

All welcome at 23 Scholars Way Fen Road Heishington LN4 1SY

Tel: 790845 if you need more info.

Gift Aid

This allows the church to claim approximately 20% more than your gift, from the government.

Please make sure you are signed up for gift aid if you are a tax payer.

Please see Carolyn for more

Music practice for our musicians :
Thurs 7th Feb 10.30am

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

It would be appreciated if any notices for Sunday mornings could be given to the stewards beforehand - either by phone,email

PASTORAL NEWS

Howard Smedley is coming to talk to us regarding the Pastoral Link system we hope to implement following the discussion at the Church council meeting, he will also discuss pastoral issues in general.

This will be held on Tuesday 9th April in the chapel commencing 10 30am.

Howard has a busy schedule and we are extremely fortunate he can fit us in.

This is an important meeting which will have implications regarding the future of pastoral care within our Church and it is open to anyone who is interested not just the existing pastoral team.

Please do your best to support us.

Harold

ANY OLD RAGS???

As several of you know I volunteer at the Lincolnshire Wolds Railway, a small heritage railway staffed entirely by volunteers. One of the things you need when working in the sheds, on the track or on the footplate is plenty of rags....

And we have very few. So my request is next time you have a clear out and you are about to throw away any old sheets, towels etc. (not woolly things and curtains as these cause problems), anything you would think of using as rag, we can use, just pass them onto me.

Ralph Osgerby

Lent Reflections : Starting on Wed 13th of March and continuing on Wed evenings throughout Lent until and including Wed 10th April there will be a series of Lent Reflections in the chapel at 7.30pm. All are invited to attend.

We continue to welcome various classes from Washingborough Academy on visits, and in March we have visits on March 6th, 13th and 20th

ADVANCE NOTICE

From January to March 2019 Rev. Melanie will be leading us through the I AM sayings of Jesus at our Monday afternoon Bible Study. We are looking forward to this and would like to invite anyone who is interested to come along. It's an opportunity to ask questions, find out what other people think, to share or just to listen. Sometimes our discussions are lively, sometimes more reflective. They are never boring! Do come, we'd love to see you. Rosemary

YES!!! ITS NOW BEEN AND GONE!!

WMC's annual Nosh and Knowledge took place in the Community Centre on Friday 1 February. There was a superb turnout once again from the village and the surrounding areas; almost 160 people (19 tables of 8) competed, each vying to be crowned WMC Quiz Champions 2019. With the hall full, the atmosphere was fantastic. Team 3 soon pulled away from the pack and never looked back – they scored a very impressive 101 points which beat the second place team by quite a margin. Many congratulations! Proceeds from ticket sales, drinks and the raffle came to almost £1,500, so another great effort. This year we decided to split this 3 ways – between Betel UK (a charity helping the homeless and addicted), the Alzheimer's society (in memory of our dear friend Hazel) and the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. According to feedback received, it was again a really enjoyable night and many are looking forward to next year – when we will once again be hosting the quiz, this time on **FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020**. Please keep this date free, and if you plan that far ahead please let us know now if you'd like a table reserving. Many thanks to all those who supported us in any way – the teams of course, everyone who donated raffle prizes, plus all the volunteers who set up the community centre, helped with food preparation and served at the bar (and of course tidied up at the end!). Phil, Lesley Rachel, Andrew

PRAYER TREE

Please use our Prayer Tree for your requests. Each month they will be taken to our monthly Prayers for WMC and, if appropriate, read out at that time. They will then be shredded. Please remember, too, that specific requests can be given to Rosemary for her Prayer Letter.

**Chapel Anniversary weekend -
Sat 16th March/Sunday 17th
March - more details to follow i**

The Community of St Francis,
'San Damiano', Metheringham

Invites you to a

Quiet Day for Lent

Francis and Julian of Norwich:

kindred spirits



Thursday, 14 March 2019

Led by Sr Maureen CSF

The quiet day will start with coffee at 10am
and end at 4pm

Hot drinks will be provided.

Please bring a packed lunch.

A suggested contribution of £15 per person
for the day is requested.

**It is essential to book a place
if you would like to come:**

Tel: 01526 321 115

The Long Road to Heaven

Come on the adventure of a lifetime at Washingborough Methodist Chapel

Wednesday evenings @ 7:30pm

March 13th, 20th, 27th

April 3rd, 10th

This Lent join us as we reflect on the journey of faith by watching clips from the acclaimed film *The Way* starring Martin Sheen as Tom, a man who walks the Camino to Santiago de Compostela with 3 companions. Laugh, cry and learn with them what it means to be found by God. If you've never seen the film before there will opportunity to see it during the Tuesday Coffee shop on March 5th and again during morning coffee on Saturday March 9th

A second summit between President Trump and North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un, in Vietnam came to an abrupt halt on Thursday 28 February. Many things remain uncertain - but, like last time, North Korea's horrendous human rights abuses seem to have been left off the agenda.

Last year's summit between Kim Jong-un and President Trump in Singapore did little to raise the atrocious human rights abuses of North Korea. Though President Trump declared that he raised it in private, the treatment of North Korea's 25 million citizens was left out of the official talks. It is possible that President Trump will again raise human rights in private to please evangelical voters in the USA. But whether this is an earnest discussion or a passing remark will likely never be known.

If Christians are discovered, they are deported to labour camps as political criminals or killed on the spot; their families share their fate. With an estimated 50,000 - 70,000 Christians held in prison camps simply because of their Christians faith, Open Doors' CEO, Henrietta Blyth, has called for a discussion into the human rights record of North Korea at the summit in Vietnam: "The conditions in which Christians in North Korea are forced to live are appalling and inexcusable. Human rights abuses must be raised and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upheld.

Here are some of the future dates for your diary: More information to be made available when determined

World Day of Prayer Service hosted by WMC – 2.00pm Friday 1st March

Lent sessions – Wednesdays 13th March – 10th April inclusive 7.00pm?

Chapel Anniversary – 16th & 17th March

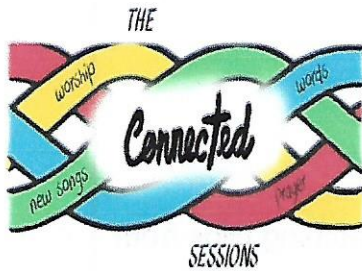
Blokes Who Sing Concert for Christian Aid – at the coffee morning Sat.13th April

Good Friday reflections 6pm Apr 19th

Easter Sunday April 21st : 8.30 HC; 10:30am AAW

Easter Offering service May 19th at St Giles

Church Family Meeting June 2nd 2019 after the morning service



Finding the unforced rhythms of Grace
NI 11.20.30 UNSP

EVERY THURSDAY

Doors open 7pm, session starts 7.30pm

A relaxed, informal and welcoming place to Connect with God and each other.

A different strand each week, intertwined into monthly themes:

- 1st Thurs = **Worship** live music, talk, prayer & response
- 2nd Thurs = **Words** dig deeper: conversation, bible passages & shared stories
- 3rd Thurs = **New Songs** fresh music for worship
- 4th Thurs = **Prayer** space to reflect, listen and meditate in creative ways

(Any 5th Thursday will add a distinctly unique twist to the pattern!)

Connect coffee bar open throughout, serving fairly traded tea, fresh coffee, soft drinks, teacakes, sweet treats and healthy snacks. We operate on an 'honesty box' pricing policy – pay what you think is a fair price, or give what you can.

connect at Moorland Park Methodist Church Skellingthorpe Rd, LN6 7RB

TUESDAY 5TH MARCH - 'WHAT IS TO BE DONE'

MEETING: The follow up meeting to all the discussions held in the Churches will be held at St Giles Methodist Church at 7.30pm. This meeting is open to everyone from across the Circuit. Please make sure it is advertised in your Church.

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH - ASH WEDNESDAY

SERVICE: This year the Circuit Ash Wednesday service will be held at Welton and Dunholme Methodist Church. At the moment this is just a date to put in your diary, there will be more details closer to the time.

Action for Children Fundraiser



Soup, Sandwich

+ Stalls

Varied menu of homemade snacks

Welton Methodist Chapel

Thursday March 14th

12.00 – 2.00pm

Washingborough Methodist Church

Chapel Anniversary

Saturday 16th March

4.30 for 5.00pm

Please join us for

A Cornish Tea



This will include Cornish Pasties and Cornish Cream teas!

There is no charge but entry is by ticket only due to numbers.

RSVP ESSENTIAL (by 8th March)

Donations appreciated.

Gluten free options, produced in a safe environment, will be available.

This will be followed by Rev. Sandy & Ralph Osgerby sharing their time on

"Living in Cornwall"



Sandy & Ralph will also be leading worship at 10.30

SUNDAY 17th MARCH

**Abridged Statement of the safety elements present
within the building at Washingborough Methodist Church,**

Fire:-

The building is protected by a fire/smoke alarm system. Instructions for 'what to do in the event of a fire' are posted in each room in the building, indicating routes out of the building, safety protocol and the safest route from that room to the fire assembly point in the car park.

Fire alarm points:-

If you discover a fire and the fire alarm is not sounding, there are three alarm points where you can sound the alarm to alert others as you leave the building. One alarm by each of the fire exits. *(The main exit onto the street, the emergency exit behind the blue curtains in the chapel and the rear exit to the car park – please familiarise yourself.)*

Fire Extinguishers

There are two fire extinguishers in the passage to the right of the entrance to the chapel (one is specifically for electrical fires), there is a further extinguisher to the left of the blue curtains (emergency exit) in the chapel, an extinguisher by the rear door to the carpark and one in the kitchen. There is also a fire blanket in the kitchen.

Emergency Lighting

Emergency lighting switches on automatically in the event of a power outage.

Wheelchair/ Disabled Access

The main doors facing onto the road are suitable for wheelchair and disabled access, as are the emergency exit doors behind the blue curtains in the chapel. (for emergency exit only). The rear door from the car park is not suitable for wheelchair access.

Movement of Furniture within the building

Trolleys are available to move tables and chairs around the building. The trolleys, together with any spare tables, are kept in the store room behind the double grey doors in the hall area. *Please make use of the trolleys.*

Accessing high shelving, notice boards etc.

Two sets of sturdy steps are available for accessing higher areas. These are also available from the store room. *Please use the steps.*

Safety of Electrical Equipment

Information on using the electrical kitchen equipment is clearly posted in the kitchen area. All plug sockets throughout the building are fitted with safety caps when not in use for electrical equipment. *(Please ensure that these safety caps are put back over the plug holes when they are no longer in use.)*

First Aid Equipment

A first aid box is available from the kitchen. There is also a book for recording any accidents within the building which require any treatment. Both the first aid box and the book are on a shelf on the left as you enter the kitchen.

Gas Cut off valves, water stop cocks & circuit breakers.

There is a diagram displayed on the notice board adjacent to the rear entrance indicating the position of these items.

(Please make yourself aware of the position of these items by studying the diagram on the notice board.)