

Regular Activities

Sunday	Morning Worship	<i>10:30am</i>
Monday	Craft Club (alternate weeks, see diary for dates)	<i>2pm to 4pm</i>
Wednesday	Community Coffee Shop	<i>9am to 5pm</i>
Thursday	Thursday Group (1st Thursday in month)	<i>2:45pm to 4pm</i>
Saturday	Community Coffee Shop	<i>10:30am to 11:30am</i>

Minister's Message

At the start of the summer, we had a really interesting conversation as part of a Sunday morning worship service. As we look forwards towards the building development, it was good to take some time to pause, pray and discuss what we think is the essence of our church life. The hope is that our building – including new logos and signs – and all that we do as a church will express something of that essence.

We don't have space for them all, but people's answers to the three questions asked were so interesting and encouraging that I thought that some of them were worth including here:

What words would you use to express what we know of God in Jesus Christ:

Love; Faithfulness; Protection; Saviour; Healing; Unity; Relationship; Power; Strength; Welcome; Inspiration; Friend; Amongst us; Servant; Care; All-inclusive; Non-discriminatory; Goodness; Embracing all; Peaceful; Guide; Support; Vision; Forgiving; God's desire to be reconciled with humanity and creation; Always with us; Hope; Gracious; Merciful; Transformation; Creativity;

Compassionate; Joy; Constancy; Love, love, love; And love!

What words, places, landmarks or ideas express what Histon & Impington is?

The pond; the green; the ducks! The windmill. The metal sculptures. Chivers. The churches. The memorial. The community coffee shop. Jam! Harvest! Quintessentially English! Open doors. A caring, active, busy community of all ages, with great spirit and friendships

What words would you use to express what is essential to what we are about as Histon Methodist Church?

Faith and Service; Welcoming; open to all; inclusive; friendly; worship; trusting and open to God's guidance; spiritual exercise; discipleship; community; fellowship; open arms; warmth; sharing God's love; music.

There's a lot in there! So please do take a few minutes to really take it all in... These answers say a lot about our individual and collective understanding of who Jesus Christ has revealed God to be. And they say something about these wonderful villages in which we are called to worship and serve that God. And – whilst we of

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course still have a long way to go, and we don't always get it right! – the essence of Histon Methodist which we have described is something which I have certainly experienced during my first year here, and which I believe many others experience too. The challenge and our hope is that

the new building, our new logo (which these answers will help to shape), our new toddler lunch club and the many ongoing relationships and activities which we are involved in here will continue to express God's love to all in the weeks, months and years to come... *Simon*

Diary dates for September

Thu 1 Sep	Thursday Group: Ralph Carpenter on local history	2:45pm
Sun 4 Sep	Preacher: Miss Phyllis Salmon	10:30am
Sun 4 Sep	Circuit welcome service for new minister for Royston, Orwell and Foxton, Revd Charity Nzegwu, at Royston	5pm
Mon 5 Sep	Craft Group	2:00pm
Wed 7 Sep	Service at Bramley Court	2:45pm
Sun 11 Sep	Preacher: Rev'd Simon Oliver—Holy Communion	10:30am
Fri 16 Sep	Country Dance Evening	8:00-10:00pm
Sun 18 Sep	Preacher: Rev'd Jean Simmonds	10:30am
Wed 21 Sep	Service at Etheldred House	11:00am
Thu 22 Sep	First Friends Toddler Group 1st meeting (note date change)	12:30pm
Thu 22 Sep	Housegroup at 57 Lone Tree Ave	2:30pm
Sun 25 Sep	Harvest Festival led by Rev'd Simon Oliver	10:30am
Sun 25 Sep	Harvest Songs of Praise (with Impington) Tea and scones after the service	4:30pm
Mon 26 Sep	Sale of harvest produce	10:00am
Thu 29 Sep	Big Issues: Emmaus - The first 25 years	7:30pm
Fri 30 Sep	Afternoon Tea in support of Macmillan	2:00-4:00pm

Future dates for your diary

16 October	Church anniversary. Revd Steven Wild, immediate past president of the Methodist conference, will lead morning worship.
3 December	Christmas market

HMC Young-ish people's group

The 20 and 30-somethings of Histon Methodist have an informal gathering once a month, usually on a Tuesday night at The Red Lion (but sometimes in people's homes). It's a chance to get to know

one another, and explore issues of life and faith from a variety of perspectives. In September, we'll be meeting at 7:45pm on Tuesday 27th. Do chat with Simon or someone else before turning up (just in case plans have changed!)

What's going on in Cottenham?

For anyone who might be interested in getting involved with any of Simon's initiatives at Cottenham Community Centre, here is some of what's happening in September:

Sun Sep 11th: Community Cinema, 7 for 7:30pm, *Eddie The Eagle*. Tickets are available via www.facebook.com/CottenhamCommunityCinema from the Community Centre, or from Simon.

Sat Sep 10th: 10:30am, 'Dads Play': a chance for dads/male carers to hang out with their children, drink great coffee and eat bacon sandwiches!

Sun Sep 18th: 3-4:30pm, 'The Roost Pirate Special!': a great, fun, family event exploring life and faith with arts, craft, videos, music and more... plus the Sunday papers, cake and more great coffee at the Coffee Shop.

Sun Sep 25th: 7:30-9:30pm, Arts Night: a small group of musicians, singers, poets, photographers, artists and storytellers exploring life and faith through the arts...

If you want to know more about any of these things or fancy getting involved, please talk to Simon or get in touch via simon.oliver@cantab.net or www.revcoffee.net

Country Dancing

Jane and I look forward to seeing you at the next Country Dance evening on Friday, 16th September, in the Methodist Church Hall from 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. There will be live music and a guest caller. Partners are not necessary, but soft, flat shoes/trainers are the recommended footwear.

Kathryn

Big Issues

Big Issues begins its Autumn Series on Thursday, 29th September at 7.30 pm when we welcome a speaker to talk about 'Emmaus, the first 25 years'.

For some of us it is hard to believe the opening of the first community in the UK in Waterbeach was 25 years ago this year, and it will be very interesting to hear how that community has grown

and others have opened in many other regions, helping its Companions and us.

Details of the next evenings will be in the October Newsletter and flyers will be available to pass to friends and those interested to coming to Big Issues.

Big Issues will continue to begin with a talk, followed by desserts, then discussion with our speaker, and are free and open to every one. its wonderful to welcome so many to our evenings.

Macmillan Cancer Support

You may be aware that September 30th is the date designated for The World's Biggest Coffee Morning. Here at Histon Methodist Church we invite you to support Macmillan Nurses by joining us for Afternoon Tea on Friday September 30th Between 2pm and 4pm

Macmillan Nurses are trained to provide the best cancer care possible and our donation will help to make sure everyone gets the help they need. If you would like to make a cake for the afternoon tea please put your name on the list in the Hall.

First Friends Toddler Group

Further to the article in the August Newsletter, I am sorry to say that the start of the Toddler Group will have to be delayed until Thursday, 22nd September, owing to a prior booking of the Hall.

Thank you to those who have offered to help with the running of the Group, although I can always do with more!

I will be meeting with Alison Clarke on Thursday, 8th September, at about 12.30 p.m. to finalise details, but if you would like to join us, please do.

Thank you for your support.

Kathryn

Development Report

The Development Committee continues to meet regularly both on its own and with the architect in order to resolve queries and make decisions about various matters.

You will have noticed that, in the hall, there is a plan on the north wall showing the proposals, but there is also now a computer-produced picture on the south wall, showing what the finished project will look like from outside. If you would like further information at any time, please do ask one of the committee members (see below).

A regular report is made to the Church Council but we hope to be able to make fuller information more generally available soon.

You will also notice that the 'thermometer' level is creeping up and further grant requests are in the pipeline. We have enough to complete phases 1 and 2 of the scheme and we need to encourage each other and work, give and pray for the remainder, in order to complete phase 3.

The architect is currently preparing final plans and specifications in order to obtain tenders from at least three building firms and the Church Council will then be asked to decide which firm to instruct (based on advice from the architect). We are hopeful that work can commence this autumn, so watch this space.

Just a reminder that your committee is: Christine Pooley; Rosemary Watson; Judy and Ray Wynn; Robin McCombie; Michael Simmonds; Trisha Clarkson; and our minister, Rev. Simon Oliver, attends when other duties allow.

The architect is Angelica Biglietto of QMP, together with other specialists in the firm.

Michael

Thank

Prayer

O Love most powerful, strengthen us.

O Love most sweet, let us taste your goodness.

O Love most dear, let us live for you alone.

O Love most faithful, comfort and support us.

O Love most victorious, persevere with us to the end;

for your own name's sake.

Amen

Gertrude of Helfta (1256-1302)

Harvest Weekend (Sep 24th-26th)

Our church will enjoy being decorated in its present form for one last time, and as the Harvest Season fast approaches, and plans are made, we appeal to our fellow members to bring along fruit, vegetables etc. to help us to put on a really good display. Items for the display and Monday Harvest Market can be brought along by Friday 23rd, when decorating will take place.

The Church will be open to visitors on Saturday 24th to coincide with Saturday Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon. The Sunday Morning service of Harvest Celebration at 10.30am will be led by our own minister Revd Simon Oliver with an afternoon service of Harvest Songs of Praise which will take place at 4.30pm, when we will be joined by our friends from Impington Parish Church, followed by a Cream Tea in the schoolroom. Produce will be sold in aid of a Methodist charity at the Monday Market 26th September from 10am when coffee etc. will be available.

We invite you all to join us for this special celebratory seasonal weekend.

Judy Wynn

Please email any content for the next newsletter to
newsletter@histonmethodist.org
 or hand it to Chris Whitworth