

Regular Activities

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

Minister's Message

As a congregation, we at Histon Methodist were thrilled to celebrate our 120th anniversary in October. And we were privileged to be joined in our celebrations by the most recent president of the Methodist Conference Revd Steve Wild (and his frog puppet!) who led us in worship and thanksgiving for all the ways in which God has blessed us and the wider community over those years. He also challenged and encouraged us about our future hopes, plans and vision.

Steve said: "Let's make sure that the doors are wide open" - and that we are not saying to others "welcome to our church" - but rather "welcome to your church."

"Lets rip out the pews, lets make the changes, lets see a whole bunch of new people inside these walls that we'd never dream of seeing normally. Do you know what? God can do it!"

To let that happen, he suggested that we need to have received what he described as the "great grace of Christ", in order that we might be people who both know that grace ourselves and are prepared to share that it with others. And also that we might be grace-filled enough to be open to

others being and doing things differently to us and differently to how we might do things now.

Clearly this kind of grace is needed on large scale endeavours like our Development Scheme, but it is just as important in every aspect of our life as a community as we seek to live and work and minister alongside one another in many different ways.

And I would echo Steve's final sentiments myself:

"I'm thrilled to be with you, you've got a great future ahead. I pray that God will bless you as the future unfolds and use each one of you to share his great grace... "

Let us hope and pray that our grace-filled efforts today will be being celebrated in another 120 years time!

Simon

P.S. I would like to particularly thank all those who made last weekend such a great event; it was yet another example of the kind of hospitable, loving, joyful community that we are continuing to be and to become here at Histon Methodist.

Diary dates for November

Wed 2 Nov	Service at Bramley Court	2:45pm
Thu 3 Nov	First Friends Toddler Group	12:30-2:30pm
Thu 3 Nov	Thursday Group: <i>Celebrating Diwali</i> with Rakhee Parekh	2:45pm
Sun 6 Nov	Shoebox Sunday; Preacher: Miss Joyce Goodall	10:30am
Mon 7 Nov	Craft Group	2:00pm
Wed 9 Nov	Christmas Market planning meeting	2pm
Thu 10 Nov	First Friends Toddler Group	12:30-2:30pm
Thu 10 Nov	House Group	2:00pm
Thu 10 Nov	Big Issues: <i>Refugees, immigration and the EU—an overview of the legal context.</i> Janet Farrell and Bazem Inquai	7:30pm
Fri 11 Nov	Country Dance Club	8:00pm
Sun 13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday; Preacher: Rev'd Simon Oliver	10:30am
Wed 16 Nov	Service at Etheldred House	11:00am
Thu 17 Nov	First Friends Toddler Group	12:30-2:30pm
Sun 20 Nov	Preacher: Mr John Baker	10:30am
Mon 21 Nov	Craft Group	2:00pm
Thu 24 Nov	First Friends Toddler Group	12:30-2:30pm
Thu 24 Nov	House Group	2:30pm
Thu 24 Nov	Big Issues: <i>Radical carols—an exploration of songs surrounding the Biblical birth narratives.</i> Rev'd Nigel Uden	7:30pm
Sun 27 Nov	Advent Sunday: Preacher Rev'd Simon Oliver Holy Communion and the baptism of Ethan Bailey	10:30am
Sun 27 Nov	Deadline for December/January newsletter	
Tues 29 Nov	Young(ish) People's Group	7:45pm
Sat 3 Dec	Christmas Market	10am-2pm

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 November, we'll be meeting at 7:45pm on Tuesday 29th. Do chat with Simon or someone else before turning up (just in case plans have changed!)

Country Dance Club

Jane and I look forward to seeing you on Friday, 11th November, at 8.00 p.m. We hope to have live music provided by Heather, Mike and Alison, and our guest caller will be Bob. You do not need partners as we all dance with each other. Soft shoes or trainers are the recommended footwear. Do come and join us for a fun evening.

Kathryn

First Friends

We now have 10 toddlers on our 'books', but can always do with more. If you know of anyone aged 0-4 years, do please encourage them to be brought along on a Thursday from 12.30-2.30 p.m. Thanks.

Kathryn

Shoe Box Appeal

A reminder that if you would like to fill a shoe box for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Appeal, leaflets are available in the church and on the notice board in the hall. If you prefer to give a donation of money this can be handed to Judy Houghton or Rosemary Watson. Filled shoe boxes will be received during our morning service on November 6th.

Church Recipe Book

Our last church recipe book was produced in 2005 and as we have had quite a lot of new members within our church family since then, I think it maybe time to compile a new one. If you have a favourite recipe you would be willing to share to help raise money for our Development Fund please pass it on to me either by hand or email. It would be good to have a mixture of savoury and sweet, to include starters, salads, main meals, snacks, cakes and bakes etc. Quick and Easy and short cuts are also very popular, along with handy hints etc. Any other ideas and suggestions are welcome.

Rosemary

Big Issues

I had no part in the inception of Big Issues, but to me it is a time when we look at how our topics affect individuals, communities or our world. Tragically recently we have been reminded of the

talk Roger Abbott gave last February 'Since When Have Disasters Ever Been Natural?' when he looked at the situation for the people of Haiti.

Looking forward, on 10th November we welcome Janet Farrell and Bazen Inquai, lawyers specialising in immigration and human rights, who, I am sure, will enlighten us and help our understanding of one of the biggest and most tragic issues of today in their talk entitled 'Refugees, immigration and the EU – an overview of the legal context'.

We end our pre Christmas evenings on 24th November when, in words and music, Nigel Uden, minister of St Columba's URC Church in Downing Street, will lead us in an exploration of songs surrounding the biblical birth narratives, 'Radical Carols'.

All are welcome to come to any Big Issues evening, they begin at 7.30.

Helen Allen

Retiring collections

There will be retiring collections this month for the British Legion poppy appeal on 6th and 13th November and for the Angel Tree project (buying presents for prisoners children) on 20th November.

Come as you are

Cambridge Methodist Circuit will be hosting a simple interactive course exploring some basics of the Christian faith. It will be led in an open and exploratory way, allowing people to start from where they are. It would also be suitable preparation for those thinking about confirmation.

The initial meetings will take place on Tuesday evenings in November at 7:30pm in the Upper Room at Castle Street Methodist Church, and will last about 1½ hrs. There will be an introductory meeting on November 1st, and sessions on the 15th, 22nd and 29th. Further sessions will be planned after a break for Advent and Christmas.

Led by Revd Barbara Garwood, Revd Alison Walker and Deacon Ian Murray. To sign up or find out more, contact Ian on 07709 909054 or email deacon.cmc@gmail.com

Harvest Festival

The church was beautifully decorated by our dedicated band of flower arrangers and helpers and was open to view on the Saturday morning during coffee.

This year there were two services on the Sunday and both were well supported. Our minister led the morning service, linking the food of harvest with the spiritual food that the Bible provides.

Songs of praise in the afternoon was led by Judy and Christine and based round some psalms. It was supported by visitors from several other churches. This was followed by tea and scones. A collection of £167.53 was given to All We Can, the Methodist relief and development charity.

The harvest produce was sold during a coffee morning on the Monday and an additional £169 was sent to All We Can.

Many thanks to all who helped make the weekend a memorable occasion.

Church Anniversary

We had a lovely day with Rev'd Steve Wild for our 120th Church Anniversary. Steve led the morning service with encouraging stories and pictures from the Cornwall district where he is chairman. He brought along his famous frog puppets and had everyone roaring with laughter at their antics, whilst using them to tell the simple message that 'God loves and accepts us all just as we are'

His powerful sermon showed new insights into God's love from an unusual bible reading. The singing was amazing with wonderful rousing

hymns, excellently accompanied by Matthew on the organ and Naomi on her cornet, one just felt like saying "Wow how great" after each hymn!

The service was followed by an excellent church lunch for 55 people, which raised £245 for our development Fund

We thank everyone who helped to make this another memorable day.

Development report

There has been some progress since last month's report but it is still slow. We need to make some small amendments to the plans via SCDC, but we can go out to tender while this is happening.

In the church, near the vestry, there are samples of various items and a colour scheme as suggested by our architect, which the Development Committee is currently considering. Whilst the majority of chairs in our newly refurbished church will need to be lightweight and stackable, we fully appreciate there are some people with special needs re seating, and we will provide alternatives to accommodate them. Please speak to a member of the Development Committee if you have any questions.

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, draw our hearts to yours with a love that is irresistible, unite our hearts to yours with a love that is inseparable, and bind our hearts to yours with a love that is immeasurable, now and for ever.

Amen

Miles Coverdale (1488-1568)



Christmas Market

*'Past 10 o'clock on a cold and frosty morning
Past 10 o'clock welcome people all'
Our fair is to open
Come in and see us,
Cakes puddings and pickle
All will your fancy tickle!
Crafts, soap and toffee,
Treasures, tea and coffee-
A warm welcome is sure,
With a seasonal treat in store.*

Our annual Christmas Market will take place on Saturday December 3rd from 10am to 2pm – put this date in your diaries – the usual enticing stalls await, plus delicious coffee, cakes and lunches.

Please note, a planning meeting for stallholders and helpers will take place on Wednesday 9th November at 2pm.

Cambridge Cruse Bereavement Care

Autumn Fayre

AT THE METHODIST CHURCH – ELY

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 10AM TO 3.30PM

STALLS & REFRESHMENTS

To include – optional extra

FLOWER DEMONSTRATION AT 11am- 12.30pm

Tickets £3 at door

Afternoon tea for the Community

Coffee Shop Team

As we prepare to transition from Wendy's leadership into a new era for the Coffee Shop, Simon would like to invite the current team to his home on Thursday 17th November, 2-3:30pm for tea and cakes. The primary reason is for Simon and the Church Stewards to thank you all for your hard work, dedication and passion over many months and years. I would also be really keen to hear what your thoughts are on the future of this fantastic project and how we might continue its work as we move forwards together... if you are part of the team and would like to come along please let Simon or Wendy know by Sunday 13th November so we know how much tea to brew and cake to bake!

Simon



The next newsletter will be a combined December/January edition.

Please email items to newsletter@histonmethodist.org

or hand it to Chris Whitworth