



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 4:30pm
Thursday	Thursday Group (1st Thursday in month)	2:45pm to 4pm
Saturday	Community Coffee Shop	10:30am to 11:30am

Minister's Message

The Roost is an event I lead at the Cottenham Community Centre Coffee Shop on the third Sunday of every month, usually from 3-4:30pm. It is a mixture of arts, crafts, games, music, videos, poetry, and more, plus coffee, cake and conversation about life and faith.

During our January session, for example, we considered the melancholy or depression that people often feel during the darker, colder winter months. We listened to some of the saddest songs of all time, read and wrote poetry, looked at some Psalms of Lament, and created crafts to remind us that we are offered shelter beneath God's wings. We also made and camped in an enormous Den which represented the refuge that can be found in family and community at their best, and that God also offers to all who seek it.

We don't have formal prayers, hymns or a sermon, but people are given the chance to reflect on the themes of the day and respond as they see fit. There can be anywhere between 30 and 130 of us: a vibrant mix of Christians, agnostics and atheists, children and adults who understand that there aren't any easy answers to life's big questions but that, together, we might

figure things out a little, develop community and maybe even glimpse God along the way!

Anyone who wants to make the epic journey up the B1049 to the edge of the fens on a Sunday afternoon is of course very welcome to join us—the next session is February 18th.

But more than that I want us to continue pondering how we might explore some slightly different ways of worshipping here at Histon Methodist. I'm not suggesting we attempt to replicate The Roost, nor that we discard hymns or sermons. But it might be that from time to time we can experiment with something like 'Café Worship' which offers a more informal take on a traditional service. As well as offering fresh perspectives for regulars, this style of worship can offer church newcomers a more relaxed way to begin to explore faith as part of our community.

We dabbled with this during Advent when we incorporated coffee and conversation about faith into the end of one of our services. People seemed to respond positively to this, and some really interesting conversations were had.

There's a small group of us who would like to move forwards with planning and praying about

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Diary dates for February

Thu 1 Feb	Thursday Group: <i>This is special to me because...</i>	2:45pm
Sun 4 Feb	Preacher: Prof Judith Lieu	10:30am
Tue 6 Feb	Church Council	7:45pm
Wed 7 Feb	Service at Bramley Court	2:30pm
Sun 11 Feb	Preacher: Revd Simon Oliver (Holy Communion)	10:30am
Mon 12 Feb	Craft Group	2pm
Wed 14 Feb	Ash Wednesday Service led by Rev'd Simon Oliver	11am
Sun 18 Feb	Preacher: Revd Jean Simmonds (1st in Lent)	10:30am
Wed 21 Feb	Service at Etheldred House	11am
Web 21 Feb	Pastoral Committee meeting	2pm
Thu 22 Feb	House Group	2:30pm
Fri 23 Feb	Country dancing	8pm
Sun 25 Feb	Preacher: Rev'd Simon Oliver (followed by church family meal in Oakington; see notice)	10:30am
Mon 26 Feb	Craft Group	2pm

Future dates for your diary

Fri 2 Mar Women's World Day of Prayer

Sat 7 Apr Indoor Yard Sale (see notice)

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this over the coming months, so please do talk to me if that's something you would like to be a part of, or have any creative ideas about how we might develop our worship here at Histon.

Simon

Indoor Yard Sale

With limited outside space at present, we are planning an 'Indoor Yard Sale' to be held on Saturday 7th April, to run alongside our normal Coffee Shop. Please remember this when sorting out your cupboards and find you have things in good saleable condition you no longer need! We will need plenty of help to make this a success—if

you are willing to be involved please speak to one of the stewards.

Cottenham Community Cinema

On Sunday February 4th at 2pm, we will be showing either Despicable Me 3 or Captain Underpants—tickets £2.

Later on the same day, at 7 for 7:30pm, Notes On Blindness—tickets £4.

Includes bar, introductory talk and the opportunity to stay on for a conversation about the film, life and faith at the end.

See Simon, or visit www.revcoffee.net for more information.

Limited Edition Histon and Impington Mugs

Sales went well before Christmas for our special edition Bone China mugs depicting two scenes of our villages, and appreciative comments have been received. We still have some available so please pass the word round and remember they make an ideal gift for any occasion when you are stuck for ideas.

If you would like to buy one (or two!) please enquire at our community coffee shop Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Rosemary

Report from the development committee

We very much hope that by the time you read this we shall be about to worship in the church again; we are planning on the first service being on 28 January.

There are still some things to be done in the church; we don't have any doors from porch to church yet, and outside doors will also be changed later, but it is now a warm and welcoming space again.

Thank you for your patience this past year.

The foundations for phase 2 are progressing well and the old hall porch has been demolished. While phase 2 continues the only access to all the building is through the church and the emergency escape route is out the fire doors in the hall, through the gap in the railings and through the solicitors car park.

Various fund-raising ideas are in the pipeline. A spring sale (in the hall) is fixed for Saturday 7th April (see notice). Also, Simon is hoping to do a sponsored run in the spring.

As always we welcome any and all ideas and offers for organising fundraising events: large or small, every little helps.

Ash Wednesday Service

For anyone who is interested and available, we will be having a short Ash Wednesday service at

11am on Wednesday 14th February—it should be a peaceful and reflective way to begin Lent.

Simon

Histon, Impington and Girton Community Car Scheme

We are trying to recruit more volunteer drivers for this worthwhile community scheme. Potential drivers would need to have a full, clean driving license, and a CBS check—we can give details and help with this process.

Drivers do not have to commit to a specific time or day that they would be available to drive as we allocate drivers to clients each week depending on the availability of all the drivers and requests that we have received. The scheme covers Histon, Impington and Girton.

For more information, please contact 07982 108927

Lesley Kelly

Winter Church Family Meal

A Church Family meal-out has been organised for Sunday February 25th 2018 for 12.30pm

To be held at the restaurant at Oakington Garden Centre, at a cost of £15 per person, to include a main course, a dessert and tea/coffee.

A menu will be posted and if you are interested please let **Judy Wynn** have your name and choices.

Sermon Recordings

Apologies that these have not been available over the New Year period—once we are back in the main Church building, we should be able to start recording again, and will be producing CDs and making the sermons available on the church website as usual.

And don't forget—we still have an archive of CDs and downloads on the church website, where you can listen to and download sermons dating back many years.

Visit: <http://histonmethodist.org>

Chris

Worth thinking about...?

Beside my bed I keep a Methodist membership card. It is the last one I had, for the year 2013/14 but its challenge is ongoing. It reminds me that as a member of the Methodist Church I am called to:

- **worship** with the local church, including regular sharing in Holy Communion, and through personal prayer
- **learning and caring**, through Bible study and meeting for fellowship, so that I may grow in faith and support others in their discipleship
- **service**, by being a good neighbour in the community, challenging injustice and using my resources to support the Church in its mission in the world
- **evangelism**, through working out my faith in daily life and sharing Christ with others.

I'm sure none of us gets it right all the time: we all have weak points but this emphasises that we need to work together because the calling is to every member. As our building is renewed, let us pray that we, as the people of God in this place, may also be renewed for His glory.

Michael

Tuesday Group

We are continuing our informal bi-weekly Tuesday evening meetups in the new year—dates and venues to be confirmed, but we're aiming to alternate between the Red Lion and someone's house. Please speak to Simon for further details.

Sunday Club

Sunday club, creche and other children's activities will continue to be available each week during the service—please speak to Naomi or Simon for further details.

Prayer

Grant, O God, that we may be united to you and to our neighbour with an undivided love, serve you and your children with an undivided heart, and reverence you and your creation with an undivided will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

John Scotus Erirena (c. 819-877)



Please email items for the March 2018 newsletter to
newsletter@histonmethodist.org
or hand them to Chris Whitworth by 24th February