

Histon Methodist Church Newsletter

Sunday 25th October 2020

Services that we can all take part in:-

8.00am Sunday service on Radio

Cambridgeshire.

8.10am Sunday worship on Radio 4

BBC1 Songs of Praise. (check TV guide for times)

This week we pray for Rosemary and Mary and all in their pastoral groups.

We were delighted to welcome Hilary and Leo Cheng to lead our 124th Church Anniversary Service on 18th October. They were both particularly interested in seeing the fruits of our development project. It was on a Church Weekend in 2008, when Hilary was our minister, that seeds were sown for refurbishing our premises, as several members were chatting on the usual walk along the cliffs from Overstrand to Cromer.

Hilary gave us a very encouraging sermon, being aware of the ups and downs we encountered along the way, many of which she shared with us. She reminded us of God's promise to Jacob 'I am with you, and will watch over you, wherever you go' Genesis 28 v 15. She then continued saying 'I want to say to you today, that God has been with you through all the ups and downs of the last few years. He has guided you and helped you, heard your prayers and answered them. If he has done that so far, then he isn't about to abandon you.

Leo took part in the prayers, gave a fiery illustration which I am sure you will all hear about if you didn't witness it, and an update of Mercy Ships.

To quote Hilary again she says "One day, this church will be a thriving part of the village once more. When we lived here, the other clergy used to envy our position at the centre of the village, the heart of the community. God has been faithful to you. He wants you to trust Him for all that lies ahead. We've learnt so much from the past, the most important is that God stayed with us and continues to be with us now.

So go forward in faith, little flock, and know that God is leading you onward, as his

faithful people. As the words of the hymn say, **Past put behind us, for the future take us'**

Rosemary Watson

Our next service will be on Sunday 1st November at 10.30am.

If you wish to attend this service please contact Julia by 29th October or webmaster@histonmethodist.org

Sunday services on zoom

We are invited to join the service from Castle Street Methodist church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/month, at 10:45am. And thanks to a kind CSt volunteer (Kirk) we should also have a live zoom of the Histon service on the 3rd Sunday/month, at 10.30am.

Please let us know if you would like the link.

Angel Tree Project

We have supported the Angel Tree Project for a number of years, which enables prisoners to give Christmas presents to their children, and is organised by the Prison Fellowship. Currently volunteers are not allowed to visit the prisons which will put a lot of pressure on the Chaplains. We have been asked by our local organisers, Ray and Wendy Collett, to pray that a way forward can be found to enable this project to go ahead this year.

Christmas Market

Sadly due to current restrictions it is not practical to hold our Christmas Market this year. This is usually one of our main fundraising efforts. Some members have been busy making things they would normally sell at our market, so we are considering having a 'Virtual Christmas Market'.

Items offered could be listed in our newsletter, stating the price, offered on a first come first served basis, by contacting the person supplying them, then delivery or collection could be arranged.

Handicrafts, cakes, preserves, etc., all ideas very welcome. If you would like to help by supplying something please let me know.

Rosemary Watson

The following article has been sent in by Margaret Brierley. Thank you Margaret, we hope you had a wonderful birthday celebration.

Wednesday Zoom Coffee Shop

Do they still finish dances and parties with the last waltz? Later in the war the following song was popular for that very special dance:

*I'll see you again
Whenever Spring breaks through
again.
Time may lie heavy between but what
has been
Is past forgetting.
Still sweet memories
Through all the years will come to me.
Though the times may go awry
In my heart will ever lie
Just the echo of a sigh
Goodbye.*

*It seems to hold all the aching nostalgia,
all the "might have beens" of wartime
meetings and perhaps we get a little of
that feeling now in November when the
poppies bloom in British streets.*

The latest Church Council meeting took place on the 22nd October via zoom. A proposed budget will be presented which is predicting a shortfall for this year, but hopefully by next spring we will be able to start fund-raising and income-generating activities. We are fortunate that some groups run by Histon and Imprington friends are now using church premises, which will help a little bit with our income. A report of the meeting will be included in the next edition.

Food Bank

The Cottenham Food Bank was most grateful for the contributions they received from our Harvest Festival. Derek has kindly agreed to take any future donations to them, so we will start collecting them again. We realise it will take a while to fill our basket because of limited activities at church at the moment, but it will be available for your donations. We have been advised they are particularly short of washing up liquid, washing liquid, toilet rolls, soap, toothpaste, tissues, shampoo etc.

Join the coffee shop each Wednesday at 10.30am. Let us know on webmaster@histonmethodist.org

*This week's saying:
Life is too important to be taken seriously.*

If anyone else would like to write or send in an article for a future issue please let me know.

John (on behalf of the stewards).