

**Histon  
Methodist  
Church**

Histon Methodist Church  
High Street  
Histon  
Cambridge  
CB24 9JD

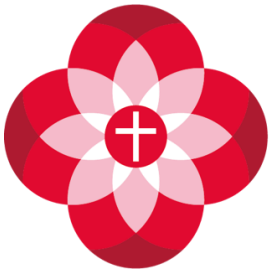
## Histon Methodist Newsletter

April 2021

This is the longest time I have ever spent without participating in Holy Communion since the day I held my hands up at the communion rail. The minister gave me the bread, but the local preacher stuck with tradition and I didn't receive the wine! I'm glad that today we encourage children and parents to make the decision together, just as we encourage everyone to draw close to God in the intimacy of Holy Communion.

Not that long after that, I spent a gap year in France. The local Catholic parish priest was (understandably!) not keen on the presence of a Protestant mission team attending Mass. Well, we attended but could not participate. I found that restriction very difficult, as I really wanted to feel part of a church community as well as the mission team. The priest's decision to withhold Holy Communion meant I felt isolated during a challenging year.

The rules were clear though- if you're not Catholic, then you cannot participate. What about if the rules are not so clear and you don't know if you will be allowed to participate? We say our churches are open and welcoming, but so much is unwritten and unsaid. For a time I was one of just a few white people in a black majority church, and I was welcomed – but is the reverse always true? I've been one of a few straight people at parties, and I was welcomed – but could it be that being a gay member of our churches feels like being a barely tolerated guest at a party, and not a welcome part of all that happens? I'm sure at Histon when we say everyone is welcome, we mean it and make every effort for that to feel true as well.



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Easter Day we will be holding a service of Holy Communion – following the now normal limited numbers, social distancing and other rules and hoping that the infection rates continue to decrease. I know that not everyone will feel ready to return to church yet and not everyone will feel comfortable with sharing in Holy Communion yet. That's ok and if you choose not to participate, I know that doesn't mean that you do not want to be part of the community nor draw close to God. In these next few months, we have to move at the speed at which we feel comfortable and allow each other time and space to do likewise. When we do finally all meet together for worship, there will be a place for everyone at God's table.

Alison.

### Easter Trail Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

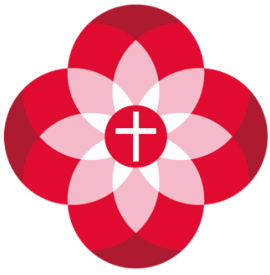
This event to be organised by Churches Together in our two villages and is entitled

'In Search of Easter'.

Each family taking part will be given a map and invited to follow a trail, in any order, around the 5 churches, where a part of the story will be represented and a clue given, leading to a final video and a Goody Bag.

Register for the event on Eventbrite via the link below. Contact Tim [tim@standrewshiston.org](mailto:tim@standrewshiston.org) for more details

[eventbrite.co.uk/e/easter-adventure-trail-tickets-145557477333](https://eventbrite.co.uk/e/easter-adventure-trail-tickets-145557477333)



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### Easter Day Communion Service

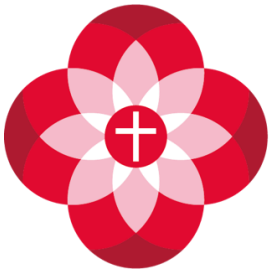
We will be holding a communion service for the first time for a year so it will be a bit different to what we normally have. We will still need to wear masks and be socially distanced as before with restricted numbers attending the service so please book your place by phoning Judy Wynn by 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The service will start at 11.00am, but please do not come before 10.45am. When you arrive at the car park you will be given a flower and asked to add it to the cross which will be outside in front of the small meeting room and then go into the building through the foyer, after the service you will exit the church via the front doors.

12.15pm until 1.00pm we are inviting the younger families of the church to come along to add their flowers to the cross. Finally 2.00 pm till 4.00pm we are advertising that any members of the public can come along and add flowers to the cross.

### 18<sup>th</sup> April Service at Church 10.45 am

Please book your seat by phoning John by the 15<sup>th</sup> April.



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### Easter services on Zoom

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** 6:30pm Love Feast Service on Zoom with Revds Charity Nzegwu and Alison Walker.

**GOOD FRIDAY** 10am "Ecce homo" ("Behold the man" John 19:5) Reflective service on Zoom with Revd Alison Walker, using images from the Methodist Modern Art Collection.

**EASTER SUNDAY ALL-AGE SERVICE** 10am on **ZOOM** all are welcome

**FOR FAMILIES**—please contact Rev Alison Walker for zoom details

**Maundy Thursday** 12:15pm online activities and Bible story

**Good Friday** Histon Easter Trail 10–12:30pm (see above) around the Histon churches **AND** 3pm online activities and Bible story

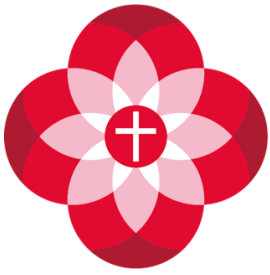
**Easter Sunday**—see All-Age service above

[contact@histonmethodist.org](mailto:contact@histonmethodist.org) for Zoom Details

### Wednesday Zoom Coffee Shop

Join the coffee shop each Wednesday at 10.30am. Contact us if you would like the link.

Don't forget you can join by phone if you don't have access to the internet. We are a small group of people who have a chat for an hour or so.



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### Prayers

*This month we pray for Mary and Pam and all in their pastoral groups.*

Gracious God,

We praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus.

We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection

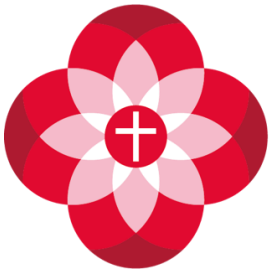
We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy, will live in us each day and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others.

Amen.

### Welsh Cakes for Water Aid

Many thanks to everyone who supported Water Aid this year by buying Welsh Cakes. I will have made about 300 altogether and am delighted to have raised £132 to date. I will now aim to finish taking orders by March 27<sup>th</sup> and will then send the



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money explaining that it was a Lent project from Histon Methodist Church. It has been a pleasure to get on the bike and deliver them, giving me the opportunity to have some socially distanced doorstep chats!

Judy Houghton

Well done Judy to raise such a magnificent amount, much more than we usually get in the donation jar at Coffee Shop!

### Collecting for Food Banks during Lent

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the Food Bank during Lent. You will have made a huge difference to many needy families.

**Contributions for the May Newsletter would be appreciated.**

**Please send them in by April 25<sup>th</sup> to John Wyborn.**