

METHODIST CHURCH MUSEUM STREET

*A town centre Christian church committed to enriching individual
lives and the wellbeing of community*



Prayer for our Church

We give you thanks, O God, for this Church to which we belong, the faith to which we bear witness and the fellowship that we offer. As we face the changes the future demands of us, may your Spirit challenge us to enlarge our vision of your Kingdom, binding us together as we step forward in faith in the service of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

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FROM THE MANSE

The other night Richard and I were watching the Great American Railroad Journeys with Michael Portillo. On this one particular episode he was passing through a particularly challenging neighbourhood. It was an area where it had been notorious for gun crime and the man who was showing him around had been brought up in that area and himself had been involved in dealing drugs. Yet this man had completely turned his life around. He was now a professor and works with other people from the community to help in educating some of the young people. He said that he also has someone else who is trained in fitness and has the young people running. All of these things offer hope to these young people.

As I watched this I was reminded of the Easter story. Moving from the tragedy and the seemingly hopelessness of the cross to the hope of the resurrection accounts. So how do we fulfil our calling to be ambassadors of Christ, to share and show the resurrection hope and God's living grace. Perhaps God can use us so that people can see the risen Jesus in the ordinary and the everyday.

Love and prayers

Georgina<><

CHURCH DIARY

Sunday 3 rd	10.45am 6.30 pm	Grahame Lindsay Trinity - Circuit Service Commissioning of Elizabeth Storey Presentation of Local Preachers' Certificates
Wednesday 6 th	10.00am 12.30pm	Come and join us for coffee and a chat Hot Potato Lunch and Talk
Saturday 9 th	10.00am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat

Sunday 10 th	10.45am	Martin Ellis
Tuesday 12 th	7.30pm	Get Together
Wednesday 13 th	10.00am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat
Thursday 14 th	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert " East Anglian Traditional Music " by Katie & John Howson
Saturday 16 th	10.00am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat

Sunday 17 th	10.45am	Ray Sawyer
Tuesday 19 th	2.30pm	Tea and Talk
Wednesday 20 th	10.00am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat
Saturday 23 rd	10.00am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat

Sunday 25 th	10.45am	Harry Chicken
Tuesday 26 th	12.30pm	Community Lunch
Wednesday 27 th	10.30am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat
Saturday 30 th	10.30am	Come and join us for coffee and a chat

TOWN CHURCHES SERVICES

It has been agreed that the Town Churches Service will finish after that scheduled for 3rd July. With the proposed changes in staffing from September the programme will need to be looked at again.

The services on 1st May, at Bramford Road, and 5th July, at Alan Road, will now start at 6.30 pm and be a "normal" evening service.

Local Preachers' Sunday April 3rd

You will see from the notices on the above date that five of our local preachers will be conducting services in the Lowestoft and East Suffolk Circuit. Raymond Wilson will be joining us.

Harry Chicken is at Lieston

Martin Ellis is at Peasenhall

Chris Finbow is at Wenhaston

Ray and Diana Sawyer are at Halesworth

Colin Westren is at Kelsale

Raymond Wilson is at Knodishall

Grahame Lindsay will be conducting worship in our own church

There was a time when all the pulpits in circuits were occupied by local preachers on that day and the minister was freed from all appointments. Though this is no longer the case we still remember the work of local preachers on this date and the immense contribution they make to the Methodist Church.

Local preachers in this circuit have established a tradition of offering our services to neighbouring circuits on this date because they have an acute shortage of preachers. Those circuits who can respond by sending some of their preachers to us.

On April 3rd there will be a retiring collection which will be sent to the Leaders and Worship and Preachers Trust. This together with contributions from other sources, provides much needed support to preachers through resources, training and grants for those wishing to advance their knowledge

Ipswich Rotary Club Sponsored Orwell Cycle 2016

Grandad and I are not intending to participate in the Suffolk Historic Churches Bike ride this year. However Dad and I will be hoping to complete the Rotary Club Bike Ride along the River Orwell on the 26th June 2016. As most of you know, Mum works for the Stroke Association and a proportion of the sponsorship money will go to this deserving charity. If you feel able to sponsor me, I will have my sponsor form with me when I am at church. In my absence, Grandad will be on hand with the form to accept any donations.

Thank you for your continued support as I participate in these cycle rides.

Ella Macartney

Church Cleaning

We are having 2 cleaning afternoons between 2 – 4pm on the days stated below to help keep the property looking tidy for all those who use the Church premises.

Friday 8th April & Friday 20th May.

There will be opportunities to clean inside and outside the Church and refreshments will be provided.

As ever, anyone who can spare some time to help will be most welcome and we look forward to seeing you. Please put a note in your diaries.

Church Property Committee

Getogether – Tuesday 8 March

At our March Getogether 32 folk sat at 7 tables for our Quiz Night, organised by Kath & Richard Calvesbert. There were 8 rounds of questions and 2 picture rounds giving a possible maximum score, including playing the joker, of 132 points. One team, inappropriately named “In 2nd. Place” romped home with a magnificent score of 91 points and were worthy winners of the Easter Eggs. An excellent evening was had by all and everyone enjoyed the delightful refreshments – our thanks to Kath & Richard.

MAH

Anniversary Gift Day

I’m pleased to report that our Anniversary Gift day has to date raised £1895. On behalf of the Church may I express, as always, our thanks for your generous support.

Mike Howell – Church Treasurer

Disposal of Books

Thank you for reviewing the surplus books and to everyone who found something to their liking and made a donation to church funds. A total £41 was raised. The remaining books have now been distributed to the following charities: Cancer Relief, St. Elizabeth Hospice, Age Concern and Sense. Some of the Christian books were taken at the recent Local Preachers’ Meeting and the remainder are going, via Raymond Wilson, to a Christian charity.

MAH

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2016

This year the service was prepared by the women of Cuba. The central churches of Ipswich provided 4 different venues and 3 different times on 4th March for services. The celebrations started as the sun rose over Samoa and the last service was held as the sun set over American Samoa. Representatives from Roman Catholic, Anglican, URC, and Methodist were taking part at 11a.m. at Christchurch, Tacket Street. What started as separate days of prayer organised by individual denominations in America in the mid 1800s has become a truly international and ecumenical world day of prayer. Prepared by a different country each year this year's title was RECEIVE CHILDREN, RECEIVE ME.

7 ladies processed to the front, accompanied by Cuban music, carrying symbols of Cuban life: a bible being the word of God, a bowl of provisions being the fruits of the earth, a phone representing the commercial and professional contributions to society, a lighted candle to represent the hope of the next generation to bring a better future to their country, maracas from a youngster who regularly attends church and tells her mother about it, but her father (a doctor) has to work in Venezuela and she misses him, and finally a piece of sugar cane to represent the sweetness of love. We were invited to greet our neighbours in the Cuban way Buenos Dias and a hug. The service continued with hymns and prayers and readings finishing as always with The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended, with the forth verse being
The sun, that bids us rest, is waking
Our friends beneath the western sky
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

It is a moving experience to attend these services and though there were about 50 in the congregation there were only 3 from Museum Street. Next year St Mary Le Tower are hosting the central service on the first Friday in March, the women of the Phillipines are preparing the service which is themed 'Am I Being Unfair to You'. All are welcome!

CMW

The Life of the Church

Sunday Services

10.45 am Morning Service (creche available)

Holy Communion usually on the first Sunday Morning of each month and on the third Wednesday of each month at 10.00am
Baptisms and weddings by arrangement with the Minister

Weekly Events

Wednesday 10.00-11.30 am Come and join us for coffee and a chat
Saturday 10.00-11.30 am Come and join us for coffee and a chat

Other Meetings

Hot Potato Lunch and

Talk	First Wednesday of each month at 12.30pm
Get Together	Monthly Second Tuesday October to April at 7.30pm
Tea and Talk	Third Tuesday of the month 2.00pm except August
Youth activities	Please contact Chris and Maggie Finbow (680306)
Community Lunch	Fourth Tuesday of the month 12.30-1.30 pm except August
House Group	Monthly. Please contact Colin Westren (743724)

Items for the next Newsletter should be with Barbara Wearne by

Wednesday 13th April 2016

Email - msmcnewsletter@live.co.uk/barbwearne@hotmail.com

