

WARWICK METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER—APRIL 2021

Dear Friends

It has now sadly been just over 12 months since many of us were last together at Church. During this time we have kept in touch with weekly minister's letters, coffee/chats via zoom, phone calls, messages via the web/emails, what's app, and Facebook .

Also we now have Broadband in Church - Wow, we are getting trendy!

It must now be about 15 years since the website was set up, after a Church review, and at that time it was decided this would be in the name of Warwick Methodist Church, mainly to make it easier for people outside the area to look up and find the Church. We are also registered with the Charity Commission as Warwick Methodist Church trading as Northgate Methodist Church and there have been many discussions over the years, are we "Warwick or Northgate"?

Therefore, the recent Church Council agreed to formalise the change of name to avoid further confusion to **Warwick Methodist Church**.

While the Church has remained closed for much of the last year, messages of hope and love have been made very much alive by the marvellous window displays created by Julie Barr. Many thanks must go to Julie and all of you who have contributed photos, drawings, cards, readings and we now even have a resident poet, Hank Redway. *(Have you worked out who it is?!)*

The next display will be about "**NEW BEGINNINGS—THINGS THAT BRING HOPE & JOY**" and Julie really needs your help with this. If you any photos which can represent new beginnings (in nature, new home, new hobby, new interest) or show things that give you hope and joy please could you email them to Julie at: northgatemethodists@gmail.com or put them through the church letterbox.

If you are able to write poetry or paint or be creative in any other way these would also be very gratefully received.

Church without Walls — Bringing the Church alive to those who are passing.

During these lockdown periods we have moved from a small stewards meeting to an enlarged Leadership Team, which has been formally agreed by the Church Council, to give a wider range of skills and views necessary to meet the challenges posed by impact of Covid and to prepare for the reopening plus development of the Church, in more "normal times." At present no one quite knows what this means, but we all probably accept that changes are inevitable.

Jesus didn't say "I am finished".
He said "It is finished".
He was just getting started.



We are please to advise that the Church will reopen for live services, subject to Government restrictions in being at the time, on May 2nd, 16th and 30th.

All being well the Church will then be opened weekly from the beginning of June, for Sunday morning worship.

Services will continue to be streamed live, via zoom, for those who are unable to attend Church.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PREACHER</u>
11 th April	No Service
18 th April	NYNC at 3pm – Mr Peter Selby ZOOM
25 th April	No Service
2nd May	Rev Iain Ballard – Communion LIVE & ZOOM
9 th May	No Service
16th May	NYNC at 3pm – Gail Bullivant LIVE & ZOOM
23 rd May	Outside Circuit Service Pentecost – details to come
30th May	Rev Mark Rowland LIVE & ZOOM

An Appeal for your help

We urgently need at least 2 members to come forward to be Church stewards from May to assist stewards, Anne Oliver, Christine Fell and Julie Barr and to join the leadership team

The main duties revolve around Sunday worship, making contact with the designated preacher, ensuring readers are available, passing information to those on sound, opening and preparing the Church for worship. Participating in leadership team meetings.

If there are 5 stewards it would mean that each steward would normally only be on duty once a month. In normal time all stewards will need time away for holidays and family commitments, but the more stewards available the more the work is shared.

It could also be treated as a job share, someone may not be available in the summer months, while others prefer not to venture out in the winter.

It would be very unfair just to rely on 3 stewards.

For more information please do contact Rev Barbara Greenwood or one of the stewards.

With more services, meetings and chats taking place via **Zoom**, we now need more people to act as **“Hosts”**. Training can be given.

The leadership team have now started to consider the possibility of holding a **Summer Holiday Club**, again subject to any Government restrictions in being at that time. In trying to put a plan together it would be good to know, **who would be available to help in any way.**

Lastly, once we are back to ‘normal’ and events are being held where food is required to be prepared in the kitchen, **we need members and friends to help who have the necessary Hygiene Certificate.**

Courses for this certificate are available on line and finance may be available to cover the costs

If you can help with any of the above or want more details, please contact Trevor Blades, 01789841722

Thank you and Blessings from the Church Leadership Team