



# Northgate News

**MAY 2019**  
edition no 487



*See inside for all news, events and services*



Be Joyful

Be Prayerful

Be Thankful

**Warwick Methodist Church**  
**Rev Barbara Greenwood**

**Telephone 01926 740846**

**Please take note that the next edition of Northgate News will be for JUNE AND JULY 2019**



Deadline date for your news and events will be  
**WEDNESDAY, 22ND MAY**



Contact Noelle  
by email: [noelle\\_trevor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:noelle_trevor@hotmail.co.uk)  
or tel. 01789 841722. Or a written note (!)

**For the month of August, Change of personnel!!!  
Sue Dawson will be editing the newsletter.**  
Any articles and news for August please give to Sue.  
Or email her:- [smgooch@gmail.com](mailto:smgooch@gmail.com)

Please keep your news and articles coming!



### **COFFEE MORNINGS EVERY SATURDAY**

**10:00am TILL 12 NOON - In the Church Hall**

Come along and take a break and enjoy fellowship  
with tea, coffee and hot chocolate - with biscuits!

**Don't forget - 1st Saturday Monthly!!**

**CAKE STALL**

**Make and bake - come and buy!**



### **Time for a Smile!**

A teenager, who had just received her learner driver's certificate offered to drive her parents to church. After a hair-raising ride, they finally reached their destination. The mother got out of the car and said, "Thank you!" The daughter replied, "Any time". As the woman slammed the car door shut she said, "I wasn't talking to you, I was talking to God."





## Summer Holiday Club 2019!!



The Holiday Club, which is a combination of Messy Church and Bread Church has been a great success over the last two years.

Last year we had on average 50 guests of all ages and 20 helpers each week, with excellent feedback from all who attended.

The Church Council have indicated that they would like another holiday club to take place this year during the school holidays on Tuesdays from **23<sup>rd</sup> July till 27<sup>th</sup> August**. **To do this we need your help please.**

Help will be required on reception/welcome, crafts, parents/toddlers, bread making and lunches.

**On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 12noon in the community centre there will be a light lunch and discussion on the planning and format of this year's holiday club.**

If you can help or would like to know more details then please do come and join us for lunch.

However if you can't make lunch but can help, please let myself or Rev Barbara know.

**Holiday club was a success over the last 2 years,  
due to your help,  
support and prayers, Thank you**

Let's do it again!

Trevor Blades



***Did you know you can receive the newsletter and the notices, by Email?  
Contact Trevor Blades for more details - 01789 841722***



***Check out the website  
[www.warwickmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.warwickmethodistchurch.org.uk)***



***Twitter@WkMethodists***

## Minister's Letter – from me to you



*Friends,*

On 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019, a gunman attacked two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand during Friday prayers, killing 50 people and injuring 50 others. On Easter Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> April, suicide bombers attacked several churches in Sri Lanka during Easter services, and also several tourist hotels. Around 250 people were killed and 500 injured. On 27<sup>th</sup> April, a gunman entered a synagogue in Poway, California, killing one and injuring three others.

Before the service at Northgate this morning, I stood chatting to two church members about these horrific events. None of us can understand what is in someone's heart or mind which enables them to attack unarmed civilians in this way – especially when they are at prayer. Then I went into the vestry and found a letter addressed to the church lying on the desk, so I opened it.

It contained a letter from the women's association of the Ahmadiyyah mosque in Leamington. It was addressed to 'My Dear Christian Brothers and Sisters' and it went on to express solidarity with us over our pain in the wake of the Easter attacks in Sri Lanka. I was very moved by this gesture – and perhaps all the more so because it made no mention of the earlier mosque attacks.

The attacks on the mosques and synagogue were carried out by white and nominally Christian people – but they do not speak for or represent me in their hatred of those who are different. The attacks on the churches and hotels were carried out by Islamists, but I am sure that the Leamington Muslims would say they do not speak for them.

It does not matter who is attacked, or who does the attacking. It is abhorrent to do these things, whether you share the faith of the victims, the attacker, or neither. Such actions are simply wrong, and I would suggest that gestures of friendship, compassion and solidarity are to be welcomed and applauded, wherever they originate. I actually feel somewhat ashamed that, despite it having crossed my mind on occasion to make a move of friendship or support towards a local mosque or synagogue in the wake of an islamophobic or anti-Semitic attack, I have never actually done so. Perhaps these Muslim women have set an example for us to follow.

The service was followed by our General Church Meeting, and we agreed that we will write back, thanking them for the letter and offering them our friendship in return. But is there more that we can, or should do?

In the wake of attacks by Islamist groups, there is sometimes an undercurrent in the media which looks to Muslim leaders in this country to condemn the attacks – which they generally do. But why should there be any more expectation on them to do that, than there is on you or me to condemn the attacks on mosque or synagogue? Hate is hate, and love is love, wherever they are found. We believe that God is on the side of love.



When you meet hate, respond to it with love. This is what Jesus said in Luke 6:26-27. And surely it goes without saying that if someone offers you friendship, you should respond to it in like manner.

Of course it is not just religious differences which can be used as a pretext for violence, as the recent murder of Lyra McKee in Londonderry demonstrates. What is it we want in our community – is it love, or is it hate? Is it compassion, or is it callous indifference? Is it peace, or is it conflict?

If you want love, then show love, to everyone. It is as simple, and as difficult, as that.

*Barbara*

### **It could be either or!**

*We carry it around in our handbag or pocket.*

*We flip through it several times a day.*

*We turn back to get it if we forget to take it with us.*

*We use it to receive messages from a text.*

*We treat it like we couldn't live without it.*

*We give it to our children as a gift.*

*We use it when we travel and visit places.*

*We use it in cases of emergency.*

You don't have to be very bright to realise it's probably referring to the mobile phone. But read the statements again and think about the difference it would make to each of us, and probably to those we meet, if we happened to be referring to the Bible!

## **Please pray for .....**

Our housebound friends,  
for those who are bereaved, for those in poor health,  
anticipating or recovering from surgery,  
sick, troubled in spirit,  
moving house  
and making life changing decisions.

Our thoughts and prayers go to them and their families -  
may they know Christ's peace and love in their lives.

**Amen**

***We remember in our prayers :-***

*Jonathan Timmins - our thoughts and prayers on the  
death of his mother*

*Ken Nortey - our thoughts and prayers on the death of his youngest brother*

*Roy Joyner - recovering after a hip operation*

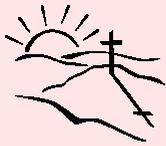
*Ron and Dorothy Brisby*



## **Don't go empty handed!**

Flower arrangements for sick and housebound friends are  
left on the windowsill in the foyer each Sunday.  
Please feel free to take one to someone you know, who may  
be housebound, unwell, or just appreciative of your visit.

**No need to ask!**



## Into the Light House-group

The group meets for fellowship, bible study and discussion on the first and third Monday of each month, 7.45 for 8pm start.

*Do you want to come along? New members will always find a warm welcome; ask one of the stewards to introduce you to one of us for more information.*



Anne Oliver

## STRETCH AND PRAY

### at Northgate Methodist Church

With the Rev Jemima Strain  
Tuesdays 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Christian Meditation, Rest, Healing,  
Increased flexibility, Wholeness,  
Reduced soreness, Decreased risk of injury,  
Improved posture

**£3 per session**  
**12 week Course**

**April 30th -**  
**July 16th**

All are welcome - for more information  
contact Jemima - telephone 07969345389  
[jemima.strain@methodist.org.uk](mailto:jemima.strain@methodist.org.uk)



METHODIST CHURCH MID WARWICKSHIRE CIRCUIT

## COMMUNITY TUESDAYS - ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

### NORTHGATE FRIENDSHIP CLUB First Tuesday Monthly

From 1:30pm till 3:45pm - at Northgate  
An afternoon of Fellowship and Fun  
with a variety of activities, including table games  
and refreshments -

Just drop in for tea & chat -  
Contact Denise - 01926 496336



### BREAD CHURCH

Bread Church is every 2nd and 4th Tuesday.

Next Bread Church - 14th May

Changing the way you think about your daily bread  
At Bread Church we include time for:

- ◇ All the elements of making bread
- ◇ Conversation and refreshments
- ◇ Shared reflection and prayers, and
- ◇ A simple meal together, prepared by volunteers and those who come to make bread.



**ALL are invited. From 10:30am, followed by lunch at 12:15pm**  
**Why not bring a friend?**

**If you cannot come in the morning why not just come for lunch?**

**A warm welcome to everyone.**

**"LETS CREATE"**  
**3rd Tuesday each month - 2pm till 3:45pm**



**Come for a**



Knit and natter, sew, make a handmade greeting card,  
fellowship and chat,  
or just for a cuppa and company

**Everyone Welcome**



For more details contact **Linda Mitchell**



**EXTEND - MOVEMENT TO MUSIC CLASSES  
FOR ALL**

**Exercise for older adults and people with disabilities**  
Led by **Susanne Soal**

At Northgate - Reduced class fee of £2!

**EXTEND next meets Tuesday 14th May - 1:45pm- 2:45pm**

Susanne will teach exercises that are great for you,  
looking to improve your mobility, strength, flexibility and endurance.  
Join in with as much or as little as you like  
Play good music to help enjoy the exercises  
Help you make friends and have fun



**The class will be for an hour with:**  
A gentle warm - up  
A short low impact aerobic section  
Muscle & endurance exercise  
Flexible stretches



**For more details contact *Susanne Soal* or *Trevor Blades***

## LENT REFLECTIONS AND LUNCHES



Many thanks to everyone who helped and supported the Lent Lunches which raised a total of £280 in donations for the local Foodbanks.



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12th - 18th May

This year the Christian Aid week publicity is concentrating on the provision of medical supplies, concentrating on Central Africa and in particular Sierra Leone where children are dying for lack of medical supplies.

This is of course only one of the many long term projects being carried out in over 40 countries often in conjunction with local organisations.

Can you give a little time to join the small band of house to house collectors, maybe just a little of your street, please contact me if you can, as there are many streets which we are unable to visit, due to falling volunteers.

For those unable to collect please give generously and if you do not get a "home visit" there will be envelopes in the foyer for your gifts, either put it in the plate or give it to a steward or myself.



Trevor Wills

## JAZZ CONCERT in aid of CHRISTIAN AID

New Orleans Jazz  
By "Tierra Buena"  
In St George's Church, Offchurch  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm

Tickets £7.50 including  
wine & refreshments





## Plant Sale Saturday 25th May 10:00am to 12 noon



The Northgate Plant Sale has always depended heavily on the support of the gardeners of Northgate to supply and to buy from the Plant Sale. This year, more than ever I will be directing operations from a distance and relying on the support of Susan Dodds, who has overwintered the stock from last year.

The hall will be open on Friday evening 24th May, as is customary, from 7.30, to receive early donations and help in the arrangement of the sale. You can also bring plants to sell from 9:00am on the morning of the sale

**Volunteers to help as a sales person on the day, will be very welcome. No special knowledge is required, just a willingness to join in the fun!**

May the weather be with us!

Margaret Moore



## Time for a Smile

A young American tourist went on a guided tour of a creepy old castle. At the end of the tour, the guide, beautifully dressed in a long white gown, asks her how she enjoyed it. She admitted to being a bit worried about seeing a ghost in some of the dark, cob-web filled rooms and passages. "Don't worry," says the guide. "I've never seen a ghost all the time I've been here."

"How long is that?" asks the girl.

"About three hundred years."

The scream could be heard throughout the castle.



# Dates for your Diary!

## **Homewood Garden Party! Saturday 29th June**

at Homewood, 40 Kenilworth Road Leamington Spa



Refreshments, various stalls.

All welcome

Look out for further details in the next issue  
and/or the fortnightly notices

*'Homewood', is a Methodist Residential Care Home  
in Leamington Spa, and is funded through charitable support.*

**Saturday 13th July 2019 at Northgate Methodist Church**

## **MUSIC FOR EVERYONE A Concert by**

### **The Newport (Shropshire) & District Male Voice Choir** *including items by our own Northgate Choir*

The Newport Choir come highly recommended by former member  
David Shaw.

Whilst continuing in the best traditions of Male Voice Choir singing, they  
perform a wide repertoire of classics, folk, songs from the shows and pop.

Tickets, priced at only £8, will be available in June  
from Brenda Armstrong and David Shaw



*Money raised will be for Homewood and Church Funds*



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WARWICK Prayer Breakfasts

Are open to all and take place on the first Saturday of each month for 30 minutes of reflection and prayer, followed by a simple breakfast. They are led and hosted by each church in turn making them different each month.

**All start at 7:30am**

4th May at All Saints  
Saturday 1st June at St Nicholas

**Anyone wishing to attend will find a warm welcome!**

The prayers are led by the different churches so the style and content varies, and the breakfast after the prayers is provided by the host church, offering a chance to get to know folks from the other Warwick Churches.

If anyone wants to know more  
please speak to Liz Reid, Cynthia or Denise.

## Warwick District Foodbank



The foodbank is an outreach and relief project run by 15 of the Churches across Warwick, Kenilworth and Leamington. Our Church is an enthusiastic member of the group of 15 churches



**Want to know what items are needed?**  
***Please see the notice on the notice-board which lists all that is urgently required by Foodbank.***

Your generosity is much appreciated - thank you.  
For further details please see  
Christine Fell or David Witham



## Forthcoming Sunday Services at Northgate

All services begin at **10:30am** unless otherwise stated

There is an activity table in the Church,  
and Junior Church for our young people.  
Lots to do to keep them busy!



May 5th Mr Paul Tennyson

May 12th Ms Betty Blower

May 19th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

10:30am Rev Kenneth Howcroft

4:30pm Songs of Praise led by Rev Barbara Greenwood &  
Immanuels Ground Quire. - *See opposite page*

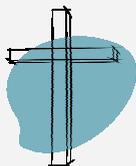
May 26th Rev Rachel Hextall Communion

*All are very welcome - please make yourself known to us*



*Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in the Hall after our  
Sunday Services*

## Pray without Ceasing



There is a quiet corner by the 'Prayer Net', where  
there is a box for confidential requests for prayer.  
Or you can contact the prayer circle through  
Sheila 491516 or Norma 493630

**'Survivors from the West Gallery'**  
A service of Christian worship  
in the style of  
**'Songs of Praise'**

Sunday 19th May 2019  
4:30 p.m.

Northgate Methodist Church,  
Barrack Street, Warwick. CV34 4TH

Join in singing some of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century hymn tunes that have survived into modern hymn books and listen to lesser known anthems and psalm tunes of the same period from British and American sources with:

Immanuel's Ground West Gallery Quire  
&  
Rev Barbara Greenwood

Collection for  
Warwick District Foodbank

Registered Charity No. 1160705



## Warwick Methodist Church

Monday 13th May - 5pm -7pm

# Space to Remember

## Someone You've Lost



You are invited to come along and  
Light a candle, write in our book  
A prayer, a poem, a memory



Rest awhile, talk to someone  
Refreshments available

**Drop in for as long as you like**

*Organised by Churches Together in Warwick*



### Let us pray,

Lord, help us to treat your world with kindness  
and with love,  
just like you treat us.  
Help us to remember your love and to show it  
to your world  
and to everyone around us. Amen

*Alice, pupil, St Andrew's CE Methodist Aided Primary School, Dronfield.*

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