



Northgate News



News and events
Warwick Methodist Church, Northgate
and
Whitnash Methodist Church

AUTUMN EDITION



***Our Sunday services are at
10:30am***

***Coffee, tea are served
after the service***

ALL are welcome



***Be Joyful,
Be Prayerful,
Be
Thankful***

***Check out the website for
latest news and
information
[www.warwickmethodist
church.org.uk](http://www.warwickmethodistchurch.org.uk)***

Rev Sally Jones
**Minister of the Warwick,
Wellesbourne and Whitnash
Methodist Churches**
01926 740846

The next edition of Northgate News will be for :-
NOVEMBER, DECEMBER AND NEW YEAR



Don't forget you can advertise and share
your news for
dates and months **beyond** those in this newsletter -



Please send any articles/contributions by the

Deadline date of **Sunday 25TH OCTOBER**

To: noelle_trevor@hotmail.co.uk
Have a chat to me at Church,
or contact me on 07962232158



Do you want latest news and information?
*please check out the website, it is updated
every Friday*

www.warwickmethodistchurch.org.uk

Flower Ministry



Would you like to contribute to the beautiful
fresh flower decorations that grace our sanctuary
each week?

You may like to donate towards the cost, perhaps for a special date in your
calendar, help arrange the flowers,
or even do your own arrangement one week !

Did you know there is a calendar of dates on the Church Noticeboard
in the foyer for any special date particular to you.?

See Sylvia for more details

PRE LOVED SHOP
In the Church Community Centre



First Saturday each month 10:00 - 1pm
Ladies, men's and children's clothes
Household items, Toys, puzzles, books and plenty more.....

***Why don't you come along and enjoy the refreshments
of tea, coffee and hot chocolate***

and take a welcome break from your shopping

*Offers of help during the morning would be very welcome,
please see Dave Mann*



**On Sunday 13th September, after the service, Gael Conway will be selling
greeting cards.**

All profits will be for the Kunkujang Nursery School in the Gambia.

*John and Christine Billingham write - "We are fundraising for this school, where we laid
the first block in 1995. After the talk we gave a few weeks ago, a number of people at
church kindly donated for which we thank them.*

*Some of that money has already gone to buy teaching materials for the start of the
September term."*

Thank You

Community Tuesdays



Bread Church



After our summer break, Bread Church
restarts on
Tuesday, 8th September

Meeting every 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Come along to enjoy fellowship and friendship

We start baking bread from 10:30am until 11am

At 12 noon, after a short reflection and prayer -
a lunch of soup and scones are served, all freshly made!!!

Lunch and Fellowship are free ,
donations welcome - but optional

Please do come, why not invite a friend?

Do join us, to bake bread (10:30-11am),
or just for lunch,

or drop in anytime for a coffee and chat.

The choice is yours.

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME



TLC - Tuesday, Laughter and Chat
Every Tuesday



from 10.30am - 12:00 noon

*Come along and enjoy refreshments ,
fellowship and chat!*

All are very welcome.



PILATES

Come to a Pilates Class on Wednesday mornings
10:00am - 11am in the
Community Centre,



*A class for all **ALL** ages and ability,
All are welcome.*

Why don't you try it, you won't regret it!

*Pilates improves and helps to retain our mobility and balance,
(use it or lose it), in a fun and relaxed environment.*

For further information please contact Elaine.



Looking for Hand made cards for all occasions?

Jane Phillipson makes cards for Birthdays,
thank you cards, blank for your own messages,

You will find Jane at
Bread Church and TLC on Tuesdays.

Our Ministers Letter



*Dear friends,
My warmest greetings to you all.*

As I write, we have recently had some much-needed RAIN after many, many weeks of dry weather. And wow, didn't it rain! The sky went very dark, and there was lots and lots of lightning. It was fairly monsoon-like! We were shopping at the time and ended up putting some very soggy groceries in the back of the car!

When it rains like that I always remember a brilliant choir I once saw at a music festival. Their commitment to what they were singing was second-to-none. They sang 'Didn't it rain' and I did wonder if the front row of the audience received a little shower during the performance, such was the choir's amazing emphasis on the final 't' sound in 'Didn't it... Didn't it... O Lord, didn't it rain'!

Then that took me onto YouTube to see if I could find a recording of that particular choral arrangement. I couldn't, but I did find the most tremendous black-and-white video of Sister Rosetta Tharpe singing it in a train station! Well worth a watch.

Rain... we often grumble about it, but the last couple of months have reminded us (again) how vital it is. To see those parched lawns, parks and verges, and observe the trees dropping their leaves so early, has been a very obvious reminder that our climate is changing – indeed, it has changed. The long, hot summer of 1976 is remembered by many as a sort of interesting one-off, but we have had several similar summers now. Sobering images of wildfires up and down the country remind us that action is needed now – but global solutions seem far away at present. We continue to pray for wisdom for our world leaders and climate scientists.

The rain that has fallen was desperately needed for all sorts of reasons. I wonder if any words of scripture, or any worship songs that we sing, resonated more strongly for you in the time of heat and drought this summer? Psalm 42 reads ¹ 'As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.' These words seemed to have far more meaning for me this year than any other.

Water is one of the most powerful and frequently-used images in the Bible. In Bible times, finding water was a matter of life and death. Since the lands of the Bible were often dry and desert-like, people understood exactly how precious water was. This reality gives water its deeply symbolic meaning throughout Scripture.



Finding water was a daily struggle. People could not just turn on the tap - they relied on rain, wells, springs, and rivers to survive. Without rain, crops failed, animals died, and communities starved. In short, water enabled survival. Because water was scarce, wells were places where travellers met, agreements were made, and families gathered. A well represented life and the wellbeing of the community. In a dusty world, water was essential for physical cleanliness. Feet would quickly become grimy, so the image of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples is one that would have stayed long in the memory of both those who saw him do this and the people who heard of it later. Just as water cleanses the physical body, the Bible uses it to symbolize the cleansing of the soul. King David prayed in Psalm 51, "Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow." The place of water in Baptism is hugely significant, the dipping into water representing dying to the old, sinful life and rising into new life with God. The prophets often used the water to describe spiritual revival. Isaiah wrote about a time when God would pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground... 'I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring.' (Isaiah 44). Probably the most famous example of Jesus talking about water is found in John Chapter 4. Jesus is travelling through Samaria and stops at Jacob's well. He is tired and thirsty. A Samaritan woman comes to draw water, and Jesus asks her for a drink. This surprises her because Jews and Samaritans did not usually speak to each other. Jesus uses this ordinary moment to teach her a profound spiritual truth, telling her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' Water may satisfy thirst for a few hours, but you must keep coming back to the well. Jesus is offering a different kind of water – his Holy Spirit, his grace, and eternal life. This spiritual water satisfies the deepest hunger and thirst of the human heart. In the very last chapter of the Bible, Revelation 22, John describes a vision of the New Jerusalem. He sees 'the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.' It's an extraordinary image, that speaks of cleansing and joy and release. And it is free, a love-offering from our Holy God to us: 'Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift'. Jesus invites everyone who is spiritually dry, tired, and searching to come to him. He promises that anyone who drinks from him will find life, joy, and peace that will never run dry.

Cont'd over page

Perhaps you know someone who is going through a spiritually dry time at the moment. Take time to pray for them now. Then take some time to pray for yourself. This beautiful prayer is from the new Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2026/2027, and it is written by Caroline Stead, who is the Vice-President of Conference this year.



The theme of the Handbook this year is Sorrow~Joy, and you will see how she has used the initial letters of those words at the beginning of each line to form an acrostic prayer:

A Prayer for the Tired and Overwhelmed

Saviour, Lord, Jesus, most Gracious God
Oh help! My life is so full of things that I need to do and cope with.
Remind me that I am not on my own in all this.
Refocus my mind to recognise your presence in all things.
Open my heart to receive again the peace and love that you offer.
Water, with your Spirit, the dry areas of my life.
Just let me be still, held in your loving arms.
Open my life to the joy of knowing your presence, even in the darkest times.
You are all I need and may I be all you need me to be. **Amen.**

May God bless you, those whom you love, and those you are called to love in God's name,

With my love and prayers,

Sally



Prayer Circle

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

Rev Sally 01926 740846 or Ann 01926 774734

**In our time of Prayer -
please hold in your prayers**



Our housebound friends,
for those alone,
in care homes, for those who are bereaved,
for those in poor health,
anticipating or recovering from surgery,
sick, troubled in spirit,
For those seeking care and strength,
making life changing decisions.

Amen



*The following prayers are from the booklet produced and written
by church members from the Church away day at
the House of Bread 2024*

Christ, give me the strength to enable me to give help to others;

Be positive in my thoughts and actions.

To spread laughter and joy, in Jesu's name.

To be thankful for fellowship in our church family

God, give me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change

Courage to change the things I can

And wisdom to know the difference

Amen

From the Leadership Team



As we start the Methodist New Year, we know that we are blessed to have Rev Sally for another five years; it doesn't seem five since she joined us fresh out of Queen's College! Sally has inspired us to move forward as a church and helped us to grow spiritually too.

The leadership team continue to meet regularly and are always looking forward for opportunities to grow our fellowship, care for our members and improve our facilities to make them attractive to outside organisations. We are very grateful for the love and support we receive from the congregation. This was evidenced this summer when we had four Local Arrangement (LA) services on The Plan, and no shortage of offers to lead those services.

If you would like to be part of a team who occasionally offer to lead, or contribute to worship, particularly when it is a LA, then do consider coming along to the get-together that we have arranged to discuss this and explore what resources are available. Local Preacher Russell Blackwell will lead this at Northgate on Saturday 3rd October 10am, and repeat it on Tuesday, 6th October at 7pm. Please let Anne Oliver know which you would like to attend.

Our Community Centre premises are now looking fantastic, as David Witham (and friends) have decorated the lower room over the summer, completing the refurbishment project. We hope to increase our lettings of our spaces, so if you hear of anyone needing a room to hire, please do recommend us. The next project will be to tidy and decorate the Vestry!

We have new noticeboards everywhere and will gradually put up the new headings and posters. There are separate boards for community activities and church activities, please ask a steward if you are not sure where to put your poster. Our church window acts as an important advertisement for our activities, and we are very grateful to Julie for all the work she does on this throughout the year. We are gradually building a new website and are very grateful to Steve Conway and Trevor Blades for their work on this; we look forward to the launch and anticipate that it will be more user friendly than our current website.

Offertory/Collection

As there is sometimes confusion whether to stand or sit, the leadership team have decided that the congregation should sit when the offertory is brought forward.

At the start of this new church year worshippers might like to consider increasing their weekly giving, and /or making sure that they are gift aiding their money, if eligible, as this brings in several thousand pounds each year.

This autumn we have some special events to look forward to:

Saturday, 19th September is the Church Open Day for Heritage Weekend; volunteers needed to steward during the day please.

Saturday, 26th September - **4pm-6pm Harvest Tea**
with entertainment (please offer to do a “turn”!)



Sunday, 27th September at 10.30am - **Harvest Service**
with donations for the Food Bank

Sunday, 18th October at 10.30am - **Worship at Whitnash**, with Holy Communion
Please note there will be no service at Northgate

Sunday, 8th November at 10.30am **Remembrance Sunday**
This service is a ‘Local Arrangement’ and planning is already under way.

To open the Church from 10:00am until 12 noon for anyone to come for a time of prayer and reflection. While there will not be a formal service, **there will be an Act of Remembrance at 11:am**

Tea and coffee will be served throughout the morning.
Full details will be announced nearer the date.



Anne Oliver
Senior Steward

A Christmas Fair

**Is being planned for Saturday
28th November**



If you would like to help/ have a stall

Please contact Anne Oliver

Blessings Bags

A belated **BIG THANK YOU**

to all contributed by having a blessings bag during Lent.

A splendid total of £500 was raised!

All proceeds for Action for Children



Thank you everyone for all your good wishes and cards on our
60th Wedding Anniversary!!

Especial thanks to Sally for the wonderful service.

Gill and Frank

Editors note:- Did you mention your 80th birthday on 11th October
Frank?!!



H

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER CHURCH OPEN DAY

For WARWICK HERITAGE WEEKEND

10:00 am - 3pm

Volunteers are needed to help steward the church that day -

Can you help?

Please see Dave Mann



Churches Together in Warwick

Prayer Breakfasts - are open to all
and take place on the first **Saturday** of
each month at **8am**, for 30 minutes of reflection and prayer,
followed by a simple breakfast.

They are led and hosted by each church in turn making them all different .

Next Prayer Breakfasts are on:-

September 5th @ Castle Hill Baptist Church

October 3rd @ All Saints Church

November 7th @ Warwick Methodist Church

All are very welcome .



Bread Church Service

9th August 2026

Many, many thanks to all
who came and supported
this service,

Who read, baked, washed
up, swept up (!!)

Who helped by just being
there.

Thank you!!



HARVEST TEA

Saturday 26th September 2026

4pm – 6pm

CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Our Harvest Tea will be a “Bring and Share meal”.

Please bring something savoury or sweet to add to the table.

If you would like to offer an item towards the entertainment, please
let one of the stewards know.



Forthcoming Services at Warwick Northgate

All services at 10:30am unless otherwise stated

**Please join us for tea and coffee after the service,
ALL are welcome**

13th September	Mr Nigel Saxton
20th September	Mr Edward Royle
27th September	HARVEST - Rev Sally Jones - Holy Communion
October 4th	Rev Audrey Simpson
October 11th	Mrs Anne Oliver
October 18th	COMBINED SERVICE AT WHITNASH Rev Sally Jones - Holy Communion
October 25th	Rev Sally Jones
November 1st	Joint Service with Whtnash Rev Sally Jones and Deacon Jane Mills Holy Communion
November 8th	REMEMBRANCE



See page 11 for details of this
Service.

