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BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

10.00 am until 2.00 pm

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BUSMC - KEEPING CONNECTED

Week 29

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER 2020

Weekly Diary

Monday 5 October	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup meet in the Rear Hall
Tuesday 6 October	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Playgroup
Wednesday 7 October	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Playgroup
Thursday 8 October	8.45 am to 4.00 pm 7.30 pm	Playgroup Church Council meeting in the Worship Area
Friday 9 October	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Playgroup



We pray for friends and family, for those in hospital and care homes, for those under threat of redundancy or extended furloughing and for all known to us who need our prayers. We pray especially for our Church Council meeting next week as we consider re-opening our church for worship.

Can I personally ask for prayers for my son in law, John who has had major lung surgery and is now recovering. It has been extremely hard on my daughter, Catherine who, like so many others, is unable to visit him in hospital.

RESULT! RESULT! Box Collection.

A grand amount of 577.34 was sent, this week, to Action for Children (NCH). A big **THANK YOU** on behalf of all involved in Action for Children to all collectors. I am sure the children and young people will benefit from your gifts - Joan Thursby

RIDE AND STRIDE

Thank you to everyone who helped with sponsoring and opening the church on 12th September. It was a lovely day and I visited 17 churches in the area in my 1933 Morris, covering 43 miles and raising £150 from very generous sponsors – Peter

GOOD NEWS

If I haven't already told you – we are going to be Great Grandparents!! Our granddaughter, Nichola and her husband Kris are expecting a little boy in February. This was great news for both families at this time – wool is bought and knitting needles are clicking!! – Janet x

SCAM EMAILS

Some of us have received scam emails supposedly from Rev John Pugh recently – please be aware and check before clicking on any attachments or doing what they say!!

If you have news of friends that you can share, then please let me know at janetmthompson13@gmail.com or 01509 413810.

CHURCH INCOME WHILE SERVICES ARE SUSPENDED

Thank you to everyone who has set up standing orders at their bank, or sent their weekly contributions to my address.

The system is working well but if you cannot do either of the above, I am happy to collect it from your house if you wish, please ring me on 01509 413085 if you would like me to pop round. Alternatively, save the collections envelopes, and hand them in when services start again. The collections received are recorded in the collection log book as usual before being banked. Many thanks – Peter

Don't forget you can also view our newsletter at www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk



FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE

Today's Reading from the New Testament

Philippians 3:4b-14

⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. ⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in ¹⁰ Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Today's Gospel Reading:

Matthew 21:33-46 The Parable of the Tenants

³³ "Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. ³⁵ "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. ³⁸ "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard

and killed him. ⁴⁰ "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes'!" ⁴³ "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed." ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

TIME TO REFLECT

Original Materials by Rev Miriam Moul

When I first saw the Gospel Reading set for today, I have to admit I was a little perturbed. I wondered how to even begin to share anything on this parable. Yet I was inspired by seeing Jesus again in conversation.

In all his encounters with those who oppose him, disagree with him, and seek to ridicule him, Jesus shows grace and a willingness to engage in conversation. Jesus doesn't just dismiss the views of others, he listens, he challenges and he responds, sometimes forcefully. He doesn't collude with what he knows to be unjust. I wonder how we respond when faced with those who profoundly disagree with us? Do we listen well?

The religious leaders rail against Jesus because he consistently fails to conform to the expectations, they have of him. He eats with the wrong people. He speaks in stories and riddles. He won't answer their questions directly. He challenges their authority. Yet Jesus is unwilling to give up the dialogue with them, to give up sharing the good news, engaging in conversation and seeking to include all. Is this how we live as followers of Christ? Even giving a hearing to those who oppose us?

In his 'explanation' of the parable, Jesus speaks of producing the fruits of the kingdom (v.43). What do you think of as the fruits of God's kingdom? If we want to see what the fruits of the kingdom are, we have the example of Jesus before us. love, mercy, forgiveness, justice, generosity, compassion, presence, wisdom, truth, healing, reconciliation, joy, thanksgiving, peace, lament, obedience, humility. Perhaps as we hear again the parable of the wicked tenants, we can long and pray to be those who live the kingdom values of Jesus in the vineyards of our lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us repose, Good Shepherd, in your presence; walk in your path, enjoy your safety, rejoice in your banquet, receive your anointing, drink from your cup and dwell in your house, now and for ever. Amen.
Jerome (c.345-c.419)

Weekly Online Prayer Meeting - Tuesdays at 12.45pm

The Methodist Conference has declared 2020/2021 a year of prayer so that our Church-wide commitments to evangelism, church growth, church at the margins, and pioneering and church planting will flow from a deep, contemplative orientation to God's grace and love.

Be part of this movement of prayer as we ask the Holy Spirit to help us be a growing, evangelistic, inclusive, justice-seeking Church of gospel people.

For More information

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/evangelism-growth/year-of-prayer/>

You can now register for every week.

Videos of this event are available each week on

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/MethodistChurchinBritain/videos/>

Service SHEETS AND STREAMED SERVICES FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH OF GREAT BRITAIN

Those of us who can access the internet may wish to worship at home using material from the Methodist Church website: www.methodist.org.uk

10.45 am 12th Church on Trinity Methodist Church **Facebook** page

10.45 am Trinity Methodist Church, Loughborough

Holy Communion service led by Rev Andrew Lomax

BBC Radio Leicester 8.00 am – You can listen to a church service that is broadcast across all local radio stations.

These churches in the Circuit are now open for Sunday worship but if you wish to attend please ring the friends detailed below to reserve a place.

Christchurch Methodist Church, Shepshed

Mr. Alf Thompson 01509 821009 - alfred.thompson1@ntlworld.com

East Leake Methodist Church

Mrs. Pauline Hargraves 01509 559266 - paulinehargraves@gmail.com

Trinity Methodist Church, Loughborough

Andy & Rachel Thorpe 01509 239087 - anandrthorpe@ntlworld.com

Woodhouse Eaves Methodist Church

Mrs. Gill Thompson 01509 890886 - Thompsonsat97@btinternet.com

Mountsorrel Methodist Church will be meeting on Sunday 25th October at 10.30 am for a simplified "Harvest Festival" and again on Gift Day Sunday 1st November for a more formal service. Rev John Pugh will lead worship on both days.

Geoff Wainwright 0116 2376979 - mountsorrel2310@btinternet.com

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL

There was a young woman who took great pride in the growth and care of the flowers in her flower garden. She had been raised by her grandmother who taught her to love and care for flowers as she herself had done. So, like her grandmother, her flower garden was second to none.

One day while looking through a flower catalogue she often ordered from, a picture of a plant immediately caught her eye. She had never seen blooms on a flower like that before. "I have to have it," she said to herself, and she immediately ordered it.

When it arrived, she already had a place prepared to plant it. She planted it at the base of a stone wall at the back of her yard. It grew vigorously, with beautiful green leaves all over it, but there were no blooms. Day after day she continued to cultivate it, water it, feed it, and she even talked to it attempting to coax it to bloom. But it was to no avail.



One morning weeks later, as she stood before the vine, she contemplated how disappointed she was that her plant had not bloomed. She was giving considerable thought to cutting it down and planting something else in its place.

It was at this point that her invalid neighbour called over to her. "Thank you so much! You can't imagine how much I have enjoyed the blooms of that vine you planted." The young woman walked through the gate into her neighbour's garden, and sure enough, she saw that on the other side of the wall the vine was filled with blooms.

There were indeed the most beautiful blooms she had ever seen. The vine had crept through the crevices and it had not flowered on her side of the fence, it had flowered luxuriantly on the other side.

Just because you cannot see the good result of your labour does not mean that it bore no fruit

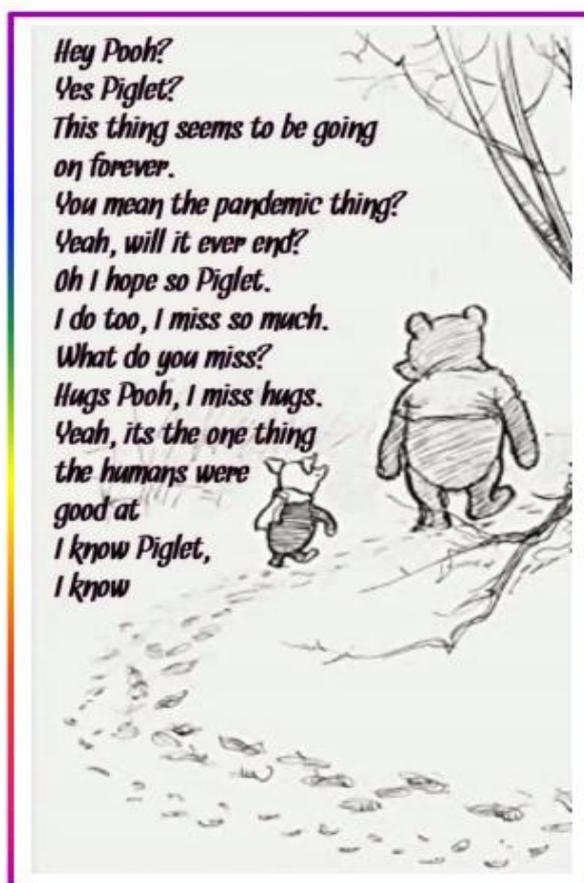
REV JOHN PUGH WRITES:

The classic question about this photograph is "How do you describe this?". So, are you a half full person or half empty? Optimist or pessimist? I like to think at least I am an optimist; the scientific part of my brain thinks the glass is actually full! I can almost hear some of you screaming at your screen saying "What idiot thinks that!" Well - look at it this way, it is half full of water but the rest is full of air. You cannot put any more air in without displacing the water nor can you put more water in without displacing the air ergo it's full.

I know it's splitting hairs but overall, it does say a lot about the sort of person we are. For example, how we see the world that we live in. For the more pessimistic among us are full of negative impressions about everything it seems. The world is full of danger, humanity is destroying the world, it's environment, it's wildlife, society in general, no-one thinks others are important, bother you Jack I'm alright attitude. For the glass half empty individual there is so much to be grumbling about! Everything is painted in the most dismal of colours.

However, if you're more of a glass half full person there can be a more optimistic view on life. Yes, the world can be a dangerous place so how do we make it safer? Yes, humanity seems to be destroying the world so how can we be ecologically good stewards over the environment and flora and fauna? How do we help everyone know they are important not just white/black/coloured/Asian/Oriental etc? To use the words from the old Children's' programme "Rainbow" - "Paint the whole world with a rainbow!" Be a glass half full individual make the world a brighter place.

God has given us, when we're not wearing a mask, the most wonderful of gifts to give to others and that is a smile. It costs nothing and the more you give them away the more you see them coming back with interest. I love the idea that physiologically it takes fewer facial muscles to smile than to frown, so be lazy and share your smile as much as you are able.



Answers to last week's quiz – Where would you find?

1	The Tower of London	11	A heart
2	In the human ear	12	The House of Commons
3	On a flower	13	Stratford upon Avon
4	Liverpool	14	Madagascar
5	Mobile Phone	15	Bradgate Park, Leicestershire
6	King's Cross Platform 9¾	16	Lizard Point, Cornwall
7	Bodmin Moor, Cornwall	17	Skegness
8	South Central China	18	Trumpton Fire Brigade
9	In a wicker hamper	19	An internal combustion engine
10	In a salt pot	20	In the garden

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ – POT LUCK

1	What's longer, a nautical mile or a mile?	
2	How many of Henry VIII's wives were called Catherine?	
3	What does the Latin Tempus mean in English?	
4	In what year did The Beatles split up?	
5	Gary and Martin Kemp were in what band?	
6	What was the name of the tower block where Del Boy and Rodney Trotter lived in Only Fools and Horses?	
7	Which 2019 film won the Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Film this year?	
8	Which soft drink is commonly associated with Scotland?	
9	Pret a Manger is a popular sandwich chain in the UK, but what does the French name mean in English?	
10	Which US state was Donald Trump born in?	
11	What do the French call the English Channel?	
12	How many notes are there in a musical scale?	
13	What company is also the name of one of the longest rivers in the world?	
14	What was legendary comedy actor Oliver Hardy's real first name at birth?	
15	What's the name of the talking snowman in Disney's Frozen?	
16	How many keys are there on a piano?	
17	Which iconic soap character lost his first wife to electrocution by hair dryer?	

18	What do the wheels on the bus do in the song?	
19	Name all five Brontë sisters.	
20	How many hearts does an octopus have?	

PASTORS' WIVES SEWING

Two Pastors wives were visiting and sewing their husband's pants. One wife said: My husband is just beside himself; he does not know what to do anymore and he is so tired and depressed he said he is ready to just give up and resign.

The other wife said: I am sorry to hear that because my husband has never been happier. Our membership is growing and we are out of our financial burden, we have such a large and loving congregation. Life could not be any better than it is right now.

One woman was mending the seat of her husband's pants, the other was mending the knees.

GOD IS LEFT-HANDED

Little Philip was spending the weekend with his grandmother after a particularly trying week in infant school. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful.

His grandmother commented, 'Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?'

'Yes,' replied Philip, 'God did it and he did it left-handed.'

This confused his grandmother so she asked him, 'What makes you say God did this with his left hand?'

'Well,' said Philip, 'we learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand.'

FLOWERS WRONGLY SENT

A businessman ordered flowers to be sent to the opening of his friend's new branch office. When the businessman got there, he was shocked to see the flowers with the inscription. "Rest In Peace."

He was so outraged that he stopped at the florist to complain.

"It could be worse," the florist said, "Just think: Today someone was buried beneath a floral arrangement with the inscription. 'Congratulations on Your New Location!'"



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