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BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

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BUSMC - KEEPING CONNECTED

Week 34

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2020



Who would have thought it back in March – when we re-opened our Worship Area after months of building work, we would have one service on Sunday 15th March and immediately have to close the entire building due to the Government lock-down and now when we finally re-open, albeit differently, we have one service on 1st November and have to close again for 4 weeks due to another lock-down!! But we will be back in December!

Weekly Diary

Monday 9 November	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup meet in the Rear Hall
Tuesday 10 November	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Wednesday 11 November	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Thursday 12 November	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Friday 13 November	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup



We pray for the present situation of another national "lock down", for friends and family, for those in hospital and care homes, for those under threat of redundancy, for both large and small businesses and for all known to us who need our prayers. We remember the family and friends of Geoff King who passed away following a long illness last week and send our love and prayers to Jean and to Joanna, Fiona and their families.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Kate Morley who has a birthday on Tuesday – hope that you have a lovely day.



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

An invitation to once again take part in the REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR project. this year, for the new women's refuge at Flaxley House, Loughborough which is run under the umbrella of The Carpenter's Arms.

If we begin on Friday 16th November and put one item of non-perishable packet or tin of food into a Christmas bag/box beginning on Monday 16th November and ending on Wednesday 9th December, I think I have counted right, that's 24 days the same as on an ordinary Advent Calendar. Your gift can then be brought to church on Sunday 13 December when we will collect them all together and arrange for them to be collected ready for distribution before Christmas. Apart from food items we could also include small gift items

ie chocolate, sweets, gloves, shower gel, sanitary products, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, hand cream, deodorant etc etc. Thank you to all that have replied to my initial email regarding this.

If you would like to join in can you let me know so that we know if we have your support. And any queries, as usual, just ask

SPONSORED CHARITY CHALLENGE

The Santa Fun Run is not allowed to go ahead this year so Pauline Ranson is taking part in the Alternative 2020 Charity Challenge in December walking from Barrow upon Soar to Loughborough dressed as Mrs Christmas and raising funds for the Wellbeing Café Project in Loughborough. If you would like to donate to Pauline's just giving page the link is <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PaulineRanson>

CHURCH INCOME

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

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

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

The President of the Conference responds to the latest lockdown guidance

Our churches have responded in different and imaginative ways to the challenges of the last few months. Local trustees have had to make the appropriate decision about opening their buildings for worship in response to their context whether that be a national lockdown in England, the firebreak in Wales or all those living with restrictions in Scotland and the Islands of our nations.

The Government has commended the churches on their adherence to the guidance and the care they have taken to help protect worshippers in their buildings. It is sad that the freedom to make those decisions has been removed as part of national efforts to control the spread of the virus in England (as is the case in Wales). We will continue to engage with the Government to try to ensure that where appropriate church buildings can safely reopen for worship sooner rather than later.

Many churches have been at the heart of supporting local communities, for example through food provision, support groups and mutual aid groups. As we enter into periods of new restrictions, we encourage people to continue loving their neighbour through this kind of service. As we have seen, the pandemic and lockdown have hit the poorest and most marginalised the hardest. The Methodist Church, along with others, have been speaking out about the impact of household debt and poverty, and we must continue to do so.

The Revd Richard Teal
President of the Methodist Conference

Life is short, live it. Love is rare,
grab it. Anger is bad, dump it.
Fear is awful, face it. Memories
are sweet, cherish them.



Facebook.com/ThinkPositivePower

FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE

Today's Reading from the Old Testament

Micah 4:1-4 - The mountain of the LORD

4 In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. **2** Many nations will come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.' The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. **3** He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more. **4** Everyone will sit under their own vine and under their own fig-tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken.

Today's Gospel Reading: John 15 v 9 – 17

9 'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. **10** If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. **11** I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. **12** My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command. **15** I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. **16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. **17** This is my command: love each other.

TIME TO REFLECT

Original Materials by Philip Wagstaff

It is important for us as human beings to have moments in our busy lives when we look back at the history which has moulded our individual and collective story. Today we look back at the story of the conflicts that have been, and remain part of, our human experience. We remember particularly the wars that engulfed the world in the 20th Century as we reflect on how these and further conflicts have shaped our world today.

History tells us something of the background to the emerging conflicts of the 20th and 21st Centuries. We have the opportunity to respond to that story by seeking not to repeat the conflicts of the past and to join in the hoped for peace which was sought by those who were involved in the conflicts which ended in 1918 and 1945/6. Micah's vision of 'beating swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks' has still to be realised but that doesn't mean it is lost, for the vision remains and as Christians we recognise that God continues to challenge us to seek God's justice and peace for all within the world.

We live in a fast-changing world in which many conflicts remain which means that the ways of peace and justice remain fragile. That fragility is seen in the story of many individuals who lost their lives in the conflicts of the 20th century and in our time. We remember them all as individuals and remind ourselves year by year of the challenges which bring about conflicts within and between nations and remain mindful of how we can work for peace today. The causes of conflict are many, but the causes of peace are many too, in a world divided by inequality and injustice, where those with the least are usually the most affected by the conflicts going on around them.

As Christians we seek that way of justice and peace which Jesus shares with us and with our world. 'Greater love has no one than this but to lay down their life for their friends', he says. There have been, and continue to be, many acts of self-giving in time of conflict. There are those who have refused to stand by when others are persecuted, peacemakers have died in the cause that they were so passionate about, individuals have taken the place of those who are about to die, lives have been changed for the better as a consequence of some having given up their lives so that others might live.

We see that in our reading today. Jesus was caught up in the politics and practice of his day. He too was brought into the conflicts of his day and was taken from a place of peace to the violence of the cross. To lay down his life though was not just for his friends around him at the time but for all of us, for all time, for ever. Perhaps it is in Jesus' act of self-giving love that the rumour of war is subsumed into the deep rumour of peace, echoing through the centuries, coming to us in the midst of the clamour and disorientation of the conflicts in today's world. We are remembering today a complex area of human experience which has shaped people and nations and which continues to do so today.

Perhaps we can reflect further today on Micah's vision where 'nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid'. We're not there yet but today we remember the sacrifice of many in the past who brought peace to their world in their time, as we work for peace in our lives, the life of our community and the life of the world today. May we always hold close and share that rumour of peace which comes from God who upholds those we remember today. God's love casts out all fear - that place of peace is worth working for and sharing with our world today, which is a fitting way to remember all those who gave their lives in the service of others.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Thirsty for you, O Christ, let us drink of the Living Water. Hungry for you, let us taste the Bread of Life. Lost without you, let us hear the Shepherd's voice. Amen.

Anselm of Canterbury (c.1033-1109)

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
Rev Andrew Lomax

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

THE HISTORY OF APRONS

I don't think a lot of our kids know what an apron is.

The principle use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath because she only had a few. It was also because it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and aprons used less material.



#246350854

But along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears. From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds. When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men folk knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes. Her granddaughters would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron but I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron - but love!

Thanks to Facebook

DO WE ALWAYS LISTEN?

Last week I went to a restaurant. I saw there was a WiFi service, so I asked for the password. The waitress told me eat first, so I placed my order. After eating I asked again for the password, and again, she told me eat first. Feeling frustrated, I ordered black coffee. After coffee, again I asked for the password. They told me eat first. Then angrily, I walked to the restaurant manager and asked for the password. He replied eat first!! I was about to explode, when I finally saw a sign on the wall indicating "WiFi password ...EAT FIRST".



This shows that most of us are waiting for an answer from God after we have prayed, but we don't listen to what He is saying to us.

Sometimes, the Lord is showing us an open door, but we keep asking for direction, instead of looking at the door He has opened.

May the Holy Spirit guide us and open our spiritual eyes to see the answers to our prayers.

SEEN ON CHURCH NOTICE BOARDS



A man's character is like a fence. It cannot be strengthened by whitewash

Come work for the Lord. The work is hard, the hours are long and the pay is low, but the retirement benefits are out of this world.

If you are headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns.

No God -- No Peace.
Know God -- Know Peace.

Souler energy used here

This is a ch_ _ ch. What is missing?
UR

Answers to last week's FIRST quiz?

1	Alpha	11	1841
2	Oxford	12	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
3	Matthew Webb	13	Peter Phillips
4	William	14	Margaret Thatcher
5	Stephen	15	Dr No
6	1966	16	1981
7	Lady Nancy Astor	17	Claudius

8	11 th	18	George Washington
9	Louise Joy Brown	19	Edward Jenner
10	June 1919	20	In the beginning

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ –

The Last Quiz..... Though not the last quiz!

Thanks to Sue and Adrian

1	What were the last words spoken by John Wesley	
02	Which is the last book in the Lord of the Rings trilogy	
03	Who wore wrinkled stocking in the TV series Last of the summer wine	
04	In which year did Concord make its last commercial flight from New York to London	
05	At the end of which decade did the last train pass through Quorn Station prior to its closure as a commercial railway	
6	Which is the last book of the New Testament	
7	According to the 1989 film what was Indian Jones Last assignment	
8	Who was the last Hanoverian Monarch	
9	Which is the last City at the northern end of the A1	
10	The Monkeys sang of the Last train to	
11	In the Film the Last of the Mohicans, Hawkeye and his friends rescue whose daughter.	
12	Who was the last Liberal Prime Minister of Britain	
13	What is the last letter of the Greek alphabet	
14	What is the last word to be sung in Handel's Messiah	
15	When was the last invasion of Britain	
16	When was the last Crusade to the Holy Land	
17	The <i>Postern of Fate</i> was who's last novel	
18	Who wrote the Last Kingdom series of novels	
19	When was the last British Leyland (proper) Mini produced	
20	In which year was the Beatles last live tour	

CHRISTMAS COVID UPDATE

No Nativity this year because the 3 Wise Men face a travel ban

The shepherds have been furloughed

The innkeeper has closed under Tier 3 regulations due to a slump in bookings

Santa won't be working as he would break the rule of 6 with Dasher, Dancer,
Prancer, Vixen, Donner and Blitzen.

As for Rudolph, with that red nose, he should be self-isolating and taking a test



Gladys was the preacher's wife and accompanied her husband each Sunday to church. One particular Sunday when the sermon seemed to go on forever, many in the congregation fell asleep. After the service, to be sociable, she walked up to a very sleepy looking gentleman. In an attempt to revive him from his stupor, she extended her hand in greeting, and said, "Hello, I'm Gladys Dunn." To which the gentleman replied, "You're not the only one!"

Two cannibals meet one day. The first cannibal says, "You know, I just can't seem to get a tender Missionary. I've baked them, I've roasted them, I've stewed them, I've barbecued them, I've tried every sort of marinade. I just cannot seem to get them tender." The second cannibal asks, "What kind of Missionary do you use?" The other replied, "You know, the ones that hang out at that place at the bend of the river. They have those brown cloaks with a rope around the waist and they're sort of bald on top with a funny ring of hair on their heads." "Ah, ha!" the second cannibal replies. "No wonder ... those are friars!"

