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website: www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk**BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH**Website: www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk**Minister: Rev John Pugh**

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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 36

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2020

Weekly Diary

Monday 23 November	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup meet in the Rear Hall
Tuesday 24 November	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Wednesday 25 November	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Thursday 26 November	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Friday 27 November	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Saturday 28 November		Nativity tableau and Christmas tree are going up! Look out for them as you walk by.



We pray for all those in hospital or care homes, for family and friends, for all those worried about their jobs and finances and for all who are known to us who need our prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS this week to Frank Thornewell on the safe arrival of his fifth great grandchild, a boy Marley, who weighed in at 8lb 7ozs. Love to his mum Rebecca and all the family.



BUMPER BIRTHDAY WEEK - HAPPY BIRTHDAY this week to ADRIAN SPIEGHT who has a birthday on Saturday and to GILL FLINDERS and MICHAEL THOMPSON who both have a birthday on Sunday – love and best wishes to you all.

CHURCH NEWS

As you know our Minister, Rev John Pugh will be retiring in August 2021 and moving back “up north”. The stationing process to find a new Minister began in September and we have this week been informed that, subject to confirmation by the Methodist Conference, our new Minister will be Rev Sandra Marshall.

RE-OPENING OUR CHURCH FOR WORSHIP

We hope to be able to welcome you all back to church on Sunday 6th December at 10.15 am but as explained before you have to ring and book your place by ringing Sue Speight on 01509 413524 by 5.00 pm on the Friday before.

MAINTENANCE WORK

Ian Bruce has just repaired the lead on the roof above the new Welcome Coffee Bar and the gulley where the sloping roofs meet. Thankfully no immediate expense was discovered but the sloping roof, being over 100 years old, is generally poor with porous tiles and no underfelt. During recent heavy storms we did get some water ingress round the edges of the office, plant room and store but Peter is going to do some work on rerouting the gutters to divert rain water away from this area which will hopefully reduce/eliminate this problem.

Ed's Note: Many thanks to Peter for all the hard work he does in maintaining our premises for us.

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](http://www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk)

LOOK WHAT HANDS CAN DO



FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE

Today's Reading from the Old Testament:

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. ² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his people, the sheep of his pasture ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Today's Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

The Sheep and the Goats

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' ³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' ⁴⁰ "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' ⁴¹ "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ⁴⁴ "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' ⁴⁵ "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' ⁴⁶ "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

TIME TO REFLECT

Original Materials by Rebekah Fairhurst, Bolton Methodist Mission

Next week Advent begins. It's only 5 weeks till Christmas. The time when we celebrate the coming of that tiny baby into the world, the coming of Jesus, the King of Kings. During this time of Advent let us reflect on who Jesus is for us. We call him King but he certainly wasn't the king that the Jewish people at the time were expecting him to be. He is our King. He is the Light of the World and we are called to share with others who he is, the Light of the World and the King of Kings.

Our reading talks about helping those in need. By helping those in need we are sharing the love and good news of Jesus with other people. By doing this we are enabling others to come to know him for themselves. In the midst of the pandemic it can be difficult to know how we can help others at the moment. Verse 40 of our reading says this "And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Perhaps at the moment we can help others by donating food, or clothes or just simply phoning someone up for a chat. All these ways of helping others enable us to do what he asked us to do and to share the love and good news of Jesus which is needed more than ever at the moment.

There are people out there on our streets who have missed out on the opportunity of finding the King of Kings, of finding out for themselves what the real meaning of Christmas is. To them Christmas is just another holiday. They have never known what it is all about, they have never known the difference that this tiny baby will have on their lives if they only take the opportunity to look for him. We know the difference that he has made and it's up to us to give people that opportunity to find him for themselves. Let us take the opportunity to share with others who this King of Kings is and what difference he can make in their lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O loving and living God, may we trust in you as Jeremiah reminds us to, like a tree, planted by water, that depends on you alone to face the challenges of the climate and still produce fruit. Let your nourishment seep into our world today through our hands, minds and voices, that we may seek to bring your reconciling love in Christ to the earth in transformative ways. Amen.

Inspired by Jeremiah 17:7-8 Rev Stephen Lindridge, Newcastle Upon Tyne District Chair

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/>

INTERESTED IN THIS?

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

Sunday 22nd November - 10.45 am 12th Church on Trinity Methodist Church **Facebook** page
BBC Radio Leicester 8.00 am – You can listen to a church service that is broadcast across all local radio stations.

On Sunday 29 November at 4pm, join with churches all across the UK for **The Big Church Sing Christmas Special** live on the Methodist Church's YouTube channel! Celebrate the extraordinary news of Jesus' birth by singing your favourite Christmas carols with thousands of people alongside leading Christian musicians such as The National Methodist Choir and Lucy Grumble. You will also get the chance to join in the festive fun with a special Extraordinary Christmas Nativity narrated by Songs of Praise and CBeebies presenter Gemma Hunt!



CHRISTMAS IS CANCELLED,

You're having me on!

Because of a virus? That's got to be wrong.

So, what will be missing on the happy day?

The loving? The caring? Surely, they'll be there anyway.

The food and the feasting, The cup of good cheer?

For most of us at least there's always next year.

No gathering of families as everyone comes home?

For some that's quite normal they spend each Christmas alone.

Every year some folk are homeless and some feel so sad.

For some it's a reminder of all they once had.

This year they say money might be quite tight.

Are we worried about presents? Surely that can't be right.

What makes Christmas tough is grief, loss and sadness.

Not missing out for once on shopping frenzy madness.

The virus can do one!
Christmas cancelled? No fear!
It's the coming of Jesus ... And don't worry, He's here!



REV JOHN PUGH WRITES:



What time is it? Whenever I look at this little pocket watch I am reminded of the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland. "I'm late, I'm late for a very important date, no time to say 'Hello!', 'Goodbye', I'm late. I'm late, I'm late!"

Too often we are imprisoned by timepieces. I remember very well school days in Junior School during long hot summer days waiting for playtime. The hours dragged by and no matter what time you looked at the classroom clock it always seemed to be mid-morning. In fact, if anything I'm certain it went backwards from time to time! However, when it was time for tests or exams the opposite was equally true when no sooner had you started answering the questions when the teacher would say "5 minutes left!"

It didn't stop there though for when I became an adult time continued to do strange things. Then I discovered the reason behind the situation. Some 20 or so years later studying New Testament Greek as a Student Methodist Minister discovered 2000 years ago the Greeks had 2 words that we understand as time.

Firstly 'kronos' from which we have words like chronometer, signifying the physical passage of time. Secondly the word 'kairos' which speaks of the opportune moment, just like we might say when it's the right time to tell him/her whatever. How often have we struggled with that one? How often has someone challenged us by saying "I thought you were going to ..." and we've answered by saying "It never seemed the right time"? We are very good at putting things off, determining that later is always going to be better. Believing there will be a better time/place to do the whatever (that's kairos).

What about the future? When will be the best time to make your decision about your life? Can you afford to keep putting off the decision about eternity? The time for deciding to allow Jesus into your life as Lord and Saviour is now! Often in the first few centuries the decision was left until individuals lay on their deathbed. The belief was they could confess their sins by repenting, receive absolution and enter heaven a truly repentant and forgiven person. There's not always time to do that! None of us know when we might die, now is the acceptable time!

Don't put it off – receive Jesus today, don't procrastinate!

Answers to last week's FLOWERS quiz?

1	Iris	11	Tulips
2	Sweet William	12	Phlox
3	Sweet Pea	13	London Pride
4	Bluebells	14	Honesty
5	Aster	15	Daisy
6	Cowslip	16	Rose
7	Dandelion	17	Carnation
8	Wallflower	18	Hyacinth
9	Busy Lizzie	19	Lily of the Valley
10	Forget me not	20	Passion Flower

THIS WEEK'S FOODIE QUIZ

Grateful thanks again to Sue and Adrian

1	Basmati, Arborio and long grain are types of which food.	
2	Alligator pear is another name for a which now familiar 'fruit'.	
3	TV Cooks the Hairy Bikers zoom around on their motorbikes – what are their names?	
4	Traditionally pulled when the meal is served- what is the name of the bone at the centre of a chicken's breast?	
5	Love it or hate it what part of the animal is tripe	
6	Growers of giant veg might grow this in a pipe.	
7	Traditional meal of minced lamb topped with mashed potato is named after which farm worker?	
8	What is the unusual way in which a pineapple dessert and Tarte Tatin are served?	
9	A batter made with flour, milk and eggs makes which 2 homely recipes?	
10	For what establishment did Tom Kerridge receive a Michelin Star in 2005?	
11	Cabbage, Brussel sprouts and broccoli are members of which family of vegetables?	
12	Whose TV cooks father was chancellor in Margaret Thatcher's government	
13	Of which animal was it said that you could eat or use every part except the squeal?	
14	The failure of which crop was largely the cause of the famine in Ireland in 19 th century?	
15	Presenter of "Ready Steady Cook" for several years and now in competition with 12 (above) on Monday evenings.	
16	Spanish dish of rice and meat or seafood which is said to have originated in the Valencia region.	
17	When whisking egg whites for meringues... what is the test to ensure that it is stiff enough?	
18	Which type of pasta is traditionally serve with Bolognaise?	
	The original Bramley Apple tree is in a Nottinghamshire city	
	Which leader said... 'How can you govern a country which has 246 types of cheese'? and according to Wikipedia how many are there now?	



Why did the Clydesdale give the pony a glass of water?
Because he was a little horse.

What did the policeman say to his belly button?
You're under a vest.

Why shouldn't you write with a broken pen?
Because it's pointless.

What did the tomato say to the other tomato during a race?
Ketchup.
