



follow us on Twitter @BarrowMethsChurch



www.facebook.com/barrow upon soar methodist church

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

## **BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH**

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

**Minister: Rev John Pugh**

Telephone: 0116 2304689 or 07964402152

Circuit Office - Telephone: 01509 807441

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

10.00 am until 2.00 pm

Email: [loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com)

# **BUSMC - KEEPING CONNECTED**

**Week 52**

**NOTICES FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**

**Weekly Diary**



Monday 15 March	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup meet in the Rear Hall
Tuesday 16 March	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Wednesday 17 March	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Thursday 18 March	8.45 am to 4.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Friday 19 March	8.45 am to 1.00 pm	Barrow Playgroup
Saturday 20 March		
Sunday 21 March	10.45 am	12 <sup>th</sup> Church – Sunday morning worship on Facebook

Churches in the Loughborough Methodist Circuit have agreed that, for the safety of everyone, no public worship will take place in our buildings until the end of this lockdown period.

### **NEWS ON RE-OPENING FOR WORSHIP**

At the Church Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February, it was agreed that we look to re-opening our church for worship on Easter Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 10.15 am with our Minister, Rev John Pugh leading worship. This is dependent, of course, on any changes that might be made in Covid rules. The Risk Assessment will be updated and all precautions must be taken by everyone to make it Covid safe. More details nearer the time.

Sunday worship will continue on the Facebook page of 12<sup>TH</sup> CHURCH at 10.45 am every week

But please remember the Church building may be closed, but the Church is still very much here for you - if you require the services of a Minister, please contact our Minister on  
Telephone: 0116 2304689

---

### **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING – change of date**

It has been decided to postpone the Annual Church Meeting scheduled for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April due to Covid restrictions. Hopefully! This will now take place on **SUNDAY 27 JUNE 2021 at 11.30 AM (not pm as stated last week!)**

**THANK YOU - COLLECTION ENVELOPES:**

Thanks to you all for your regular contributions to the running of the church, the system works well, so please continue. While church services are temporarily suspended, the bills still have to be paid, and thank you for making this possible - Peter Yates

### **CHRISTIAN AID**

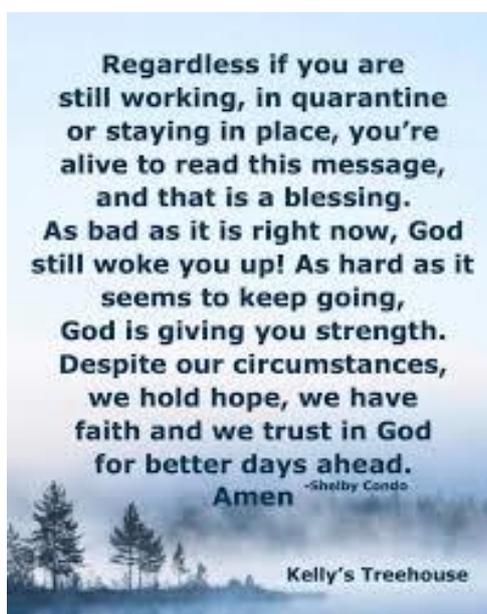
For Christian Aid week this year [10-16 May], we are planning a 'delivery only' collection in Barrow – a new method, whereby no envelopes are collected – instead, envelopes are put through doors in the village with information as to where they can be dropped off/returned.

A number of people then agree to have envelopes returned via their post box and their addresses are put on the envelopes. Any returned envelopes at the end of the week are then given to Heather or Frances Acton. Will any of the usual Methodist collectors or other members of the congregation be willing to put envelopes through doors and/or be willing to have their address as a drop off point? Please let Heather know if you are able to help.

There is also information on the Christian Aid website

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/faq/delivery-only-collections/low-effort-collecting#resources>

**If you have news of friends that you can share, then please let me know at [janetmthompson13@gmail.com](mailto: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)**



### **ESPECIALLY FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY**

I make no apologies if you have seen it before...

#### **THE CREATION OF MOTHERS**

God was working overtime. He was creating mothers.

'You're fiddling around a lot on this one?' an angel commented

God replied, 'Have you seen the specifications for this order? She's to have 6 pairs of hands, 18,000 moving parts, run on black coffee, and have a kiss that cures everything from broken legs to disappointing love affairs.'

'No way!' the angel said.

'And the challenging bit,' God said warming to his theme, 'Is that she needs eyes to see through doors, eyes in the back of her head and eyes of love which can look at a child who has messed up and say, 'I love you anyway.'

The angel said, 'Lord, you look tired, take a break.'

'I can't,' God said. 'I'm close to finishing a creation very like myself. Already she can heal herself when she's sick, feed a family on a pound of mince and get a 9-year-old to stand under a shower.'

The angel touched her. 'She's soft,'

'But tough,' God answered. 'You can't imagine what this mother can endure.'

'Can it think?' asked the angel.

'Not only think but reason and compromise,' God said proudly.

Running its finger down the mother's cheek the angel said, 'It has a leak.'

'That's not a leak,' God explained. 'It's a tear.'

'What for?'

'It's for joy, sadness, pain, disappointment, loneliness and pride in her off-spring.'

'Lord, you're a genius,' said the angel.

Isn't He just!



#### FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE

##### Today's Reading from the Old Testament: Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So, Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous[c] serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So, Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

##### Today's Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

#### TIME TO REFLECT

Original Materials by Rev. Zena Smith

I wonder how many times through this pandemic you have been unhappy with things and complained out loud or inwardly to yourself? Perhaps you haven't agreed with Government decisions, perhaps you have been angry at the people who seemed to mindlessly flout the rules put in place to keep us all safe, perhaps you've complained when you were unable to attend church, or if you were, you were unable to sing; there are many reasons of late why we are likely to have moaned. And this is how it was with the Israelites as they travelled slowly towards the promised land. They took their frustration out not only on their leader Moses, but also on God. They had forgotten the miracles God had performed for them, their faith was waning, and they refused to obey God's law (see Psalm 78). We see too that when the Israelites complained things only got worse. They improved at once though when the people recognised that they had sinned against God through their attitude and actions. When the bronze snake was hung on a pole the Israelites didn't anticipate the fuller meaning that Jesus would bring to this experience. In the Gospel reading Jesus explains that just as

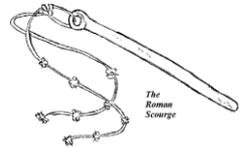
the Israelites of old were healed of the sickness caused by the snake bites by turning their gaze towards the snake on the pole, we today can be healed from the sin that pervades our lives by turning our gaze towards Jesus' death on the cross. You see it was not the bronze snake that healed the Israelites, it was their renewed belief in God's healing power, in God's compassion for them, in God's love for those created in God's image and called beloved. Today, God's healing power, compassion and love exists for each one of us too; it is there for the taking but like the Israelites we too need to recognise the times we stray away from the path of light that guides us and turn back wholeheartedly towards God. Amen.



## A reflection from Adrian

### On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent a whip is placed at the foot of the cross.

The scene moves on again from the Garden of Gethsemane as Jesus is arrested. The crowd of men who had been sent by the leading priests and teachers of religious law took Jesus to the high priest's house. After a time of accusation and questioning, which is recorded in all 4 gospels, the High Priest stood up and asked Jesus, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus replied, "I AM. And you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven." This reply was greeted with jeers of "blasphemy" and "guilty." However, as they had no authority to pronounce sentence, Jesus was handed over to the Roman governor, Pilate.



After a "mock" trial, with accusations abounding from the leading priests, Pilate asked Jesus "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus responded with just 4 words, "**You have said it!**" Then Jesus said no more.

Pilate turned to the crowds and asked who, following the Passover custom of releasing a prisoner, should the governor release. The crowd demanded Barabbas and cried that "the King of the Jews" should be crucified. So, on Pilate's orders, the crowd got who they wanted, and Pilate ordered Jesus to be flogged, which was the normal preliminary to crucifixion.

With hindsight, as we read and reflect on scripture, it is clear that this was all part of the plan – God's plan – as was Judas's plan to betray Jesus, and the scene in Gethsemane which was the focus of last week. Jesus had predicted sometime earlier after a time of ministry in Galilee, as he travelled toward Jerusalem, everything that was about to happen to him. "Listen," he said, "we're going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be betrayed to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to die and hand him over to the Romans. They will mock him, spit on him, flog him with a whip, and kill him, but after three days he will rise again." (Mark: 10:33-4)

God's plan ended not in despair but in glory. The glory of resurrection and the fulfilment of all Jesus' promises.

As we look forward to Easter to celebrate once again the glory of the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, let us pray that the plans made to ease our way out of the pandemic will reach fruition and that all people will be able to resume a more normal way of life.

**A BEND  
IN  
THE ROAD**

*Sometimes  
we come to life's crossroads  
And we view what we think is the end.  
But God has a much wider vision  
And he knows that it's only a bend-*

*The road will go on and get smoother  
And after we've stopped for a rest,  
The path that lies hidden beyond us  
Is often the path that is best.*

*So rest and relax and grow stronger;  
Let go and let God share your load  
And have faith in a brighter tomorrow-  
You've just come to  
**a bend in the road.***

*-Helen Steiner Rice*

## LENT ON LINE

This will be led by Rev Andrew Lomax, Wednesdays at 7.15pm, via Zoom please contact Andrew Email: [andrew.lomax@methodist.org.uk](mailto:andrew.lomax@methodist.org.uk) All are welcome to join. Downloadable copies of the course are available on <https://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/lentcourse2021>

17 March		A grain of wheat
24 March		Passion: anointing and betrayal

### And then:

Palm Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	4.00 pm	United service on Zoom led by friends at Loughborough Baptist Church
Holy Week	7.00 pm	Reflections posted each evening at 7.00 pm led by a variety of people
Maundy Thursday 1 April	7.30 pm	United Holy Communion Service hosted and led by friends from Loughborough United Reformed Church
Good Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	10.30 am	Trinity Methodist Church hosts a service on Zoom

Details of how to access these services are available from Nigel Cox  
Email: [n.cox1808@btinternet.com](mailto:n.cox1808@btinternet.com)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you are present in all places, town and county, this is your world; help us to be mindful of all you have given us to care for. Help us to show our discipleship by recycling and reusing whenever we can. Please God, we want recycling in our own lives: may we experience the renewing grace of your Son and the rejuvenation of your Holy Spirit and may gifts and virtues that have become tired or overlooked be reused. O God, renew our faith and holiness that we may be refreshed, blessed and transformed into the Christians you want us to be. Amen.

Steven Wild, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly District



The Methodist Church has compiled a list of resources to help nourish your spiritual life on a daily and weekly basis.

### Spiritual sustenance when isolated:

**Daily:** Pray our daily prayer from the Methodist Prayer Handbook  
Join online Morning Prayer from Wesley's Chapel 10.00 – 10.15 am  
Pray for others on our Prayer Wall and post your own intercessory prayer  
Take part in our daily Bible Study

### Weekly

**Any day of the week – Free** phone lines for prayers, reflections and news from the Methodist Church  
Dial a Prayer – free telephone lines where you can listen to prayer or Methodist News.  
Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514  
Listen to a pastoral message from the President and Vice President: 0808 281 2695  
Listen to our Podcast: 0808 281 2478  
Every Tuesday: Take part in the 15-minute year of prayer service at 12.45 pm either register to join on Zoom or watch live on the Methodist Church Facebook page  
Every Sunday: Take part in a live online Sunday service from Methodist Central Hall Westminster at 10.00 am  
Read aloud the specially prepared Epiphany O Antiphons for 2021  
All this can be found on the Methodist Church website [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

**Every Sunday at 10.45 am on 12th Church Facebook page**

**Mothering Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

**Liz and Rob Newton**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

**Karen Wormald**

## WHY ENGLISH IS HARD TO LEARN!

We'll begin with *box*; the plural is *boxes*,  
 But the plural of *ox* is *oxen*, not *oxes*.  
 One fowl is a *goose*, and two are called *geese*,  
 Yet the plural of *moose* is never called *meese*.

You may find a lone *mouse* or a house full of *mice*;  
 But the plural of *house* is *houses*, not *hice*.  
 The plural of *man* is always *men*,  
 But the plural of *pan* is never *pen*.

If I speak of a *foot*, and you show me two *feet*,  
 And I give you a *book*, would a pair be a *beek*?  
 If one is a *tooth* and a whole set are *teeth*,  
 Why shouldn't two *booths* be called *beeth*?

If the singular's *this* and the plural is *these*,  
 Should the plural of *kiss* be ever called *keese*?  
 We speak of a *brother* but also of *brethran*,  
 But though we say *mother* we never say *methren*.  
 Then the masculine pronouns are *he*, *his*, and *him*;  
 But imagine the feminine – *she*, *shis*, and *shim*!



Which leads nicely into

**THIS WEEK'S QUIZ sent in by Nora Thompson**

### RHYMING WORDS

Each answer has two rhyming words ie Intelligent men (4.4) = Wise guys

1	Extra Seat (5.5)	
2	Avoid labour (5.4)	
3	Lovesick cat (7.6)	
4	Seven dismal days (5.4)	
5	Luke warm (3.3)	
6	Pull mat (3.3)	
7	American vehicles (5.5)	
8	Prison letters (4.4)	
9	Frighten teddy (5.4)	
10	Launch launch (5.4)	
11	Huge hog (3.3)	
12	Active flower (4.6)	
13	Refreshing pond (4.4)	
14	Intoxicated Romany (5.5)	
15	Umbrella foolishness (6.5)	
16	Eighty (4.5)	
17	Fresh evidence (3.4)	
18	Plump husband (5.5)	

19	Cold goat (6.5)	
20	Bonsai plant (3.4)	
21	Single bee (4.5)	
22	Penned memo (5.4)	
23	Old story (5.4)	
24	Autumn gala (4.4)	
25	Mad fluster (5.5)	

Answers next week

.....

**Here are the answers to last week's quiz - People with names beginning with J**

1	Member of a famous band born in Liverpool in 1940	<b>JOHN</b> Winston Lennon
2	Actress who was the original Mary Poppins	<b>JULIE</b> Andrews
3	A white duck who wears a blue bonnet	<b>JEMIMA</b> Puddle Duck
4	She played Dot Cotton in East Enders until last year	<b>JUNE</b> Brown
5	This 19 <sup>th</sup> German composer and pianist.... Is perhaps most famous for his lullaby	<b>JOHANNES</b> Brahms
6	King of Israel –gave his name to a champagne bottle	<b>JERABOAM</b>
7	Her autobiography created the TV series <i>Call the Midwife</i>	<b>JENNIFER</b> Worth
8	Sister of the Prime Minister	Rachel <b>JOHNSON</b>
9	Christian Minister who turned Bible stories into song and told the story of Mary Jones in <i>Greater than Gold</i>	Roger <b>JONES</b>
10	Who could eat no fat?	<b>JACK</b> Spratt
11	His brother writes the musicals.... Who is the cellist?	<b>JULIAN</b> Lloyd Webber
12	Pianist and band leader famous for his New Year's Eve Hootenanny	<b>JOOLS</b> Holland
13	Creator of a famous blue and white china	<b>JOSIAH</b> Wedgwood
14	In Genesis he was younger twin son of Isaac & Rebekah?	<b>JACOB</b>
15	Author in whose books one can Journey .... 20 Leagues Under the Sea or ... to the Centre of the Earth	<b>JULES</b> Verne
16	Old Testament prophet imprisoned in a well	<b>JERIMIAH</b>
17	Who lead the people of Israel into the promised land?	<b>JOSHUA</b>
18	Brummie TV comedian whose shows broadcast in 1980's	<b>JASPER</b> Carrot
19	She was Nellie Boswell in the Scouse comedy <i>Bread</i>	<b>JEAN</b> Boht
20	No longer Ab Fab but recently she's been taking us on travel adventures on ITV	<b>JOANNA</b> Lumley

**The** temporary Sunday School teacher was struggling to open a combination lock on the supply cabinet. She had been told the combination, but couldn't quite remember it. Finally, she went to the pastor's study and asked for help. The pastor came into the room and began to turn the dial.

After the first two numbers, he paused and stared blankly for a moment. Finally, he looked serenely heavenward and his lips moved silently. Then he looked back at the lock, and quickly turned to the final number, and opened the lock. The teacher was amazed. "I'm in awe at your faith, pastor," she said. "It's really nothing," he answered. "The number is on a piece of tape on the ceiling."



**Do you** believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his employees. "Yes, Sir." the new recruit replied. "Oh, well that's okay then!" said the boss. "Because after you left early yesterday to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you!"

### **SEEN ON CHURCH NOTICE BOARDS**

Cannot sleep? Try counting your blessings

Come early for a good Back seat.

Come in and pray today. Beat the Christmas rush!

God answers "knee mail."

The most important vitamin for a Christian is B1.

When down in the mouth, remember Jonah. He came out alright.

