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BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

Website: www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk

Minister: Rev John Pugh

Telephone: 0116 2304689 or 07964402152

From 1st September: Rev Sandra Marshall

Circuit Office - Telephone: 01509 807441

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
10.00 am until 2.00 pm

Email: loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 11th JULY 2021

Weekly Diary

Playgroup now on Summer Holidays

Monday 12 July	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Findingfitness Sports Holiday programme for children
Tuesday 13 July	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Findingfitness
Wednesday 14 July	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Findingfitness
Thursday 15 July	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Findingfitness
Friday 16 July	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Findingfitness
Saturday 17 July		
Sunday 18 July	10.15 am	Morning Worship in church

If you require the services of a Minister, please telephone: 01509 219804

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 11 July	10.30 am	Rev John Pugh's Leaving Service at Quorn – no service at Barrow upon Soar
Sunday 18 July	10.15 am	Rev Martin Swan
Sunday 25 July	10.15 am	Action for Children
Sunday 1 August	10.15 am	Roger Latham
Sunday 8 August	10.15 am	Adrian Speight
Sunday 15 August	10.15 am	Adrian Speight
Sunday 22 August	10.15 am	
Sunday 29 August	2.30 pm	Welcome Service for Rev Sandra Marshall here at Barrow upon Soar

FAREWELL SERVICE FOR REV JOHN PUGH – IMPORTANT

Please let me know by 12 noon on Saturday 10th July if you intend going to the Farewell Service for Rev John Pugh. Remember to take your own seat and if the service is transferred indoors because of the weather seating in the church will be limited.

If you decide to go on the day please make yourself known to Heather Doda so that she can put your name on the Covid contact list. Many thanks - Janet (413810, 07740187070 or janetmthompson13@gmail.com)

THANK YOU - COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Thanks to you all for your regular contributions to the running of the church during lockdown. Church services have now resumed but if you are unable to attend, please continue to send your contributions towards the running of the church as you have been doing over the last 12 months. Thank you - Peter

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

If anyone has an Action for Children or NCH home collecting box, could you please let Joan have it so that it can be emptied, and the proceeds forwarded to the charity. Many thanks

FLOWER SEEDS

Carolyn Thornborow has some Aquilegia and Foxglove seeds from the Church garden. She will take some to the service at Quorn on Sunday if anyone is interested, please speak to her.

12TH Church is streamed every Sunday morning at 10.45 am

Sunday 11 th July	No Service on Facebook
Sunday 18 th July	Eleri Bristow
Sunday 25 th July	Liz and Rob Newton
Sunday 1 st August	Karen Wormald
Sunday 8 th August	The Pipet Family
Sunday 15 th August	Rev Andrew Lomax
Sunday 22 nd August	Eleri Bristow
Sunday 29 th August	Emma Lowe

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REV JOHN PUGH has written his final Facebook post as a Minister in the Loughborough Circuit. I included quite a few of his posts in the Lock down newsletters – I thought that you might like to read this one also!

This will be the final weekly meditation I will post as the Minister for Quorn St Bart's United Church, Mountsorrel, Sileby, Barrow-upon-Soar, Wymeswold and East Leake Methodist Churches. I have received some kind and interesting responses to some of my offerings during this Covid outbreak. However it is time to finally trying to pack away what remains of all the books and resources that I have accumulated over 47 years of preaching and leading services. Some have found a new home via Book Aid and hopefully student ministers around the Developing World will benefit from the books that helped frame my theological growth. Some will remain with me into the next phase of ministry, especially the puppets.

I suspect some of you are wondering (if you can see the picture of the swan) why that particular picture? Well I suppose like many of you I am reminded of the phrase "Swan song". The swan song is a metaphorical phrase for a final gesture, effort, or performance given just before death or retirement. The phrase refers to an ancient belief that swans sing a beautiful song just before their death since they have been silent for most of their lifetime. (Wikipedia). There are several stories about how this story made its way into our language, my favourite is an ancient one.



A certain rich man bought in the market a Goose and a Swan. He fed the one for his table and kept the other for the sake of its song. When the time came for killing the Goose, the cook went to get him at night, when it was dark, and he was not able to distinguish one bird from the other. By mistake he caught the Swan instead of the Goose. The Swan, threatened with death, burst forth into song and thus made himself known by his voice, and preserved his life by his melody.

It is said there is no truth in the idea that a swan will sing just before its death, but the phrase still is used for that final act. My hope and prayer is that the Gospel message you have heard will be shared by everyone of you, not just as a final act but as a daily offering to the Lord. As to what will be my final act of sharing in the Loughborough Circuit will be at our open-air shared worship at Quorn on July 11th, 10-30 am. Chance to sing!

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A pastoral letter from the President and Vice-President following the Conference vote on Marriage and Relationships

We wished to take this opportunity to write to you after the Conference voted on the resolutions contained in the marriage and relationships report.

We very much appreciate that these decisions will stir up many different emotions for our siblings across the Connexion. There will be some who will be deeply hurt and others who will rejoice by what has been decided.

Our Presidential theme this year is God's Table: An Invitation for All, and God's invitation is for every single one of us. The Methodist Church has held tension for many years and as a Church and a family, we must do all we can to live with contradictory convictions.

This work was first reflected on back in 1992 and we have been on this journey together since that point. During the past years we have continued to listen to and to pray for each other and remaining true to what God is saying to us. We must remember in all this, to continue to hold each other in prayer, and to support each other as we find a way forward, respecting our differences.

It is perhaps helpful to remember that there are other issues, some of them discussed at the Conference, on which we hold differing and sometimes strong opinions. We live with them and we do not allow them to impair our communion with each other. We respect each other's consciences, we exercise judgment in when to speak and when to be silent, and we hold one another in prayer. We do all this not for our own sake but for the sake of Christ and the sake of the world which urgently needs to know the power of Christ's reconciling love.

Our prayer for you, beloved siblings, is that in joy or sorrow, in pain or excitement, we might continue to live within that reconciling love.

The Revd Sonia Hicks
President of the Conference

Mrs Barbara Easton
Vice-President of the Conference

