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### BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

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

**Minister: Rev Sandra Marshall**

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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)

## NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2023

### WEEKLY DIARY

Playgroup meets every day during school term – now on half term holiday

Sunday 19 February	10.15 am	Nigel Wrighton Steward: Sandra Coffee: Heather
Monday 20 February	8.30 am – 3.45 pm	Alixandra Dance Holiday Club No Guides
Tuesday 21 February	8.30 am – 3.45 pm 4.30 – 7.30 pm 7.30 pm	Alixandra Dance Holiday Club Cosmic Theatre School Men's Supper Group in the Welcome Coffee Bar
Wednesday 22 February	8.30 am – 3.45 pm 7.30 pm	Alixandra Dance Holiday Club Ladies Circle in the Worship area
Thursday 23 February	8.30 am – 3.45 pm 2.00 pm 7.30 pm	Alixandra Dance Holiday Club Barrow Youth Theatre meet in the Hall Stewards' meet in the Vestry
Friday 24 February	8.30 am – 3.45 pm	Alixandra Dance Holiday Club
Saturday 25 February	10.30 am – 1.30 pm 6.00 - 7.15 pm	Child's Birthday Party Karate in the rear Hall

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 26 February	10.15 am	Local Arrangement Steward: Natalie Coffee: Sandra
Sunday 5 March	10.15 am	Rev Sandra Marshall - Baptism Steward: Heather Coffee: Sue & Adrian
Sunday 12 March	10.15 am	Andy Benbow Steward: Sandra Coffee: Janet
Sunday 19 March	10.15 am	Local Arrangement Steward: Natalie Coffee: Pauline & Mike
Sunday 26 March	10.15 am	Colin Lamb Steward: Kate Coffee: Trevor & Pauline

### CHURCH NEWS

The church Council met on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February and we carefully considered our response to the decision made at Methodist Conference concerning the Report, "God in love Unites Us." Conference asked all churches and ministers to make a decision as to whether or not they wish to be registered for same sex weddings. We recognise that this an emotive subject and that there are strongly and sincerely held views on both sides of the debate. In love and prayer, the Church Council heard opinions of members and voted with an overwhelming majority that Barrow Upon Soar Methodist Church would seek to be registered for same sex marriages. There were no votes against and some neutral votes. We appreciate that this might not have been your decision and would like to say that we spoke about the gift of love being for all people, all people being made in God's image and being welcoming and inclusive. We also recognised that we have few weddings and would not expect a stampede as a result of our decision.

If you feel you would like to talk to me about this decision, I would welcome a conversation.

Rev'd Sandra

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### FOR LENT

Sue and Adrian have received copies *Be Transformed* a Lent booklet from All We Can which can be used at home or in a group. The studies encourage us to look at ourselves and our communities, and to be changed by a renewing of our minds, in light of the teaching of Jesus. They will be in Church on Sunday, please take a copy.

### FOOD HUB UPDATE

Since December we have regularly been taking donations put in the basket in the Welcome Coffee Bar to the Food Hub at Mountsorrel where it is sorted and repacked for distribution to those in need in the Soar Valley. Last week I was talking to a volunteer and enquired the areas of need both for donations and who they were helping. The simple answer was "everything" and "everyone". All non-perishable items are needed and help is needed across all parts of our communities.

The Food Hub is also in need of money to make purchases to fill the gaps each week, currently they are spending about £700. We agreed at the recent Church Council that the donations for drinks would be given to the Food Hub. Also that the drinks served at Minimart would be free in exchange for a donation. Thank you if you have been giving goods or money. We know this is a difficult time for all but if you are able, please continue to support the Food Hub as much as you can. Adrian and Sue

### FUN@CHURCH

In March we will be making "bug houses". Please can you collect any small plastic bottles, jars, containers of any shape. We will fill them with bamboo sticks to encourage the creatures, probably bees, to make them their home.

We had 25 children at Fun@Church in January. It would be super to have that number in March, but it means we need a lot of small bottles etc. Please can you help. Kate, Janet, Heather or Mike would love to receive them or place them in the corner of the Welcome Coffee Bar for us to collect. Thanks Kate

### STAMPS FOR RNIB

Thank you everyone for collecting the stamps for RNIB. I have emptied the box and sent it off. It will make about £15 for them. Let's carry on and collect another full box. Please cut the stamps off the envelopes leaving about 1cm of paper around them. Thanks Kate

### CROCHET AND CRAFT - MYSTERY KNITALONG

Victoria Road Methodist Church in Bristol are hosting another mystery knitalong this Lent!

I have now received the first email detailing the pattern for a practice swatch before we all cast on on 22 February. The proposed scarf will be knitted in double knitting yarn with the needles that you usually use for DK ie UK8/4mm all depending how loosely or tightly you knit!

I have completed the swatch – see photo. The knitting instructions will be sent by email which will be accompanied by daily reflections/meditations which have kindly been written by seven different Ministers and Worship Leaders in the Bristol circuit and beyond. If you want to receive the emails independently the link is [learning@vic-methodist-bristol.org.uk](mailto:learning@vic-methodist-bristol.org.uk) or if you would like me to forward them to you just let me know – Janet



## BOOK THE DATES

Caroline Sharpe  
Singer, Pianist, Vocalist



**SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**

**CAROLINE SHARPE SINGERS IN CONCERT**

**Followed by refreshments**

**Tickets £5 each available from Mike Morley or Janet Thompson**



**SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023**

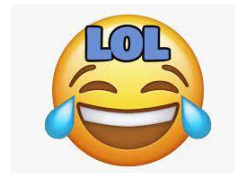
**11.00 am to 3.00 pm**

Local crafters with a great range of items for every taste!  
Cake stall plus jams and pickles – Refreshments – Raffle

**ADMISSION FREE**

**Queries for stalls to Natalie please**

A priest dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy who's dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans. Saint Peter addresses this cool guy, "Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?"



The guy replies, "I'm Jack, retired airline pilot from Houston." Saint Peter consults his list. He smiles and says to the pilot, "Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom." The pilot goes into Heaven with his robe and staff.

Next, it's the priest's turn. He stands erect and booms out, "I am Father Bob, pastor of Saint Mary's for the last 43 years." Saint Peter consults his list. He says to the priest, "Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom." "Just a minute," says the good father. "That man was a pilot and he gets a silken robe and golden staff and I get only cotton and wood. How can this be?"

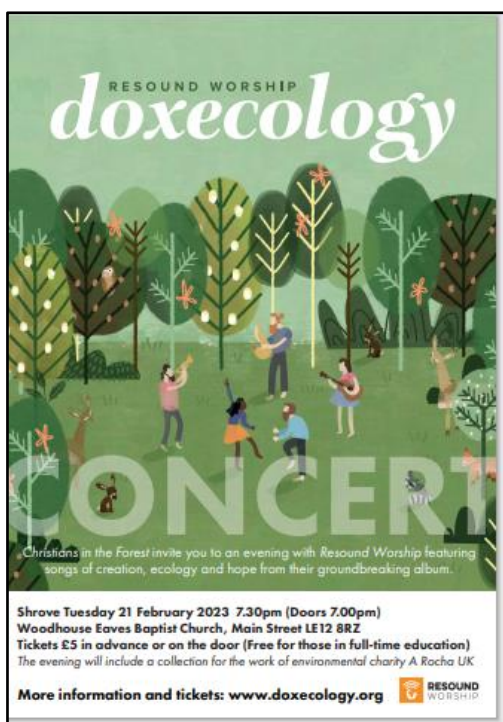
"Up here – we go by results," says Saint Peter. "When you preached – people slept. When he flew, people prayed."

### PRAYER FOR TODAY

God, who leads us on in the journey of faith, we pray for our schools: for those for whom they are places of learning and growth; for those for whom they are places of vocation and service. May we have the faithfulness to pray for them, the wisdom to know how to serve them, and the humility to contribute to their common life with grace. May we all know the blessing of growth, and the fulfilment of a life of curiosity, wonder and joy. Amen.

Jonathan Dean, Director of Learning for Ministry

### CIRCUIT EVENTS



## VILLAGE NEWS

From Carolyn Thornborow

For more information on  
this please  
click below



230213 Greener  
Lives.docx

