

# Trinity + Methodist + Church

Rev. J. Howard-Norman ☎ 07809686867



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**“The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea.’ and it will obey you.”**

## **SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2025 HARVEST FESTIVAL**

**10.00 am**

**Mrs. R. Lewis**

Readings:-

Lamentations Ch. 1 v 1-6

2 Timothy Ch. 1 v 1-14

Luke Ch. 17 v 5-10

**Prayer Diary:-**

Church Council Secretary, Church Council Treasurer, Church Council Reps and Group I.

**SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**10am – Rev. R. Williams**

**Daily Prayer at 9:00am every day** (except Sunday): This is now on Microsoft Teams. Just download Teams and you can go straight on to it or use this link

<https://teams.live.com/join/9414857191536>

## **EcoShop**

The EcoShop is **open on Tuesdays from 10am to 1pm** and we would love you to come along to try us out. You will be able to buy 10 items for £4. Please bring your own bag if you can.

There are 2 bins in the cafe area for donations (nothing perishable please) to be sold in the shop.

**We look forward to seeing you at the Eco Shop – please support us.**

**Thanks to everyone for their support of the EcoShop.** This week we would ask for donations of corned beef? If it helps it's about £2 a tin at Farmfoods and Aldi - £3.50 most other places.

We use at least 12 cans each week!

Packs of 36 weetabix or supermarket's own brand would be welcome too.

We need (empty) 6 pack egg boxes too, please. Cash donations would also be very welcome.

Donations of **bird seed** for the garden would be greatly appreciated

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL on SUNDAY**

Your gifts of tinned food, fruit etc for the harvest festival service will be given to the Eco shop this year.

If anyone is interested in joining a small group for Bible discussion – very informal – on the second Monday in each month please contact either Richard or Bill.

Hi Friends

Rainbows have a special night planned on 8th October at 6.45pm, and we'd love for you to know about it. We have a special visit from Claire at Smoggy Hogs hedgehog rescue. She is coming to do an activity with the Rainbows and Brownies all about hedgehogs and how to care for them. We are opening the doors to parents and we'd like to invite you too, to come and join in, drink tea, eat biscuits, and see what our girls get up to.

Because Claire is doing this for free, we are asking for a donation towards your drink and biscuits that will be given to the charity at the end of the night. Our Leader Sarah is also making one of her amazing cakes to share with us, and Claire will be bringing with her their table of leaflets and items for sale. Please come along if you are able, we'd love to have you join us, many thanks Emma and the team at Rainbows



## **PASTORAL MEETING**

**This will be held on 12th November at 10.30am**

Rev. John received this lovely e-mail from Ik (Gabriel) Tosin, Special and Sunshine.

Dear Sir,

I hope this email finds you and the entire church family well.

We sincerely want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the love, support, and kindness shown to us during our time in Middlesbrough, we truly could not have asked for more. Your prayers, encouragement, and fellowship meant so much to us and left a lasting mark on our hearts.

By the grace of God, our journey went smoothly, and we were blessed with the perfect day to travel. We are now beginning to settle in here, including attending a church alongside our current host, with lots of virtual services within the week. Most of our documentation processes are nearing completion, and the children will soon be assigned to schools within the district.

Every doubt and uncertainty we had seemed to fade away as you held hands together with us in prayers, and that reassurance strengthened our faith and courage as we stepped into this new chapter.

We truly miss the church community and the warmth of fellowship we shared. Yet, we remain hopeful and excited about what lies ahead, trusting and following God's divine leading in this season of our lives.

With heartfelt appreciation and blessings,

IK

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Good afternoon,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Shane Moore, and I have recently been appointed as the new Chaplain with the Mission to Seafarers in our region. I'm reaching out to local churches and groups to introduce myself and to share more about the work we do for seafarers who visit our ports and communities.

I'd love the chance to come along to any groups, gatherings, or social events you might be hosting in your parish - whether that's a coffee morning, a fellowship group, or anything else. It would be a great opportunity to share a little about the Mission to Seafarers and the ways your church can get involved in supporting this vital ministry.

When I say "support," I don't mean financially (though that's always appreciated!) - I mean practical things like volunteering with us, knitting woolly hats for seafarers, or donating chocolates at Christmas. Just as importantly, we'd be so grateful if you would keep the Mission and all seafarers in your regular cycle of prayer. That spiritual support is the foundation of everything we do.

Please do let me know if there's an event or group where I could come along and meet your congregation, or if you'd simply like me to visit and say hello.

**'A difficult question and a challenging answer'**

**HYMN H&P 617 'Lord Jesus Christ'** a hymn reminding us of Jesus the centre of our lives.

**PRAYER** Loving God, giver of every special gift and of life itself, we thank you for our World. We delight at this time of Autumn in the richness of colours in the countryside, in our gardens and in our town. We thank you for friends and family, for those who care and those for whom we care. Lord, be with us in this time of worship that our minds may be focussed on learning more of your will for each one of us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray saying: Our Father

Our Father who art in heaven....

**READING:** Matthew 22: 15-22.

**PRAYER:** Thank you Lord for your word in Holy Scripture, bless us now as we think on that word. Amen

**ADDRESS:** Matthew shows us again how the Pharisees and others in Authority wanted to catch Jesus out. Why did they have so much opposition to Jesus? Was it because he challenged them and their status and their belief? Maybe he told some home truths. The tax collectors were unpopular as they would collect more than they should have done as they were paid little or nothing for their role in the Roman administration. So here is Jesus really challenged, should we pay Tax to Caesar? If Jesus says no he could be seen as being against the Herodian supporters of Rome, if he says yes he could be seen as being against his own followers. Yet what he does is remind us all that we do have a duty to obey authority, but more than that our allegiance is to God.

In our lives we may sometimes feel as Christians we need to challenge authority as many Christians have done in the past at their own cost. Do we stand up for what we believe is God's will, even if it may make us unpopular? How do we decide what is the 'right' thing to do in controversial situations? How do we give to God what is God's?

I think the message Jesus is giving us here is to see God at the centre of our lives. As the coin bore the mark of the Emperor, so we bear the mark of God our Creator. It is to him, we owe our allegiance and so in our worship and in our living we put God at the centre. God can and does use lots of different ways to make his will happen there are times when God calls us in certain situations to work for him in building the Kingdom. Yes we need, as Christians to be good, honest citizens in every way we can. But, we need to ensure that what is always our priority is the will of God, whatever that may entail, whatever risk or sacrifice we may have to make. Amen

**PRAYERS** Lord, forgive us when we lose sight of your will, when we are carried away by our own thoughts and opinions, by what we may think is the right thing to do. Help us to turn to you to help us do the right things. Lord we are glad you forgive us and let us have a fresh start. We pray today for your world, we are so aware of the wars and the natural disasters, and we commend to you all who are suffering and all who have lost loved ones. We sometimes feel powerless in these situations, but we turn to you in faith and in hope.

Bless all those who are important to us, that we may be there to help and to care. We pray for all who are ill at this time, in body, mind or spirit and for those who heal in our hospitals, hospices and homes. Lord help us to spread your love in every way we can. Accept these our prayers in your name Amen

**HYMN StF 319 Christ triumphant ever reigning or H&P 74 At the name of Jesus**

**PRAYER** Lord may we be generous with our time and resources and may you be glorified in all we do. The Grace and Blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us and with all we love this day and always **Amen**