

Harlington *May* Methodist **2022** Monthly

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Dear Friends,

May used to be marked for me as a month in which there were 2 significant family birthdays, but for the last 10 or so years the feast day of Julian of Norwich on the 8th and the Julian Festival has come to the fore. Sadly, District Synod falls again on the same Saturday as the festival, and once again I will not get to renew my commitment as a Companion of Julian alongside other companions.

Several of you will be aware that plans for what comes after I move out of the manse have not taken a smooth path, and as I write, I have to consider the likelihood that when I need to move out of the manse on the last weekend of June, there will still not be a property that I can move into. Rather than put everything that I think I could need into storage until a property becomes available, I am looking at what I think would be essential and not easily replaceable; that this is an opportunity where I need to travel light.



Currently, my books (already downsized a couple of years ago) would occupy about 25 boxes – the challenge is to limit them to 5 or maybe 6 at a

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push. My books on Julian will definitely be amongst those to occupy the few boxes.

As I think about Julian entering her cell attached to the side of St. Julian's church in Norwich, I am struck by the fact that she would have left practically everything behind as she embraced her life as an anchoress.

The book that she wrote – Revelations of Divine Love, still draw me deeper into the things of God and challenge my understanding of what is really essential to us as human beings and more directly to me as I contemplate what God may be calling me to or to lay aside, when I leave this appointment. For Julian, God was everything, and as I prepare to let go of so much stuff that I have gathered over the years, some of which has more than just functional meaning, this quote from her writings, has particular relevance.

"God, of your goodness, give me yourself; you are enough for me, and anything less that I could ask for would not do you full honour. And if I ask anything that is less, I shall always lack something, but in you alone I have everything'."

May God's love and peace be with you,

Nina



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

15th - 21st May 2022

There will be a United Service at St. Mary's Church at **9.30 am**.

Every gift. Every action. Every prayer. Every one of us can change lives.

Drought starves. It robs women of the power to farm and grow food for their families.

Now, for the first time in a generation, global poverty is rising. Covid-19, conflict and the climate crisis are pushing more of our global neighbours into a struggle for survival.

Women and men in Zimbabwe are hungry to provide a more hopeful future. Mums often skip meals to share with their children what little food they have.

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Jessica Mwedzi, is hungry to provide food – and hope – for her family.

Photo credit: Christian Aid / David Brazier

One of these mums is Jessica Mwedzi. Drought makes every day a struggle for survival. Jessica is hungry. Hungry for a good meal. Hungry to earn a decent living. Hungry to provide a more hopeful future for her family.

‘My children crave a good meal, but I can’t provide.’ Jessica says. **‘It pains me to send them to bed hungry.’**

Your gift could help Jessica grow drought-resistant crops. You could help her set up a water tap on her farm and learn how to grow food in the harsh climate. She’ll turn her dry, dusty land into a garden of hope.

This Christian Aid Week, you can be one of the hundreds of thousands of our supporters who give, act and pray – stepping out in love for our global neighbours. With you by our side, we won’t stop until everyone can live a full life, free from poverty and hunger.

From envelope collections to walking 300,000 steps in May, Christian Aid Week brings people together as one community helping those living in poverty to transform their own lives.

This Christian Aid Week (15-21 May), please:

Give generously to help women grow crops that survive in the drought.

Act and raise your voice for justice. Join our Loss and Damage campaign.

Pray that families will stay strong during tough times of drought.

Together, we can turn hunger into hope.

Join us at caweek.org



May Diary

- 1st** 1000 Morning Service, Come and See led by Rev Nina Johnson
1800 Evening Service led by Martin Wallis inc. Communion
- 2nd 1900 TFT Band
2000 Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley
- 3rd *1600 Outside Booking –Kristy Dance*
- 4th *0900 Outside Booking—Thornton Greet*
- 5th 1430 Fellowship Group on Zoom—John 9: A blind man sees the light
1445 Ladies Bright Hour— Rev Nigel Washington
- 6th 1800 626
2015 TFT
- 7th
- 8th** 1000 Morning Service led by (local arrangement)
- 9th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
1900 TFT Band
- 10th *1600 Outside Booking –Kristy Dance*
- 11th *0900 Outside Booking—Thornton Greet*
- 12th 1445 Ladies Bright Hour— Dr Mike Copper
- 13th 1800 626
2015 TFT
- 14th
- 15th** 0930 Joint Service at St Mary's for Christian Aid Week
- 16th 1900 TFT Band
2000 Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley
- 17th *1600 Outside Booking –Kristy Dance*
- 18th *0900 Outside Booking—Thornton Greet*
- 19th 1430 Fellowship Group on Zoom—John 10: Listening for the Shepherd's voice
1445 Ladies Bright Hour— Rev Nina Johnson
- 20th 1800 626
2015 TFT
- 21st 1600 Messy Church
- 22nd** 1000 Morning Service led by Rev Nina Johnson inc Communion
1800 Circuit Service, The Square—Local Preachers Celebration
- 23rd 1400 Crafternoon Tea
1900 TFT Band
- 24th *1600 Outside Booking –Kristy Dance*
- 25th *0900 Outside Booking—Thornton Greet*
1900 Outside Booking—Arts & Crafts Meeting

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26th 1445 Ladies Bright Hour— Stephen Turner—Musical afternoon
27th 1800 626
2015 TFT
28th 1000 Coffee Drop-In
29th 1000 Morning Service led by Tina Salmon
30th 1900 TFT Band
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
31st 1600 *Outside Booking—Kristy Dance*

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS - MAY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
02 MAY	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
03 MAY	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
04 MAY	0900	1700	Business Meeting
10 MAY	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
11 MAY	0900	1700	Business Meeting
16 MAY	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
17 MAY	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
18 MAY	0900	1700	Business Meeting
24 MAY	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
25 MAY	0900	1700	Business Meeting
25 MAY	1900	2100	Arts & Crafts Society Mtng
30 MAY	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
31 MAY	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance

LADIES BRIGHT HOUR—Speakers for MAY

5th Rev Nigel Washington
12th Dr Mike Copper
19th Rev Nina Johnson
26th Stephen Turner—Musical afternoon

At Ladies bright Hour on 12th May you will see there is one Dr Mike Copper speaking. This of course is Wendy's son Michael, known to lots of us. **Everyone is welcome so do come if you can.** His presentation is headed '*Mysterious Neolithic Islets of the Outer Hebrides*'

Jo

ISSUE #18 Welcome to the eighteenth edition of our monthly magazine/ notices. Deadline for items for the **JUNE** edition will be **THU 19th MAY** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 26th May

It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

ROTAS

Now we are regularly meeting in Church, we need to be aware of rotas again.

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS
01 MAY	am John Rutherford pm Tina Salmon	Alan & Christine Parfitt
08 MAY	Jo Golby	TBA
22 MAY	Mary Caveney	Tina Salmon
29 MAY	John Rutherford	Trevor & Mary

The 15th May is a joint Service for Christian Aid at St Mary's

There are spaces on the rotas, and we need a coffee rota so that Dorothy, Doreen and Jo aren't on every week, and possibly a door steward rota again, at least for United Services. Any volunteers?

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Fellowship groups are meeting, but contact the numbers shown to find out what is actually happening and if they are physical or virtual.

MONDAY – 8pm (numbers permitting). At present we are meeting via Zoom. To join, please text or call Martin on 07795 642507

WEDNESDAY - 10.30 am normally, on Zoom. Contact Cathy for details.

THURSDAY – alternate Thursdays

At 10.30 am. Please contact Helen/Jo (872495) for dates and location.

At 2.30 pm. On Zoom. Contact Tina for dates and details for the joining link

REVIEW OF THE MONTH

The usual things happened this month, plus a few extras.

The Easter morning service was very well attended in church, with most of our regular congregation, plus some visitors, as well as some on Zoom and following on YouTube. It was good to have so many to this special communion service. After, we had left overs from Messy Church, and better still, Martin provided home made Simnel Cake for us.

Before that, it was great to be able to restart the Good Friday, Churches Together in Harlington, Walk of Witness, and to finally use the dramas that Life Church prepared to use in 2020. Rob having tested positive for Covid, Martin took the role of Jesus, and led us round the village. It's



Together in Harlington, Walk of Witness, and to finally use the dramas that Life Church prepared to use in 2020. Rob having tested positive for Covid, Martin took the role of Jesus, and led us round the village. It's



fun to be able to say to people "Follow Jesus!".

We covered Holy Week up to Good Friday in various dramas, with the main part taking place outside the shops. We finished at St. Mary's with tea and hot cross buns. And the sun shone on us.

We filmed more Open the Book videos to take us up to next half-term. If anyone wants to see the actual videos, speak to me or Hazel.



REVISED SUNDAY SERVICES PROCEEDURES

These were discussed during our ACM. Covid rates are still high, and our arrangements may have to change from time to time.

The Church building will be open for Sunday Services. There will normally be a preacher at the church for the service, although there may still be a few preachers who prefer to use Zoom. As we have said previously, whatever the state of lockdown or church opening, our 10 am Sunday service will continue to be available on Zoom, and live streamed to YouTube as well. The stream to YouTube stays there as a recording, so you can see it (again!) later.

The service is also available, although sometimes with an abbreviated message, in text form by email and as a printed sheet, if you can't download it. Ask me if you want the paper version.

If you are on the list for services, I send out an email with the Zoom link, now usually on Saturday. If you are not on the list and want to be, contact me. It is still possible, if you want to, to access Zoom by phone. Contact me for the details if you need to use this method of access.

We are also holding a Communion Service at 6 pm, usually on the first Sunday of the month. This service is face-to-face only. Otherwise the arrangements above also apply to this service.

Currently please stick to the following in church:

1. If you suspect you might have COVID, or anything else infectious, please do not attend, but join us on Zoom or YouTube.
2. Hand sanitiser will continue to be available.
3. Please maintain social distancing in the church.
4. You can sing, but only when wearing a mask.
5. Over refreshments we can all now sit round one table, although if the weather is good we may also put tables outside.
6. If you feel you need more distance, please feel free to keep apart.
7. If others require more distance, please respect this.
8. Windows will be open for ventilation. Wear warm clothes. There are fleeces in the church.



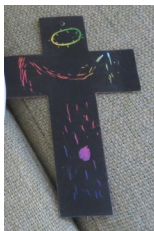
Clive



HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH

Our April session took place on Easter Saturday, and we looked at the Easter story from Jesus' arrest to his resurrection. In the time available, we made

Easter biscuits, which we



decorated later, we had scratch art crosses, we made sad to happy faces and an Easter tomb model.

Our next planned session is on **Saturday 21st May** when we will be looking at David the King. This is our 3rd session on the life of David.

Anyone is welcome to come to Messy Church. Children need to have an adult with them. We also put up a Zoom link for the whole session (except tea!) and stream the Celebration, which includes some activities, to YouTube. Session starts at 4 pm, Celebration starts at 4.45 pm, tea starts at 5.30 pm. The Celebration is on the church YouTube channel.

OPEN THE BOOK

The schools are starting to allow us back for Open the Book, but we don't, at present, have people who can go in and we're still using videos. If you would like to join this very worthwhile role of telling Bible stories to Lower School children, please let Hazel (Harlington Friday 9 am) or Clive (Sundon Tuesday 9.45 am) You don't need acting experience, and you don't have to learn words. Please think about it and let us know.

Clive

EASTER DECORATION

Thanks to all who provided the flowers for Easter Sunday. Space doesn't allow all of them to be pictured here, but if I get time, I'll put more pictures on the Church Facebook page.



BOOKSALE

We need new organisers for the Booksale if we are able to hold it this year as Tina and I are not able to do it, for family reasons.

We will, of course, help whoever takes it on as far as we can.

Clive



REFLECTION

John 21: 17. The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Tina was talking to someone over Easter who reminded her that, something like 20 years ago, she had said to them that saying sorry properly meant you would try not to do the wrong thing again. That's a long time to remember something.

Peter had done a very wrong thing in saying, three times, that he didn't know Jesus. Of course, he said it because he was, quite rightly, afraid. If people were out to get Jesus, how much easier would it have been to get one of his disciples? In this country we are not at risk of death because we are Christian; the same is far from true in many other countries.

It seems as if Jesus was being very hard on Peter, asking him three times, and you might want to query why Jesus did it. Shouldn't he have just forgiven Peter without the fuss.

I wonder if asking three times was needed for Peter to understand what was being offered to him? If he needed the repetition to understand that he had to decide what he was going to do in future. After all, a little while later he was on trial before the Sanhedrin. He could have failed then. Jesus was giving him the chance to say sorry properly.

Forgiveness is something that is easy to talk about but hard in real life, and it can be just as hard for the forgiven as for the forgiver. If you have done something wrong you need to accept forgiveness and that you are forgiven.

Prayer

Dear God, help us to be forgiving of others, to be really sorry for what we have done wrong, and to accept your forgiveness so that we can move on.

Amen

OUTSIDE PLANTING



The tubes outside the Church old front door continue to look good, and the small troughs at the side are being replaced with larger ones. What will be in these?



NOTICES Details of items for the Notices should be delivered to Trevor Caveney at hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com.

DEADLINE for inclusion in the June edition is **THU 19th May**

CHURCH BOOKING DIARY

PLEASE advise Trevor before adding any dates.

Prayer Chain number: Dorothy Preston 874841

Church Website: www.harlingtonmethodist.church

Church YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw

FACEBOOK

Don't forget the church has a Facebook page. You can use this for communicating, and it's very good for showing pictures. If you want to join the group, contact Martin. Remember, the more people who use it and who belong to the group, the more useful it becomes.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE CHURCH FAMILY



Pick up your pen, pencil or keyboard and share with us what you are doing in your life and as part of the Church.

Please feel free to send me items of interest, messages, birthdays, anniversaries or anything else you might wish to share for inclusion in future editions of these E-notices. Keep safe.

Trevor & Mary

CONTACT MAGAZINE

The latest edition is available at <https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

Paper copies will also be available.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

'The calling of Harlington Methodist Church is to respond to and celebrate the Gospel of God's presence. In all of our activities we seek to serve Harlington and the wider world. Most of all we aspire to honour and serve the living God.'