



**MIDSOMER NORTON METHODIST CHURCH**

# **CROSSLINK**

*LINKING CHURCH AND COMMUNITY*



**MARCH – MAY 2020**

# Welcome To Crosslink

If this is your first time with our Newsletter, you are warmly invited to attend any of the meetings or events described: Crosslink can be e-mailed, read (less personal details) on the church website or it may be posted if a book of postage stamps is supplied.

Please leave details with the Receptionist.

## **Midsomer Norton Methodist Church Mission Statement**

Our Mission is to reflect God's love in everything we do, so that others may be drawn to faith in Christ.

*We are a welcoming, enthusiastic and growing Christian community that seeks to:*

- Offer living, vibrant and relevant worship to God. Be guided by God's Holy Spirit, seeking renewal and wholeness for all.
- Be courageous in discipleship and eager to share the joy of the Father's love in Jesus.
- Serve God locally and in the wider world, caring passionately and challenging injustice

The views of articles in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Midsomer Norton Methodist Church or the Editor.

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*Front Cover: Midsomer Norton High Street*

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## **FROM CHURCH NEWSLETTERS AND POSTERS**

A talk on drugs will be given at the next Mothers' Union meeting. This will be followed by a Bring and Buy Sale.

Don't miss the Young Wives' Victorian Evening next month. It will be a fun night and some of the women will wear clothes.

Correction: The following typo appeared in our last bulletin: 'Lunch will be gin at 12.15.' Please correct to read '12 noon'.

## Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

I'm conscious that this magazine could end up anywhere! We distribute it to a number of people and a number of places eg dentists and doctors' surgeries. It's a magazine designed for both those within the church and those who wouldn't regard themselves as church people but you are reading this as, for example, you are awaiting the dentist to call you for your appointment, and you don't want to read the other magazines that are on the table!

As we progress through March and April we journey through the most important part of the Christian year...Lent and Easter. As a church you will see that, through our Lent Study Group and our acts of worship, we read, learn and respond to what Jesus did for us through his death and resurrection.

To many people outside the church Jesus' death and resurrection means very little. Jesus is maybe a historic figure who was a teacher but nothing more. To take such a line is, of course, their right. But I want to offer you something far greater than just a historical figure.

The death and resurrection of Jesus is crucial if we want to understand not only the meaning and purpose of this life but also life beyond this life. When we follow Jesus and call ourselves Christians we are entering into a whole different understanding of life, both here on earth and into eternity. Jesus said *'I have come that you might have life, and have it to the full'* (John 10v10) in which he wasn't talking about busyness but rather, fulfilment and purpose.

When we look at Jesus on the cross and then that empty tomb we see sacrificial love followed by endless joy. He died for you and me...Jesus makes it personal and offers a way of life of love and joy. And that isn't just for the 'faithful' who go to church...it's for EVERYONE... including you who read this. As Jesus also said:

*'For God so loved the world, that he gave His only Son, that WHOEVER believes in me should not die but have everlasting life' (John 3.16)*

So we do welcome ANYONE to respond to the challenge of Jesus of 'Come follow me' ...and that not just for Lent and Easter but for the whole of life.

Your friend and Minister

*Stephen*

PS Details of our Lent and Easter services and Study Group are found elsewhere in this magazine....you would be very welcome to come along.

### **Church Bible Study**

The Church Bible study meets on Monday nights for 3 or 4 weekly sessions then has a break and then another set of 3 or 4 sessions.

Before Christmas we spent time studying the Bible Readings traditionally used at the carol service and Christmas services which helped give people a better understanding for when they heard them in church.

In the New Year we went on a journey to study Paul's missionary journeys in the Book of Acts.

During Lent we attend the Lent Study Groups as we reflect on the Bible readings given to us on the theme.

It is open to anyone to come along, no matter how little or how much of the Bible you know.

Stephen

## Personal Glimpse - Pete Rodgers

I was born in Frome. My father was from the Midlands and my mother belonged to the Paniccia's ice cream family in Frome. We moved back to the Midlands when I was quite young, but because of family illness, I soon returned to Frome to be looked after temporarily by an aunt. I went to a secondary school in Langley Mill, on the Nottingham- Derbyshire border, until 1964, when my grandmother died and we moved back to Frome. I finished my schooling at Selwood School in Frome.



After leaving school, I had a few different jobs, but I ended up at Mardons in Midsomer Norton, staying there until I retired in 2006. I met Meg when I was eighteen and she was nineteen. I was working at Marley carpets in Frome and she was assistant manageress in the canteen. She used to serve me my lunch. We married in 1972 and had one son, who still lives in the area. We also have one grandson. When I was younger I was interested in anything to do with motorbikes. I used to go stock car and banger racing whenever I could. Having an Italian mother meant I was brought up as a Roman Catholic, but I became disenchanted as a lad and I heard they needed a choirboy in the Church of England, so I joined the choir. Then we had a big choir contest. My Dad's mother told the vicar that I was a Roman Catholic and the following week he asked me to leave, so I left the Church altogether.

Meg and I wanted to get married at St John's Church, Midsomer Norton, where Meg had been a member, so we went to see the vicar and chose the date of 24<sup>th</sup> June, which he agreed to and we started making preparations, but about a week later, the vicar came back to us to say he couldn't do it then after all because he was going on a pilgrimage at Glastonbury. The curate offered to do it instead, but the vicar was adamant and said the Church would be closed. As we were going to live in Westfield, the vicar there agreed to marry us. After 3

years we moved to Radstock Road, followed by thirty-five years in Stockhill Road, Chilcompton.

Our time in Radstock Road was fraught with problems. The house was in a much worse state of repair than we had expected from the survey, our son was born six weeks prematurely, which also brought with it associated problems, my work was very stressful, because of having to deal with redundancies and this resulted in difficulties within our marriage. We felt a weird sense within the house and eventually found pornographic material left by the previous owners in the roof space. During Christmas week, when I was on night shift someone got out a Ouija board just for a laugh and the glass which was placed on top of the board seemed as if it was working through me.

Things got so bad at home that Meg left me after an almighty row, when our son was nine. She went back to her Mum's and during that time she became a born-again Christian. After two weeks, I went to her Mum's house and didn't receive a very warm welcome from her mother. Meg said, "I am a born-again Christian now and for our marriage to work, you have to become one too." I then went to see a Baptist lay-reader and told him my story. He read the Bible to me ----- "Knock and the door will be opened to you, seek and ye shall find." It was as if God himself was speaking to me, so I gave my life to Jesus there and then. and the lay reader said, "We'll come round and deal with your house and pray for you". That night, when we were in bed, there was a battle going on inside my head and I felt that I couldn't go on. I was in such a turmoil, but Meg woke up and read the Bible most of the night. The lay reader encouraged us to go to Welton Baptist Church and there we met Geoff Meriden, who came to our house with the lay reader and blessed it. We went upstairs to the back bedroom and he opened the window and the curtains were blowing in on a wet and windy night. He knew there was an evil spirit in the house and he prayed in the name of Jesus and cast it out and the curtains shot outwards as he did it. We were actually quite terrified at the time. Then we felt such peace in the house. He laid his hands on me and prayed for me and I felt that peace within me. I felt that I had been delivered from an evil spirit and been filled with the Holy Spirit and since then have

been used to help people in similar circumstances. I feel it's all summed up in the words of Psalm 40 verses 1-3:-

"I waited patiently for the Lord, he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song into my mouth; a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him. Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord."

## Wesley In Bristol



A couple of years ago I was privileged to join a small group of people on a gentle but thought-provoking amble entitled "Wesley in Bristol". Much of what we saw showed us how John Wesley lived his faith. We learnt about his life in Bristol which followed his own

adage of "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

We started at the New Room in the Horsefair. The New Room is a Georgian chapel hemmed in by modern retail buildings towering over it. If you have not been before, or recently, I recommend a visit as it was totally renovated in 2017 and has a thought-provoking interactive museum describing Georgian Bristol and how Methodism spread across Britain and America.

The building on the Horsefair was never intended to be a chapel. John Wesley intended his flock of Methodists to continue attending their Anglican churches; meeting between Sunday worship, as weekday classes, to learn more about Jesus Christ and hold each other up in faith. The building was intended as a place where the poor could receive education, medical and social care such as clothing and food. As the community work expanded, the original building was outgrown and was replaced with a larger structure, which remains today,

containing a chapel, and rooms upstairs providing accommodation for John Wesley and visiting preachers, a library and housekeeper accommodation. This is the building we see today, the world's first Methodist building.

Leaving the New Room we walked to Castle Park and looked towards the Galleries Shopping Centre carpark. This was built on the site of Bristol's Newgate Prison where Wesley visited prisoners, as he had as a student in Oxford. The conditions would have been squalid and prisoners were reliant on friends and family to bring in supplies. Wesley had a strong sense of social justice and seeing how the prisoners were treated made him campaign outspokenly and relentlessly for prison reform. Wesley was also outspoken on the subject of slavery and risked verbal and physical abuse every time he preached on its abolition in Bristol, a port important in the slave trade.

Leaving The Galleries we made our way past St Peter's church where Wesley attended Sunday worship with George Whitfield when he first visited Bristol. We stopped at Temple Church which leans precariously in imitation of the tower of Pisa. It was at this church that Wesley was refused entry by the vicar because he was accompanied by miners who, presumably did not fit with the "refined" congregation. At this time many miners had come to the area, especially to Kingswood, just outside Bristol. These miners and their families came from all over the country, leaving their home churches with their spiritual and social support, and relocated to new mining parishes with insufficient infrastructure to provide any care for such an influx. Wesley saw a need here and preached in these areas; Methodist communities filled the void created from a lack of historical parish communities.

On we walked, past the place where John Wesley attended his first Bristol religious society meeting in Victoria Street and past where two different societies met within a street of each other but which united to become the community of the New Room. We stopped for a while at The Pithay, now a ghastly modern street replacing Blitz damage, to observe where the bowling green had been where Wesley observed George Whitfield preaching outdoors. This was something that Wesley initially considered a "mad notion" but he became very proficient at preaching to the miners of Kingswood and Cornwall and elsewhere

when the pulpit of the Anglican churches became closed to him. Wesley's eagerness to tell people about the saving grace of God could not be silenced.

Our next stop was St James Priory. This was the parish church where the Wesleys worshiped. It is a Norman building, where there are remnants to the medieval priory which stood here. It was interesting to note the support services that, today, this Christian community provides to the homeless and needy of Bristol, reminding us again that Wesley promoted faith demonstrated by works of love for others.

We dodged traffic to visit the house in Charles Street where, for a time, John Wesley's brother lived with his family. We considered what a busy person Charles was and the numerous hymns that he wrote, using popular tunes of the time, to teach the word of God to so many people. Passing by the memorial stone to Charles' wife and his children in St James' churchyard we made our way back towards the New Room. As we overlooked the statue of Charles Wesley from the stairs next to Primark with the busy Saturday shoppers rushing by the gates, we considered how active John Wesley had been in Bristol, let alone elsewhere in Britain and America, preaching of God's grace and living a life radically focussing on serving God.

Cathy Edge

### **News from Shirley Markham**

*Shirley and her sister Marjorie were members here until about 6 years ago. They lived at Farmborough until they moved to sheltered housing in Scotland. Marjorie died just over a year ago. Shirley writes*

"In March I left Auchloch after six happy years to reinvent myself in Cumbria. Mainly, I wanted to be back in England and be part of a wider Church and community again. The move was difficult as the house was not really ready and I had picked up a nasty virus, but with the help of a friend, all was eventually sorted. In April, I spent a week in Anglesey recovering!

Then May saw my 90th birthday. The fact that I scarcely knew anyone here did not deter my friends Chris and family from putting on a wonderful tea party for me. We had a couple of professional musicians

to play my kind of music, the ballroom was beautifully set up, an absolutely scrumptious tea with Prosecco and a surprisingly large number of people, some of whom I had not met before , but now are amongst my circle of new friends.

This event was followed next day by a visit to a Country House for a Spa experience followed by a celebratory dinner. The celebration was rounded off the following Friday when we had another party back at Auchlochlan.

The summer passed pleasantly. I enjoyed having my own outdoor space, a large balcony, which I enthusiastically filled with pots of flowers of all shapes and sizes, surrounding the house with colour. I joined several groups, discussion, church, Mah-Jong, bookworms, painting, luncheon clubs etc. and attended exhibitions of art and craft most weeks.

Then in September we had a fire. During the late evening it started in the unoccupied hall, somewhere over the ballroom and seems to have been an accident, maybe caused by a moment's carelessness from a workman. The entire hall was destroyed, all the new building work which was going on inside, all the stored furniture and artefacts, windows and roof with thousands of Westmoreland tiles was within days of completion. The fire burned for a couple of days but amazingly most of the stonemasonry survived. My house suffered a little, but nothing which cannot be restored. No-one was harmed, the owners and their four young children got out safely. People living nearby opened their homes for us, others kept leaving hampers of food and toiletries anonymously, we camped in one of the new houses and I spent a few days in a hotel until the council declared it safe to return. Now we are three months on and work has gone on continuously to make everything safe and build the new apartments inside the old exterior, which will eventually be restored to look the same externally. We shall no longer have a ballroom, but are promised good club facilities. The Spa and Coffee shop will open in spring; they are detached and escaped damage.

All our Christmas programme had to be cancelled, but I have enjoyed lots of pre-Christmas events in and around Wetheral and will be spending Christmas day itself with four friends from Church.

So that was 2019! In January I am going on a five-week cruise to the Canaries and Italy on Saga's new cruise ship Spirit of Discovery. Sounds exciting, though on the whole, I am hoping 2020 will be a bit calmer".

### **Tuesday Encounter Group**

The group has recently studied a *York Course* for advent put together by Rev Prof David Wilkinson (Scientist, Methodist Minister, Principal of St. John's College, Durham and Contributor to BBC Radio 4 'Thought for the Day') called '*Who are we praying to?*' The evening takes the shape of listening to a CD with contributors also from other denominations and following the course booklet leading on to questions and discussion. For Lent, the Group is doing another *York Course* based on the musical '*Jesus Christ Superstar*' called '*Superstar*' (naturally!). The author is the former Assistant Bishop of Llandaff, Rt Rev David Wilbourne. One session is entitled '*Jesus Christ Superstar, do you think you're what they say you are?*' Pilate's question to Jesus.

We don't do these courses all the time as various topics come along to exercise our minds and prayers, also learning, laughing, sympathising together and hopefully listening to God's voice through it all.

Our thanks go to Evaline Scott for directing the group and keeping us from wandering too much from the chosen subject!

David and Dianne Shearn

#### **What Children Say**

Her four year old great granddaughter was singing for her parents "The Grand old Duke of York" and continued with the words, "He had four cows and men".

On another occasion when she came home from school, she reported to her mother that she had been given a fruit snack. She said, "I was hungry afterwards, because the fruit they gave me was smaller even than a melon." Her mother asked her, "What fruit is smaller than a melon?" She replied, "The breezes". Her Mum said, "What do you mean?" and she said, "Strawbreezes, blackbreezes, raspbreezes."

## Treasurer's Report

Our church financial year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> August. From September, the accounts are then presented to the Finance Team and November Church Council and to an Independent Examiner before they are finalised and can be made publicly available.

The full statement of accounts can be found on the Charity Commission web page and will be available at the General Church Meeting in May, but the following is a summary of the accounts for year-end August 31<sup>st</sup> 2019:

RECEIPTS:		PAYMENTS	
Offerings & Tax Recovered	£71,472	Circuit Pledge	£ 53,302
Bank Interest	£ 847	Donations	£ 1,679
Booking Donations	£ 11,094	Repairs & Maintenance	£ 24,600
Other receipts	<u>£ 28,183</u>	Utilities	£ 14,835
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 111,596	Other payments	
		(eg Outreach, worship)	<u>£ 20,858</u>
DEFICIT for the year	(£ 3,679)	TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 115,274

The deficit was largely due to the refurbishment of the drive and the new Reception carpet and was covered by reserves that are held for such purposes.

You may also like to know that the church and its groups gave a total of £5,625 to outside causes and emergency appeals. This is in addition to the £1,679 Donations figure above.

We are very grateful for all the kind donations that contribute to the work of God through the church. If you would like to increase your giving or receive envelopes for regular giving, please contact John Mander, our Gift Aid Secretary. John can also be contacted if you are a tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your money. This enables the church to claim 25% of your gift back from HMRC at no extra cost to you.

Many thanks  
Julie Slade  
Church Treasurer



# LENT THEMED SUNDAY SERVICES

## *Who do you say I am?*

During Lent our Sunday morning worship will follow the theme of answering the question of Jesus 'who do you say I am?' we shall use some traditional words that we find in the Bible and in our hymns/songs as follows:

*Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March Morning Worship THEME: Jesus as Messiah*

*Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March @tenThirty Informal Worship with Baptism  
THEME: Jesus as Saviour*

*Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March Holy Communion THEME: Jesus as an Atonement*

*Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Mothering Sunday THEME: Son of Mary*

*Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March Morning Worship  
THEME: Jesus as Suffering Servant*

*Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April PALM SUNDAY @tenThirty Informal Worship  
THEME: Jesus as King*

*Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April EASTER DAY Easter Praise with Holy Communion  
THEME: Jesus as Risen One*

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### **TEXT A PRAYER.**

The Church now offers a texting service for prayers. Simply text your prayer to 07957414970 and it will be passed on to our Prayer meetings and/or prayer chain



# LENT WORSHIP

*A time to reflect.....*

## FRIDAYS

### 11.30am-12noon in Church

A short act of reflective worship focused on prayer

28 <sup>th</sup> February	<i>Theme: Who do you say I am?</i>	(Matthew 16 v13-21)
6 <sup>th</sup> March	<i>Theme: The Journey to Jerusalem</i>	(Luke 19 v28-44)
13 <sup>th</sup> March	<i>Theme: Into the Temple</i>	(Matthew 21 v12-27)
20 <sup>th</sup> March	<i>Theme: Preparations</i>	(Mark 14 v1-41)
27 <sup>th</sup> March	<i>Theme: Arrest and trial</i>	(Mark 14 v43-72)
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<i>Theme: Crucified...but that's not the end</i>	(Matthew 27 v1-62)

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## CHURCHES TOGETHER in Holy Week

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in the Hollies Garden

We shall share in a united act of worship around the cross that will be installed in the Hollies gardens

### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 10am to 12noon in the Hollies Garden

Easter Outreach and witnessing to the community  
More details nearer the time in the weekly notices.

## Interactive Holy Week Prayer Space



During Holy Week (w/b 6-4-20) there will be an opportunity for people of all ages to engage with prayer activities in Midsomer Norton Methodist Church. A prayer space is 'just what it says on the tin' – a space where you can spend time reflecting, praying and

exploring things which tend to get pushed to one side in the busyness of daily life. There will be a variety of things to do which will include activities such as writing down our 'Big Questions', reflecting on what we should remember and try to forget with the help of an elephant, feeling a little more courageous prompted by angels....and a whole lot more! The activities will be interactive in nature, telling step by step the story of the first Easter. These will be a self- directed, so you can take as much time to move through them as you wish. Each of them will have a set of directions in order for you to get the most out of each activity.

The church will be open Monday-Thursday mornings from 9am -12.30 and on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings 7pm -9pm. Please feel free to come and go as you please during these times.

So why not give it a go? You have nothing to lose and ever so much to gain! See you there!

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### From the Registers

**Wedding:** February 1<sup>st</sup> Joseph Slade and Victoria Barnett

**Funerals:** January 3<sup>rd</sup> Irene Webb  
February 4<sup>th</sup> Elsie Gregory

We pray for all the people listed from our Registers.

## **Church Weekend at Home**

The Church Weekend at Home will take place over the weekend of **2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> May**. (NB This is NOT the Bank holiday weekend)

Our 'at home' weekend enables as many people as possible who are connected to the church (not just members) to come along and share together as a church. The weekend provides a mixture of social, study, worship and fellowship opportunities. In previous years many people have really appreciated having time to share together and spend time together. The Saturday morning will include our General Church Meeting where appointments are made.

We appreciate that there might be some who may not be able to come for the whole weekend but we hope you will join us for as much as possible.

Book the date now!

## **Midsomer Norton Methodist Cricket Club**

2 Dates for your diary

Saturday 21st March Methodist Cricket 'Skittles Social' 7pm at Norton Cricket Club. All welcome to come along to play in a skittles evening. Please see Stuart Green if you are interested.

Saturday 4th April Methodist Cricket Club jumble sale 9am at the Methodist Centre. Donations welcome. Please see Jim Eyles if you have any donations.

There are always opportunities for anyone who would like to play for the team. We are always delighted to hear from anyone, whether you are an experienced player or someone who would be happy to 'help out in the field if we're short'. To find out more, contact Dave Sackett 07503 161798 email: [mnmethscricket@gmail.com](mailto:mnmethscricket@gmail.com)

## Church Outreach Team

Last Autumn we set up an Outreach Team to look at ways in which the church could reach out into the community with the good news of Jesus. This can be done in a number of ways. For example, at Christmas we went into every business on the High Street and delivered a handmade angel with a Christmas greeting on. Our social media outreach continues to grow. On Mothering Sunday weekend we plan to hand out flowers on the High Street on the Saturday.

The team is open to anyone who wants to contribute to this important work with their ideas and support. It is a *doing* Team! Our next meeting is on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm.

For more details, contact Virgie Lewis, Church Steward for Outreach.

## Church Pastoral Team

The church offers pastoral care to a number of people, both church members and others who seek help. Volunteer pastoral visitors work closely with the Minister to ensure needs are responded to. We meet together three times a year, not only to ensure our records are up to date but we also spend time reflecting on our pastoral practice. It is very rewarding work as we express God's love and care to people of all ages.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm. We are always in need of more Visitors so if you are interested then please do come along. Further information from Lydia Hinton, our Church Steward with responsibility for pastoral matters.

## Church Lunch on Sunday

For the last couple of years we have shared together on a Quarterly basis either to go out for Sunday lunch or have a lunch here at church. Due to the popularity and appreciation of them we are going to do this more regularly from now on and meet bi-monthly. So the next two Sunday Lunches are on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. It is important that you book in advance for catering purposes, both when we stay in and go out.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### March

- |                  |         |  |
|------------------|---------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 10.30am | Morning Worship – Rev David Musgrave   |
|                  | 6.00pm  | Reflective Worship – Rev Stephen Robinson  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  |         | Coombe Lea Residential Centre Service  |
|                  | 7.30pm  | Lent Study Group   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 7.30pm  | Church Pastoral Team   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.30pm  | Circuit Meeting at Keynsham Queens Road  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 11.30am | First Friday Lent Worship  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | @TenThirty Informal Worship including the Baptism<br>of Fraser Bowers – Rev Stephen Robinson with the<br>@tenThirty Team |
|                  | 12.45pm | Church Lunch   |
|                  | 6.00pm  | Evening Worship – Rev Elizabeth Kirova   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.30pm  | Lent Study Group   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | 7.30pm  | Church Leadership Team meeting   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | 3.00pm  | Church Court MHA Songs of Praise   |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | 11.30am | First Friday Lent Worship  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Holy Communion – Rev Stephen Robinson  |
|                  | 6.00pm  | Circuit Service – HERE including the Admission<br>Service as a Local Preacher of Mark Robinson                           |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | 7.30pm  | Lent Study Group   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | 6.30pm  | Church Property Team   |
|                  | 7.45pm  | Church Finance Team  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | 11.30am | First Friday Lent Worship  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> |         | MOTHERING SUNDAY   |
|                  | 10.30am | @TenThirty – Rev Stephen Robinson with the<br>@tenThirty Team  |
|                  | 6.00pm  | Evening Worship – Rev Jan Tate   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | 11.30am | First Friday Lent Worship  |

28 <sup>th</sup>		District Synod
29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship – Mr Steve Beck
	6.00pm	Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing – Rev Stephen Robinson
30 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Longvernal Primary School Easter Service
	7.30pm	Lent Study Group
31 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Worship and Prayer Team

## **April**

1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Church Leadership Team meeting
3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.30am	First Friday Lent Worship
5 <sup>th</sup>		PALM SUNDAY
	10.30am	Morning Worship - @TenThirty – Mrs Cathy Edge with the @tenThirty Team
	6.00pm	Evening Worship – Churches Together event in the Hollies

Holy week Interactive prayer space

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> 9am to 12.30pm

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm

6 <sup>th</sup>		Coombe Lea Residential Centre Service
	7.30pm	Lent Study Group
9 <sup>th</sup>		MAUNDY THURSDAY
	3.00pm	Church Court MHA Holy Communion
	7.30pm	Service of Holy Communion
10 <sup>th</sup>		GOOD FRIDAY
	11am	Good Friday Worship
11 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Churches Together Easter Outreach in the Hollies
12 <sup>th</sup>	6.15am	Sonrise Service in the Hollies – Rev Stephen Robinson
	10.30am	Easter Day Holy Communion – Rev Stephen Robinson
	6.00pm	Evening Worship – Rev Martin Slocombe
19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship – Rev Dr Anthony Cross
	6.00pm	Evening Worship – Mrs Margaret West
21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Church Outreach Team at the Manse

- 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship - @TenThirty – Rev Stephen  
Robinson with the @tenThirty Team  
6.00pm Holy Communion – Rev Stephen Robinson
- 28<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Circuit Preachers’ Meeting HERE
- 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Church Council Meeting

## May

- 1<sup>st</sup> 11.30am First Friday Worship
- 2-3<sup>rd</sup> CHURCH WEEKEND AT HOME
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30am General Church Meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship – Mr Mark Robinson  
12.45pm Church Lunch  
6.00pm Evening Worship - Rev Stephen Robinson
- 4<sup>th</sup> Coombe Lea Residential Centre Service
- 5<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Church Leadership Team meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship - @TenThirty – Rev Stephen  
Robinson with the @tenThirty Team  
6.00pm Reflective Worship – Rev Stephen Robinson
- 17<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing –  
Rev Stephen Robinson  
6.00pm Evening Worship – Mr Michael Jakins
- 21<sup>st</sup> ASCENSION DAY  
3.00pm Church Court MHA Songs of Praise  
7.30pm Circuit Service at Westfield
- 24<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship – Local Arrangement  
6.00pm Evening Worship – Mrs Kathy Dymond
- 31<sup>st</sup> PENTECOST SUNDAY  
10.30am Morning Worship – @TenThirty – Rev Stephen  
Robinson with the @tenThirty Team  
6.00pm Evening Worship - Rev Stephen Robinson

**Deadline for June-August Crosslink**

Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>

To [marjorie.gilson@talktalk.net](mailto:marjorie.gilson@talktalk.net)

## Regular Church Activities

- Monday:** 1.30pm Knit and Natter  
6.30 pm Meet for Prayer 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays  
7.30pm Church Bible Study as advertised
- Tuesday:** 9.30am Parents and Carers coffee morning  
11.00am -12.45pm `Stop Off` Coffee/Lunches
- Wednesday:** 1.00pm Roots Toddler Group, Term time only  
2.00pm Wednesday Women's Group, Fortnightly Sept-May
- Friday:** 9.45 am Meet for Prayer (in foyer)  
10.00am-12 noon `Pop- In` for Coffee  
3.30pm-5.00pm Lego Club 4<sup>th</sup> Friday
- Saturday** 10.00am Arts and Crafts Days 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday
- Sunday:** 10.30am Morning Worship (of varying styles)  
Mini-bus collects less-able for morning service 1<sup>st</sup> of month.  
6.00pm Evening Worship

On various days/evenings there are Encounter House Groups  
Additional activities are shown elsewhere in this magazine or on the Church  
Noticeboards

You are welcome to join any of the above,  
please check with Reception to confirm activities.

Please make yourself known to the person welcoming you,  
**THE CHURCH CENTRE is open Monday – Saturday 0900-12.30**  
**Tel. 01761410450 Answerphone on at other times.**

**Web-site at [www.msnmcc.org](http://www.msnmcc.org)**

**Address: High Street, Midsomer Norton Radstock. BA3 2DR**

**Minister: Rev Stephen Robinson.** He is available to respond to the pastoral needs of anyone in the Church or wider community. If this is you, he is usually (diary permitting) in his study at the Church Centre each morning or please contact him to arrange a visit on 01761 410574 (office) or 402755 (home) or at [msnminister@btinternet.com](mailto:msnminister@btinternet.com)



The Church is on Facebook so, for those of you who are registered, do 'like' it. You will then receive weekly News and details of services, it is also on 'Twitter'.



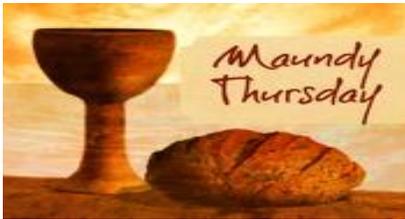
# Lent, Holy Week and Easter Services

## Ash Wednesday (February 26<sup>th</sup>)



7.30pm Service of Holy Communion

*We begin Lent with a simple service of Holy Communion  
(the service will not include ashing)*



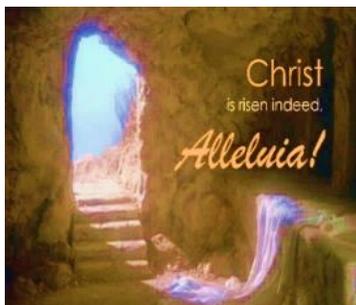
## Maundy Thursday (April 9<sup>th</sup>)

7.30pm Service of Holy Communion

## Good Friday

10-12noon Church Open for prayer during which ...

11am Good Friday Worship



## Easter Day (April 12<sup>th</sup>)

6.15am Sonrise Worship in the Hollies

10.30am Easter Day Praise with Holy Communion

6pm Easter Day Evening Worship