

Welcome to Bethlehem Methodist Church
Rev. Deborah G Poole
Deacon Sally Wheadon
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Services:

This Week – 15th March

10.30am – Revd. Derek Poole
6.30pm – Revd. Danny Wheadon at Georgetown

Worship Leader: Sally Steward: Barbara J Laptop: Nick Flowers: Sheila
Welcome: Mary & Barbara J or Sue H Coffee : Joan & Doreen R

Next Week – 22nd March

10.30am – Ruth Lucas
6.30pm - No Evening Service

Worship Leader: Cynthia Steward: Dianne Laptop: Brenda Flowers: Jean Lewis
Welcome: Eric and Frank Coffee : Barbara B & Frank/Christine

Additional Information: -

Prayer ministry is available after services at Bethlehem.

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall at the end of the service – please join us for a time of sharing.

Bethlehem Events

Following the Church council decision, we will be holding an evening discussion on the **God unites us report** on **Tuesday 17th March at 7.30 p.m. at Bethlehem**. This meeting is open to anyone who worships with us. There will be an hour of discussion and then we will take a people's vote, just as a guideline to how people feel. Then after that members of the church council will take a vote and this will be recorded in the minutes, others are free to leave at this point.

Benevolent Fund: This is a collection that is taken when we have Communion services, it is in addition to the normal Church collection. It is a discretionary fund which helps those in need both in and outside the Church. It is operated by the Ministers, in this case Sally and Debbie. There are no details recorded in the accounts other than the amount; it is marked as a Benevolent fund donation. The names of the recipients are known only to the ministers. If you know of anyone who may benefit from this fund, please let Sally or Debbie know.

PRAYER - All are invited to meet for prayer each Sunday from 9.45am to 10.00am in the church. Please come to spend a few minutes in prayer for our church and community.

Messy Bears toddler group for ages 0-4 years will meet every Monday (term time only) 9.30-11.30am at Philadelphie Messy Centre. For more information, please call Sally on 491877.

Tuesday Communion from now on will be held at 10.00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each plan. The 2020 dates are as follows: 9th June, 8th September and 8th December.

Our final 2 films for this season are 'Johnny English', a comedy starring Rowan Atkinson, on Friday 27th March and 'The Way', a moving film about four peoples' pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago, which will be shown on Friday 24th April. Please contact Sally or Dianne if coming for food at 6.30 p.m., or just come at 7.30 for the film.

Saturday 28th March - St Marys Community Lunch – All are welcome, 12noon - 2pm Cost £7

Easter Offering lunch (Into All the World) after the 12.00pm service on Wednesday 20 May at the Biarritz

We are delighted that Deacon Sally Wheadon will be addressing us this year. Please let Audrey know as soon as possible if you will be attending, to reserve your place at the service (maximum of 50 people in the main lounge) or at the lunch (£16.00 for a hot roast lunch with dessert and coffee/tea per person). The dining room can take 80 people so you are very welcome even if you can only come to the lunch at 1.00pm

Audrey Tupper :Jersey Methodist Circuit Administrator :Tel: 01534 730914:Monday to Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm
Easter Offering envelopes will be distributed to around the Circuit over the next few weeks.

Some save the date notices:

Just to give people plenty of notice, please note there will be a Circuit service here at Bethlehem on Saturday 13th

June at 11.00 am. This service is a chance for people who are unable to attend Sally's Ordination in the UK to send her on her way and a chance for Sally to give her testimony of her journey to Ordination.

Sunday 27th September, we are hoping to hold a Church family meal at the Biarritz Hotel again this year. We will take people's names nearer the time.

Events Around the Island

Saturday 21st March – 7.30pm – Grace Trust Jersey will be celebrating 21 years of serving the poor and needy within our community. Music from Parklife and guests and an Art exhibition from Art in the Park. All welcome to join us in looking back and looking ahead. Tickets £5.00 from the Opera House.

Cantabile Jersey -Sunday 29th March, 6.00pm, Ebenezer will be hosting an evening of Words and Music for Passiontide from the 16th – 21st Centuries with ecumenical choir, Cantabile directed by Graham Caldbeck and poetry spoken by young, local actors directed by Julie McLoughlin. Admission is free with a retiring collection for the Jersey Women's Refuge and Cantabile. Everyone very welcome. Parking will be available behind the church and on Route D'Ebenezer which will be closed to Westbound traffic.

Holy Week and Easter around the Circuit

- Wednesday 8 April: Georgetown – Lent lunch of soup and hot cross buns at 12.00pm, Holy Communion 2.00pm
- Thursday 9 April (Maundy Thursday): Ebenezer - Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Friday 10 April (Good Friday): St Helier Methodist Centre - 10.30am Upstairs Worship and Downstairs - All Age Worship
- Sunday 12 April (Easter Day): Loop Road, La Route du Nord, St John - Sunrise 6.15am

The Bible Society is holding a Divine Dining event, 'Flavours of Africa' on Saturday 4 April, 7.00pm at the St Helier Town Hall. There are only a few tables of 10 left for the 4 course dinner with African live music. Bring your own drinks and donate an amount of your choice to support the Bible Society's work in Africa. RSVP cathy.morling@biblesociety.org.uk by Monday 30 March

Ali has reserved a table for the Bible Society Divine Dining event at the Town Hall, if you would like to join her for 'African Flavours' please let her know by Friday 27th March

CRY Western walkathon on Saturday 2nd of May. There are 3 different distances to choose from, 21 miles for anyone wanting a serious challenge, 13 miles or the shorter 6 mile walk. The 21 mile route takes you through Waterworks valley and then into the country lanes of St Lawrence, St Mary and St Ouen before heading down to St Ouen's bay and returning via the railway walk. We want you to enjoy the walk, whichever distance you choose, and know that every mile you walk will help to rescue more young lives. All walks start and finish at the first lay by on Victoria Avenue, St Helier. Registration is £10 adult, £5 child. There will be crisps and water en route and all walkers will receive a medal and certificate, as well as tea and cakes on completing the walk. Register online at <https://questli.st/641757> email cryjersey@gmail.com, or pop into our shop at 42 New Street for an application form.

Saturday 27th June - Brightly (formerly brig-y-don children's charity) family fun day at the Merton Aquadome 10am – 5pm all day fun and BBQ...Contact www.tickettailor.com/event/332687. For more details see poster in our Hall. They will also be holding a raffle with fabulous prizes contact WENDY NERAC. wendy@brightly.ie to purchase tickets.

Thursday Night is Music Night 2020 programme at Georgetown. Please see a copy of the poster on the noticeboard.

Other Items

The theme for the Methodist Prayer Handbook 2020/2021 is The Earth is the LORD's and the publishers are looking for photos. If any members of your church have recently done some conservation work or engaged with any environmental projects please send photos to the Prayer Handbook Editor for consideration for inclusion in next year's Handbook. Photos must include at least one human being and should be emailed to prayerhandbook@methodistchurch.org.uk. Please send photos in high resolution (i.e. a large file size) along with a description, including where the photo was taken. Further info: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/prayer/methodist-prayer-handbook/>. (To inspire you, Rev Jenny Pathmarajah has 3 photos in the existing Handbook for Days 10, 17, 26)

Georgetown Church are starting to make their plans to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation and Audrey Tupper would welcome details from other churches on the Circuit, to pull together and to give a 'shout out' to. Please can you copy her in on your plans as and when you have them so she can promote them on the Circuit Facebook page over the next few months.

Contact Audrey Tupper, Jersey Methodist Circuit Administrator, Tel: 01534730914, Monday to Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm

Christians Together in Jersey invite you to their 2020 Lent lunches, Please see below the Lent lunches around the Island for next week.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for :

- Those who used to be part of our fellowship but are no longer able to worship with us due to frailty or ill health, we pray for God's healing touch to be upon them.
- We continue to pray for healing for all our Church Family and their families, who are struggling with ill health, Lord we pray that you will be with each one of them and give them Your Healing and Strength.
- All who have been recently bereaved, we pray that they would know the peace and comfort of our Lord and Saviour Jesus.

PRAYERS FOR ISRAEL

- Please Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6) ·
- For the people of Israel to come to know their Messiah, Yeshua (Psalm 40:7; Isaiah 53)
- For her borders to be secure (Exodus 23:31a)
- For Jerusalem to be protected from being divided (Joel 3:2) ·
- For God to keep a watchful eye over His People, and bind the schemes and resources of their enemies so they can do them no harm (Zechariah 12:1-5; Psalm 91)

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS –

The World Watch List is Open Doors' annual ranking of the 50 countries where Christians experience the most extreme persecution. Published every January, it is a unique, in-depth record of the places where faith in Jesus costs the most, helping to demonstrate the enormous scale of the persecution being faced by Christians around the world.

The 10th highest country of persecution is : India

How many Christians are there in India?

There are 66.2 million Christians in India, which might sound like a lot, but out of a population of nearly 1.4 billion people it means that Christians make up less than 5 per cent of the population.

Why are Christians persecuted in India?

Indian citizens went to the polls in 2019 and re-elected Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who leads the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The party believes that being a Hindu is part of Indian identity, and frequently turn a blind eye to attacks on those of other faiths.

What's life like for Christians in India?

Christians in India face horrific levels of violence from extremists, with thousands of attacks taking place every year. Several states in India have adopted anti-conversion laws, and the BJP have made it clear that they would like to make these laws nationwide. Such laws are often used as an excuse to disrupt church services and harass Christians and make it incredibly difficult for Christians to share their faith with others.

And yet, many are coming to faith in India through incredible healings – like Tara. She is 15 years old. She came to know Jesus after she experienced miraculously healing – but was then faced with an impossible choice.

"I met intense opposition from my family as well as the local community. 'You are a shame to the family; our community people detest us because you go to church. Either leave Jesus or forget the relationship you have with us.' This was what my parents told me." Tara courageously chose her relationship with Jesus, but at the cost of losing her relationship with her parents. She still lives in their house but isn't allowed to communicate with them or share any food or utensils. Please pray for Tara, that she will remain strong in her faith, and that she will one day be able to reconcile with her family. Thankfully Open Doors partners have been able to get her funded education.

Please Pray -

- Lord Jesus, may Your light break through the darkness in India through Your church. Strengthen our brothers and sisters, that they may face trials with love and grace, and so turn the hearts of their persecutors to You. Soften the hearts of those in power, that they may have compassion on Your church.

Birthday Greetings for this week:

Brenda (15th) : John P (16th) : Ted A' C (16th) : Graham Le C (18th)
Wishing God's Blessing on everyone

Room Requirements

If anybody needs to use the Bethany room on a Saturday or in the evenings or the Sunday School Hall at any time - A booking should be made by contacting a steward, they also need to be advised of the dates that any groups may be meeting in ANY of our rooms/Church at any time.

House Groups

Tuesday (fortnightly) - St Ouen Contact: Mary Richardson (483020)

Tuesday (weekly) - St Mary Contact: Eric Lucas (483599)

Tuesday (weekly) - 10.45am - 12.30pm in Bethany Room - This is a House group that explores Scripture from a Jewish understanding viewpoint! - ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US! Contact: Jean Schooling 07797 841414

Thursday (weekly) - St Peter Contact Katie Norman (482364) If you do not already attend a house group, how about giving it a try.

Our Stewards

Dianne Huddleston (483917) & Glenys Best (766020) Barbara Jacobs (481192)

We would like to welcome Barbara onto our team of Stewards and express our grateful thanks to

Mike as he steps down from his role as Steward.

Concerned? - If you have any concerns about anything to do with church life please contact one of the stewards.

Caretakers - Fernando & Raquel de Almeida Tel 864520

Notices should be sent (by Wednesday) to email : bethlehem-notices@hotmail.com or by post to Brenda De Oliveira, Flat 1, Elmwood, Les Hamonnets, St John JE3 4FP