# METHODIST CHURCES MARKFIELD

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**April 2023** 

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON

Minister—Rev Judith Lincoln

judith.lincoln@methodist.org.uk 0116 231 3957

# Service details for April

**2**nd April Palm Sunday United Service & Walk of Witness **10.30** a.m. Morning Worship – Led by Mrs Sandra Andrews

**6.00 p.m.** Circuit Zoom Service – Rev Helen Bell

**Duty Stewards:** Kerry Sharpe & Roderick Lay

Welcome Steward: Jenny Marsay

6<sup>th</sup> April 7.00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service led by Rev Maurice Nicholls

9<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day

**9.00 a.m**. Easter Morning breakfast

**10.30 a.m.** Morning Worship – Led by Rev Judith Lincoln S

**6.00 p.m.** Circuit Zoom Service - Rev Judith Lincoln

**Duty Stewards:** Linda & William Walmsley

Welcome Steward: Ann Lay

16<sup>th</sup> April CTiM United Service

**10.30 a.m.** Worship at Markfield Congregational Community Church

**6.30 p.m.** Circuit Healing Service at Epworth Methodist Church

23<sup>rd</sup> April

**10.30 a.m.** Morning Worship – Led by Mrs Ann Lay

Worship Leader: Ian Lay 6.00 p.m. Taizé Prayer

**Duty Stewards:** Ian Lay & Iris Bown **Welcome Steward**: Zoe Tur-Ribas

30<sup>th</sup> April Church AGM

**10.30 a.m.** Morning Worship – Led by Rev Judith Lincoln S

**Duty Stewards:** Hazel Brewer & Roderick Lay

Welcome Steward: Rosie Woodland

DATE	ORGANIST	FLOWERS	CLEANING
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Margaret	Malcolm & Betty	
	Silverwood	Keates	
9 <sup>th</sup> April	David	Philip Gostelow	Ann Holloway, Rosie
	Woodward		Barrs, Kate Scott
16 <sup>th</sup> April	No Service		
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Margaret	Zoe Tur-Ribas	Linda & William Walmsley
	Silverwood		Iris Bown
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Rebecca	Margaret	
	Goldring	Silverwood	

#### MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

We've had some truly bizarre weather recently. Freezing temperatures, snow and ice- and yet, crocuses and daffodils popping up through the snow, reminding us that spring, and Easter, are around the corner. April will begin with that important week in the Church's calendar, Holy Week.

At this time, when change is afoot in both my own ministry and our church life, and some of us are in especially "dark and wintry" personal situations, I have been thinking about how the events of Holy Week and Easter speak into times of change, and into the difficulties we may be facing.

**Palm Sunday**: what are our hopes for the future, with new people, or in my case, in a new place?

**Maundy Thursday**: what do we fear, what makes us cry out with Jesus, "No-anything but that! Take the cup away from me!"? In what ways do we especially need others to watch and pray with us- and how are we being called to watch and pray with others?

**Good Friday**: what is too heavy a cross for us to bear? Perhaps our own or a loved one's suffering? What things are we called to lay at the foot of the cross? Perhaps resentments, hurts, regrets, things for which we can't forgive ourselves, but for which God has long ago forgiven us?

**Easter Sunday**: we may think of the Resurrection as happening in a blaze of light and glory, but it was "early in the morning while it was still dark". What small signs of resurrection and new growth, like daffodils in the snow, do we see in our dark times? As Jesus' grave clothes were unbound, what does God long to liberate and unbind in us?

With love in Christ,

Judith

#### **PASTORAL CARE**

If you are aware of anyone who is ill, in hospital, or had a family bereavement, please contact our Minister, Rev Judith Lincoln, on 0116 2313957, or our Pastoral Secretary, Kerry Sharpe, on 07979 607099.

#### **EASTER SERVICES**

# PALM SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> April

This year our Palm Sunday walk of witness in the village will be led by our Catholic friends. We hope as many of you who are able will join us on the short walk which will start at 10.30am from The Green, opposite our church and finish at our church for the close of the service. The service at our church, for those who are not able to participate on the walk, will commence at 10.30am and be led by Sandra Andrews.

# MAUNDY THURSDAY 6th April 7pm

Maundy Thursday is the time we remember the Last Supper when Jesus had a meal with his disciples. Jesus gave out the bread and the wine and said, "Do this in remembrance of me." This is what we do when we celebrate communion and this is what we will do on Maundy Thursday. The communion will be led by our friend and retired minister Rev. Maurice Nicholls.

# **EASTER MORNING 9th April**

We start our day at **9am** with a **breakfast at the church** to which all are invited. There are sheets to fill in which you will find in the front porch. One sheet is for you to indicate that you will be there for breakfast and the other sheet is to indicate whether you can bring one of the listed items although this is not obligatory. We would love to see you there as it makes Easter Day a special church family occasion.

The Breakfast will be followed by our **Easter morning service at 10.30am** which will be led by our minister Rev Judith Lincoln and the service will incorporate Holy Communion. *Ian Lay* 

#### **EASTER CROSS ON THE GREEN**

On Easter Sunday we will be erecting a cross on The Green opposite our church. You are invited to bring flowers – single or in posies – to decorate it so that it will stand throughout the week as a sign of God's love and a witness of faith to the village.

# SERVICE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOLLOWED BY

# **BRING AND SHARE LUNCH**

# SUNDAY 30TH APRIL

Rev Judith will interlink our Service with the annual general meeting. At this Service and meeting one of the things we will focus on is the future of our Church as well as discussing all sorts of Church matters which are important to anyone attending our Church

We will follow the meeting with a faith lunch. Please fill out the form in the foyer if you intend to come (or call me on 07979 607099 if you aren't able to get to Church before then or forget!) and join the fellowship so that we know how many chairs we need! You can bring whatever you would like – no need to advise, we will have faith we will all be fed!!

Many thanks

Kerry

# MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL AT 6.00 p.m.

MARKFIELD CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

You are invited to a Lenten presentation by Rev. Dr Rob Hunter

entitled

# **SCIENCE & THE BIBLE**

Rob is a forensic physician who will be retiring from his post as

HM Senior Coroner for Derbyshire. He is the minister of

Markfield Congregational Community Church.

# **COFFEE MORNING**

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# **BACON BUTTIES**

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL** 10.00 – 12.00

We invite you to share fellowship over a late breakfast or early lunch! Please tell your neighbours & friends, & invite them to come along. It's a great opportunity to get to know folks.

#### **WAYS & MEANS MEETING**

TUESDAY  $18^{TH}$  APRIL 10.30 IN THE SCHOOLROOM If you would like to help with fundraising - please come.

#### **REGULAR MEETINGS**

#### **HOME FELLOWSHIP**

We have just one Home Fellowship meeting in April and that is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm at the home of Sandra Andrews, 64, Bradgate Road. If you require more information or need a lift then please contact Ann or Ian Lay (242166)

# "COME FOR A CUPPA" Every Wednesday 10.00 - 12.00

Drop in for a cuppa and a chat. There is no charge.

# **MUSIC CAFÉ**

**2.00 – 4.00** on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Don't be on your own! Come for a music-based afternoon of friendship and fun. This month we will meet on

Thursday 13th April & Thursday 27th April.

Contact Linda (01530 242607) to find out more.

#### **IMPORTANT DIARY DATES**

### **FAREWELLS AND WELCOMES**

Judith's Farewell Service will be **on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 3pm at Ratby,** with tea and cake afterwards. All welcome. Judith's last morning service at Markfield will be on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**- though Judith hopes to attend other midweek activities during July.

Jimi's Welcome Service will be **on Sunday 27**<sup>th</sup> **August at 2.30pm at Markfield-** please do come and welcome Jimi. We're aware it's a Bank Holiday weekend- but Helen Cameron has a very busy diary in late August and early September! Again there will be tea and cake afterwards.

#### THANK YOUS

BISTRO FRANCAIS – This was a most enjoyable night out. Many thanks to Ian B for his hard work in planning and cooking the meal and to David for accompanying our "singing chef". Thanks also to the rest of the Ways & Means folks who "mucked in" and were a great example of teamwork.

£300 was raised for church funds.

TURKEY & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL – Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the All We Can appeal. We have sent £485 to the appeal and hope and pray that it is being used to help relieve the suffering of all those affected.

### **CELLO AND PIANO RECITAL**

All who managed to attend had a wonderful evening with John Parsons on Cello and Beate Toyka on piano.

The weather was terrible with the snow and it was a difficult decision as to whether to go ahead or not, but we are glad we did and raised the amount of £343.

Many thanks. Kerry, Rosie & Kate

# **EGG BOXES**

Thanks so much to everyone who has been bringing in egg boxes, it really is very much appreciated and please continue to do so.

They go to New Parks food bank, as they have eggs donated in big batches but then have to distribute them. So if they don't have egg boxes donated they have to do a Blue Peter-worthy job of cutting up the boxes they are brought in - doubling them over and securing as best as possible with elastic bands - so not ideal! They really are very much appreciated, so please keep popping them in the bag in the foyer. *Kerry* 

ITEMS FOR THE MAY NOTICES SHOULD REACH LINDA & WILLIAM WALMSLEY BY

23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL

wllmwalmsley@yahoo.co.uk