

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

MARKFIELD

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February

2023



Minister—Rev Judith Lincoln

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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

When does the Christmas season end? I guess most of us will say 6th January: Epiphany, or Twelfth Night. But some Christians argue that it actually doesn't end till 2nd February, and the perhaps lesser-known feast of Candlemas, which remembers Jesus, eight days old, being presented in the Temple

That may sound like an excuse to keep the decorations up another month, but perhaps we do well to reflect on this story, recorded in Luke 2: 22-40. It starts with something ordinary enough: an ordinary couple presenting their firstborn son to be dedicated to God, as was normal at the time. Mary, Joseph and Jesus probably looked quite ordinary. Yet the two elderly prophets who meet them, Simeon and Anna, recognise Jesus straight away. Simeon says "my eyes have seen your salvation", and that Jesus will be "light to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel". Anna speaks not just to Mary and Joseph, but to "all who were looking for the redemption of Israel" - i.e. anybody who was listening.

How are they able to recognise Jesus like this? Well, Luke tells us how Simeon was "righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel". Similarly, Anna spent a great deal of her time worshipping and praying. They listened to God, watched for His coming among them, and when the time came, they were ready.

I pray that we may be like Simeon and Anna, listening to God and open to His presence among us. May we hear His voice, even when softly spoken. May we see Him in the events of ordinary days, in the people we meet every day- and share the joy and light of that presence with others.

With love in Christ,

Judith

STATIONING UPDATE

As many of you will know by now, this summer my appointment in the Leicester West Circuit comes to an end. I will miss you all, but for family reasons the time has come to move on, and I have been matched to the Weston-Super-Mare and Burnham-on-Sea Circuit.

Leicester West Circuit will, in September, be welcoming Rev Jimi Kaci, who is currently in the Stafford Circuit. Jimi has many gifts (including a love of singing!) and varied experience in ministry both in the UK and his native Fiji. We all wish him every blessing in his ministry in this Circuit.

Service details for February

5th February

10.30 a.m. Morning worship led by Mr Stuart Crossley R

Worship leader: Ian Lay

Duty Stewards: Linda & William Walmsley

Welcome Steward: Zoe Tur-Ribas

6.00 p.m. Circuit zoom service “ Good News” led by Mr Justin Moulder

12th February

10.30 a.m. Morning worship led by Mr Mike Furborough

Duty Stewards: Roderick Lay & Hazel Brewer

Welcome Steward: Rosie Woodland

6.00 p.m. Circuit zoom service led by Rev Helen Bell

19th February CTiM United Service

10.30 a.m. Morning worship at St Michael’s Parish Church

6.00 p.m. Circuit zoom service led by Rev Judith Lincoln

26th February Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Morning worship led by Rev Helen Bell S

Worship leader: Ian Barrs

Duty Stewards: Iris Bown & Ian Lay

Welcome Steward: Ann Lay

6.00 p.m. Taizé Prayer

DATE	ORGANIST	FLOWERS	CLEANING
5th February	<i>Rebecca Goldring</i>		
12th February	<i>David Woodward</i>	<i>Linda Walmsley</i>	<i>Linda & William Walmsley, Iris Bown</i>
19th February	<i>Service at St Michael's</i>		
26th February	<i>Margaret Silverwood</i>	<i>Rona Church-Jones</i>	<i>Jenny Marsay, Roderick Lay</i>

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, or our Pastoral Secretary, Kerry Sharpe, on 07979 607099.

HOME FELLOWSHIP The Fellowship meetings for **February** are on **Tuesday 7th** and **Tuesday 28th**, both starting at 5.30pm. This month we will be at the home of Sandra Andrews. If you require more information or need a lift then please contact Ian or Ann Lay. 01530 242166

MUSIC CAFÉ This month we will meet on **Thursday 9th & Thursday 23rd February**.

“COME FOR A CUPPA” Every **Wednesday 10.00 – 12.00** Drop in for a cuppa and a chat with a warm welcome in a **“Warm Space”**. There is no charge.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING 7 p.m. Monday 6th February in the schoolroom.

CELEBRATE SPRING at “CAFÉ FRANÇAIS” on Saturday February 25th at 4 p.m.

Join us for a 3-course meal with drinks & entertainment. Tickets priced £10 are available from Ian Barrs who can also provide more information about the menu.

MARKFIELD METHODIST RECITALS The next recital will be **on Friday 10th March** when we welcome John Parsons (Cello) and Beatte Toyka (Piano) for what promises to be a wonderful evening. Tickets are available now via Rosie or online via Kerry.

THANK YOU

Although we are in the middle of a Cost of Living Crisis it is amazing how generous you are when the opportunity comes to give of your money to the church or a charity that we support.

The Christmas Day offering that we donated to 'All We Can', an outreach of the Methodist Church, amounted to £125.58, which we have already sent.

Ann would like to thank all those who helped her celebrate her 80th birthday on Saturday 7th January at a coffee morning where, through a raffle and donations, we managed to raise £241.50 for church funds.

Thank you also for the weekly giving, especially those of you who give by Standing Order, which is just about enabling us to pay our Assessment to the circuit and keep the church functional.

Also helping with our finances are the regular hiring of the back rooms by the WI and the History Group and now a new venture by a lady, Helen Lamoon, who will be running a craft session called 'Crafty Beans'. This will take place on Tuesday mornings starting on 14th February, 10am to 12.30pm. A Yoga session will take place once a month, the first one is on Saturday 18th of February, 9am to 12noon and then on Saturday 25th March. The rooms are also booked for the evening of Thursday 9th February 7 – 9 for a Girl Guides leaders meeting.

Please continue to support us whenever you can and again thank you for your generosity. *Ian Lay*

Please send items for the **MARCH** notices to Linda & William Walmsley by **19th February**
wilmwalmsley@yahoo.co.uk