

Methodist News



Willingness to Change

These are the words of a lovely song:

*JESUS, YOU ARE CHANGING ME,
 By Your Spirit You're making me like You.
 Jesus, You're transforming me,
 That Your loveliness may be seen in all I do.
 You are the potter and I am the clay,
 Help me to be willing to let You have Your way.
 Jesus, You are changing me,
 As I let You reign supreme within my heart.*

(Marilyn Baker. Copyright 1981 Word's Spirit of Praise Music/Adm. by CopyCare.)

This song reflects word found in Jeremiah 18:1-6:

18 *This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so, the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.*

Then the word of the Lord came to me. He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel.

God has a message to speak to the people. He draws Jeremiah to the potter's house where he can learn by watching the potter working. The message he receives is a tough one, 'You have sinned. Let me remake you to the perfection I have in mind for you. Let Me be your creator God and trust your life to My hands.' The message for Jeremiah was that God desired to take the

people back to the centre of who they are; a people who honour and worship the one true God. The people did not want to hear the message and they rebelled and through this it brought about their own demise. It is a message still relevant today and one we can find really challenging. This passage reminds us that any mistakes/sins of the past are not set in concrete. Rather, they are in the hands of God, the potter. God will remould, remake, and re-create us to be a vessel fit for service. A reminder here, 'we are not the potter.' The reminder here is that God can take our past and remould it to the perfect present and future.

There must be a willingness to submit ourselves to the potter. Another song has the line, 'Change my heart O God.' There must be a real desire to change and no matter where you stand the potter can always remould you. Recognising our own imperfections and bringing them to God will result in new life and new opportunities.

I finish with a prayer which you might like to say: *Lord God, I come to you recognising my own mistakes and with a willingness to change. You will remould me and turn me into a beautiful vessel. Thank you that you love me and see my full potential. Amen.*

Praying you every Blessing

Alan

Superintendent of the Lincoln Methodist Circuit

Services in July

We will be continuing in July with weekly services at the chapel with whatever restrictions and precautions are required in place.

4th July:	Lesley Shapcott
11th July:	Revd Martin Amery
18th July:	Revd Alan Swann (Holy Communion)
25th July:	Own arrangement

Other Activities

With restrictions easing, we are hoping to open for some of our other activities towards the end of June or early July. When we have sorted which of these are feasible, we will contact the people who participate and put details on the notice board outside the chapel.

Pastoral Visitors

Our pastoral visitors and attendees continue to keep in touch with people associated with our chapel and our activities. If you know of anyone who feels that they would like some contact, please get in touch with our pastoral lady, Barbara, on 860823.

Prayers

It is good to keep in touch as a church and to know that prayers are being said. If you want us to pray for someone or a particular situation, please contact Ruth (861461) or Barbara (860823) and let them know.



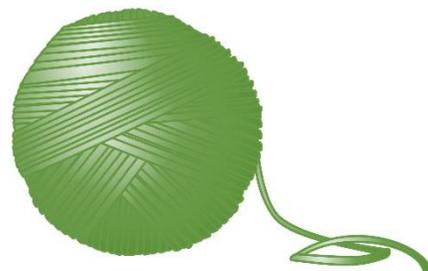
Film Club

Looking forward in hope, Film Club is planning to be back in business on Thursday 7th October. We look forward to seeing our regulars again and, hopefully, lots of new faces as well. It's a very friendly group and open to all. We meet on the first Thursday of the month in the chapel to watch a film and then have afternoon tea.

For more information, call Linda on 860998 or keep reading the **NEWS** for updates in the months to come.

Christmas Decorations for the Village

Thank you to everyone who has been knitting green strips to make the knitted garlands to decorate the village. Please keep them coming. We will stop collecting at the end of October to give us time for assembly. If you have not yet joined in this project, you are more than welcome to start now. All you need to do is knit strips of approximately 49 stitches and 10 lines in green double knitting wool on size 10/3¼ mm needles. Drop off completed strips at 16 Ryland Road.



Call 860998 if you would like more information.

Toy Collection



As usual, I will be collecting toys to give to under-privileged children this Christmas. We collect for all ages, from babies to teenagers. The toys will be distributed in and around Lincoln.

You are always very generous and I am hoping you will be able to help again this year. Donations can be delivered to 16 Ryland Road between now and mid-December.

Thank you.