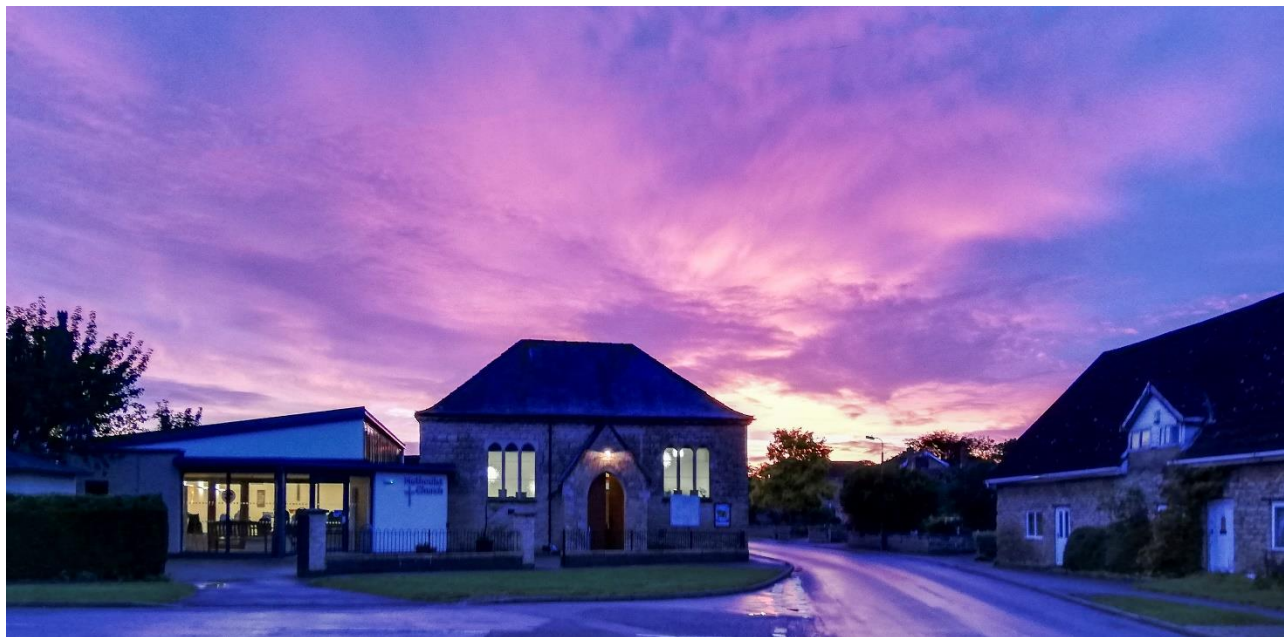


Methodist News



Minister's letter

Dear Friends,

As we step into autumn within the Methodist church one of the important times in the calendar is the season of harvest festival services. Although these now take place any time from late September onwards, many folk still focus on October as the month in which to celebrate God's abundant provision.

Over the years these services have evolved and adapted with our faith. At services in churches, schools, care homes and elsewhere people of all ages gather to thank God for all we might describe as God's wonderful harvest to the world. In addition, we are reminded to continue working for justice in seeking to share such gifts with all who need them. In our post-pandemic world, we may still find ourselves hosting services within social distancing guidelines if required, but we can still bring our thanks to God including thanks for the NHS, medical research and, of course, vaccinations.



I remember a few years ago I was invited to hand out awards at a local village summer fete where, alongside the many flower displays and the amazing varieties of fruit and vegetables that had been entered, there were also Victoria sponge cakes, fruit scones, and some photographs and water colours that talented locals had submitted. That autumn, at the local Methodist church harvest festival service it was a real joy to have a selection of those village talents on display where, together, folk of all ages could sing God's praises for his grace, and the wealth of gifts and talents from youngsters to seniors as part of our harvest celebrations.

In Ephesians, chapter 3, verse 20, we are reminded: *Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work in us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

Gracious and most generous God, we thank you for the season of harvest, and for all that we take as your most bountiful provision for the world's needs. We praise you that your love, as revealed in Christ, is deeper, higher and wider than we can possibly imagine and that your love for each of us is constant and true. Help us to live generous lives so that we might be a harvest gift to our neighbour in what we say, what we do, and in how we share your gifts with others. And may we be willing to have a little less so that all may have enough. Amen.

Every Blessing,

David

Services in October

Services start at 10.30am.

- 3rd: Revd M Doughty HC
- 10th: Own arrangements
- 17th: John Turner
- 24th: Revd Martin Amery
- 31st: Own arrangements



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.

Coffee Mornings

Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am to 11.30am are a great place to meet old friends or make new ones. A wide variety of drinks are available and there are toys for the children.



Film Club



The first film of the season starts at 2pm on 7th October, followed by afternoon tea; all for £4.50. To book your seat or for further information, please call 860998.



Christmas is Coming

Would you like to help with the production of knitted Christmas garlands to decorate the village? Well, come along to the chapel on Wednesday 27th October from 10am to 11.30am, when, over a coffee and cake, we will be assembling the garlands. No great skill is required, just helping hands.

Ladies Fellowship

We meet in the Chapel on the second Thursday of the month and have recently started meeting in the afternoon, starting at 2pm. We have a varied programme of events; something for everyone. Why not come along and join us? For more information please ring 860823.