



Irthlingborough Methodist Church

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Good Morning and I hope you are all staying well. What a joy it is that worship has begun again in our building. As a result of this I am going to cut the newsletter down to one a week, mainly on a Tuesday. Having said that, I will be on annual leave next Tuesday (should have been in France....!) but I will be working both this Friday and next Friday so please continue to book your place either by phoning and leaving a voicemail or by email so that I can put the register together for the stewards.

Staying in touch:

Our FaceBook page continues to reach out to those in our community. Thank you Sophie for all your hard work with this. It is an excellent way to show God's love and the message we have to share with those of our town and beyond.

The church phone is available to leave a message if you need to have a chat and one of our pastoral leaders will get back to you (don't forget to leave a number!). The phone is set up for remote access to the messages. The number is at the top of this newsletter. Wendy is available on the same number Tuesday and Friday mornings.

If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter I would be delighted to hear from you.

Worship and Prayer:

Whilst worship has restarted, please can I encourage you to continue to pray for our town and all the people who live and work here on a regular basis? Just looking at the news makes me realise that we not out of the woods yet and many places are at risk of local lock down.

At our bible study group at Wellingborough which meets weekly on zoom, we are studying Psalm 23. Very familiar words but it is proving a joy to contemplate them in a little more detail. Such words of encouragement. Having sat yesterday to prepare for tonight, I thought I would share something from the study guide which has struck me as appropriate for this moment in time as we move forward. It says:

An efficient shepherd always tries to keep his sheep on the move, thus avoiding over-use of the land and enabling his sheep to continually enjoy wholesome, fresh forage. Are you one of those Christians who wants to continually feed on just one doctrine or truth and never go on to enjoy the other delights which God has for you in His Word and in His world? Be assured of this – God wants us to move with Him day by day to discover new insights, fresh revelation and new areas of ministry as He opens up to us the glories of His precious Word. Every Christian should meet the day with as much delight as a sheep that is being led into fresh new pasture. Spiritually, we should kick up our heels and leap with delight at the prospect of finding fresh new forage. Expect God to show you something new in His Word and His world every day. Faith is expectancy – according to your expectancy be it unto you.

Happy gambolling in the field of God's word this week!

Family news:

A big thank you to all those who booked in for worship last week. Please can I remind you that booking is necessary as part of the test and trace system? I am told that the stewards did an amazing job of getting everyone seated appropriately. Can I also remind you that once you are in the building you should go to your designated seat and stay there until you are directed to leave by a steward at the end of the service? If you want to chat, please do this outside before coming in and taking your place for worship. This is to ensure everyone's safety. Thank you.

Please book your seat for the coming Sunday (or two!) by phoning and leaving a message for me on 01933 653564 or by emailing on admin@irthlingboroughmethodistchurch.co.uk. I shall be putting the seating plan together from 10am on Friday mornings.

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HARVEST FESTIVAL, SUNDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2020

Double Delight! Yelden and Irthlingborough congregations are coming together on Sunday 20th at 10.30 a.m. for a Harvest Festival Service led by Rev. Kim Shorley.

It will be awesome to be able to celebrate together and to thank God for His amazing provision throughout the years.

Your gifts this year, which are appreciated and welcome, will go partly to the Irthlingborough Foodbank and 'Project 16:15 Rough Sleeper Support', Northampton. If this Project is unfamiliar to you please look it up on Facebook if you can, or speak to Ruth Rollings (IMC) or Pamela Hall (YMC).

Gifts of **any** tinned and packet foodstuffs, Bottles squash, small bottles water, UHT milk, canned soft drinks, breakfast bars, porridge pots, biscuits, coffee are suitable for both causes.

Or, if you prefer, gents socks, underwear, gloves, scarves, hats and rucksacks.

Thank you, in anticipation of your usual kindness and generosity.

Be safe, be blessed.

With love

Ruth