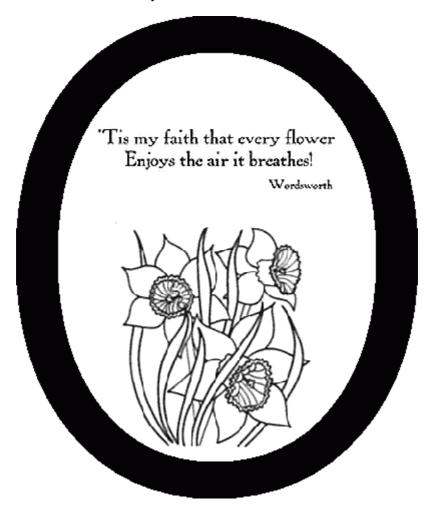
# The Chronicle

Monthly magazine of the three Hayes Methodist churches



February 2019 - Issue 259

### The Methodist Church

# Harrow & Hillingdon Circuit (35/36) Magazine of the three Hayes Methodist Churches

**25th January 2019** 

A letter from the Minister Dear Friends

These words were heard by nearly nine million people on Christmas Day. But where did they come from?

"We have to go where we are called. Obedience [to God] demands it. [But] I think there is a difference between going where we are called by God and doing what we are told by human beings. The quarrel is not between ourselves. It is within us. The quarrel is between one's own desires and that which is demanded. The quarrel is between the body and its longings, the soul and its terrors and the mind yearning to be free. The quarrel defines is, it drives us forward, upward, to our knees in prayer. You must embrace the quarrel. The quarrel will lead us to the answer. It is everything we are."

The Queen's Speech? No.
The Archbishop of Canterbury's Christmas Sermon? No
The Pope Christmas Address? No

They were actually part of the dialogue from the Christmas Special of BBC's 'Call the Midwife'. I think it is probably the most theologically aware programme on popular TV today.

It wears its Christian themes quite subtlety in dialogue and story, but it is there to see it. if you look. And when you do, it gives you plenty to think about and reflect on.

People may say that we are living in a post-Christian culture or society, but I am not sure that is true. Rather we may just need to look a bit harder and search a little deeper in order to spot.

Alongside that we have the responsibility to draw people's attention to it, and maybe even engage them in conversation about it. In other words, spotting the 'God story' in the everyday story of human life.

The Insight Groups have just started a new course called Talking of God Together. It has been specially written by the Methodist Church with the aim of encouraging and equipping each one of us to talk about our experience of God, our faith and the Christian life. The idea is that by talking about God within the church, it will help us to take that conversation into the rest of our lives.

If you are interested in finding out more and joining of the groups, then have a word with me or one of the group leaders. You'll find details of who they are and when the groups meet on page 29 of this magazine.

People who are already part of an Insight Group have told me how much it has helped them deepen their faith and grow in confidence about sharing it. Why not give it a go?

With	best	WIS	nes

Ken

# Our churches' prayer pages



#### February.

Apart from the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month, which as most are aware is St Valentine's Day, this is not usually one of the months with any dates or events of extra special note. Now and again it does herald the first day of Lent, but that is not so this year, when Lent 2019 will start on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

However, and using poetic licence, February could well have been the time following the birth of Jesus and the visit of the wise men when, in order to follow the normal practice and as was required, Joseph and Mary took the baby Jesus to the temple to offer him to God, where he was welcomed and blessed by Simeon and Anna. There is a hymn in Singing the Faith that would seem to be appropriate and acceptable for inclusion this month to start our usual three prayer pages, and that we offer below. It was written by Andrew Pratt –

Mary and Joseph came to the temple, brought the boy Jesus, offered him there. People were waiting, wanting to greet him, long had they sought him, solace for care.

Anna had prayed there, widowed, long waiting; worshipping God by day and by night.
Now she is praising, filled with elation; here is God's promise, Christ is her light.

Simeon sings now God offers blessing, brilliantly gilding dawn of his day; light in the darkness, never extinguished, light of all nations, light up our way.

## ... In your mercy Lord,

#### Creator God,

You have ensured throughout our lives, that words, spoken or written; silent actions or prayers of those we have encountered on our journeyings have quite clearly demonstrated – through our friends and family or even by total strangers – your great love for us in so many, many ways: we have been helped up when we have fallen, given encouragement when we have felt lost, alone or in need of forgiveness.

This month, whether they are already back home and dwelling with you in heaven, or remain here in this your earthly kingdom, may we offer our heartfelt thanks for all the individuals that we name below this month -

#### **Amen**

Kath Barford	M. F. Box
Hamish Craig	Myra Hodgkinson
Elsa John	Miss Latimer
C. S. Lewis	Molly Lewis
Mr Saunders	Stuart Townend

<u>please hear these our prayers</u> <u>of thanksgiving</u>...

#### and, as always, we ask that friends be kind enough to continue to include in their prayers of intercession all the following:

Friends and members of our church families who, due to infirmity and other illness, are currently house-bound

All those named in our weekly prayer books – God will know the needs of each one and in His time will respond

All who suffer long-term and world-wide, who struggle every day, well aware that their situation may never improve

Families known to be suffering bereavement

The ministers and members of our Circuit team who work tirelessly in their roles as pastors of their congregations

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, your perfect love is casting out all fear. And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storm of this life, I won't turn back; I know you are near. And I will fear no evil, for my God is with me, whom then shall I fear? Oh no, you never let go, through the calm and through the storm.

Oh no, you never let go, in every high and every low, Oh no you never let go, Lord you never let go of me"

Matt & Beth Redman

# The beginning

As one of the songs in 'The Sound of Music' says, the beginning is a very good place to start, so that will be our remit as an opener for this issue in this, the second month of the new year

However, for many of the members and friends at our Hayes End church the beginning of this year began on a very sorrowful note as it was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January that the church family came together for the funeral of the much loved Mrs Sylvia Bull. Due to her poor health, we had not had the pleasure of Sylvia's company at church for very many months, but we had received messages from her via friends who had been able to call and see her, and we were able to stay in touch by 'phone. Her death on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December was reported in our last issue.

May we now offer the following well-known words to Sylvia's family and all who mourn, that was written about death, by Henry Scott Holland –

Death is nothing at all —
I have only slipped away into the next room.
I am I, and you are you.
Whatever we were to each other,
that we still are.
Call me by my old familiar name,
speak to me in the easy way which you always used.
Put no difference in your tone,
wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow



But just three days later, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of last month, we shared a very important time of uplift – it was the day when our three Methodist churches (*Hayes, North Hillingdon and Hayes End*) met together at the Hayes church for the annual Methodist Covenant Service.

This is the time every year - usually on the first Sunday - when we gather to renew the vows and promises we have already made to God and to the church that, no matter where our lives may lead us, we will remain faithful and resolute in our belief in God, and always maintain our Christian living to the very best of our ability.

That Service, which was led by our Minister Ken, contained the words of those familiar promises that, as Ken had mentioned in his January magazine letter, are not always the easiest to keep, but nonetheless if we profess to be followers of Jesus and his teachings we should keep them forefront in our minds at all times.

As the 6<sup>th</sup> was also Epiphany Sunday when tradition has it that the wise men made their visit to worship the infant Jesus, Ken had used that event as the main theme of his service.

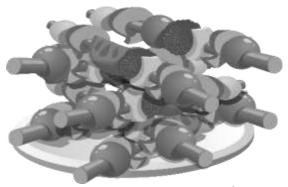
Consequently, included in that morning's worship was a dialogue presented by members of our three churches that may well have expressed the thoughts and feelings of those men as they made their long journey, quite possibly from Persia, to follow that very special Star: an exceedingly bright star that took them first to Herod's Palace in Jerusalem and finally to the animal pound in Bethlehem, the place of Jesus' birth.

Their obvious determination to follow the star must have been total, especially when we bear in mind the extremely hostile areas that they would have had to pass through en route to Israel.

There are many lessons to be learned from that party of men and women from the east who stayed on their course, despite the likely hazards and hardships they may have had to face.

That Covenant service, which provided the congregation with both uplift and challenge, concluded, as always, as Ken led everyone in the celebration of Holy Communion. Following the service there were welcome cups of drink and, not only that, the friends at Hayes had prepared and provided a delightful meal that offered everyone a wonderful assortment of dishes, both hot and cold, and to suit all tastes – we were truly spoilt for choice - it was all mouthwatering.

Please may we take this opportunity to offer sincere words of thanks to each and every individual who took part and provided both memorable worship and sustenance and who offered everyone a warm welcome on that somewhat chilly January morning.



That day it was also great to be able to greet some friends we had not met for a long time and catch up with one another's news;

(here most especially we wish to mention James Farrell's' granddaughter, Nadine who is doing very well on her medical journey; it must be quite wonderful to have her as your doctor! It is probably ten or more years since we last met. She has not changed one little bit from the delightful teenager many of us at Hayes End remember from all those years ago – she looked very well, and she had remembered all our names and faces!)

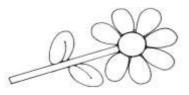
it is so important to be able to re-establish valuable links in this way – links that never fail to accompany solid Christian fellowship and relationships even when our lifestyles take us in so many different directions.

Covenant Sunday 2019 was indeed a very good Sunday.

Since then, following the Christmas break, the majority of our regular groups and gatherings have resumed their usual meetings, not least the monthly fund-raising cake sales at Hayes End, the second of which will be on the  $24^{th}$  – the date of issue of this magazine.

And, while on the subject of cakes and Sundays, our catering leader Anne, has asked for a special word of thanks to be included this month.

There are many un-named kindly souls in our church who quite regularly keep essential supplies maintained – they provide lots of biscuits, supplies of serviettes and, not least of all and very importantly, containers of washing up liquid. As always we will mention no names, but you know who you are and we want you to know that your contributions are very greatly appreciated – however mundane these kind gestures may appear they are most surely acts of caring and generosity



And still on the subject of saying thank you, may we say how much the regular floral displays in our church are appreciated – it provides a lovely welcome each week as we look towards the worship area – in our notices each week there is information concerning the supply of flowers should you wish to make a contribution – thank you all so much.







Then it was on Monday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of last month when a team of builders took up residence at Hayes End. Please see John's pages for an up-to-date report on their progress.

So, and as already advised, all our Sunday services, until Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, will now take place in the hall, and although we know the seating will be a little less comfortable, it will not in any way detract from the value of our normal worship - God always hears our praise and prayers no matter where we may be.

In fact, the first of these services took place as arranged on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January when, quite by coincidence and most appropriately, the theme of our Minister's service was water which, after reading page 15 of this issue, you will appreciate led most succinctly into our proposed Lent Project 2019.

All life on earth would cease immediately had we no water, so we cannot stress too strongly how important it is that we all do our best to take part in the Project this year.

# Now for the shape of things to come -

If you are reading these words on the date of issue we would like to take the opportunity to remind friends that next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February when Ken will be our preacher and the service will include Holy Communion, there will be another of our Sunday get-togethers-over-food when a 'Bring and Share' meal is planned.

If you are able to stay for this time of fellowship please remember to bring an item of food to share – the church will be providing the drinks.

And now, please take a look at the opposite page for what will likely be one of the most important of our February gatherings .....





# CHOCOLATE

Thill

Come along and invite
Your mates for an
evening of total chill &
A serious amount

Team games, fun...&a lot of chocolate for Years 7 & up.

of chocolate!

@ Hayes End
Methodist Church
Uxbridge Road, UB5 8JW
Call Nicola on
07765585836
www.hemc.org.uk

Friday 22

**FEB**2019

**With Pancakes** 

# Pancakes Anyone?

Shrove Tuesday, which is always the eve of the season of Lent, will be celebrated this year on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March: however, as Tuesdays are usually working days, plus the fact that there are frequently church meetings on Tuesdays, it has been agreed that at Hayes End we will have our pancakes a little earlier – two days earlier in fact, as it will be after worship on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month when we welcome and invite families and friends to come and share in the traditional feast of fatty food!!

Sweet or savoury, I know very few people who do not enjoy eating at least one of one of these batter delights. Hope as many folk as possible will be coming to the party – your last chance to indulge for forty days!







#### A seasonal story –

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons Kevin aged 5 and Ryan aged 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson

She said – "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say 'let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait'

Kevin immediately turned to his younger brother and said "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

## What shall we do for Lent?

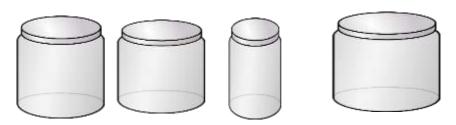
It's the time to collect jam jars again, and even though for a few years we have adopted the practice of

### "Jars of change for jars of water"

we have decided that this is perhaps one of the best practices that we can all contribute to as an action of self-denial for the forty days of Lent.

So once again we ask that whatever you may save by the giving up of sweets or biscuits etc. you place those savings in a jar for some unknown family who has little or no access to a tap where they can be assured it produces pure clean water. One in nine people who live on his planet have no clean water in or even near their homes is an established fact, and that gives us reason to think how it would be if we were deprived of this most essential of live-giving necessities – I'm sure that the majority of us would not cope: their lot is to have to tramp – sometimes miles - before they can even get a drink each morning, let alone have a wash. In this rather unjust world may God help us to contribute to a little justice as best we can.

We have a small supply of jars and John C. has already got a good stock of labels ready to place into a jar so do please ask John for a label – or two - and let's all resolve to strive to top the amount that was raised last Lent.



... now for John's regular four pages of News ...



# Finally with the Church Modernisation Project it's now ALL SYSTEMS GO.

The Contractors started work at our Church on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January, as agreed. They are making very good

progress. Although they have discovered a couple of problems which need to be addressed and could add to the cost of the project. But they still plan to clear the site and hand back to us on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

- •We now also plan, whilst the Church is unavailable for use, to fit two large screens to replace the inadequate Video projector set up we have at present.
- •Please continue to hold up in your prayers all those who are involved in bringing this major project though to a successful conclusion, especially John and Phil who liaise directly with Rory, the Head Contractor and George, the Architect.
- •We will be back in the Church for Worship on Sunday 17th March, which will also mark our Church Anniversary and the Morning Service will be led by our former Minister, Revd Jongi Zihle, now one of the Chairs of the London District of our Church.



# TALKING OF GOD TOGETHER

Did you know that there are Insight Bible Study Fellowship Groups now meeting every other week? These groups are now studying a very interesting new Methodist Resource Book, titled "Talking of God Together". This resource encourages and equips Methodist people to talk together about our faith, initially amongst ourselves, but then developing the confidence to talk more widely with those of other faiths and none.



- ◆One Group meets at Hayes End Church every other Monday at 7.30pm.
- ◆A second Group meets at Hayes End Church every other Tuesday at 7.30pm
- ◆Whilst a 3<sup>rd</sup> Group meets at Hayes Church every other Wednesday at 7.30pm

Why not come along to one of the above meetings and find out what you are missing. For details of the meeting dates, please contact Prima, our Church Administrator Email:hahemcoffice@btinternet.com (see also page 29)

### HAYES END METHODIST CHURCH



♦WHILST OUR EFFORTS are concentrated on the Church Modernisation

project, this has not meant that Property improvements on the rear of the premises has been ignored. In fact, over the New Year period replacement water and central heating boilers were fitted in the kitchen as well as the Primary room floor having been sanded and resealed.

- ◆DO YOU SHOP VIA THE INTERNET? If so please join the group of folks in our church, who undertake all their shopping via 'The Easy Fund Raising Web Site'. Please note this will not incur any additional costs to you. Last Financial Year £245 was raised for Church Funds from this source. For more information please speak to Nicola Mercer.
- ♦ OUR CHURCH CHARITY this year is The Methodist Relief & Development Fund, now called "All We Can". Please support their vitally important work. Collecting boxes for your donations are left on a table in the Hall at refreshment time after morning Services. Our aim this year is to raise at least £250 for "All We Can". And we CAN with your support.
- ◆DID YOU KNOW that the latest Insurance valuation of our Church land and building is £3,238,445 and weekly average Sunday collection is £328? Copies of the fully audited accounts will be available shortly

- ◆THE CHURCH MISSION ACTION PLAN Over the coming months you will hear more about this important initiative organized by our Circuit. This plan should and must concentrate on Action and Mission, and not just become another talking shop. The future well-being of our Church demands nothing less. Fuller information will be available after the next Church Council Meeting and then, if not involved so far, please engage with this vitally important issue.
- ◆THE HAYES CARNIVAL Plans for this event are already well in hand and this year it will have a new name, The Hayes Community Family Fun Day. This name reflects the change of emphasis in the event, now with no Carnival procession. We are planning to move away from just having a Church & Brigades Fund Raising Stall and to explore the outreach opportunities, especially amongst children, that the event offers. More information regarding our plans will be confirmed in due course, but at this stage please book the date and time in your diary 11am to 5pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July.
- ◆THANK YOU to everyone who helped at the beginning of January with getting the Church cleared ready for the start of the Modernisation Work. It was so heartening to see so any people present.
- ◆THE HILLINGDON FOOD BANK Please note we remain active supporters of our local Food Bank and "Dolly the Shopping Trolley" will be sited in the Hall every week on Sunday Mornings for your contributions. Please continue to support their vital work.
- ◆ACTION FOR CHILDREN We urgently need a Coordinator for this work in our Church. This is far from an onerous task, but if we can find a new volunteer then this will aid one of our already over-extended Church Officers. If you can help please speak to John Chamberlain.

## Deacon Claire's monthly message

#### Time flies when you're having fun!

I've never been quite sure of that as a phrase - does it mean that when things are dull and hard the time seems to pass more slowly?

I remember thinking that my dad's funeral wasn't fun, but it seemed that the whole day went by very quickly and I often sit and reflect on what at the time seemed a blur and remember the kind words people said or the hymns that we sang, which at the time you don't realise or notice.

I remember the day we returned home to Ruislip after my dad's funeral and finding a white feather on the doorstep and a robin sat on the fence right by the front door and my mum, who had come to stay with us for while saying that they were signs that my dad was still with us. I remember it being quite emotional as we stood there watching this robin my dad always liked robins.

Over the last year, and this may sound a bit odd, as I have never been one of those people who really believed in signs, whenever I have felt a bit low or angry or upset, I have seen a robin.

Last week I was attempting to drag a rather large Christmas tree out of the front door - there were pine needles everywhere, the floor, the walls, in my hands, my hair - the air was quite blue, and at the same time I could hear arguing and shouting from the play room.

Just as I got the tree outside, I looked down and right next to my foot was a robin, and it looked at me as if to say 'what on earth are you doing?' and I stopped and laughed to myself and said sorry.

As I sit here now as I often do, looking out of my study window struggling with preparing services, writing newsletter articles, answering a load of emails, worrying that I don't have enough hours in the day I spot a robin sat on the corner of the goalpost, just sitting there as if to remind me that I am not on my own.

I miss my dad and I don't know whether me looking for robins is just wishful thinking on my part or really is some kind of sign, but we all need that extra help at times, a small gesture, a kind word, a pause in proceedings when we just think of a nice memory.



Time to me certainly does seem to fly, but as we were reminded in last week's lectionary reading from Isaiah 43:1-7 we need not be afraid for God is with us.

And so, I look forward to continuing our journey together and maybe encourage each of us to take a moment when we stop and pause. I leave you with some words from a favourite poem by William Henry Davies entitled 'Leisure'

What is this life if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare, no time to stand beneath the boughs and stare as long as sheep and cows.

A poor life this if full of care we have no time to stand and stare.

Every Blessing Claire

## It's not that long to wait -

Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March is now only a matter of seven weeks away when at Hayes End we have a service of very special significance – we will be returning to worship in a once-again refurbished church. This time concentration has been to ensure our church Is even more disabled friendly to everyone who enters the building.

Not only that, but our preacher that day will be one of our previous Ministers, the Revd Jongi Zihle – Jongi, who is now a very busy London District Chair, has kindly agreed to lead us in praise, thankfulness and worship on that extra special Sunday. And this also holds a great significance, for it was just ten years ago that we held that other important Rededication Service when our church was transformed to the light and welcoming place where we worship God today, and Jongi was with us back then having been our Minister for three years.

But that's not all - there's even more to celebrate – this year will be the One hundred and twenty-eighth birthday of the Hayes End Methodist Church!

All this gives us good reason and cause for celebration so, after we have given our thanks to God for all his generous provision there will be a meal that day when we can all share food and fellowship – here again possibly with friends of the past who are now no longer in this locality, but who are all very welcome to come and be a part of our celebrations.

And yes, we are well aware that this will take place during the season of Lent, the time of repentance, contemplation and self-denial, but as Sundays are not included in those forty days we will indeed celebrate on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March.



As mentioned in our December issue, the annual Memorial Service for this year had to be delayed due to the refurbishment work – we are now happy to advise readers that this has been arranged as follows:

### Sunday 24th March at 4.00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome and invited to our

# Annual Joint Memorial Service

when we remember loved ones no longer with us – come and light a candle to their memory.

Afternoon tea will be served following this special service of thanksgiving

if you wish a name to be called please advise Enid Thomas (01296 324909)











Not all of us, however good our biblical knowledge, are able to recite the books of the bible in their correct order. I know a few who can, but here for the majority we are quoting a 'journey' that Daya has kindly sent us for the magazine and that hopefully may be of assistance:

I went to the Genesis hotel via the Exodus road.

On the way, I saw <u>Leviticus</u> recording the <u>Numbers</u> of people who were at <u>Deuteronomy</u>, while <u>Joshua</u> was waiting at the Beautiful gate for some <u>Judges</u>. <u>Ruth</u> who was there too was calling loudly '<u>Samuel</u>, <u>Samuel</u>'.

At one stage, I noticed that the <u>first and second Kings</u> of <u>Chronicles 1 & 2</u>, were coming to visit <u>Ezra</u>, <u>Nehemiah</u> and <u>Esther</u> to talk about the misfortune of <u>Job</u> their brother. They started singing <u>Psalms</u> and teaching their children <u>Proverbs</u> concerning <u>Ecclesiastes</u> and the <u>Songs of Solomon</u>.

This coincided with the period when <u>Isaiah</u> was engaged in <u>Jeremiah's Lamentations</u>, together with Ezekiel and <u>Daniel</u> their friends.

At that time, **Amos** and **Obadiah** were not around.

Three days later, <u>Hosea, Joel</u> and <u>Jonah</u> arrived, having travelled in the same ship with <u>Micah</u> and <u>Nahum</u> to Jerusalem. <u>Habakkuk</u> took the opportunity to visit <u>Zephaniah</u> and while there he introduced him to <u>Haggar</u> a friend of <u>Zechariah</u> whose cousin is <u>Malachi</u>.

Immediately after the tradition, <u>Mathew, Mark, Luke</u> and <u>John</u> all got involved in the <u>Acts</u> of the <u>Romans</u> who were behaving just like the <u>1st Corinthians</u> group because the <u>2nd Corinthians</u> group were always at loggerheads with <u>the</u> Galatians.

At that time they had realized that the <u>Ephesians</u> and the <u>Philippians</u> were close to the <u>Colossians</u> and so a suggestion for the first <u>Thessalonians</u>' visit was made, and that on their <u>second Thessalonians</u> visit, they should all see the first and second of the <u>Timothy</u> brothers.

They had gone to the house of <u>Titus</u> to teach P<u>hilemon</u>, his younger brother, how to read and write in Hebrew.

On hearing this, <u>James</u> asked <u>Peter twice</u> to explain to him how it was that the <u>three Johns</u> had disclosed to Jude all the <u>Revelations</u> of this journey.

# And, also from Daya, some good advice to take along on the journey with us:

Stay away from anger - It hurts only You!

If you are right then there is no need to get angry,

And if you are wrong then you don't have any right to get angry.

Patience with family is love,
Patience with others is respect.
Patience with self is confidence and patience with GOD is faith.

Never think hard about the PAST, It brings tears... Don't think more about the FUTURE, It brings fear... Live this moment with a smile it brings cheer. Every test in our life makes us bitter or better, Every problem comes to make us or break us,

Do you know why God created gaps between fingers? So that someone special to you can come and fills those gaps by holding your hand

The choice is ours whether we become victims or victorious.

Beautiful things are not always good but good things are always beautiful Happiness keeps you sweet but being sweet brings happiness.

## **About St. Valentine**

(the Patron saint of lovers, epileptics and beekeepers)

Although it is reported as legend, it appears there really was a young Roman priest and physician named Valentine, who lived in the third century at the time when Claudius II was the emperor of Rome.

In order to ensure that all young men would enlist in his armies, Claudius issued an edict that no young men were allowed to get married.

Consequently, all marriages were abolished by the emperor.

Claudius wanted to ensure that his young men would be good soldiers, but he believed that if they were married they might not fight so well for him if they had wives back at home.

However, the priest Valentine felt this was quite wrong, so he continued to marry young girls and men in secret. Eventually Valentine was caught and as he had disobeyed the emperor's rule forbidding marriage it resulted in his being killed. He was first beaten with clubs and stones and as that did not kill him he was finally beheaded.

We understand that in 496 AD the then Pope Gelasius declared that the 14<sup>th</sup> February would be the first feast of St. Valentine and that is what we still continue to recognise today.

But, as we said, this is legend, especially as the name Valentine was very common in those long-ago days, but never mind, it is sometimes good to continue with these ancient stories as often there does lie a vestige of truth behind them.

## Insight Group details in our area

As a believer in God and a follower of his son Jesus, one thing we are called to do on a regular basis is to study the Bible. And the best way in which to increase our knowledge is to join a small group, where we can study and increase our knowledge in an informal and friendly manner; we are free to express our own views on the topic or chapter under debate, bearing In mind that each one of us sees things from different angles.

Although we no longer include dates of the groups in the magazine diary, we would remind friends of the Groups that still take place in and around our churches – hopefully there may be one group who meet at a time convenient to your life style. Currently there are four you can choose from where any new friends are assured of a welcome:

- Group A meet on alternate Monday nights at 7.30 p.m. at Hayes End church leaders are Angela and Ian
- Group B meet on alternate Thursday mornings at 10.30 a.m. venues are varied and the leader is Helen. Contact Alan or Jean Pannell at North Hillingdon church for more information.
- Group C meet on alternate Tuesday nights at 7.30 p.m. at Hayes End church leaders are John and Ajayi
- Group D meet on alternate Wednesday nights at 7.30 p.m. at Hayes church leaders are Micheline and Gwyneth

## We're getting old you know ...

Want to say thank you to Eva and Chas for this poem for pensioners that many will relate to and will hopefully help to raise a smile

A row of bottles on my shelf caused me to analyse myself – one yellow pill I have to pop, goes to my heart so it won't stop.
The little white one that I take goes to my hands so they won't shake, The blue ones – that I use a lot – tell me I'm happy when I'm not. That purple pill goes to my brain to tell me that I have no pain.

The capsules tell me not to wheeze or cough or choke or even sneeze, The red ones, smallest of them all, go to my blood so I won't fall. The orange ones so big and bright prevent my leg cramps in the night.

Such an array of brilliant pills, helping to cure all sorts of ills

But what I'd really like to know – is what tells each one where to go?

Despite the fact it is not the most desirable of situations, being ancient does have its compensations –

you can go to bed when you feel like it and the same applies to rising in the morning; you can read all day if you want to, and, what some of us indulge in is jigsaw puzzles – not the sort you spread over a table, but those you can sit at a computer and play. I readily confess that I do at least three or four puzzles each day. Aware of this, Eva has very kindly passed the following tale of a puzzle for inclusion this month – go on, have a laugh with us -

There's this little silver-haired old lady who telephones her next-door-neighbour and says "please can you come round and help me. I've just got a new puzzle, but I don't seem to be able to get started".

"What's it supposed to be when it's finished?" asks her neighbour.

"Well" the old lady replies "on the box there's a picture of a very colourful cockerel". The neighbour agrees to go and help with the puzzle, and the lady shows him the pieces that she has spread all over her kitchen table. He takes a look at the box and then at the pieces she has laid out and says

"I don't think that whatever we do we will ever put these pieces together to look like a cockerel. Then very kindly he takes her withered hand in his and says —

"first of all, shall we have a cup of tea, you relax and then we'll put all the corn flakes back in the box"

## Who'd be a teacher?

Teacher "When I was your age I could answer any question in

arithmetic"

Child "Yes Sir, but you had a different teacher"

Teacher "That essay you submitted about the dog is exactly the same as

your brother's"

Child "Well Sir, it is exactly the same dog"

# a child's version of the escape from Egypt –

"Moses then led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread made without any ingredients"

### and these comments on the bible –

"The Bible is full of interesting caricatures.

In the first book of the Guinesses Adam and Eve were cremated from an apple tree.

One of their children called Cain asked "Am I my brother's son?"

With Spring not far ahead, gardeners in our midst will begin studying their gardening books – here are words of advice received from Ajay -

#### **Planting and Reaping**

If you plant honesty, you will reap trust, if you plant goodness, you will reap friends If you plant humility, you will reap greatness. If you plant perseverance, you will reap victory, If you plant consideration, you will reap harmony, If you plant hard work, you will reap success. If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation. If you plant openness, you will reap intimacy. If you plant patience, you will reap improvements If you plant faith, you will reap miracles........

#### BUT

If you plant dishonesty, you will reap distrust. If you plant selfishness, you will reap loneliness. If you plant pride, you will reap destruction. If you plant envy, you will reap trouble. If you plant laziness, you will reap stagnation. If you plant bitterness, you will reap isolation. If you plant greed, you will reap loss. If you plant gossip, you will reap enemies. If you plant worries, you will reap wrinkles. If you plant sin, you will reap guilt.

So, take care what you plant today –
it will determine what you reap tomorrow.
Seeds you now scatter will make life worse
or better for ones who will come after you –
it's up to you!



The closing date for items in our March Magazine

#### Wednesday 13th FEBRUARY

Please write or type your article and hand to Enid Thomas - you can also send items by email to

crummage@btinternet.com

www. hemc.org.uk is the web site address for Hayes End Methodist Church and <a href="http://northhillingdonchurch.org.uk">http://northhillingdonchurch.org.uk</a> is the web site for North Hillingdon Methodist Church.

www.hayesmethodistchurch.org.uk is the web site for the Hayes Methodist Church (If you have access to the internet, please remember to use these sites when you need to check what's happening in your Church)

Other web sites of interest:

The Circuit Website is <a href="https://www.hah.org.uk">www.hah.org.uk</a> London District Website is <a href="https://www.methodistlondon.org.uk">www.methodistlondon.org.uk</a>

#### Worship dates and other events in our church and Circuit during the months of February and March 2019



#### February 2019

2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes	
	3.00 p.m. 'Young at Heart' Club at North Hillingdon	
Ord	BB Battalion Bowling night at Slough	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon	
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes	
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End with Holy Communion,	
4.0	and followed by "Bring & Share' meal	
4 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End	
6 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters	
	8.00 p.m. Circuit Property meeting at Ruislip	
7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End	
10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon	
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes with Holy Communion	
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End	
	6.00 p.m. Praise and Worship service at North Hillingdon	
13 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters	
	11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House	
Last date for items for March magazine items		
14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End	
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon with Holy Communion	
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes	
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End	
18 <sup>th</sup> – 2	22nd Schools' half-term week	
18 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End	
19 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 p.m. Circuit Treasurers meeting at Ruislip	
$20^{th}$	12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters	

21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End		
22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00p.m. "Chocolate Chill Out" for secondary schoolers		
24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon		
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes		
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End followed by cake sales		
O.C.th	March magazines out		
25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 p.m. Joint Leadership Teams meet at Hayes church		
O.7th	7,30 p.m. Circuit Stewards meet at Ruislip Manor church		
27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 a.m. London District Synod for Presbyters at Wesley's Chapel		
28 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters		
20"	7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End		
	7.30 pm. Meeting of Hayes Church Council		
	<u>March 2019</u>		
	maron zoro		
$2^{\text{nd}}$	00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes		
	3.00 p.m. 'Young at Heart' Club at North Hillingdon		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon		
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes		
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End followed by a Pancake Party		
4 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End		
	7.30 p.m. Circuit Leadership Team meet at Ruislip		
5 <sup>th</sup>	Shrove Tuesday		
6 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday – the start of the season of Lent		
	12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters		
<b>-</b> 0.	7.30 p.m. Ashing Service at North Hillingdon		
7th	7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes E		
10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon		
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes		
	11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End		
4 Oth	6.00 p.m. Praise and Worship service at North Hillingdon		
12 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 p.m. Local Preachers & Worship leaders meet at Pinner		
13 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters		
	11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House		
Last date for items for April magazine items			

7.15 p.m. Circuit Grants Committee meet at Hayes End
 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
 8.00 p.m. Circuit Meeting at Hayes End
 10.00 a.m. Church stewards meeting with Super. at Ruislip
 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
 11.00 a.m. Anniversary Service at Hayes End and return to worship in refurbished church followed by Sunday lunch
 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End

20th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon

11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End

4.00 p.m. Annual Memorial Service, followed by afternoon

#### tea

#### April magazines out

27<sup>th</sup> 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters 28<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Handicraft Group meet at Hayes End

#### 31st <u>Mothering Sunday</u>

9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon

11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes

11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End followed by cake sales

all dates listed are as known at time of going to press but not included are any 'regular' Brigades' meetings



# DURING THE WEEK IN HAYES END CHURCH

SUNDAY: 11.00 - Morning Worship & Junior Church

Evening Services - Held at various locations for details please check the Church Web Site

MONDAY: 10.00 – Ramblers Club (meet in Car Park)

Contact: Ajayi - Tel: 07738-709595 10.00 - The Parent & Toddlers' Group Contact: Janette - Tel: 0208-845-3485 14.30 - The Bright Hour (Alt. weeks) Contact: Eva - Tel: 0208-581-5853

7.30 p.m. Insight Bible Study A – Choir room (Alt. weeks)

(Contact: David 0208-581-9594

TUESDAY: 7.30 p.m. Insight Bible Study Group B - Church porch

(Alt. weeks) Contact: Ajayi - Tel. see above

WEDNESDAY: 10.30 a.m. Insight Bible Study Group C - Church porch

(3rd Wed, monthly Contact): Edna - Tel: 0208-573-8564

11.00 – Holy Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. Monthly)

held at Aston House Care Home Contact: Anne - Tel: 0208- 573-5602

18.00 - The Girls' Brigade

Contact: Colleen - Tel: 07928-231254

THURSDAY: 10.00 a.m. – The Parent & Toddlers' Group

Contact: Janette – Tel. see above 19.30- The Craft Group (Alt. weeks) Contact: Pat - Tel: 0208-561-3134 19.30 – All Sorts Club (Alt weeks) Contact: John - Tel: 0208-573-3607

FRIDAY: 17.30 – The Boys' Brigade

Contact: David - Tel 0208- 581-959



# Lectionary Readings for February 2019

3<sup>rd</sup> February Jeremiah 1:4-10

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30 Psalm 71:1-6

10<sup>th</sup> February Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 6:1-11 Psalm 138

17<sup>th</sup> February Jeremiah 17:5-10

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Luke 6:17-26 Psalm 1

24<sup>th</sup> February Genesis 45:3-11,15

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

# The Chronicle

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