



Hope Methodist Church Newsletter

Sunday 28th January 2018

Welcome to Hope Methodist Church! The Church seeks to serve the towns of Rushden, Higham Ferrers and the surrounding villages. If you are here for the first time, or just visiting the area, you are very welcome. Please feel at home and if you would like to know more about the work of the Church, please ask. The service begins with a greeting from a steward. Do join us for refreshments after the service.

Service for today

10.30 am Mr P. Whitney

Service for Sunday 4th February

10.30 am Mr D. Hudson

Contact Details:

Minister: Revd. Margaret Eales
9 Donne Close, Rushden Tel: 01933 312778

Web address: www.hopemethodistrushden.org.uk

Prayer for January



May God the Maker who speaks words of wisdom, freedom and justice, bless us with hope; May Jesus the teacher who speaks of Good News for poor people, bless us with truth; May God the Holy Spirit who speaks in fire and stillness, bless us with joy. May we find rest in the business, stillness in the storm and light in the darkness, in Jesus' name we ask, Amen

Please pray for Shirley and those slowly recovering from operations and illness, for the homeless, the food bank assistants and those who need their help and also the Hassan family in their daily struggles.

Pastoral Visiting – if anyone is ill from our congregation please let our Pastoral Secretary, Janet know (tel: 356501), so that their pastoral visitor may be informed. If anyone is in hospital, bereaved or would like to see the Minister, please contact Revd. Margaret.

Focus Group Sick Visitor for January

- Please let Margaret Haly, on 387550, know if anyone from the Group needs a visit or a phone call. (Dot Porter on 395532 as from February)

Prayers for Newsletters – I would be very pleased to receive Prayers, for inclusion in the Newsletters, for March onwards - thank you - Evelyn

Flowers today are provided by Rachel Smith, for which we thank her.

WEEKLY PROGRAMME

Monday 29th January

7.30 pm Bible Study at Nita & Rob's home
52 Wellingborough Rd

Tuesday 30th January

Wednesday 31st January

9.30 am Keep Fit
11.00 am Service at R.P.N.H. – Revd. S. Pearman

Thursday 1st February

8.45 am – 9.30 am Pause for Prayer
9.15 am – 10.30 am – Hope's Tots
10.00 am Coffee and Chat in the Bede House
1.30 pm Short Mat Bowls in Wymington Memorial Hall
6.00 pm – 7.15 pm Girls Brigade Explorers
7.00 pm – 8.00 pm Juniors and Seniors
7.30 pm – Focus –Medical Detective Dogs

Friday 2nd February

12.30 pm lunches – no need to book

Saturday 3rd February

Sunday 4th February

10.30 am – Mr D. Hudson

Please pass any notices to me by Wednesday pm –
Email address: evelyn.fitch@btinternet.com

NEWS, DIARY EVENTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Pause for Prayer – the opportunity to come and pray at our Church, between 8.45 and 9.30 am on Thursdays, is open to everyone. Come for five minutes or forty-five, at the beginning or pop in later. If anyone would like to start a regular prayer group at the Church or in someone's home please speak to a steward if you need help to organise it.

*"For where two or three gather together in my name, there I am with them."
Matthew 18 v20*

Saturday 20th January - Thanks for a great Beetle Drive with lots of fun and laughter. Children, teenagers, teenager's plus and those 'one or two' years older than that had a most enjoyable time. Food was excellent and we thank those who cooked the sausages beautifully. Tremendous team work setting-up and clearing-up with an added bonus of raising £155.90 towards the Redevelopment funds. Thank you to everyone.

Focus Group – change of speaker – on 15th February there will be a presentation of classical music by Rob Gould.

Saturday 24th February at 4.00 pm - Afternoon tea and Sing-a-long with Rachel. Tickets are now available – please see Chris M.

HASSAN FAMILY: Message from Terry. "I try to keep members updated about the Hassan family from Iraqi Kurdistan who are now living in Rushden and whom you all very generously helped support two years ago. In my last message I believe that I told you that after a number of delays, Roonak and her five sons were all granted refugee status in September. This was good and would have meant that they could obtain employment, become self-sufficient and move on in their lives. Apparently they had explored opportunities to do this, but in November, instead of getting a letter confirming the judge's decision, they got a letter saying that the Home Office is going to appeal the decision. Apparently the judge is less than happy about this and regards the appeal as frivolous. No date has been set for any hearing. So the family is back to square one and is surviving on an allowance of £5 per person per day. Fortunately they are getting help including from ourselves. The plan to move them to the Manse in Wellingborough was infeasible but 60% of the money from a private rental of the Manse is being made available to them. So we are still helping the family; in short we are paying the bills, council tax and utilities etc. as well as a contribution to the rent. They are also supported by the Food Bank. More sad news was that Roonak was diagnosed with cancer but she was at an early stage and apparently has now fully recovered. That is the only good news. As you may know, she has a degree in International Law and was a fighter with the Peshmerga who were fighting IS. Her husband is an officer in the Peshmerga and stayed in Iraq after the family left. However they have not heard from him for 18 months; he is missing. Clearly we need to keep the family in our prayers. I will enquire whether we can do anything else to help.

Thank you – to everyone - the sum of £250.06 was raised for Action for Children over the Christmas period. Andrew

Our Calling is the theme of the winter issue of **The Connexion**. Copies of the free magazine are available in church. Please feel free to take one to read, pass on or bring back for others to share.