



Hope Methodist Church Newsletter

First Sunday in Lent

Sunday 18th February 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 Deacon S Kempson

Service for Sunday 25th February

10.30 am Mr P Taylor

Contact Details:

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

Web address: www.hopemethodistrushden.org.uk

Thank you –

to everyone who donated to my recent sponsored 'sleep-pout'. I'm still collecting money but think I may have raised about £150. for this worthy cause, Sue Warren.

to everyone who helped or attended the coffee morning on the 10th February. It was a good morning and raised £150 to add to the Redevelopment Funds. Please can we have bacon baps each time????

Thank you to John Watts for providing the flowers today.

Prayer for February



O God our Heavenly Father, we thank you for all the blessings we have from you; that you have given us hands to work, feet to walk, eyes to see, ears to hear and hearts to love. May we, as we sing our hymns, listen to your word and hear the message of our speaker, be more able to help each other and the people we meet day by day. May the influence of the activities in the Church go forth as a stream of living water for the healing of the neighbourhood. Help us all to walk in your light, to act in your strength, to speak in your truth and to live in your love. In Jesus' name we ask, Amen

Please pray for Hannah Gould, Hazel, Stephanie, Sue Moore and Shirley as they recover from operations and treatment. We pray for their healing and restoration.

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 February

- Please let Dot Porter, on 395532, know if anyone from the Group needs a visit of a phone call.

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

WEEKLY PROGRAMME

Monday 19th February

7.30 pm Bible Study will be held on at Nita and Rob's home -
52 Wellingborough Road.

Tuesday 20th February

1.00 pm - 2.00 pm Bible Study - please see 'Diary Events'

Wednesday 21st February

9.30 am Keep Fit

11.00 am Service at R.P.N.H. - Revd. I. Fall

12.00 Lent Lunches at St Mary's Church, Rushden - please see
'Diary Events'

Thursday 22nd 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

Friday 23rd February

12.30 pm lunches - no need to book

Saturday 24th February

4.00 pm - Afternoon tea and Sing-a-long - please see 'Diary Events'

Sunday 25th February

10.30 am - Mr P Taylor

Please pass any notices to me by Wednesday pm -

Email address: evelyn.fitch@btinternet.com

NEWS, DIARY EVENTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

A letter has been received from Revd. John Searle with the sad news that **Joan Searle** died on Sunday 28th January – having been ill for some time. There will be a service at 11.00 am on Friday 23rd February at Chichester Crematorium with a further service to commemorate Joan's life at 12.30 pm at Felpham Methodist Church, Bognor Regis. John fully understands that few people from this area will be able to attend but just wanted everyone who remembers him and Joan to know. They both remembered Higham and Rushden congregations with much affection. His letter is on the Church notice Board for you to read.

Missionary boxes will be opened over the next 2 or 3 weeks. Please pass any money or boxes to Sally Hudson. Thank you.

Christian Aid – Lent Giving – again, this year, Christian Aid have provided a leaflet with some good ideas for Lent. We hope you might find these more useful than giving up chocolate! Taking part in these activities reminds us how fortunate we are even if we're living on a pension. Any money raised can be sent directly to Christian Aid or handed to Barbara and Tony at the end of Lent, so they can send it for you. Let's go for it together.

Lent Bible Study starting this Tuesday, 20th February, is based on Lifting the Lid, exploring God's heart for mental health. First session is linked to Luke 19: 1-10 – Zacchaeus and entitled Valued. The study will start at 1pm and finish by 2pm but there is the opportunity for those who wish to, to bring a packed lunch and eat together from 12.30pm. For more information, please see Nita.

£2,643.24 Gift Aid is being added to Redevelopment funds.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LENT LUNCHES – You are invited to join members of churches from Rushden and Higham every Wednesday during Lent, starting on **21st February** at St Mary's Church, Rushden. Soup will be served from 12 noon – 1.00 pm and prayers will follow, for those who wish to attend, in the church. A free will offering for the lunch will go to Christian Aid. It will be Hope's turn to prepare and serve the soup on 28th March. If you are able to help us on that day, either in the kitchen, making the soup or serving the customers please let Barbara or Tony know. Do come and join in fellowship with members from other churches.

On Saturday 24th February at 4.00 pm - Afternoon tea and Sing-a-Long with Rachel. Tickets are now available priced £5.00 - please see Chris M, Margaret Haly and members of Events co-ordination group.

Also on Saturday 24th February from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm - a study day at Stamford Methodist Church headed 'Time to Talk about God'. Please see the Church notice board for full details.

On Friday 2nd March - Women's World Day of Prayer services will be held at **10.00 am at Hope** and at **2.00 pm at Park Road Baptist Church**

Saturday 10th March the Girls Brigade will be holding a coffee morning.