

NEWS, DIARY DATES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The funeral for Alan Espin will be on Wednesday 16th May at 11.30 am at Hope followed by cremation at Wellingborough Crematorium. Coffee and Tea will be available at church and full refreshments will be available when the funeral party return from the Crematorium.

CHURCH STEWARDS: Our Church Stewards give us very committed service, many of them in excess of the 6 year rule of office and it seems only fair that those who are finding it onerous for one reason or another should have the opportunity to stand aside. Therefore it is hoped that some people might be prepared to take on the role, allowing those who have served so long a well-deserved rest. Please see Chris Kirk if you can help. There will be **Nomination Forms**, for the posts of **stewards** and **Church Council reps**, available from this Sunday. The **General Church Meeting** will take place on **Wednesday May 9th at 7.30pm**

'Fiver Activity'

Thank you to everyone who met for Wednesday's social afternoon, when £128.20 was raised. The winner of 'guess the weight of the cake' was June Jarvis (who guessed 2lb 1oz which was the closest) and the cake raised another £6. Joyce Woodhams

To raise money for the "**Fiver Activity**" a quiz has been produced which is being sold for £1.00. The quiz sheets will be available from Friday 4th May from Margaret Haly. Money raised will go to the Redevelopment of the Church. There will be a prize of £5.00 for the correct entry drawn from the return entries. I hope you will support me in this. Margaret Hally

'Fiver' - Closing Date - A request was made at Church Council, by a member, that the date be extended to Sunday 23rd September, Hope's Harvest Festival, to enable people to organise events during the summer as part of this effort. This was agreed by the Council. You are free to hand in your **gold** or **silver** envelope on the collection plate whenever you wish during this period. I will collect them from the stewards and indicate the running total after Pentecost, 31st July and Harvest. Nothing is too small or too large. Nita

On May 12th 7.30 pm - a concert at St Mary The Virgin, Burton Latimer, £10 and £5 concessions, Vivaldi's Gloria and other early music. Also, we provide exceedingly good cakes! Vicki Roberts

Christian Aid Week - 13th-19th May - The Coffee Morning on Saturday 12th May will be in support of Christian Aid from 9.30 am -12noon. Bacon baps will be available and there will be a cake stall, Tombola and a bring-and-buy stall selling anything you can spare please. Any offers of help will be much appreciated. There will also be cards and plants for sale in aid of the Redevelopment Fund. Envelopes will be in church on Sunday 14th May and your generosity will be very much appreciated for the good work that is done through Christian Aid. Many thanks Tony and Barbara

Sunday 20th May 3.00 pm - Pentecost Circuit Prayer & Praise Service at Wollaston

Thursday 24th May 7.00 pm Rev. Kim Shorley's Testimony Service at Irthlingborough



Hope Methodist Church

Newsletter

Sunday 6th May 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 Mrs C Jennings
3.00 pm Songs of Praise

Sunday 13th May

10.30 am Rev. M Eales - AAW with
Holy Communion

Contact Details:

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

Web address: www.hopemethodistrushden.org.uk

Prayer for MAY



Father God -You are Lord of Light and we thank you that you are a continuous presence in our lives. Today's world can be a dark place for so many people and yet your light shines in the darkest of places, such as Syria, Iraq and Pakistan and in places within our local communities. Your light can be found in times of flood, famine and armed conflict, domestic abuse and the homelessness of refugees and rough sleepers. Through your Holy Spirit, speak to Christians like us, that we may play our part in bringing your light into the darkest corners of this world. You are Lord of Life and we thank you for being at the centre of our lives. Encourage us to find the vision of bringing your way to the people of our local communities. We thank you, Lord, that weekly we make contributions to our local food bank, enabling recipients of food parcels to live beyond the breadline and in doing so, live rather than just exist. We thank you too Father God, that we are able to contribute to helping the homeless in the Whitechapel area of London. Such tiny actions yet they bring to the attention of others, what living in you can mean - life in all its fullness. You are Lord of Love, and we thank you that you provide opportunities for us as Christian Disciples to show that, through the example of Jesus Christ, all may have that love in their lives and in so doing live lives of great beauty and fulfilment. Empower us to show that love to the people we meet in our daily lives; at work, as we walk down the street, as we participate in the clubs and groups we belong to. We ask this prayer in the name of Jesus who is our Lord and Saviour. Amen

Please pray Doreen and family on the death of Alan, and remember Trevor, the family of Dorothy Dawe, Mavis Bailey, Chris M who have lost loved ones, also Tony Packham, Stephanie Hardwick-Jenkins and Sue Moore as they undergo treatment. Please also remember our friends with family members who are very poorly, and those in care homes.

We heard, this week, that Charles Watts died on Tuesday 1st May. Please Remember Joan and family in your prayers.

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 Rev. Margaret.

There is a vacancy for one or two people to join the pastoral team. If you are interested in distributing membership tickets and visiting a small group of people, please see Rev. Margaret or Janet Partridge.

Focus Group Sick Visitor for May - Please tell Rita Odell, 358379, if anyone from the Group needs a visit or a phone call.

Thank you, Rachel Smith, for providing the flowers today.

WEEKLY PROGRAMME

Monday 7th May

7.30 pm Bible Study at 52 Wellingborough Road
looking at Psalm 9

Tuesday 8th May

Wednesday 9th May

11.00 am – funeral for Dorothy Dawe's at Hope
11.00 am Service at R.P.N.H – Rev. M Eales
7.30 pm Church A.G.M.
Please note NO Keep Fit on Wednesday 9th or 16th,
back to normal on 23rd May, Janet

Thursday 10th May

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 11th May

12.30 pm lunches – no need to book

Saturday 12th May

10.0 am – 12 noon coffee morning in aid of
Christian Aid – please see 'Diary Dates' for more information

Sunday 13th May

10.30 am – Rev. M Eales – AAW with
Holy Communion

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

Dear all - I have been asked by several people what I do with the plastic tops you kindly bring in for me. There is only one place that accepts these and it's in Portsmouth, which is too far away for them to collect. So in May, hubby and I are going down and staying overnight, taking several bags of tops to them, setting up an account with them, and topping this up as and when we can. It is £30 for every 500kgs so we need a lot! Please keep them coming. If you would like more information on this scheme, please go to their website at GHS RECYCLING. Thank you all for your continued support. Also, my next adventure is an ABSEIL down the 418ft Northampton lift tower!! More details to follow. Sue Warren

Model Railway Exhibition.

A '**big Thank you**' to everyone who helped with the running of the Exhibition. It is such a lot of work from setting up on Friday evening, shopping for and preparing and serving the refreshments, running the stalls, sitting at the entrance and welcoming the people as well as the work beforehand - booking the layouts and advertising. We particularly thank Brian and Ann who have helped with the layouts each year. The Church is grateful for the tremendous team work that has gone on. This year we have added £1,067.90. to the Redevelopment Fund.

Circuit Outing will take place on Saturday 30th June to Stratford-Upon-Avon. It is planned to leave Skinners Hill, Rushden at 8.30am and Hope Church, Higham 8.40am. Cost £10 to be paid by **Friday 25th May**. More details are on the board in the vestibule or see Chris M. Please sign up on the sheet if you wish to go. A good day to be had.

Flower Festival - On the **9th June** we will be holding a flower festival jointly with the members of St Peter's Church, in their Church to join in the 'Celebrate Rushden Week'. This coincides with The Women's Cycle Tour of GB so the theme is bikes. Please put your thinking caps on as to how you can make a decoration. You may have a Cycle helmet that you could make an arrangement in or just a wheel that could be decorated, make a shape of a bike on paper with dried flowers. Maybe you know of a poem or song to do with bikes that you can depict in flowers. Have you embroidered or painted a cycle picture or have memories/photos of a special bike ride. We can help with the costs and any money made will be shared between the Churches so please get "**On Your Bike for Jesus**". More details nearer the time. See Chris M if you have any questions.

The funeral for Charles Watts will be held on Tuesday 22nd May
2.30 pm at Kettering Crematorium

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