

**MOTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH  
MESSENGER  
JULY 2019**

**JULY**

**"AS LONG AS THE EARTH ENDURES,  
SEEDTIME AND HARVEST, COLD AND HEAT,  
SUMMER AND WINTER, DAY AND NIGHT  
WILL NEVER CEASE."**

*Genesis 8 verse 22*



## THE BIBLE THAT WAS THROWN AWAY

This story is of a Christian pastor who was travelling some years ago on a train in the old Soviet Union.

There was just one other passenger in the railway car, and soon the two men were chatting. The subject of religion came up, and the other man extolled the logic of atheism and criticised religious belief. Then the Christian bravely expressed his own views, and even took out his Bible to show the man some relevant verses. But the atheist was both unmoved and annoyed.

When a little later the Christian was nearing his stop, he left the compartment for a few moments to get his suitcase. He returned to find his Bible was missing. The atheist was just closing the train window and sneered at him. It was clear that he had thrown the Bible out.

A few months later, a stranger came to call upon the Christian pastor in his village. It was a man from a neighbouring village who asked to be baptised. The pastor was astonished and asked him what he knew about such things. The stranger told him this story: "Until a few months ago I knew nothing of Christianity. I am just a local builder, working on a site near the railway track. One afternoon a book came flying out of the window of a passing train and landed in the dust nearby. It was a Bible - the first I had ever seen.

"So out of curiosity I began to read it. I was amazed by what I read, and I have become a Christian. Now I want to be baptised and meet with other Christians. I have heard rumours that you are also a Christian, so I hoped that you would help me."

The astonished Christian pastor did baptise the builder, and also told his story of the flying Bible. Within a few years a tiny Christian church had been planted within his own community. All because of a thrown-away Bible.



ONCE A MONTH CONGREGATION CALLED MESSY CHURCH  
JUNE THEME: PENTICOST, THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - IN PICTURES

Like the wind the Holy Spirit cannot be seen, but like the wind He has an effect on our lives.



We see differently - with God's eyes.  
We pray differently - with God's understanding.



**THERE WILL BE NO MESSY CHURCH IN AUGUST**



## JULY DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICE

### PREACHERS

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am - Messy Church:**  
Messy Church is preceded by breakfast

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am - Joan Mayes**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 10.30am: Holy Communion - Duncan MacBean**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am - Chris Price**



## JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Prayer meeting

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30pm: At the house of Eddie and Dallas Green

### Good Companions

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am:

### All Sorts Craft Group

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July from 10.30am to 12md

### Community Lunch

Every Wednesday at 12.30pm

### Saturday Youth Club

Every Saturday from 7-10pm for 9-14 year olds

## MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

Churches together in Mottingham will continue bible studies on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm.

Venue: St Andrews Manse 223 Court Road, SE9 4TQ

Theme: The book of Galatians.

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH

-  **1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10.30am:**  
Messy Church - This is preceded by breakfast
-  **1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7.30pm**  
Prayer Meeting at Eddie and Dallas's home
-  **2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10.30am**  
Good Companions
-  **4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 10.30 - 12.00md**  
All sorts craft group
-  **EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 12.30pm**  
Community Lunch
-  **EVERY SATURDAY FROM 7 - 10pm**  
Saturday Youth Club - for 9 - 14 year olds



### *Bromley Ecumenical Singers*

The singers perform three main concerts per year. All monies raised at the concerts go to local or national charities. To date around £85,000 has been raised.

'We are a friendly choir which rehearses on Monday evenings at St Andrew's Church, Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley, from 7.45pm to 9.45pm. Our choir sings in SATB (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and we have vacancies in all parts. We do not have auditions but we have a probationary period of one month to see how we get on.'



### **SUMMER CONCERT 2019**

**A World of Folk Music**

Saturday 13th July 2019 at 7.30pm

Venue: St Andrew's Church, Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley

The concert is in aid of BOES funds, to enable it to help more charities in the future.



## THINKING ABOUT THE BEATITUDES

*Rev Paul Hardingham continues his series.*

### 3 'Blessed are the meek'

Jesus calls those who live for His kingdom to demonstrate His character: 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.' (Matthew 5 verse 5). Meekness can come over as being 'weak or feeble', hence 'Gentle Jesus, meek and mild.' However, the Greek word means being tamed: 'Blessed are those who are tamed, under control.' The picture is that of a horse brought under control: strength under submission. Meekness begins with an honest view of ourselves, where we don't have to worry about what others think of us, but trust in what God is able to do in us.

Moses is described as 'very meek, more than all men that were on the face of the earth' (Numbers 12 verse 3). Moses was certainly not a weak leader, but he submitted to God's plans for his life. Meekness accepts what comes, even if it hurts, knowing that it's for our good.

A meek person will tame themselves to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, who shows us how to respond in any situation practically and prayerfully. It means being careful about how we respond to those who provoke us by not being angry or striking out. When we encounter difficult situations or people who wind us up, how are we prepared to pray before speaking? We should not be out of control, but under God's control!

Let's not forget the promise of this beatitude, that the meek person will 'inherit the earth.' Those who are prepared to let go their rights in this world, will be made infinitely rich in the future. 'The meek man knows at the same time that he is in the sight of God of more importance than angels. In himself, nothing; in God, everything. That is his motto.' (AW Tozer).

## IN AND AROUND MOTTINGHAM AND BROMLEY

### MOTTINGHAM LIBRARY IN JULY

*Bromley and Greenwich Councillors' Surgeries:*

**Bromley:** 6.45-8.00pm on the first Tuesday of the month.

**Greenwich:** 7-8pm on the last Friday of the month.



### Coffee Morning

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July

10.30-12 noon

Peter Smart, recorder for the RSPB, will be coming to talk about the 2018 Bromley Swift Survey and the lifecycle of swifts.



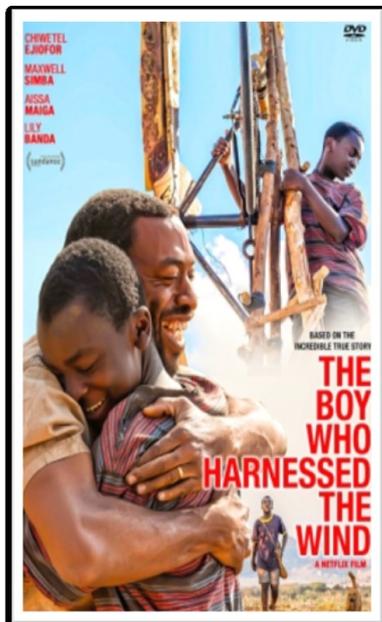
### Armchair Walk

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July

6.15-7.30

Hangings & Horses

Join Chris for a stroll from Marble Arch to Park Lane



## NEW ELTHAM METHODIST CHURCH

### FILM NIGHT - AN INVITATION

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 pm

At 435 Footscray Road, London SE9 3UL;

Tel: 020 8850 2960;

www.necp.org.uk; [necpneweltham@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:necpneweltham@yahoo.co.uk);

### 'The boy who harnessed the wind.'

A film about an incredible true story of William Kamkuamb a boy from Malawi.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a note book at the rear of the Church for your use if you or someone you know would like to be remembered in prayer by the Church whether anonymously or by name.

If it's easier to leave a note please do leave it in an envelope in the Church.

## WE PRAY FOR

Duncan MacBean, our minister  
Maureen Spinks, our deacon  
Maureen and her partner, Roy  
and the family

James

Janet

The Community Lunch

The Children's Saturday Club

Messy Church

Good Companions and the Craft  
Group

## MOTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

### CONTACTS:

**The Minister:** Rev Duncan MacBean. Tel: 07432 093353

Please Note: The minister's normal day off is a Friday

**The Deacon:** Maureen Spinks. Tel: 01689 821956

Please note: The deacon's normal day off is Tuesday

**The Senior Steward:** Dallas Green. Tel: 020 8617 0076

**ADDRESS:** 62 Mottingham Road, Mottingham, SE9 4QR

### THE CHURCH WEB SITE:

Church information is available on the WEB site

Log in to: <http://www.mottinghammethodistchurch.org.uk>.

### THE CHURCH AND CHURCH HALL FOR HIRE

Mobile Contact: 07757 717399



We are members of Parish Pump and The Association of Church Editors, two groups which provide material for Church Magazines