

SMC-NEWS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER OF SILVERDALE METHODIST CHURCH

ISSUE 5 - SATURDAY 8TH MAY 2021

MINISTER =

Rev. Christine Legge

01782 631918

christinel.moushan@gmail.com

CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER =

Jayne Leighton

07834 814009

northstaffschildrensworker@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

We seek to be a place and a people of prayer, Christian love, and friendship, through which we may serve God and the community.

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WEBSITE



www.silverdalemethodistchurch.org.uk



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SOUNDCLOUD

“Silverdale Methodist Church”

re-imagining Church for such a time as this

We still have financial commitments – please do all you can to support us, with a regular Standing Order or a One-Off Donation. Use the “Contact Us” form on our website to register your interest – or ensure that your weekly donation reaches us regularly. Any donation is gratefully received at all times.

If you have an e-mail address, contact Lee (Leetleighton@aol.com) and he will add you to the Distribution List, to keep you updated digitally!

WHAT'S GOING ON ... SUBJECT-TO-CHANGE!

Sat 8th May, 5:30pm 'til 6:30pm = delivering "Craft Pack for Worship"

Sunday 9th May, "WORSHIPONZOOM", 11am >>

worship led by Lee; preacher = Christine Chadwick

Sun 9th May, 12:15pm = COFFEE & CHAT (via 'Zoom')

Sun 9th May, 5pm = Leadership Team prayers (via 'Zoom')



Wed 12th May, 2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away
(main Car-Park)

Thu 13th May, 8pm = Young Adults HouseGroup (via 'Zoom')

Fri 14th May >>

2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

5pm 'til 6pm = delivering Food Parcels (wk B)

Sat 15th May, 1pm 'til 2pm = delivering Messy Church packs

Sat 15th May, 1:30pm 'til 2:30pm = delivering "Craft Pack for Worship"

Sat 15th May, 3:30pm = Messy Church (via 'Zoom')

Sunday 16th May, "WORSHIPONZOOM", 11am >>

led by Church Members

Sun 16th May, 12:15pm = COFFEE & CHAT (via 'Zoom')

Sun 16th May, 5pm = Leadership Team prayers (via 'Zoom')

Wed 19th May, 2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

Fri 21st May >>

2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

5pm 'til 6pm = delivering Food Parcels (wk A)

Sat 22nd May, 5:30pm 'til 6:30pm = delivering "Craft Pack for Worship"

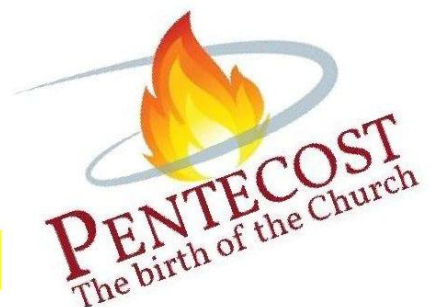
Sunday 23rd May = PENTECOST

Sunday 23rd May, "WORSHIPONZOOM", 11am >>

worship led by Lee; preacher = Rev. Christine Legge(*) {NEW MEMBERS}

Sun 23rd May, 12:15pm = COFFEE & CHAT (via 'Zoom')

Sun 23rd May, 5pm = PRAYER & PRAISE (via 'Zoom')



Wed 26th May, 2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

Thu 27th May, 8pm = Young Adults HouseGroup

(via 'Zoom')

Fri 28th May >>

2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away

(main Car-Park)

5pm 'til 6pm = delivering Food Parcels (wk B)

Sat 29th May, 5:30pm 'til 6:30pm = delivering "Craft Pack for Worship"

Sunday 30th May, "WORSHIPONZOOM", 11am >>

worship led by Lee; preacher = Karen Barnett

Sun 30th May, 12:15pm = COFFEE & CHAT (via 'Zoom')

Sun 30th May, 5pm = Leadership Team prayers (via 'Zoom')

Mon 31st May to Fri 4th June = HALF-TERM

Wed 2nd Jun, 2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

Fri 4th Jun >>

2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

5pm 'til 6pm = delivering Food Parcels (wk A)

Sat 5th Jun, 5:30pm 'til 6:30pm = delivering "Craft Pack for Worship"

Sunday 6th Jun, "WORSHIPONZOOM", 11am >>

CAFÉ CHURCH; informal & relaxed, all-age & interactive

Sun 6th Jun, 12:15pm = COFFEE & CHAT (via 'Zoom')

Sun 6th Jun, 5pm = Leadership Team prayers (via 'Zoom')

Wed 9th Jun, 2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

Thu 10th Jun, 8pm = Young Adults HouseGroup (via 'Zoom')

Fri 11th Jun >>

2:45pm 'til 3:45pm = Free Food give-away (main Car-Park)

5pm 'til 6pm = delivering Food Parcels (wk B)



We have another virtual on-line PRAYER & PRAISE planned for Pentecost Sunday, Sunday the 23rd of May at 5pm. It is a special day, as it is the birthday of the Church – and it will be a special day too as we confirm more new Members into the Church where God has called us to serve.

We still, as always, need to pray – it is imperative that prayer is at the forefront of our lives, both personally and also corporately as a Church too, so please do all that you can to attend. Anyone can join us, it isn't specifically for just "Silverdale people" – so please, if you want to, then do! As always, all those who receive our e-mails will automatically get the "invite"; if you don't get our e-mails, or know someone who would like to join with us, then you will need to ask to be added to the list – and if you have any questions, feel free to ask, and we'll try & answer!

For most people, all they ever see are the external walls of the church. People pass by a church every day, but few will enter to find-out more about God. Could it be that our church walls are one of the greatest hindrances to the gospel today? Even the dictionary states as its first definition of the word, "church", that it is "a place of public Christian worship". Sure, we worship God in our building, but, according to the Bible, "church" is all about people, not about buildings. That is why our "walls have to come down". The only way we can lead people to Christ is to come out of the four walls of the building and stop hiding from the world. It may take some time for people to be interested in the God we serve, but if we keep demonstrating the difference He makes in our life, their curiosity will be aroused and they will want to come and see for themselves – but only if they can see us! Our church walls must cease to be walls of division, of exclusion. A CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS is an expanding community, one that enlarges their hearts to embrace those who do not yet share our faith. The surprising thing is that when we do, people are interested. The world is waiting to know who we are and what we have to offer them. The old ways of 'doing church' are fading away – at least as being the only ways. Being a CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS means going out into the neighbourhood, and into cyberspace; it means getting ever-better about using social networking in-order to connect our geographically diverse congregation. It doesn't mean that we get rid of the building, no; instead, it means that we bring it up-to-date, so that the building from where we base the church is suitable to house the Outreach Programmes that we deliver – and more!



FIVE WAYS TO PRAY DURING THY KINGDOM COME

From Ascension to Pentecost, we encourage you to live out the commitment in [A Methodist Way of Life](#) “to pray daily” by pledging to pray for your family, friends, neighbours and colleagues to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ. The good news about evangelism is that it’s God’s work – and we are invited to participate in word, deed and prayer. These three are equal partners, and so as well as speaking and sharing the good news, we must be praying for God to act in people’s lives and stir their hearts. We want to resource you to pray for the people you know, and to encourage others in your church and Christian community to pray as well. We particularly encourage you to involve the young people in your church. There are many different ways to pray and these are just a few suggestions. Most of them can be done individually or in the community with minimum advance preparation.

No prayer is ever wasted. Ignatius of Loyola says that whenever you pray, you should start by reflecting that God is gazing on you right at this moment with love. All our prayers are heard by God, even if they’re not always answered in the ways we expect or the timeline we want. The more we pray, the more we’re in tune with what God is doing and saying.

You may want to pray for people who are a million miles from wanting to know Jesus, or people who are already seeking him. God is already working in their lives, whether they acknowledge it or not. We encourage you to take part in Thy Kingdom Come in whatever way you feel God lays on your heart.

Be prepared that you might be changed as well! When we spend time in God’s presence, things happen that we may not expect. Embrace God’s presence, and pray about anything God might say to you during this time.



PRAY THROUGHOUT THE DAY

While some people enjoy a dedicated time of prayer at the same time every day, others may prefer shorter, more frequent prayers. Set five phone or calendar reminders, one for each person you’re praying for, put sticky notes with people’s names on different objects around the house to remind you of each person, or fill a bowl with pebbles and take one out every time you pray.



TAKE TIME OUT IN PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

The Holy Spirit is already working in people’s lives. Rather than asking God for things, you may wish to simply reflect prayerfully on the people you are praying for and lift them to God. You could use a [daily examen](#) (a simple, prayerful review at the end of your day) to give thanks for the people you’re praying for, recite people’s names as you walk down the street or wash your hands, and take time to listen to what God says to you about each person.



TELL PEOPLE YOU'RE PRAYING FOR THEM

It's encouraging to know someone is praying for you, so why not contact the people on your heart and let them know you're praying for them? Although the Thy Kingdom Come movement is about people coming to know Jesus, we know God is already working in people's hearts, and cares about everything going on in their lives. You could ask them what desires are in their heart or send them a greeting card with an encouraging Bible verse (such as John 6:37, 1 Peter 5:7 or Psalm 23:1). Even if you're not meeting in your church building, you could use your outside space or bulletin board to let your community know you're praying for them, as well as your church website and social media.



BE ARTISTIC AND CREATIVE

Prayer doesn't have to be about words! Art, jewellery, dance, music – it can all be a form of prayer. Create art that reminds you of the people you're praying for, or a bracelet with a knot or bead to represent each person. Think about how you could share artistic prayers (while protecting the identities of the people being prayed for), such as displaying them in your church, sharing them on social media (with permission, of course) or collaborating on a shared digital creative platform like [Jamboard](#).



PRAY TOGETHER

Praying with others can be a powerful experience. You could pray with others in your church every day during Thy Kingdom Come by phone, Zoom, WhatsApp chat or in person (socially distanced). Thy Kingdom Come finishes the day before Aldersgate Day, which commemorates the day when John Wesley's heart was "strangely warmed". Why not pray together during your service that the people you've been praying for during Thy Kingdom Come will have their hearts warmed? Dependent on Covid guidelines, you could collect prayer stones for a cairn in the church car park, use street chalk to write or draw your prayers, or go on a socially distanced prayer walk.

For more examples of creative prayer ideas you could use this year (digital and in person), visit:

methodist.org.uk/thykingdomcome

methodist.org.uk/yearofprayer-individual

methodist.org.uk/our-faith/prayer/creative-prayer

24-7prayer.com/prayer

northumbriacommunity.org/offices/how-to-use-daily-office

For more information about Thy Kingdom Come, visit

thykingdomcome.global

<https://twitter.com/evangelismMC>

<https://www.facebook.com/EvangelismGrowth/>

<https://www.instagram.com/evangelismgrowth/>

