

Upper Caldecote Methodist Church



May 2021
Newsletter & Diary

Minister: Rev Lorna Valentine

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Upper Caldecote Methodist Church

Notice Sheet for May 2021

Sunday 2nd May 2021

10.30 am	Preacher	Mr B Addington
	Church Stewards	Jon & Stephanie
	Readers	Marilyn and Elsie
	Welcome Steward	Kim
	Flowers	Jean Cordy

Sunday 9th May 2021

3.00 pm	Preacher	Mr K Lilley
	Church Stewards	Jan & Marilyn
	Readers	Lesley and Alan
	Welcome Steward	Kim
	Flowers	Louise Oakins

Sunday 16th May 2021

10.30 am	Preacher	Rev Lorna Valentine
	Church Stewards	Jon Payne
	Readers	Sandra and Jon
	Welcome Steward	Kim
	Flowers	Louise Oakins

Sunday 23rd May 2021

10.30 am Mission Group worship on Zoom - contact Jon for 'log-in' details.

Sunday 30th May 2021 – Local Worship

10.30 am	Local Worship	Led by Jon and Jan
	Church Steward	Jan and Jon
	Readers	Jan and Paul
	Welcome Steward	Kim
	Flowers	Julie Broomfield

Notes from the vestry.

I am pleased to say that we opened our doors once again on Easter Sunday morning, Alleluia! It was great to be able to be in church but disappointing that indoor singing is still not permitted, but we did sing outside! Hopefully, we will be able to sing inside again soon. The Church will now be open regularly on Sundays (dependent on Covid restrictions continuing to be relaxed). Zoom services are planned over the next few weeks for any not able to get to church – please contact me for times and joining details. (Tel: 01767 318993; jon.payne51@outlook.com).

Over the next few weeks we hope some of our regular hall users will be able to return and meet in person, we look forward to welcoming them back when restrictions permit. We will also be turning our attention to the other events that form part of our community programme and seeking to plan some events within the permitted limits. It will be good to meet again for a chat and some social time, something we have all missed over the past twelve months or so.

Over the past couple of months we have appealed for some additional help to work as part of the church team. We have been truly blessed with offers of help from June Blanchard and Tom Greaves and ‘welcome them aboard’.

Finally, as I take over from Paul Cooper I will try and keep you up to date with our news. It is planned to say ‘Thank You’ to Paul for his term as Senior Steward etc during the Informal Service conducted by Keith Lilley on May 9 at 3pm when Rev Lorna is hoping to join us.

Jon

Reflection from Rev. Lorna



Happy Birthday!

I don't know about you, but every time my birthday comes around I can't quite believe it's been another year! I feel a bit like that this year as we approach May. It's a month with quite a big Birthday celebration. Before you ask, no, it isn't mine! I'm talking about Pentecost which, in many ways, is the Birthday of

the Church.

I remember when I lived in Peterborough we would often go into the town centre, play music, offer prayer, paint face, give out Birthday cake and I was even part of the worship group that danced in Cathedral square to Christian worship songs!

I always think fondly of those times because, to be honest, dancing in front of a load of people, many of whom I didn't know, is something I would never even have dreamed of when I was younger and still so uncomfortable in my own skin. It reminds me of just how often God works in ways we simply don't expect!

I am quite sure that when Jesus promised the Holy Spirit, the very last thing the disciples expected was tongues of fire and miracles of communication! Yet that is exactly what happened on that first Pentecost when barriers to communication were broken down and God's church, made up of all sorts of different people, emerged.

I'd love to say there were never any barriers to communication again! You all know though that isn't the case. Being church together isn't always easy and there are times we will misunderstand one another. Maybe though, thinking about Birthdays can help us. We always blow the candles on Birthday cake out, don't we? Maybe sometimes we need to leave the flames lit. Let's see just what unexpected things come from God when we do. Happy Birthday everyone.

Spirit of God, light up our lives again this Pentecost. Help us to break down the barriers to communication and work together and with others for your kingdom glory. Amen.

Every blessing,
Lorna

Special Notices

Easter craft & treat bags

Just before Easter we gave out Easter craft and treat bags to 35 local children to keep them busy during the school holidays; these contained some art and craft items to make and colour, the Easter story, stickers and of course some chocolate! They were well received and soon all collected from outside the Methodist church despite the very heavy rain shower that afternoon. We may repeat this again in the future.

Dates for your diary

Christian Aid Week May 10th - 16th. 2021

This annual house to house collection in Upper Caldecote this year will take a different format.

Hopefully, each house will have a 'deliver only envelope' through their door and there will be various places where your envelope can then be 'dropped off' during the week.

Envelopes can be dropped off at:

40 Shakespeare Drive any day during the week.

Upper Caldecote Post Office & shop in Hitchin Rd.

Upper Caldecote Methodist Church on Saturday May 15th between 10am and 12 noon.

Thank you to those who have offered to help. If anyone else is able to help with delivering envelopes to enable us to continue this vital work, please contact me.

Many thanks, Sandra Payne (01767 318993); email: sandra.payne33@icloud.com)

North Beds Circuit Website: www.northbedsmethodist.org.uk