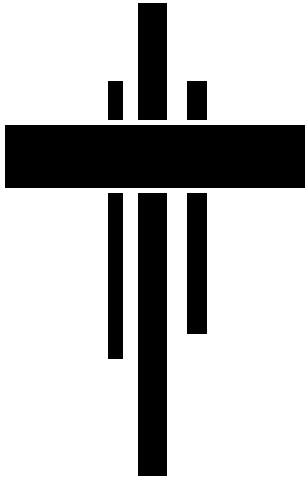


27th August 2017



Priory Methodist Church Weekly Newsletter

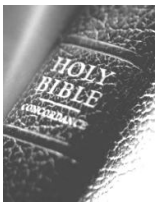
We welcome you to worship God with us today.

We light the Peace Candle and pray for peace in the world.

Call To Worship

Jesus asked his disciples, 'Who do you say I am?'
Come, claim Peter's reply as your own.
Come, and acknowledge the Messiah.
Come, and worship the Son of the living God.

Our Minister is the Reverend Andrew Hollins



If you would like a bible during the service
there are some available in chair backs or
from the bookcase in the welcome area.



A special welcome to any visitors with us today
We serve tea, coffee and soft drinks
after the morning services in the small hall each week.
Do stay and meet together with us.

Today's Morning Welcoming Team

Gill Richards and Pauline Williams

H&P—Hymns & Psalms, **StF**—Singing the Faith

10.30am

TODAY'S TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Preacher: - Mr Alan Davis

Worship Steward: - Les Exton

Organist: - Keith Goddard

• **Hymns:- All StF** 25, 664, 348, 679 and 690

Readers: - Gordon Beeden and Bill Knights

• **Readings:-** Romans 12: 1-8 and Matthew 16: 13-20.

Intercessory prayer: - Carmen Rowe

On Sound Desk:- Robert Wood

Junior Church

No
Junior Church
until September

10.30am

TODAY'S ALL AGE_INFORMAL WORSHIP

Preacher: - Mr Keith Lilley - Local Preacher from Willington

Worship Leader: -

• **Hymns:- All StF** 24, 363, 446, 553 and 73

• **Readings:-** Romans 12: 1-8 and Matthew 16: 13-20.

On Sound Desk:- Tsatsu

6.30pm

TODAY'S EVENING WORSHIP

Preacher: - Rev Kathryn Pawlett

Welcomer:- Norma Ayers

Worship Steward: - Eleanor Mackirdy

Pianist: - Pauline Kaye

• **Hymns:- All StF** 24, 25, 158 and 394

Readers: - Eleanor Mackirdy and Paddy Barrett

• **Readings:-** 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 and Acts 3:1-16

New to Priory? – Welcome

27th August 2017

We'd like to get to know you – please complete your details, tear off and put in the Minister's pigeonhole in the welcome area by the front doors.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Where are Priory's Preachers this week

Andrew is on leave, Liz Little is at Kempston West
and Jeremy Arthern is at Kempston East.

Next Sunday 3rd September 2017

Traditional Worship – Rev. Andrew Hollins – Holy Communion

Informal Worship – Mr Geoff Talbot

6.30pm – Mr Keith Lilley

<u>Midweek Worship</u>	Date	Led by
Wednesdays 12.00pm in the Chapel	30th August	Jeremy Arthern – Holy Communion
	6th September	Liz Little

Church Flowers

27th August	Donor	Jenny Lloyd
	Arranger	Jenny Lloyd
	Distributor	Marlene Howker
3rd September	Donor	Sue and Steve Gordon
	Arranger	Marilyn Lingings
	Distributor	Paddy Barrett

Soup Run

We are always pleased to receive any unwanted cakes, sandwiches, etc.

27th August	John H., Rachael and John
3rd September	John H., Norma and Beth

Reverend Andrew Hollins - Tel. No. 01234 340167

Andrew has Friday as a rest day.

Please avoid contacting him for routine matters on that day.

Church Office Tel. No. 01234 353523, Email: office@priorychurch.org.uk

Please note office hours are 9.00 – 14.00

Administrator works for The Pilgrim Partnership 14.00 – 17.00

Church Website: <http://www.priorychurch.org.uk>

Priory Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PrioryMethodistChurch>

Rev. Andrew Hollins

is on leave from Wednesday 23rd to Wednesday 30th August. For urgent matters requiring the attention during Andrew's absence, please contact Rev. Caroline Weaver (01234 767865 or carolineweaver@live.co.uk) or one of the other circuit ministers (details in the circuit magazine / on the circuit website).

Church Office

The office will be closed Monday and Tuesday 28th and 29th August.

Tuesday Teas

You are invited with friends and family to afternoon teas at Priory in the Small Hall. Tea/coffee and cake will be provided.
Last week, 29th 2.30 – 4.00pm.

Food and Fun Club

Big Thank You

Firstly, thank God for answered prayer, then thanks to all who donated cakes and volunteered to make the Food and Fun Club a great success for the families. 8 families came, a total of 26 adults and children, and we hope to have more next time as they invite friends.

The next session is Thursday 31st August, 11.30am – 1.30pm. If you can help in any of these ways, please speak to Carmen Rowe, Marian Knights or Eleanor Mackirdy: Donations towards the cost of food would be welcome on Sunday 27th August. Do you have a high chair we can borrow; we had several very young children for lunch? Can you come on 31st to help with catering, activities, registering or chatting to the families?

Please continue to pray for this exciting new venture.

Help urgently required

The church is due a five yearly property inspection from Methodist HQ on 6th September. For the last month, John Lingings has been busy round the back of the church repairing and replacing areas of rotting woodwork. He is now in a desperate race against time to get the painting finished before the inspection. Can you help? He is looking for people who can provide their own paint brush and may be an empty container to hold the paint (baked bean tin or similar). Paint and brush cleaning materials can be provided.

John will be at Church every day next week barring Bank Holiday Monday from 29th Aug - 1st Sept from about 10.00am. Please speak to him today, ring or just turn up if you can help.

Friday Fortnightly Lunches

Lunches in aid of Sue Ryder will begin again on Friday 8th September. We will still be serving soup, egg, bacon and sausage rolls, jacket potatoes with salad garnish and a pudding. We look forward to seeing new and old friends.

Barbara, Carol, Christine and Stella

Methodist Prayer Handbook

If you would like to order the 2016-17 Methodist Prayer Handbook please let me know by the end of August.

Barbara Barlow

Footprints Walk, 3rd September

We will be exploring the Sandy Smith Nature Reserve, near Clophill, a walk of around 3 miles on grassy tracks with some ups and downs but no stiles. Meet at 2.30pm by Speeds Dairy Farm; the postcode is SG17 5PL, drive through Clophill village, straight on and where the road bends right, follow the track signposted to the reserve. Further details from Liz and Mike Little.

Prayer Time at Priory: 11:00am - 12:00pm

We should always pray and never give up!

2nd September 2017

21st October 2017

Carmen Rowe

Day of Prayer For Britain

Worship & Fasting - Friday 8th September 2017, 10:30am - 8:00pm.

Join David Hathaway and others at the Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, London

Carmen Rowe

Bike n Hike – Saturday 9th September

If you would like to raise money for Priory and enjoy a good cycle ride or walk, sponsorship forms are on the table in the welcome area.

Pastoral Committee

There will be a meeting of the Pastoral committee at 2.30pm on Wednesday September 13th, at Priory.

Jane Hurst - Pastoral secretary

Priory Social Event and RNLi Fish and Chip Supper - Save the date

Saturday 7th October evening (time to be advised) RNLi Fish and Chip Supper

Including Stormy Stan Beetle Drive, appearance by Stormy Stan the Lifeboat Man, raffle,

RNLi Souvenirs and more. All welcome and please invite friends - The more the merrier.

More details to follow and tickets on sale soon. Thank you Stephanie Field

‘What the Bible says about Wealth’

‘the love of money is the root of all evil’ (1 Timothy 6:10)

‘It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God’ (Mark 10:25)

‘For unto everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath’ (Matthew 25:29)

Goldington Churches Together Away Day

Oct 14th 2017 10am – 4pm

Wymington Chapel, 15 High Street, Wymington, nr Rushden NN10 9LS

Come and join us for a day of fellowship, shared worship, teaching and discussion - on the theme of wealth and what the bible has to say.

To be led by Peter West of Wymington Chapel.

Bring and share lunch.

Dates For Your Diary

- Friday 29th September 10am to noon – Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee morning
Come and have a drink and cakes with friends.
- Saturday 4th November 10am to 2pm – Priory Autumn/Christmas Fair.
If you want to have a stall or if you know anyone who would be interested please contact Sue in the office. Watch this space for more details.

Church Council update

Copies of the documents for all Church Council meetings are available to read in the church Welcome Area pigeon holes. The following is a very brief digest of major items from the meeting held on 26th July:

- Increased hours for the Rainbow playgroup, which appreciates the church's support;
- 'Positive Priory' initiative was launched in worship on 2nd July; a new print run of prayer cards so that they can be placed in seat backs to encourage people to use them in church and/or take them away;
- Food & Fun Club (15th & 31st August and 24th October) – publicity to relevant families distributed via local schools, responses are trickling in;
- Dates for prayer meetings to be fixed well in advance, plus prayer meetings to be reintroduced before Church Council meetings;
- Easter Story Trail (19-23 March 2018) – good response from local schools;
- Our current Worship Leaders are being reviewed, as required every three years by the Methodist Church, and Marianne Baguley was recommended for Worship Leader training;
- Evening Worship at Priory Methodist Church – in response to the very small and decreasing numbers of people attending, it was decided to reduce evening services on the first and third Sunday evenings of each month from the beginning of 2018;
- Positive feedback on Bible Month, focussing on the book of James;
- Possibility of relocating Sunday morning refreshments – problems with the current location and with moving it somewhere else were identified, no change recommended;
- Church seating – in response to the feedback request a good number of responses had been received, electronically and via the suggestions box; options were discussed and a decision made to try out curved rows of seats, and for the dais to (which has looked rather empty) to be returned to use, with the Communion rail to be used for Holy Communion;
- Front church gardens are very overgrown and are hiding the church premises; the volunteers who have been working on the church grounds were thanked, and will be consulted about the way forward (which may include using professionals with appropriate equipment to do some major clearance work).

Posters On The Board In The Welcome Area - Updated weekly.

Don't forget to take a look at the posters with all the details of events happening at Priory, within the circuit churches and in Bedford - see if any take your interest.

www.northbedsmethodist.org.uk

Belief have an exciting calendar of events for this coming Autumn.

Introduction to Christian Doctrine - in partnership with St Albans Study Centre: This ten-week module examines the creation of the Christian creeds and the early formation of a distinct Christian understanding of God and humanity. It will explore what it means to think theologically, what sense can be made of religious language, and introduce some basic issues on the margins of theology and the philosophy of religion: for example, how God can be known, how God can act in the world, how the reality of evil might be explained. Topics covered will include the person of Jesus, incarnation and resurrection, the Holy Spirit, the Christian idea of God as Trinity, creation, sin and salvation, the Church and the churches.

This module may be taken independently, or as a 20 credit core module (with assessment) of SACT or SACT+.

Tutor: Silvianna and Barney Aspray, *Tutors in Theology, University of Cambridge*

Cost: £110

Venue: St Andrews, Kimbolton Rd, **Bedford**, MK40 2PF

Dates: Tuesdays 19 Sept - 28 November

Doors open: 7.00pm, **Start time:** 7.15pm, **End time:** 9.00pm (approximately)

Bookings can be made via the following link to the St Albans Study Centre site:

www.stalbanscathedral.org/learning/study-centre/courses/introduction-to-christian-doctrine

Stages of Life - our new Autumn Course

Wednesday's from 20th September 2017 -11th October 2017

20th September 2017 Conception & Birth Sue Armstrong

27th September 2017 From Childhood to Maturity Margaret Pritchard-Houston

4th October 2017 Growing Through life Revd Dr John Weaver

11th October 2017 What Happens When I Die? The Very Revd Dr Jeffrey John

This event will be held at St Andrews Church Kimbolton Road Bedford MK40 2PF between 8pm and 9.30pm. £5 per person, per session (including refreshments) payable on the day.

Saturday 30th September 2017

Christopher Rowland-discussion "Gospel and Empire in the New Testament"

Christopher taught Biblical Studies at the Universities of Newcastle upon Tyne, Cambridge and most recently Oxford, before his retirement in 2014. He has written on Christian origins, and the history of apocalypticism, liberation theology and most recently on the visionary artist and writer, William Blake, who was inspired by John of Patmos and a modern prophet against empire. He spent a decade on the Board of Christian Aid and chair of its Latin American and Caribbean Committee, which gave him first-hand experience of the churches work in countries like Brazil. He has a long-standing interest in the relationship between biblical studies and practical and theology. His most recent book, *In A Glass Darkly*, written with Zoë Bennett of the Cambridge Theological Federation, and published in December, looks at the interface between the two.

This event will be held at St Andrews Church Kimbolton Road Bedford MK40 2PF between 10am and 1pm. £10 per person (including refreshments) payable on the day