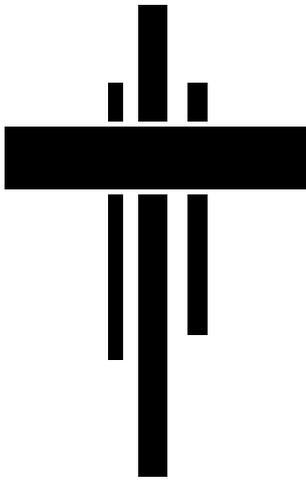


2nd December 2018



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

Let us seek the God of wisdom,
that we may know his paths and learn his ways.
May God's faithfulness lead us,
that this Advent we may lift up our hearts
in confidence, humility and love.
Come, people of God in this place.
Amen.

Our Minister is the Reverend Andrew Hollins

Offering

You are now invited to make your Sunday worship offering as you enter church, using the collection plate and offering bag provided on a table just inside the Church. (The offering bags will no longer be passed through the congregation during the service). At an agreed point in the worship, the offering will be brought forward for dedication by placing it on the Communion Table; a prayer or some other form of dedication may be used. It will take some time for this new way of making our offering to become familiar, so please don't worry if you forget to make your gift on your way into church; it is okay to add your gift after the service or to add it to your giving another week. Thank you for your generosity for God's work through the life of this church.



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

Bible Readings

The projected page references refer to the pew bibles and not the lectern bible. They are the same version but are different editions.



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

Pauline Williams and Jasine Belinfante

H&P – Hymns and Psalms, **StF** – Singing the Faith

10.30am TODAY'S TRADITIONAL WORSHIP – Holy Communion

Preacher:- Rev. Andrew Hollins

Worship Steward:- Hazel Warner

Organist: -

• **Hymns:- All StF** 180, 732, 93 (spoken), 594 and 169

Readers:- Barbara Barlow and Roger Wood

• **Readings:-** Jeremiah 33: 14-16 and Luke 21: 25-36

Intercessory prayer:- Gordon Beeden

Communion Stewards:- Susan Arthern and Lesley Wycherley

On Sound Desk:- Nick Guy

10.30am TODAY'S INFORMAL WORSHIP

Preacher:- Mrs Pat Lilley

Worship Leader: - Lynne Gound

• **Hymns:- All StF** 175, 447, 78, 156 and My Lighthouse by (You Tube)

• **Reading:-**

On Sound Desk:- Tsatsu

6.30pm TODAY'S EVENING WORSHIP

No Service at Priory this week

MWiB Circuit Advent Service at Flitwick at 4.00pm.

New to Priory? – Welcome

2nd December 2018

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: _____

**Junior
Church**

Where are Priory's Preachers this week

Liz is at Cranfield in the morning.

Next Sunday 9th December

10.30 Traditional Worship – Mrs Liz Little

Informal Worship – Rev Caroline Weaver – Holy Communion

6.30pm – No Service at Priory this week

Church Flowers

2nd December	Donor	
	Arranger	Christine Hearn
	Distributor	Paddy Barrett

9th December	Donor	
	Arranger	Bernice Monk
	Distributor	Marlene Howker

Soup Run

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

2nd December	John H., Norma and Lorraine
--------------------------------	-----------------------------

9th December	Brian, Kath and Anna
--------------------------------	----------------------

Midweek Worship

	Date	Led by
Wednesdays 12.00pm in the Chapel	5th December	Liz Little
	12th December	Marian Knights

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 generally 9.00 – 14.00

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

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

Update on Marian and Keith Goddard

Marian and Keith were both admitted to the Luton & Dunstable Hospital on Saturday 24th November. Marian had been feeling particularly unwell for a couple of weeks or so, which culminated in her suffering a stroke. Although very poorly, she became more responsive as last week progressed. Keith was admitted to hospital as it was felt inappropriate for him to remain at home alone; he is being well cared for and has had opportunities to visit Marian. Keith and Marian's wider family are very grateful for the contact made and concern expressed by friends from Priory Methodist Church. We continue to hold Marian and Keith, plus their family, in our prayers at this difficult time and as their future well-being is considered.

Friday Lunches

Our last lunch this year will be on Friday December 7th, recommencing on January 4th 2019. Thank you very much to all our supporters. Some who have been coming since we started. We would love to see new people, so perhaps you could invite some friends along to boost our numbers.

We have been doing them once a fortnight for 10 years, and in that time we have sent £14,500 to St. Johns Hospice at Moggerhanger.

We serve varied menu, so if you are interested speak to one of the team. We look forward to seeing you so have a good Christmas and Happy, healthy New Year.

Christine, Barbara, Stella and Carol

Please Be Vigilant

Father Wayne (Parish Priest at Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church) had personal belongings stolen from his car when it was broken into last Wednesday night whilst outside Holy Cross Church. There were several groups of people using the church and his car was locked and only left unattended for a couple of minutes, but the break-in still happened without anyone seeing it happen. Father Wayne encourages us all to be careful and vigilant around our various church premises, especially at this time of year.

Thank You

For your generosity in response to our gift service. 20 large bags of lovely things have been delivered to Smart Prebend Centre and to the Women's Refuge in Bedford. Most will be used to provide treats and Christmas presents for their clients; anything left over will be used during the year. Everything will be appreciated.

A worker at the refuge mentioned that she recalls a client last year in tears, so touched that a stranger had thought to give her a gift. There is a newsletter about the work of the refuge on the notice board in the vestibule; do have a look.

Stephen and Keith and their families would like to say thank you to all at Priory for their love, support and prayers following the death of Stan, they have been much appreciated.

Christmas Cards

From 2nd December we will be putting out the post box for Christmas cards for members of Priory's congregation. Cards will be sorted and put out for collection on Sundays 9th, 16th and 23rd December. From the money you save on postage we ask you to make a donation to charity and this year the proceeds will be given to the Karibuni Trust. The Trust does valuable work giving practical help to children living off the streets and in slums in areas of urban and rural poverty in Kenya. Please give generously.

Christmas : Celebrate with Saxophones

Join us for our usual informal Christmas concert on Monday 10th December, 7.30pm at Putnoe Primary School, Church Lane (opposite Aldi and shops). Popular music including – Muppet theme, Harry Lime, Day Dream Believer, Charlston, Love Changes Everything, Shepherd's Farewell, Rudolph, Santa Clause is coming to town, Mary's Child and more. (Public car park by the shops – walk across into school gate, turn left to the end, right to the end, door on the right. Look forward to seeing you).

Christmas Collection for Yarls Wood

We have been asked to collect A5 notepads and highlighters for the residents at Yarls Wood. It would be greatly appreciated if Priory members could help to give these inexpensive items. There will be a box in the vestibule for the collection of A5 notepads and highlighters for the next 3 weeks. We give our ongoing thanks to the Create and Relax team who kindly make Christmas and Easter cards for those in Yarls Wood, which are gratefully accepted. Many thanks. Jenny Lloyd and Lynne Gound

Carol Singing

Goldington Churches together are holding a carol singing event at Goldington Tesco on Thursday 13th December to help the homeless through donated items to Smart Prebend day centre. The area (near the entrance) is under cover and so does not get too cold. Please turn up at any time between 6 - 8 pm and stay for as long as you like. We need singers. Last year we were very short of singers, only 3 from Priory, so please consider coming along and joining us. Every voice counts! People of all ages are very welcome. It will be lovely to see you there. Lynne Gound and Jenny Lloyd

Christmas Concert

Opus 18 Community Choir will present their Christmas Concert at Priory on Saturday 15th December at 2.30pm. This year, the chosen charities are Beds Prostate Cancer Support Group and Bedford and District Cerebral Palsy Society. Tickets cost £7, £4 for children under 14, which includes refreshments. They can be obtained from Evelyn Sutherland evsutherlandmusic@hotmail.co.uk or from choir members.

Hope in Bedfordshire Christmas and 2019

1. - Carols in the Park 9th December

There will be Mulled wine and Mince Pies available from The Pavilion at 2.30pm and the service will be at 3.30pm.

The collection will be for Foodfest.

2. - Flash Mob 15th December

With Bedford Gospel Singers. 2/3 carols/ songs we will sing,

Flash mob will be 10.00 am church square, 10.20am outside Tesco Metro/ Primark, 10.40am outside Boots / Marks & Spencer

We will then move to the centre of the Harpur Centre near the spiral where there will be carol singing.

3. - Prayer

31st December moving to 4th January 7pm meet at Greyfriars for prayer walk.

Future dates for prayer walks 12th Apr 2019 and 5th July 2019

Contact Carmen for more information.

Flower Board

If you would like to make a donation for flowers in the Church on a particular Sunday, please put your name in the appropriate box and give your contribution to Sue Butler a couple of weeks beforehand. It does not need to be a significant Sunday for you, although you may choose to remember a particular date. If the date is special to you, it may well be that someone else also wishes to donate on that day, and we hope that in the spirit of Christian love, you will be happy to share your joys and sadnesses.

The Book of Isaiah (SACT & SACT+) - Starting Wednesday, 21 November 2018

As the Church enters Advent and Christmas, so we will hear much in our readings and hymns from the book of Isaiah, in which Christians have found prophecies pointing to the birth, life, and death of Christ. It is therefore not surprising that it is sometimes referred to as the 'Fifth Gospel'. More recently, scholars have identified different parts to the book and even different 'Isaiahs', and have sought to understand the prophecies in their immediate context. All agree that it contains some of the most profound imagery of the bible. This course aims to open up some of these aspects of this rich book. It is particularly geared to those who have a grounding in the Old Testament through previous study.

This module may be taken independently, or as a 10 credit core module (with assessment) of SACT or SACT+.

Please note that this course does not take place in St Albans.

Tutor: The Rev'd Dr Kevin Walton, *Canon Chancellor*

Cost: £60 - Venue: St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Rd, Bedford, MK40 2PF

Dates: Wednesdays 21 November - 19 December 2018

Time: 7.30pm - c. 9:15pm

Outreach Development Enabler

The Methodist Church 

North Bedfordshire Circuit - 25 - 30 hours per week

One year fixed term contract in the first instance

This new role within the Circuit will be pivotal in the consolidation, transition and development of mission and outreach activity across the Circuit. We therefore encourage applications from people who are passionate about the mission of the church and who have experience of its vocational and voluntary nature. Key skills will include development of organisational policy and strategy, facilitation and implementation of initiatives.

Salary £32K pro rata.

Closing date: 7/12/18 Interview Date: w/c 7/1/19

Contact: Stephanie Field for information pack

Email: northbedscircuitoffice@gmail.com

Email address for Priory Feedback

The email address (prioryfeedback@gmail.com) set up to receive comments during the recent consultation about the future of Priory Methodist Church remains 'live' and is regularly checked for messages. Please continue to use it to pass comments to the Priory Leadership Team.

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

LGB&T community, friends, families & allies... **ALL** invited to

Carols and Chat



Thursday 20th December 7.30pm

At Park Road Methodist Church, Park Road West,
off Roff Avenue MK41 7SB

Come and enjoy an informal hour of
carols and chat,

a Christmas Quiz,

Bring & Share festive fayre

(no alcohol, please!)

and more...



LGBT+ Friends

Rev Gill Baalham 01234 93002

Further details, please contact:
gill.baalham@methodist.org.uk

Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Ave, Bedford

Join us this Christmas!

16th December, 10.30am:

Nativity Service for all ages

23rd December, 6.30pm:

Candlelit Carol Service

24th December, 4.00pm:

Christingle, a service for all ages

24th December, 11.15pm:

Midnight Communion

25th December, 10.30am:

Family Worship

