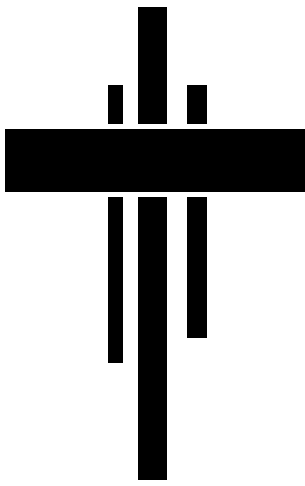


6<sup>th</sup> January 2019



# 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

Our feet following trails of camels' hooves,  
our eyes fixed on the star,  
let us journey with the magi to the manger.  
We gather around the Christ-child as they did,  
laying before Jesus the treasures of our hearts.  
**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

Bill Knights and Kathy Lewis

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

**10.30am**

TODAY'S ALL AGE WORSHIP TOGETHER  
Covenant Service

**Preacher:-** Rev. Andrew Hollins

**Worship Steward:-** Les Exton

**Organist: -** Lodewyk Nel

• **Hymns:- All StF** 227, 225, 231, 549 and 228

**Readers:-** Roger Wood and Anna Graham

• **Readings: -** Isaiah 60: 1-6 and Matthew 2: 1-12

**Intercessory prayer:-** Stephen Heap

**Communion Stewards:-** Sue Gordon and Hazel Warner

**On Sound Desk:-** Sydney Botchway

[  
**Junior**  
**Church**

**10.30am**

TODAY'S INFORMAL WORSHIP

**Preacher:-** Local Worship , Marian Knights

**Worship Leader: -**

• **Hymns:-** The First Nowell, **StF**230, **StF**201, Love laid bare in a manger

• **Reading:-** Matthew 2: 1-12

**On Sound Desk:-** Robert Wood

**6.30pm**

TODAY'S EVENING WORSHIP

No Service at Priory this week

First of Priory Methodist Church's new *On the Sixth Day* events.

A 'Twelfth Night Party' to celebrate the festival of Epiphany. Beginning at 4.30pm

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### **New to Priory? – Welcome**

**6<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

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 at Clapham for early Communion and at Anjulita Court for afternoon worship.  
Liz is at Putnoe Heights in the morning

### **Next Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.30 Traditional Worship** – Local Worship  
**Informal Worship** – Rev. Andrew Hollins – Covenant Service

**6.30pm** – No Service at Priory this week

## **Church Flowers**

<b>6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Donor</b>	Allan and Bernice Monk
	<b>Arranger</b>	Bernice Monk
	<b>Distributor</b>	Liz Little
<b>13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Donor</b>	Paddy Barrett
	<b>Arranger</b>	Marilyn Lingings
	<b>Distributor</b>	Kathy Lewis

## **Soup Run**

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

### **Midweek Worship**

Wednesdays 12.00pm  
in the Chapel

### **Date**

**9<sup>th</sup> January**

**16<sup>th</sup> January**

### **Led by**

Liz Little

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](mailto: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>**

## **Thank You**

Thanks for the flowers, cards, visits and prayers following the death of Stephen's mum. Your support is very much appreciated. Liz and Stephen Heap.

A belated thanks for the beautiful bouquet of flowers. I have completed my course of treatment at Addenbrookes hospital in Cambridge and now await further checks at Bedford hospital early in 2019. In all my 77 years this is the first time I have received a bouquet! Thank you.  
Colin Loxley

## **Christian Aid**

has been offered the opportunity to collect at both of the main branches of Tesco in Bedford on Saturday 19th January. If you can help with this please let Rev. Peter Littleford (01234 356645 or peterlittleford@btinternet.com) know which branch (Goldington or Cardington Road) and what time you would be available. Thank you.

## **Worship Consultation**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm at Priory. This is an open meeting at which all aspects of worship are discussed and all are welcome. If there is anything you would like to add to the agenda, please speak to Liz Little (lizlittlebedford@gmail.com) or to Andrew.

## **Concert - Saturday, 19th January 2019 - Postponed**

Due to unforeseen circumstances the concert by The Ivel Handbell Ringers from Sandy is having to be postponed, new date to be confirmed but looking to be early March.

Sue Butler

## **Christian Aid**

Chris Fox, a regular member of Priory's Sunday evening congregation, has decided to step down as the *Christian Aid* representative for Priory Methodist Church. Thank you to Chris for everything he has done in this role, especially making arrangements for Christian Aid Week. Could you volunteer to succeed Chris in being Priory Methodist Church's advocate for the important work of Christian Aid? If so, please contact Rev. Andrew Hollins or another member of the church Leadership Team.

## **A plea**

If you are putting an item in the church notices which involves people contacting you or someone else for further information or to book tickets etc, please ensure that you include a name *and* relevant contact details (phone number and/or email address). Not everyone reading and responding to items in the weekly notice sheet necessarily knows everyone else or how to make contact. Thank you, Rev. Andrew Hollins.

## **We are 50!**

This year, we celebrate Priory's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday with our main focus on the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June. As part of this, we would like to have an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia to remind us of all that has been achieved across the years. So now is the time to start looking out anything which could form part of that exhibition; we should celebrate what has happened recently as well as looking further back. If you would be willing to be part of a group collecting items and setting up the displays, Andrew or any member of the Leadership Team would be delighted to hear from you – our photos are in the vestibule. Thank you.

## **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

## **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Events**

Please support Christian unity by attending one or more of the following events. Please do come along. All are warmly welcome. More information can be found on a poster in our church porch.

**Fri 18th Jan** Elstow Bunyan Christian Fellowship High Street Elstow MK42 9XP 4.30pm – 6.00pm Prayer Stations, based on John Bunyan & WPCU, will be available to access anytime between these times. Hot drinks available.

**Sat 19th Jan** Elstow Abbey Church End Elstow MK42 9XT 9.30am Service followed by tea/coffee & biscuits

**Sun 20th Jan** Elstow Abbey Church End Elstow MK42 9XT 6.30pm Choral Evensong with the Elstow Abbey Singers, Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Dr Ian McIntosh. Followed by light refreshments.

**Mon 21st Jan** Shalom Wesleyan Holiness Church Offa Road Bedford MK42 9HZ 12.30pm Service. Please bring your lunch and share fellowship.

**Tues 22nd Jan** London Road Methodist Church London Road Bedford MK42 0NT 7.00pm Service followed by Fish & Chips!

Please pre-order Fish & Chips via [curate@elstow-abbey.org.uk](mailto:curate@elstow-abbey.org.uk) or 07922 487705

**Wed 23rd Jan** St John's Church, St John's Street Bedford MK42 0DL 12 noon Prayer Stations available from 11.15, service at 12 noon, followed by soup & bread lunch.

**Thurs 24th Jan** St Michael & All Angels Barford Ave Bedford MK42 0DT 7.30pm Compline, followed by tea/coffee.

Additionally, The Bedford Quakers have sent their regular invitation for any to join in their mid-week Meeting for Worship on Thursday January 24 at 12:30pm-1:00pm followed by a shared simple lunch. Location: 5 Lansdowne Road, Bedford, MK40 2BY

**Fri 25th Jan** Christ the King Harrowden Rd Bedford MK42 0SP 12.30pm Service. Drinks provided. Please bring your own lunch.

## **Email address for Priory Feedback**

The email address ([prioryfeedback@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.northbedsmethodist.org.uk)



# Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019



Date	Venue	Time	Notes
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Elstow Bunyan Christian Fellowship High Street Elstow MK42 9XP	4.30pm – 6.00pm	Prayer Stations, based on John Bunyan & WPCU, will be available to access anytime between these times. Hot drinks available.
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Elstow Abbey Church End Elstow MK42 9XT	9.30am	Followed by tea/coffee & biscuits
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Elstow Abbey Church End Elstow MK42 9XT	6.30pm	Choral Evensong with the Elstow Abbey Singers, Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Dr Ian McIntosh. Followed by light refreshments.
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Shalom Wesleyan Holiness Church Offa Road Bedford MK42 9HZ	12.30pm	Please bring your lunch and share fellowship.
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	London Road Methodist Church London Road Bedford MK42 0NT	7.00pm	Followed by Fish & Chips! Please pre-order Fish & Chips via <a href="mailto:curate@elstow-abbey.org.uk">curate@elstow-abbey.org.uk</a> or 07922 487705
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	St John's Church, St John's Street Bedford MK42 0DL	12 noon	Prayer Stations available from 11.15, service at 12 noon, followed by soup & bread lunch.
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	St Michael & All Angels Barford Ave Bedford MK42 0DT	7.30pm	Compline, followed by tea/coffee.
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Christ the King Harrowden Rd Bedford MK42 0SP	12.30pm	Drinks provided. Please bring your own lunch.

**Please do come along. All are warmly welcome.**