

South Wigston Methodist Church

# **The Oracle**



**July & August 2019**

## **Our Mission Statement**

The people of South Wigston Methodist Church are called to live the good news of God's love through open hearts, open minds and open doors.

We strive to be a place where understandings of Jesus Christ can flourish.

We're called to be good neighbours to people in need, to challenge injustice, and to meet regularly for prayers, singing and learning.

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One of the ways in which we seek to put this mission statement into practice is to ensure that our church is a safe place for all who use it by following the safeguarding policies and practices of the Methodist Church. Our church's safeguarding policy is on the noticeboard in the lounge. The Safeguarding contact is Helen 07500 180517.

### **South Wigston Methodist Church**

Blaby Road, South Wigston LE18 4PB

[www.swmc.info](http://www.swmc.info) ([www.swmchurch.org.uk](http://www.swmchurch.org.uk) from August)

**Minister:** Rev. Fran Rhys 0116 257 1069

**Senior Steward:** Mary B. 0116 281 2625

Leicester Trinity Circuit, Charity registration number 1129943

**Editor:** Mary B. contact: [pmmby@gmail.com](mailto:pmmby@gmail.com) 07891 917768

Contributions always welcome; deadline 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

You can see *The Oracle* in colour on our website.

**Rooms for Hire** A number of spaces ranging from small meeting rooms to a large hall are available for hire. For available dates and prices please contact Pat 0116 277 6818

## **Services in July & August**

There will be no BANG, Bible breakfasts or café-style worship during July & August. Junior church will meet when possible.

### **July**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Morning worship ~ Rev. Fran Rhys

4.00pm Churches Together united service at  
the United Reformed Church (in the College)

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Holy communion ~ Rev. Paula Hunt

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 10.15 Morning worship ~ Rev. John Clarke

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Morning worship ~ Mr Howard Smith

### **August**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Morning worship with special speaker  
Russell Bentley from Leicester Street Pastors.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Holy communion ~ Rev. Fran Rhys

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Morning worship ~ Mrs Sue Moore

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 10.15 Service to be arranged by church  
members

## Letter from our minister



Around the time of the new millennium, the Methodist Church came out with “Our Calling” as Methodists in four areas of: worship, evangelism, service, learning and caring. The Church last year reaffirmed “Our Calling” as helpful guidance for the Church’s direction, so at the annual General Church Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May this year, those present at the morning service reflected on these four areas. Here is a summary of those reflections, helping guide South Wigston Methodist Church in its next steps:

### **Service:**

Many church members are involved in charities. Through the Local Worship Team services on the last Sunday of the month, we share with one another our concerns about things which do not seem right, or cause trouble in our community, or appear unjust, including global concerns.

We use the church premises for Saturday coffee mornings, when local community members are welcomed. There is limited capacity to host other groups and activities. We need to pray more for the community, and the church could benefit from prayers for healing.

### **Worship:**

More spontaneous thanksgiving could be included in some services. Informal communion services are appreciated, as well as music during communion.

A photocopied order of service would help visitors and members. (All of these suggestions are being worked on...)

## **Learning and Caring:**

There are lots of small groups which are accessible and friendly to help deepen our faith in God and link faith to everyday life, such as the Lent Group, and the Bible Breakfast on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at 8.45am. (Resumes 15<sup>th</sup> September.) Groups like Little Angels, Knit and Natter, and Girls Brigade make it easy for others to join us, though we note with sadness the closure of Little Angels after an amazing 20 years. We would like to have more contact with the Male Voice Choir. (Beryl and Fran enjoyed their latest concert. The next Prom concert is 6<sup>th</sup> July.)

If someone isn't a regular attender it can be difficult to know when they are in need of pastoral contact, so please be in touch with your pastoral visitor or Fran if you would like a visit.

**Evangelism:** There are friendly, kind attitudes at the church, and it is a very welcoming and warm atmosphere, however both front doors could be opened onto the street to demonstrate this, especially in warmer weather.

"I wish I had faith" is a comment that is heard, and in response to this a sensitive, genuine approach is best. We can offer prayers for others seeking faith, and we should use clear, straightforward, meaningful words, always being ready to express our faith in words (1 Peter 3:15).

## **District World Church Celebration Service**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July

at Park Avenue Methodist Church, Northampton

Refreshments from 4.30 Worship at 6.00

Activities for children & young people.

See poster on noticeboard

Lifts available see Mary B.

## *Church family*

*We wish a Happy Birthday to everyone who celebrates in July & August*

### **July**

7<sup>th</sup> Ella  
18<sup>th</sup> Pat  
25<sup>th</sup> Frankie  
30<sup>th</sup> Brenda

### **August**

18<sup>th</sup> Fran  
28<sup>th</sup> Mary B

*Special birthday congratulations*  
to Beryl who celebrates her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on 12<sup>th</sup>  
July



*And a Happy Anniversary to*  
July 24<sup>th</sup> Mary & Eric  
28<sup>th</sup> Brenda & Alan, Helen & Chris, Hannah & Peter

August 4<sup>th</sup> Donna & Andy  
22<sup>nd</sup> Lynne & Steve  
25<sup>th</sup> Gaynor & Chris, Fran & Diane  
26<sup>th</sup> Rachel & Jason

**A big THANK YOU to Margaret Edwards who is 'retiring' from Little Angels.**

Margaret writes "I have taken the very hard decision to stop running Little Angels. I have really enjoyed all my years running the group and it is with great sadness that the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July will be the last sessions. I will miss you all dearly but it is time for me to take some much-needed 'me time'.

I am going to be holding one last Teddy Bears' picnic on 7<sup>th</sup> August so bring your bears along!

I want to thank everyone for all your support over the years."

## *Flower rota*

### **July**

7<sup>th</sup>

14<sup>th</sup> Gill Kummerehl

21<sup>st</sup> Subash, Johnsi & Jerin

28<sup>th</sup>

### **August**

4<sup>th</sup> Martyn for Mum ~ Dorice

11<sup>th</sup> Beryl for Freda (porch)

18<sup>th</sup> Mary & Catriona for John

25<sup>th</sup> Trevor Mildred



If you would like to contribute towards the flowers you can find out more from Margaret.

### **Trevor Mildred and funerals**

I wish to make it known that I am no longer employed by F.L. Mildred & Sons Funeral Directors in Wigston, or Joseph Swift Funeral Directors in Aylestone (both part of Dignity PLC).

However, I can help with advice or guidance at a time of bereavement through my contact with Richard Ward Funeral Services Ltd (RWFS), 2b The Cross, Enderby LE18 4NJ Tel: 0116 286 6858 (or at home 0116 288 3335). I am now able to arrange and conduct funerals personally through this Company if requested. *Trevor Mildred*

**Thanks to everyone who supported the Big Lunch on 1<sup>st</sup> June. (Photo: Subash)**



**Mariam, our sponsored child in Burkina Faso.**



Mariam's latest letter is on the board.

Hi Dear South Wigston Methodist Church! I am very happy to share my news with you. My family and I are doing well. Thank you so much for your support. I got 6 out of 10 at the second term, and my favourite subject is geography. We had a new born in our family - my aunt gives birth to a nice girl whose name is Latifa! Her baptism was on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Everything is going well at the project. I take part every Saturday in the activities of the project except in case of disease. Do you have a dog in your house presently? Please pray for me

to have good average in order to move to upper grade. May God's grace be always your support. Mariam

The latest Compassion newsletter focussed on the neighbouring country of Togo and included this recipe for Chicken peanut stew.

8 chicken thighs (vegetarians can substitute sweet potato)  
1 large onion, chopped  
1-2 cloves garlic, crushed  
2 medium tomatoes, chopped  
1 chicken or vegetable stock cube  
1 cup of peanut butter  
2 tbs tomato puree  
Salt & pepper to taste  
2 cups water

Season the chicken with salt & pepper.

Add 1 tbsp of oil to a large frying pan or casserole and brown the chicken.

Add the onion and garlic and fry until soft.

Meanwhile, put the peanut butter, tomatoes, tomato puree and water in a blender. Blend until you have a fine paste.

Stir the paste into the chicken and leave on a low heat, stirring occasionally – about 30-40 minutes – for the sauce to reduce & thicken. Check that the chicken is cooked before serving.

In Togo this is often served with the staple dish – maize porridge.

**Please continue to donate** via the box on the counter and after café-style worship – our donations do make a difference to Mariam, her family and their community.

## **Church news & events**

### **Ladies' Circle**

All women are welcome to come along to this group which meets on Monday evenings, usually at 8pm. On members' evenings we have a chat and a cuppa. On other evenings we have speakers or activities. Open evenings are also held when we have a special speaker ~ men are welcome to attend.

During July and August we meet at 8.00pm for a chat and a cuppa. Except on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 7.30 when we are going out for a meal.**

### **Cream teas**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 3 to 5pm**

£5 for church funds

### **Teddy Bears' Picnic**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 10 to 11.30**

Come along and enjoy a fun morning – young and old. Enjoy food together.

Help us to find Mrs. Bear's lost children.



### **Quizzes**

The quiz for Aigburth raised £200, the winner was Mrs Joy Goodacre.

My new Quiz is now ready, it is on Birds and the usual price of £1 and is in aid of Age UK Oadby and Wigston. *Brenda*

## **Other events**

### **Kennedy House Summer Party**

The residents and volunteers hope you can join them for some great chat and fantastic ethnic food on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 5.00 pm**. At Kennedy House Tigers Road  
Bring your dancing shoes. See poster on the notice board in the lounge.

### **Ride and Stride ~ Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Our Church will be open from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm to sign in visitors. We have Janet, Sylvia and Brenda who will be visiting churches to raise funds for our church and looking for sponsorship. Last year the same 3 raised £300 and had a mention in the Historic Churches Newsletter. If there is anyone else who would like to join them, please see Brenda for forms.

### **News from Pride of the Borough**

Pride of the Borough has provided 8 planters around the Borough, volunteers planted them with Summer bedding plants on Sunday 12th May. Unfortunately, 3 planters have had plants stolen from them, one in Wakes Road Wigston and two in South Wigston! However, this will not deter members from trying to improve our environment

On 18th May the monthly working party of 10 volunteers set out from Countesthorpe Road car park on a litter pick. From the streets along the south side of Blaby Road 19 bags of litter were collected and disposed of. This is the largest pick up yet. What does this say for South Wigston?

The Pride of the Borough campaign THINK LITTER continues to encourage residents NOT TO DROP LITTER.

## **The Church**

**Services:** Sundays 10.15

**Junior Church:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 10.15 to 11.15

Sarah V. 288 1576 (Not on when BANG & LWT are held)

**BANG** for children and families: with breakfast

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 9.00 am (Not during July & August)

**The Local Worship Team (LWT) leads cafe-style** modern worship on the last Sunday of each month at 10.15 (Not during July & August)

### **FELLOWSHIP & OTHER GROUPS**

**Ladies' Circle:** Mondays 8.00 pm ~ all women welcome

**Knit & natter:** Tuesday 2 - 4 just come along and enjoy a cup of tea in good company.

**Coffee morning:** Saturdays 10.00 to 12.00 noon

### **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Girls' Brigade:** Thursday evenings (Term times)

Donna Jobling 278 7152 2ndwigstongb@gmail.com

**Outside groups which use the building include:**

**Busy Bugs Playgroup:** Nina Bevans (Term times)

**Let's Walk South Wigston:** meet on Saturdays at 9.15 for an hour's walk. Contact Judith 0116 286 2625 judithnorth64@yahoo.co.uk

**Wigston & District Male Voice Choir** [www.wigstonmalechoir.org](http://www.wigstonmalechoir.org)