

# CALNE METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023



Stall at last year's Carnival

**Items for future editions can be sent to:**

**Jan Sayers**

The deadline for the July 2023 issue is

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

There once was a woman who had ten silver coins. She was a poor woman, and those ten silver coins were especially important and precious to her. One day, she decided to take those coins out of their special place. She just wanted to look at them and enjoy them for a moment; then she was going to put them back. She picked up each coin, one by one, looked at it, then turned it over to look at the other side.

The coins were so pretty and shiny! She really enjoyed looking at her coins, and she was feeling so fortunate to have them, but she knew she needed to put them back in their special place and return to her work for the day. The woman counted her coins one last time, as she was putting them away and found *one* to be missing.

Desperately, the woman searched her whole house. She looked on the floor, under the table where she had been counting the coins, but it was not there. She looked in her pockets just in case it might have fallen off the table and into her pocket, but she could not find the coin. She used her broom to sweep out every nook and cranny, but still did not find the lost coin.

Finally, the woman lit a candle so she would have more light. On her knees and on the floor, she searched every inch of her small house and was ready to give up in despair. Then in the candlelight something was revealed in the darkness under the table. She knelt and by the candlelight she saw her missing shiny silver coin.

She was so excited and relieved to find her lost coin, she went out to find her friends and invited them back to home to celebrate. The woman in the story searches comprehensively as the coin was precious to her and had to be found.

Jesus came to be the Light of the World; “The true light that gives light to everyone”. He came to find those of us who have become lost, we are the ‘*coins*’ in the illustration. And one thing I have learned is that you always see things much more clearly, within the light of Christ, especially when you are on your knees.

In the last couple of years, I think I have become a little lost at times.

Following two life threatening illnesses I became a little unsure, a little fragile, and a little lost about what I should be doing with my life, and how my life decisions would affect Elizabeth.

I needed a guiding light to regain my confidence and show me a safe and true way to live again.

I remember reading a quote, “*I feel like there are parts of myself that have been lost along the way, and I don’t know if I can go back and find them again.*” It could have been written for me in recent times. Can we ever find the lost parts of ourselves? Can we become whole once again?

What parts of your life are you reviewing today? What do you need to experience more wholeness?

The gospel of Jesus is about *bringing people back to life*, a call to wholeness, and every coin matters. I thought about parts of my life that had been lost along the way, recent losses, and long-ago losses, which have never been forgotten. I remember losing a cigarette case my father had carried in the war, in fact it was stolen, but it was still a careless loss, and it never left me...*that sadness*.

If there is a final word to all this, it is that God is always interested in what others may believe to be worthless! God does not care what you may think about your own worth, or what others may think about your worth. God sees only through eyes of love and grace. You see, to God, there will always be immense value in your life! And God will always find you in your darkness and despair, wherever we may be, whatever situation we may be enduring, through the light and love of Jesus Christ.

Thank you all for the kindness, encouragement, understanding, support, and all the love you have shown to both myself and Elizabeth.

God be with you always,

Craig.



### **Our Forthcoming Services:**

<b>4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Rev Craig Manley including Holy Communion</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Mr Derek Gard</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Mrs Joanne Williams</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Mrs Jenny Colby</b>



## Pastoral News

We give thanks for grandparents and for all the support, love and care they give.

We congratulate 'once again' grandparents Margaret and Richard on the joyous arrival of Jacob Richard born 21st May and also Elizabeth and Craig for the

safe arrival of their grandson Rafi Lawrence born 4th May.

We pray for all young people taking exams and awaiting their results.

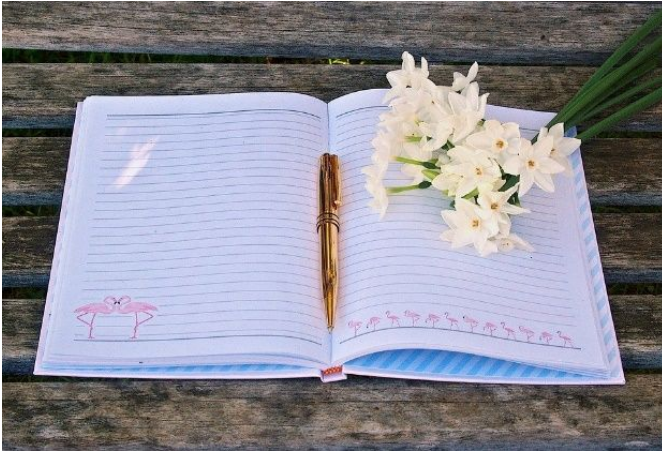
We pray for members of our congregation waiting for treatment or waiting for results of tests. Our prayers are also with those who have sought advice from clinicians but have not had satisfactory answers.

We continue to pray for those recovering from operations or other illness and we especially remember Craig.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our church family.

Throughout June we particularly pray for Miriam Crighton's pastoral group: Kay Bibby; Janet Boswell; Jason and Sam Butler-Henderson; Julie Gibson; Becky Legge; Robin Legge; Edith Pearson; Graham Spyer and Brian Tovey.

It is part of our Christian commitment to care for and support each other, so if you have any joys or sorrows that can be shared in our pastoral news please let Ursula know. Thank you.



## **Dates for your diary**

**All are welcome to join in**

### **Sunday June 4th**

**Church Meal**

**Time: 12.30**

**Venue: Church Hall**

**Come and join us**

### **Wednesday June 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th**

**Friendly Spaces**

**Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm**

**Venue: Church Hall**

**Come and join us**

### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

**Church stall at the Calne Carnival**

### **Saturday July 1st**

**Jazz Concert with Afternoon Tea**

**Time: 3.00pm - 5.30pm**

**Venue: Church**

**Guest Musician Vicki Watson**

**More details in this newsletter see poster.**

### **Saturday July 22nd**

**Church Coffee Morning**

**Time: 11.00am - 2.00pm**

**Venue: Church Hall**

**More details in this newsletter see poster.**



## Refugee Prayer Focus June 2023

Let us pray for all those refugees in Cox's Bazaar in Bangladesh, whose numbers are still growing, and where many of those living there must have been born in the camp. Give them hope.

### Calne Food Bank

Please visit their website for details of their opening times - [Calne Food Bank](#)

We are currently in need of: Small tinned potatoes Small tinned veg Instant mash Small sugars Whole milk  
Coffee Toilet Rolls Jam

**Please make sure that any food donated is in date.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOODBANK HAS NOW MOVED TO 1 OXFORD ROAD**



Thank you to all who supported the Church Plant Stall at the Duck Race.  
We raised over £150 for Church Funds



**Sunday 11th June**

**Calne Methodist Church**

**3.00pm - 6.00pm**

An informal church for all ages.

Come and explore the Bible and a Christian life through crafts, songs, games, drama, activities and food.

You can be 8 months, 8 or 80.

(Children must be accompanied by an adult please)

All are welcome and there's plenty of opportunity to have fun and make a mess!

**No need to book - just come and join in!**

A Calne Partnership of Churches activity

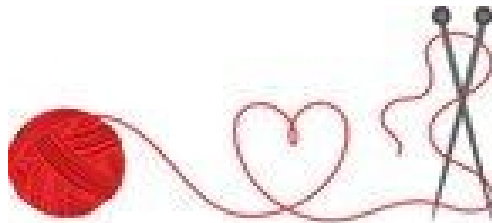


Thank you to Miriam for this lovely picture of the Poinsettia she was given by the Church at Christmas which is still going strong thanks to her love and care.

## THE KNITTING PRAYER

**Lord God,  
You 'knit me together in my mother's womb'.  
You cast me on all those years ago and you're  
still knitting;  
Row by row in the click-click of life.  
You design the pattern. I follow.  
You unravel the knots. You stretch me a bit.  
And together we shape a life that fits Your  
purposes perfectly.  
I wear it as I go; unfinished yet perfectly  
styled,  
marvelling at its ability to grow with me.  
Not a 'one size fits all', 'off the peg' knitted  
life, but tailor made:  
Designer labelled, with a lifetime guarantee.  
I'll wear it with pride until it's time to cast off;  
time to be fitted for a really heavenly garment.  
But for now.  
Click, click.  
Keep me in your pattern Lord.**

Thank you to Ursula Barham for submitting this prayer.





**Calne Methodist Church's Concert  
at Silver Street**

**Jazzy  
Feel**



**Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup> 2023  
3.00pm – 5.30pm**

**Come and Enjoy 'Jazzy  
Feel'  
Afternoon Cream Tea**

**Guest Musician  
VICKI WATSON  
Clarinetist and Saxophonist**

**Other Entertainers:  
SupaNova, SilverStreetChoir  
Reckless Recorders and JUSS4Singing,**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Tickets: £8 Adults. Children Free.  
Contact: Ursula**

Raising funds for Doorway Wiltshire, Action for Children and Church.

A vibrant summer-themed poster for a craft event. The background is a light blue sky with a string of colorful triangular bunting flags at the top. In the center, a semi-transparent white box contains the event details in blue text. Below the text, there are illustrations of a green tree with red fruit, several blue butterflies, and white clouds. At the bottom, there is a green grassy field with some foliage on the right side.

# SUMMER CRAFTS

## CAKES & COFFEE EVENT

SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY, 2023  
METHODIST CHURCH HALL  
SILVER STREET, CALNE  
11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

*Including*  
JEWELLERY, KNITTED CRAFTS,  
HOMEMADE CAKES & MORE  
REFRESHMENTS INCLUDING  
FAIRLY TRADED TEA & COFFEE

## Open Blue needs Your help please



The Open Blue bus is back visiting Calne on a Friday evening between 6 and 7pm. Working with the Rise Trust we are providing a safe space for young people to meet up, hang out and have fun. We provide hot chocolate and toasties and those on the bus can play the latest electronic games and challenge each other, or a volunteer, to a game of chess.

We are looking for volunteers to join us. Do you care about the young people of Calne? Are you willing to chat with them, listen to them and interested in what is going on in their lives? Would you be able to be part of the team at least once a month?

If you are up for helping or would like to find out more, please contact David Sandberg at [djs@openblue.org.uk](mailto:djs@openblue.org.uk) or on 07738 474290.

If you do become part of the team, you will need to complete an application form and we will complete a DBS check and take up references. We are happy to provide safeguarding and youth work training as required.

Reg Charity No. 1196800

[www.openblue.org.uk](http://www.openblue.org.uk)



## **QUIZ NIGHT**

STUDLEY METHODIST CHURCH HALL  
SN11 9NH Midway Calne/Chippenham

**SATURDAY 17 JUNE**  
6 p.m. NOTE EARLIER TIME...

£2.50 p. p. Teams of 4  
Teas Raffle (prizes welcome)

Supporting NCH ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Details Eric / Helen 01380 870922  
Parking at Studley sawmills

# Wanted

## Donations of clothes & games

*Wiltshire for Refugees* are looking for the following items to support refugees in our area

### Clothes

New socks & underwear  
Trainers  
Jogging bottoms  
Tracksuit tops/hoodies  
Wired headphones  
T-shirts

Email  
[Hello@refyoume.com](mailto>Hello@refyoume.com) to find  
your local  
donation drop  
point

### Games

Footballs  
Dominoes  
Rucksack/Holdalls  
Boardgames  
Pens & Pencils

We are also raising funds to buy each person we support a new set of clothes & trainers for just £30. You can donate any amount via our RefYouMe just giving page - <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/refyoume>



### Calne Carnival - 24th June

We will be having our usual stall at this event giving out cress seeds and details of our activities including Messy Church and Friendly Spaces - if you can help on the stall during the day or in the preparation that goes on beforehand please let Jan know.