

CALNE METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER MAY 2023



Items for future editions can be sent to:

Jan Sayers

The deadline for the June 2023 issue is

Sunday 28th May 2023

Our Forthcoming Services:

7th May	Mrs Jo Williams
14th May	Rev Roy Fowler including Holy Communion
21st May	Worship Leaders
28th May	Mrs Margaret White

Pastoral News



We pray for the life of Marigold Treloar who died April 1st and whose funeral and thanksgiving for her life was April 27th. We send our deepest sympathy to all her family.

Marigold was a remarkable woman who was strong in character yet sensitive and caring in a perceptive way. She brought her own brand of wisdom to her many services to the community which are a matter of record. Our own church community will miss her deeply.

We continue to pray for Rev. Craig Manley and for Elizabeth while wishing him a speedy recovery. We also pray for families who still find themselves in difficult situations; for those making crucial decisions; for those who have long term health issues and for those who care for and support them and for young people taking important exams this term.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our church family.

Throughout May we particularly pray for Vera Steadman's pastoral group: Edward and Ursula Barham, Eleanor Bujalska, Jean Hadrell, Molly Green, Jill Salisbury and Stephanie Tucker.

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.



Refugee Prayer Focus May 2023

Let us pray for those who have become refugees from Sudan in the last few days. Pray for a resolution of the conflict and safety for those who have had to leave their homes, and pray for those who cannot leave.

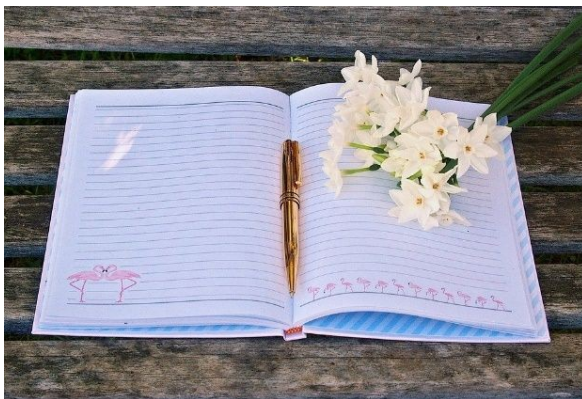
Calne Food Bank – Please visit their website for details of their opening times -

[Calne Food Bank](#)

We are currently in need of:

Instant mash	Small Tins Fish (Tuna, mackerel)	Small tinned ham	Packet macaroni cheese
Packet noodles	Tinned pulses	Skimmed milk	Toilet rolls
Small biscuits/treats	Small jars coffee	Large fruit juice	

Please make sure that any food donated is in date.



Dates for your diary

All are welcome to join in

Wednesday May 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st

Friendly Spaces

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Venue: Church Hall

Come and join us

Saturday May 13th

Duck Race

Time: 10.00am onwards
Venue: Calne Town Centre
We will have a plant stall

Saturday May 20th

Celebrate Jo Williams' 40th Birthday

Time: 2pm -4pm

Venue: Ursula and Ned's home - Langley Burrell
Cream Tea in the Garden . All welcome.

Sunday June 4th

Church Meal

Time: 12.30

Venue: Church Hall

Come and join us

Saturday July 1st

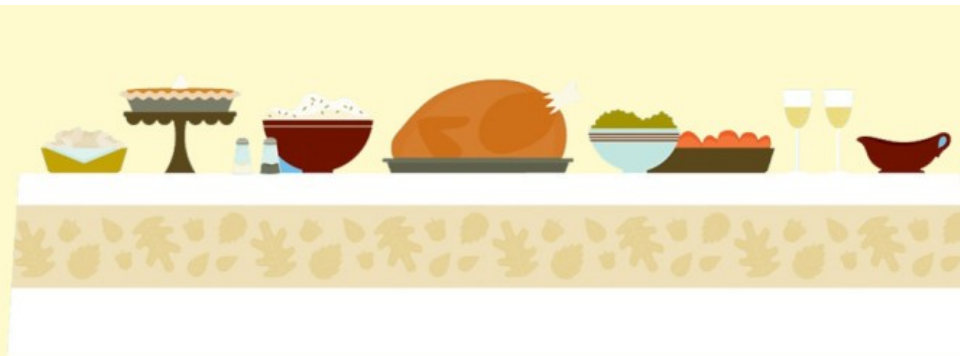
Jazz Concert with Afternoon Tea

Time: 3.00pm - 5.30pm

Venue: Church

Guest Jazz Musician Vicki Watson

More details late



Fellowship Buffet Lunch 4th June 2023

12:15 In Church Hall

**Cold Meat, Ham / Chicken
Cheese
Salads / Jacket Potatoes
Coleslaws
+
Pavlova / Fruit Salad
+
Tea/Coffee**

Sign-up sheet available in Church Hall

Any profit from donations will be split between Church funds & our nominated charity.

**** Please advise Caroline of any food allergies**



A relaxed and informal church with a warm welcome suitable for the whole family - crafts, songs, drama, food and plenty of opportunity to have fun and make a mess!

**Sunday afternoons at Calne Methodist Church
from 3.00pm - 6.00pm**

12th March

16th April

14th May

11th June

9th July

No meeting in August

10th September

8th October

12th November

10th December

No need to book - just come and join in!

A Calne Partnership of Churches activity

Contact Michele Gard on calne.methodist.church@gmail.com

For more information



PROPERTY UPDATE AND HELP REQUIRED

As many of you will be aware, we have been tackling a number of building issues over the last three years. This has included the damp in the vestibule and the heating boiler. The investment in these projects mean that the Quinquennial report on our building was not as bad as expected. However, the report highlighted two issues which we need to address.

Firstly, as well as the damp in the floor which has been resolved, we have rising damp in the walls in the staircase areas. We have received a quote from Abbey Damp to damp wall both staircases, reduce the external ground levels and install under stairs ventilation for £5,929.

Secondly, despite remedial works, the doors to the front vestibule need replacing. Fluctuations in temperature means the current doors are seizing up or loosen and let water in. Companies have been approached and to replace the doors and side panels with double glazed 'commercial' quality units with toughened glass. The cost of this is £9,841.20 (inc VAT).

Subject to funding being in place, the Church Council has agreed to spend **£15,570.20** to go ahead with the work, with a contingency of **£1600** making a total of **£17,170.20**.

We would like to be able to contract this work but need to secure the funds to do so. You have all been very generous in your support of the previous projects and, as well as this work, we still have to run the church on a day-to-day basis. It is our intention to cover most if not all the costs of this work through fundraising and grants, and we are therefore going to look for grant funding and start a fundraising programme to pay for this.

However, we are conscious that quotes only remain valid for 30 days, prices are rising for materials, and reputable companies are in short supply to carry out the work and are booked up months in advance.

If you are able to make a donation towards the work, this would be very welcome, but at this stage what we are asking members to consider is whether you are able to make an interest free loan to the church over a five-year period or, indeed, whether you feel able to underwrite the whole amount.

If we were able to raise £15,000 in this way, we would be able to go ahead with the work straight away and would then need to raise £3,000 per year through fundraising and grants to pay back the loans.

If you feel that this is something you could offer to the church, please have a confidential chat to our Treasurer, Simon Purtell, or, if you could offer to run a fundraising event over the next year or so, please speak to Derek Gard.

Derek Gard

A letter from the pew to all church members and adherents

Dear all,

You will have all seen, or soon will do, Derek's article about the amount of money we need to spend to carry out essential work on the church, and ways of raising it. It was agreed at Church Council that we should go ahead with the work

I was among all those in favour. I am not here to rehash the issues. I just wanted to share my reason for voting as I did.

If this had arisen a year ago I might not have done so. I think I would have thought 'Why should we spend this money on a church building, which is not well placed in the town, has virtually no parking; has a congregation of about 30 people once a week and hardly any young people, so why throw good money after bad?'

Now I feel differently. Why?

We have a new Minister

New people have been attending our Sunday morning services, Messy Church has been restarted, as a Partnership of Churches activity, bringing as many people into our building in the afternoon as in the morning.

Warm Spaces brought a different group of people in who have experienced a welcome and an offer of friendship. They come regularly.

Activities that might have died with lock down have re-emerged: Church meals after the service, a hugely successful Christmas Coffee morning, our presence in town events such as the Switching on of the lights, the Duck Race.

All this has, I believe, been a great coming together of everyone in a new atmosphere of enthusiasm and confidence and the involvement and support of everyone, carried forward by a team of people whom I can only describe as Spirit led. They know who they are.

So I cast my vote. A lot has happened in the last year and if you need further reassurance have another read of Acts chapter 2 and we shall all continue to go forward in the Spirit together.

Eleanor



Duck Race - 13th May

We have a Plant Stall at this event to help raise funds for the repairs mentioned above and to continue to show the people of Calne that we are here. If you can donate some plants, help sell them on the day or just support our stall please do.



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 - if you can help on the stall during the day or in the preparation that goes on beforehand please let Jan know.



Advance Notice - We will be holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 22nd July - please put the date in your diary - also if you are a crafter and have anything we could sell on our Church Stall please let Jan know.