

CALNE METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023



CHROO DA  GLASS

Items for future editions can be sent to:

Jan Sayers

The deadline for the October 2023 issue is

Sunday September 24th 2023



Trust is a precious thing, easily lost and difficult to regain. Trust in many institutions, including the Church, has also taken a battering over recent years, quite rightly. The paradox is that for society, or indeed for any relationship to function well, there is a need to trust others. To be successful we need individuals and institutions who have proved themselves worthy of our trust.

In the police and the military, we had an exercise on trust. When blindfolded you had to fall backwards to be caught before you hit the concrete by a colleague. Sense of humour in both organisations could be quite dark at times, so it took all my willpower to do the exercise whilst wondering what if.....? Trusting means stepping out in faith. Once you have found that trust, you can do many things knowing that someone is watching out for you. In desperate situations, in both careers, this became a vital element of doing the job, completing the task, and doing it well..... *together*.

Trust means that I know I am safe with you. Trust means I can be confident that you have my back, which, in turn, sets me free to face challenges and take risks. We need people in our lives that we can trust absolutely, and they can be hard to find.

Our futures are sometimes uncertain but there will always be resurrections. Life will settle down eventually as we accept the situations, we find ourselves in. In all things we have to trust in the God we proclaim, that by faith and trust, we are held in safe secure arms. We have to trust with our blindfolds on as to what our future may hold, but we can learn lessons along the way....

A greengrocer in the last town where we lived published a blog each morning with a variety of uplifting sayings on life in community. One day he posted some words which stood out to me.

'Before you call yourself a Christian, Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, or any other theology, learn to be human first. Your assumptions are your windows on the world. Scrub them off every once in a while, or the light won't come in.'

How true that sometimes we cannot see what others around us are experiencing. Our blindfolds remain firmly in place. In past years isolation took a toll on all our hearts and our minds, but for some it remains a constant reality even today. It is therefore important that we see and acknowledge the struggles that many are still experiencing. To make that phone call or visit.....

I have discovered over the last few years how much community and connections matter in life. Too often, we take for granted those circles of connection and community that enrich our lives. And far too often we forget to trust in God for all things.....

Together, we will be stronger. Together, we will be wiser.

May God be with us all this day and all days,

Craig

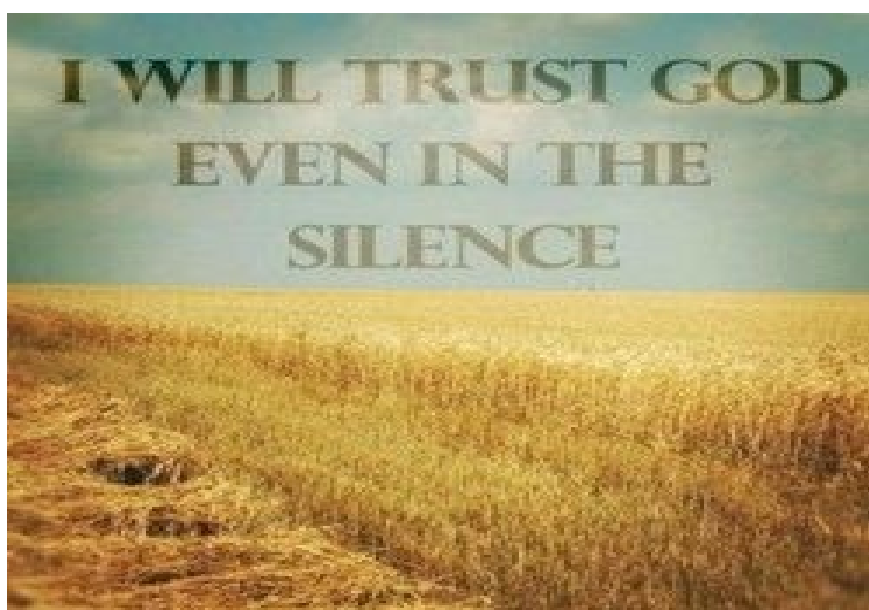


Image acknowledgements:

<https://esheninger.blogspot.com/2017/04/the-significance-of-trust.html>

<https://www.quotemaster.org/trust%20in%20god>

Forthcoming Services:

3rd September Rev Craig Manley – Holy Communion

10th September Rev Roy Fowler

17th September Local Arrangement

24th September Worship Leaders

Pastoral News



We congratulate Iona on her amazing A level results and we wish her all the best when she goes to Brighton and Sussex Medical School later this month.

We give thanks for our minister Craig and our Local Preachers may they be showered with blessings as the new Methodist year begins.

We pray for all our Young People starting their new school year, especially those beginning at a new school. We also pray for their parents and teachers as the new term begins.

We pray for all those struggling due to the cost of living; for those who are finding work exceptionally busy; for those finding family life difficult and need to recuperate; for those who have been in hospital. We continue to pray for those who have health issues and for those who care for and support them.

Throughout September we particularly pray for Ursula Barham's Pastoral Group: Margaret and Brian Bassett, Lyn Cooper, Miriam Crighton, Gina and Jamie Hutchings, Elizabeth Manley, Kerensa McCondach, Lynda Rumming, Marianne and Sean Seager, Kim and Keith Whiston, Joanne Williams.

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.



Refugee Prayer Focus September 2023

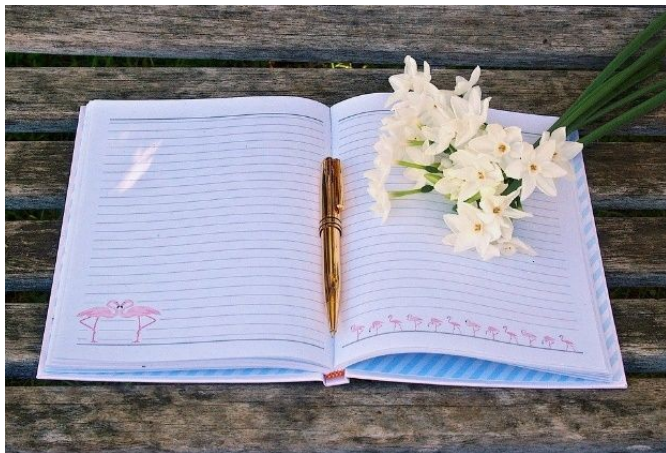
Let us remember all those refugees from fighting and destruction particularly in Syria, who have remained in neighbouring countries, with little hope of return or moving on.

Calne Food Bank

Please visit their website for details of their opening times - www.calnefoodbank.co.uk

Please make sure that any food donated is in date.

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



Dates for your diary

All are welcome to join in

Wednesday September 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th

Friendly Spaces

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Venue: Church Hall

Come and join us

Friday 15th and Saturday 16th September

Production of 'The Face'

Venue: Calne Methodist Church

Tickets available

See poster in this newsletter

Saturday 30th September

Coffee and Craft Sale

Time: 11.00am - 2.00pm

Venue: Church Hall

Sunday 8th October

Harvest Festival Service and Meal

Time: 10.30am

Sign up on the list in the hall

Wednesday 11th October

Games Night with the Partnership of Churches

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Church and Church Hall

Wednesday 25th October

Film night and Supper ' The Greatest Showman'

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Church

WWW.

No, I am not going all technological. You all know that is not my favourite thing. Today WWW. stands for wild weedy wonderful which is how I see my garden at the moment. The lavender and all the shrubs are overgrown and need tidying. There are plants growing abundantly which most people would call weeds and I am struggling to keep it under control.

Yes, definitely wild and weedy but most importantly it is wonderful. As I look around I have seen so much that lifts my spirits. On a sunny day I have seen so many different kinds of bees in the lavender. The red admiral butterflies have been prolific and have loved the verbena. I saw the tiniest green caterpillar crawling in a pot, not to mention all the spiders and ants. It doesn't have to be perfectly manicured to be a source of life and enjoyment.

A bit like us really. Not perfect, a bit rough round the edges but in God's eyes wonderful with the potential to contribute positively to His world. Recently some of us sat in Ursula's garden for a Sunday service. As we shared in that service I was very aware of God's presence and the love which surrounds us. God's garden is indeed a wonderful place to be.

" He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God almighty, who has made all things well."

Enjoy your garden.
Miriam



Calne Methodist Church

SILVER STREET SN11 0JF

presents

The Face

*In 1937 Melchior Kummel was the first person to climb the sheer North face of the HEXE,
or was he...?*



written by Edward Barham
Directed by Hugh Pilcher-Clayton

following the Production
the Director will interview the Playwright

Friday 15th September 7.30pm
Saturday 16th September 3.00pm
Adults £10.00 Children 17 and under £3.00
see Jan for Tickets

Includes light refreshments



ALL WELCOME!

10th September

8th October

12th November

10th December

**Sunday afternoons at Calne Methodist Church from
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

For more information, contact Michele Gard on calne.methodist.church@gmail.com



Chair- Jenny Dennis

METHODISTS FOR WORLD MISSION - S.W AREA CONFERENCE

ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY

COMPETITION AND COOPERATION

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE 29 SEP-1 OCT 2023 Ammerdown Centre, Radstock
BA3 5SW**

Friday 29th 6.00pm ASSEMBLE-INTRODUCTIONS CHAIR- Jenny Dennis

6.30pm SUPPER

7.45pm Session 1: Getting to know me - David Thomas

EVENING PRAYERS & all prayers- Allan Smith

SATURDAY 1st 8 am MORNING PRAYERS BREAKFAST

9.30 - 10.30 Session 2: The Basics of Islam COFFEE

11.00-12.30 Session 3: The diversity of Islam

12.30 LUNCH & FREE TIME - WALK, READ, SLEEP, CHAT,

3pm Annie Deche - Kenya -__4pm TEA

4.30pm Session 4: The history of Christian-Muslim relations

6.30pm SUPPER

7.30pm Sharing our stories: local/global

8.30 BUSINESS/AGM

EVENING PRAYERS

SUNDAY 2nd 8 am MORNING PRAYERS-breakfast

9.30-10.45: Session 5: Christianity and Islam today coffee

11am COMMUNION 12.30 LUNCH

SAFE JOURNEY- MAY GOD GO WITH YOU

See Jan for details

Hymn Funnies

In Church on Sunday morning, the preacher was standing up at the pulpit preaching a sermon. After speaking for about 10 minutes he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd throw it in the river!"

Then he talked some more and a little while later he said, "If I had all the wine in the world, I'd throw it in the river!"

After that statement, he kept ranting and raving until about 15 minutes later when he said, "If I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd throw it in the river!" Then he talked for a few more minutes and sat down. Then, the choir director stood up and with a sheepish smile on her face she said, "now will the congregation please stand and join us in singing hymn number 134, LET'S ALL GATHER AT THE RIVER!"

A man was enjoying his breakfast while completing the daily crossword in the newspaper

He asks his wife across the table:

"What is a four letter word for a religious song?"

Wife:

"Hymn"

Man:

"Yeah it's a tricky one"

The Dentist's Hymn.....Crown him with many crowns

The Weatherman's Hymn.....There shall be showers of blessing

The Contractor's Hymn.....The church's one foundation

The Tailor's Hymn.....Holy Holy Holy

The Golfer's Hymn....There is a green hill far away

The Optometrist's Hymn.....Open my eyes that I might see

The Tax Payer's Hymn.....I surrender all

Derek 30/08

AUTUMN CRAFTS

CRAFTS, CAKES & COFFEE EVENT

SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER, 2023

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

SILVER STREET, CALNE

11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

**CARDS, JEWELLERY & CRAFTS,
HOMEMADE CAKES & MORE.
FAIRLY TRADED TEA & COFFEE
REFRESHMENTS**