

## TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH



**Loving God**



**Following Jesus**



**Serving Others**

### **Minister:**

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### **Families Worker:**

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### **Pastoral Worker:**

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[www.codsallmethodist.org](http://www.codsallmethodist.org)

## MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

### **Dear Friends**

It's party time!

This autumn season sees the culmination of all the party planning that has been in the making over the last year, as together we look back over the 50 years of worship on this location. It is also an opportunity for us to look forwards to the next 50 years and beyond! There is much to celebrate, and many stories to share.

50 years ago, Lulu was Number 1 in the Charts – with the song 'To Sir, with Love', the theme tune to the movie of the same name. It is also the anniversary of BBC Radio as we know it. The cash machine first came into existence. In addition, on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 1967 over 100,000 people

marched on Washington DC to protest against the Vietnam War. So much and so little has changed!

We celebrate all that has passed from both inside and outside our pews and chairs. We celebrate friends who have joined us, and friends whom we mourn for a variety of reasons. We celebrate a God who remains faithful and at work in our midst. We listen for stories of healing and of letting go. Together we pray to our faithful, creative, inspiring God for a renewal of our presence here in Codsall.

Jesus was quite a fan of parties. He served the best Claret at a wedding. On more than one occasion he produced a feast out of leftover snacks. Even at the resurrection, Jesus lit a fire and cooked a fishy barbecue.

May this season be a time for us to be refuelled for the adventure Jesus is calling his Church to next.

May we enjoy plenty of laughter, perhaps a few tears as loved friends are rightly remembered.

May we find hope and healing where there is hurt, dislocation, shame and frustration.

May we notice something of the gift of grace in our midst.

Happy Anniversary!

Yours in Christ

**Joanne**

Almighty God,  
to whose glory we celebrate the anniversary of this church:  
we thank you for the fellowship  
of those who have worshipped here,  
and we pray that all who seek you here may find you,  
and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,  
may become a living temple,  
a dwelling place for your life-giving presence in the world.  
We ask it through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS

*Please pray for those who are housebound or in residential care including:*



Anne Ackroyd; Marjorie Chrimes; June Clare; Daphne Cooper; Pat & John Donson; Frances Edwards; Pat Haire; Christina Hammond; Joyce Hopley; Pat Howe; Eileen James; Jean Long;

*Please pray for those who are not well and their carers including:*

Roger Aldridge; Maureen Billingham; Lesley Boyden; David Edge; Marjorie Hadley; Susan Jervis; Christopher Jones; Connie Kenyon; Olive Lyall; Rena Marshall; Dorothy Sadler; Rev Lawrence Wallace.

*Please pray for those who have lost a loved one recently including:*

Sarah Griffiths and children Hannah & Daniel on the death of Paul.  
The family of Joan Marjorie Thorpe.  
The family of Colin Turton.  
The family of Alan Plater.

*Please pray for:*

The continuing work of **The Well - Wolverhampton Food Bank.**

*Happy Birthday Church  
God bless all who enter in.  
To praise and thank our God  
For the forgiveness of sin.*

*O talk to us dear church,  
Tell us all you know.  
So we can pass on  
Your knowledge as we go.*

*As the years roll by  
Your walls become ingrained  
With our sorrows and our joys  
Till the ending of your days.*

**Daphne Cooper**



## THANK YOU

### **Dear Friends**

Thank you for your continued support over these past months. Thank you also for the basket of flowers following the harvest service. I have now completed my primary treatment and today the outcome is positive. Following the imagery in the context of today's services (24th September) I know that I have experienced a rainbow!!

With much love

**Susan Jervis**

### **Dear Friends**

I wish to say Thank You for the beautiful basket of flowers from the recent harvest. They were a pleasure to receive and beautiful to look at.

God's blessings to you all

**Frances Edwards**

### **Dear Friends**

How lovely it was to be back at Codsall Trinity a few weeks ago for the Flower Festival. You really do have a lovely church, which is beautifully maintained and always a pleasure to visit. There was also a wonderful sense of God's presence and peace.

We enjoyed the whole weekend very much and, God willing, hope to be back in October to celebrate the 50 years anniversary.

God bless you all

**Dennis & Thelma Huby**



## Dear Friends

The Curry family would like to thank everyone for the kindness, messages of sympathy and practical support shown to us during the last few weeks. Our dear mum, Sadie Curry, received so much strength from pastoral visits, letters and flowers both in her own home and as a resident in Eversleigh Care Home, as her health deteriorated. We would especially like to thank those who helped with the funeral arrangements and with refreshments afterwards.

A donation of £300 has been made in her memory to The Neo-natal Unit at New Cross Hospital. It is a privilege to belong to such a caring Church Family.

**Pearl & Peter Mayhew, Tabitha & Ian Griffiths**

## Dear Friends

Thank you so much for your generous support during the 2017 Harvest Festival season. The total weight donated by your church to The Well was **159.6kg**.

We are currently responding to over 3500 referrals each year, providing food and toiletries to over 7500 people. Your donations will meet basic needs as this emails from recipient demonstrate. This is a year of expansion for The Well. In May we took on the lease for the unit behind our current warehouse, doubling our space to 6000 sq. ft. This will enable us to receive and store more food and toiletries, and gives us the potential to receive refrigerated and frozen produce.

As you have given hope to those in hopeless situations though your generosity, may you know the love, joy and peace that comes from Jesus, the God of Hope.

God Bless You

Yours sincerely  
**Gary & Caroline Price**  
Project leaders



## **92<sup>ND</sup> FESTIVAL OF CHOIRS**

The choir and many friends enjoyed a lovely autumnal day in Worcester culminating in an inspiring and music filled service in Worcester Cathedral. There was the opportunity to sit or walk by the river, visit the shopping centre and food outlets (of which there are many). There was good fellowship, laughter and food, and the opportunity to sing with nearly 300 voices led and conducted by Peter Williams, with excellent organ and piano accompaniment. We were delighted to see the person setting up the sound system and recordings for the day was Steve Swindon, from Perton, who is well known in the church and area.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

One of the exciting and challenging features of arriving in a new place is getting to know everyone on the membership list. I am aware that there are several people who have joined our communities in the last few years – either from other Methodist Churches, or from elsewhere – but have not been formally invited and welcomed into membership of the Church here. In the next few weeks, I will be writing a letter inviting people to consider becoming members or transferring their membership in a formal service.

If you receive a letter, please consider prayerfully the invitation to formally join this community; and your ability to participate in the ongoing development of our Jesus-shaped work here. If you receive this letter in error, please let me know (gently) and accept my apologies. If you don't receive a letter and think you should – could you let me know too. It's likely that I just got confused, and I'd love to have a conversation with you.

In addition if you fancy knowing a bit more about Methodism or membership, whether you are a member or not, I aim to run a short introductory course. Let me know if you would like to know more.

**Each and every one of us are known, named and loved by God. Each one of us is called by God to become the very best version of ourselves possible. And in this place, each of us has the open invitation in shaping our future together. In Methodism that is about membership as well as about sharing our stories of where we notice God at work. I look forward to this next chapter together!**

**Joanne**

## GIFT SERVICE

December 3<sup>rd</sup> is our Gift Day: an opportunity to bring gifts that we will then distribute to those for whom Christmas is difficult. It is a chance for us to offer of our creativity and wealth to bless other people in our community and beyond.

**This year is a little different to our past experience.** This year, we are partnering with two projects, with the following request.

**Wednesfield Christmas Hampers.** Although the Church at Wednesfield has closed, the ministry to the community continues. At Christmas, this includes making Christmas Hampers for those who will struggle with the expectations of the festive season.

We are going to provide FAMILY FILM NIGHTS in these hampers. Please bring **NEW DVDs (cert 12 or under), Pre-popped popcorn (such as Butterkist or PoshCorn), and sachets and jars of hot chocolate.**

**The Well.** The Well are preparing PAMPER PACKS for parents, and chocolate boxes for children. Please bring **Pamper items for men and women (nice soaps, gels, scents) and selection boxes for children.**

This is such a great opportunity for sharing something of God's love for people who are struggling at Christmas to share joyfully, when they are surrounded by debt, social problems, loss and fear. Please consider how generous you might be able to be, as we partner to change the lives of families at Christmas.

**Joanne Cox-Darling and Valerie Vaughan-Hughes**

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The date for the next Church Council meeting has been arranged as follows:

Monday 13 November 7.30pm





### **LEADING THE WAY:**

You may have noticed that we have **new signage** throughout the church. We hope that this will make our church building more accessible and welcoming for new people, for community groups, and those people who may need a little bit of a reminder of where to go. Our local councils are wanting to adopt the signage throughout the local areas, which means we have the privilege of being seen to be leaders in being an accessible and welcoming community.

You will also see that we are including **visual cues and symbols** in our Orders of Service, making them more readily recognisable for those who struggle with words - this will be extended into our notices, factsheets and website; helping the church's information to become more accessible to a wider range of people.



We are also pleased to say that we now have **Twiddle Muffs** and **Twiddle Lap Blankets** available for those who need to keep restless hands busy. Please ask anyone from the welcome team, the Dementia team or a steward if you would like to use one, or help yourself from the box at the back of the church.



**Our next step** is to roll out some basic training for everyone in frontline roles, such as group leaders, stewards, lay workers, the welcome teams, volunteers, pastoral workers, those on the church transport rota, etc.

We therefore want to invite you to an

***INFORMATION WORKSHOP*** in the lounge  
***WEDNESDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, 10.00 am -12.00 noon***

*We understand that people may be reluctant to give up yet more time, or may think it is not relevant to them or that it doesn't apply to them, however, we want everyone in these roles:*

- a To feel better equipped to help enable those living with dementia (including carers) to have their spiritual and emotional needs met;
- b To have a common approach in what we can do, and what the church is offering;

- c To have a better understanding of how dementia affects individuals, carers and the church;
- d To understand how we can be more Inclusive;
- e The session will focus in particular on our pastoral work.

**Please let Sue Fearnley, Older Persons' Worker, if you wish to attend.**  
 With Jesus's message at the heart of all we do.

**Trinity Dementia Team**

**Rotary Club of Wednesfield and Trinity Methodist Church**  
 present  
**An Evening of Brass**  
 performed by  
**Phoenix Brass Ensemble**  
 at  
**Trinity Methodist Church**  
**Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> 2017**  
**7.30 – 10.00pm**  
**Tickets: £8.00 (inc refreshments)**  
**Available from:**  
**Ray Ward 01902 847484**  
**Val Griffiths 01902 844341**



All proceeds to Rotary & Church Charities

**ANYONE FOR A BREW?**

Hospitality, and especially the provision of copious amounts of tea and coffee, are a hallmark of life at Trinity (and arguably across Methodism). In order to help us provide more mugs of hot tea and coffee, quicker, and more safely, you may have noticed that there are now large flasks available for use in the kitchen. If you cater for any number of people – please feel free to use these flasks for your service. It takes a little more time in the preparation, but overall should help us to provide even more brews in the future.

## **Codsall Village Christmas Fayre**

The Village Christmas Fayre will take place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December from 4 - 8pm. We have booked a stall slot with the plan of handing out free mince pies and inviting people for prayer.

Last year nearly 1000 people took part in the Village Fayre, so this is an exciting opportunity to share something of grace and peace in the bustle of the evening.

In order for this to be a success, we need two things: mince pies, and people willing to pray with people, by handing out mince pies, and to help with some creative prayer activities. Please consider whether you can bring shop bought mince pies and leave them in the church office (please check the best before date before purchase!).

If you are interested in helping out for an hour or so on the day, please let Revd Jo or Helen Share know.

**This is a really exciting opportunity to engage in mission at the heart of the Village. We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Joanne**

## **CODSALL CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Codsall residents once again extend a warm welcome to our neighbouring villages for an evening of seasonal festivities on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Codsall Christmas Fair is back again this year, bigger and better than ever. This great community event, organised by volunteers, is now double the size – meaning double the fun. With a lot more stalls, there is certainly something for everyone – ranging from arts, crafts, gifts, food and much more. You will not have to worry about those last-minute gifts.

The traditional “Carols around the Christmas Tree” will draw this wonderful evening to a close. You are all invited to come along, bring your friends and family, and celebrate this special event.

For more information, please visit our website:

[www.codsallchristmasfair.co.uk](http://www.codsallchristmasfair.co.uk)

## WHY SUFFERING?

A friend of ours shared this clipping, it's a lovely story - whether it's true or not, it's very profound.

A barber was cajoling a minister about why God allows suffering and pain in the world, and allowing people to be bad. The minister was unsure how to answer.

Then an unshaven man with long unkempt hair went past the window. The minister asked the barber how he could let the man walk around looking like that when, with care and attention, he could make him look better. The barber answered that it was not his fault because the man had not put himself into his care, and hadn't allowed him to look after him to make him look better.

When he had finished the minister gave the barber a certain look that made him see that he had answered his own question.

*Contributed by **Mo Hunt***

## THE SPELLING CHEQUER (or Poet Tree without Mist Aches)

I have a spelling chequer,  
it came with my pea sea  
It plainly marks four my revue  
Miss Steaks eye cannot sea.  
Each thyme when eye have struck the quays  
I weight for it to say  
If watt I rote is wrong or rite  
it shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid  
it nose bee for two late  
And eye can put the error rite,  
no, I shall find it grate.  
I've run this poem threw it,  
I'm shore yore policed to no,  
Its letter Perfect in its weigh,  
my chequer tolled me sew.

**(IAM magazine 1998)**

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, share the good news of Jesus Christ. Since 1990, more than 146 million children in over 150 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoe box gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

Between November 1st and 18th, these shoe boxes need a local drop-off point and we have been asked by the local Operation Christmas Child organiser if Trinity could be used, as they are finding insufficient points in Codsall for people, including the schools, to drop off their completed boxes. The Collection Co-ordinator will pick the boxes up and take them to the processing centre, and this will be possibly done on two occasions.

This means that someone is required to be in the building to take in the boxes during the afternoon, between 2.00pm and 5.00pm. Joanne and the stewards have agreed that the minister's vestry can be utilised during this time, as the boxes need storage in a lockable room, and as the vestry has a separate entrance it would not affect the other groups in the building.

We are asking for a number of volunteers from Trinity who would be prepared to help out during the afternoons - it will only need one person, just to let people in, and make sure the boxes are safe in the vestry. It is not known quite when during the afternoons people will be arriving, so it suggested that any volunteers bring their 'knitting' or similar with them!

### Helen Share

#### Gift Suggestions for the shoe boxes

**Toys:** include a toy that a child can love such as a doll or cuddly toy, toy truck, a skipping rope, yo-yo, ball, small puzzle, musical instrument.

**School supplies:** pens, colouring pencils, sharpener & eraser, crayons, felt pens, stamp & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, colouring & picture books, solar calculators.

**Hygiene items:** toothbrush & toothpaste, bar of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.

**Other items:** hat, cap, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, wind up torch, jewellery set, sweets (must have best before date of at least March next year)

**SEARCHLIGHT THEATRE COMPANY AND JEFF LUCAS**

*'There are no ordinary people'*

Thursday 16th November, 7.30pm

**Ticket Price - October £10.00 November £12.00**

For tickets please contact  
Helen Share

[codsallmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:codsallmethodist@gmail.com)

01902 847490 or 07766 106615

**JUST A THOUGHT...**

A bird in the hand is safer than two overhead. [www.mikeysfunnies.com](http://www.mikeysfunnies.com)

**ABBEYFIELD**

invite you

to a

**Coffee Morning**

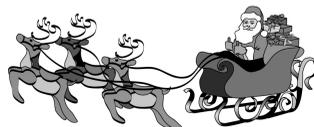
**on Saturday 4 November**

at

**Abbeyfield House, Windsor Gardens, Codsall**

**10.30am to 12.00noon**

**Refreshments: £1.00**



**What do you get when you cross Holy Water with castor oil?**

*A religious movement!*

## FLOWER ROTA

Flowers for October & November have been donated by the following people:



### October

Marjorie Hadley	Reubina & John Last
Pauline & Alan Rowson	Beryl Newey
Chris Randle	

### November

Joan & Frank Breakwell	
Frances Edwards & Pat Ward	
Ann Thomas	Chew & Peter Grainger

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Oct	24	Judy Davis	Bakers Nurseries
Nov	7	Daniel Ingleby	Reflections of Tanzania
	21	Padre Andy Chapman	Faith in the RAF
Dec	5	Neil Maddox	Supermarket Management
	12	Christmas Party at the Beacon Centre	

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Meeting on Mondays at 2pm for 2.15pm start.

Oct	23	Edward Newton	
	30	Peter Riggs	Flower Arranging
Nov	6	Members Day & Raffle	
	13	Crafty Ladies	Christmas Crafts
	20	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling	
	27	Barry Owen	Country Tales & Songs
Dec	4	Members Day & Raffle	
	11	Christmas Meal	
	18	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling	Carol Service

## TUESDAY CLUB

Oct	31	Daniel Ingleby	Tanzania: challenge yourself to change the world
Nov	14	Hilary Marple	Jewellery Sale
	28	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling	Advent devotional
Dec	12	Christmas Party at the Beacon Centre	

## LIFEGROUPS

All meetings begin at 7.30pm at various venues.

Oct	21	(Church Anniversary)
Nov	8	Moses
Nov	16	(Searchlight)
Nov	22	Moses
Dec	6	Moses
Jan	10	TBC
Jan	24	TBC

For further information email [codsallmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:codsallmethodist@gmail.com)

<b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</b>			
<b>October</b>			
Sun	22	<b>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary services</b> Mrs Jill Baker Mrs Jill Baker Evening Worship	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
Sun	29	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Mr Edward Newton	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
<b>November</b>			
Sun	5	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Rev John Barrett Rev Paul Nzacahayo	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
Sun	12	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b> No Mosaic Service Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Remembrance Service Rev Robert Readshaw	11.00am 6.00pm
Mon	13	Church Council meeting	7.30pm

Sun	19	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Mr Philip Bridgewater Local Arrangement	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
Sun	26	Mrs Elizabeth Farley Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Rev Joanne Cox-Darling	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
<b>December</b>			
Sun	3	<b>1st Sunday in Advent &amp; Gift Services</b> Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Evening Worship	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm
Sun	10	No Mosaic services Rev Joanne Cox-Darling <b>All Age Worship</b> Rev Joanne Cox-Darling	11.00am 6.00pm
Sun	17	Rev Joanne Cox-Darling Mr Alan Eccles Rev Joanne Cox-Darling <b>Carol Service</b>	9.30am 11.00am 6.15pm
Sun	24	No Mosaic service Morning Worship Rev Joanne Cox-Darling <b>Holy Communion</b>	11.00am 11.30pm
Mon	25	<b>Christmas Morning Worship</b> Rev Joanne Cox-Darling	10.30am
Sun	31	Morning Worship Evening Worship	11.00am 6.00pm

**All items for the next edition should be given or sent to Chris Randle by Sunday 26 November 2017, with dates to end of February 2018. Telephone 01902 844482, email [codsalltrinitylink@googlemail.co](mailto:codsalltrinitylink@googlemail.co)**

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