

**Northampton Methodist Circuit Team Ministry**

Superintendent: Rev Romeo Pedro

Rev. Phil Snelson    Deacon Richard Beckett

Rev Francis M'ltiiri

Rev Brian Kennard    Rev Alan Sharp

**Contact point is Circuit Office: 01604 702 178**

**Wootton Trinity Church, High Street, Wootton, NN4 6LP**

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*The Chapel and Ministers are available for Baptisms,  
Weddings and Funerals.*

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**To book the Chapel rooms** please ring

Kate Stretton on 830115

Please also contact Kate if you would like to place flowers in  
the Chapel in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a  
birthday, anniversary etc.

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

For items or suggestions for this newsletter  
please contact::

Ann Atkin, Church Secretary on 830907

[ann.atkin51@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.atkin51@btinternet.com)

**ASTCOTE METHODIST  
CHURCH**

*SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH ALL*

*News & Notices—June 2019*

**2nd June**

**9.30-10am Prayer for the Community**

10.30am Mr Paul Barford

**Saturday 8th June—Messy Church Picnic**

**3-5pm at Pattishall School**

**9th June—PENTECOST**

10.30am Rev Phil Snelson HC

**16th June—Family Service**

10.30am Dcn Richard Beckett

**23rd June**

10.30am Mrs Linda Leathersich

**30th June**

10.30am Mr Paul Wilson

On Duty at 10.30am

June– Stretton/Bell

July– Gulliford/Roz/Sue

**Eastcote Baptist Chapel 3pm**

**Service on 1st Sundays**

Dear Friends,

If I was to ask you which is the most well-known psalm which one would you choose? I'm guessing most people would go for Psalm 23 – "*The Lord is my shepherd...*" It comes up most often at funerals either read, or sung as a hymn, more so with people who are not regular church-goers. It's possibly the second "go-to" after the Lord's Prayer, perhaps because it's full of comfort and encouragement about God's goodness and care for us. Still, I wonder, in its popularity, when was the last time you actually took time to think over what this great psalm is all about, how it applies to our everyday lives, and our relationship with Jesus who is the Lord, and our Good Shepherd.

It's so important that we remember God's constant and unfailing goodness... that the psalmist says will '*follow us all the days of our lives.*' I find that when we lose sight of God's goodness it really affects our thoughts and feelings, the way we live each day and our prayer: we tend to stop expecting God to help and stop asking, to stop trusting God, until He becomes more of a last resort rather than the first, and we become more pessimistic about the future, worried, stressed, insecure... I could go on!

The truth is that God wants to share his goodness with us and to help us in our need. Part of the gift of prayer is to be able, to be invited to ask God for help and, as we do, to grow in our relationship, to learn to trust Him more as we discover that He provides and cares for us... "*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want...*" or as a modern translation puts it, '*I have all that I need*' (NLT). No request is too big, or too small – actually they're all pretty small to the God who created and holds the Universe!! But because He loves us and wants us to know it, He provides for our needs when we open ourselves to receive through asking in prayer. If we would only remember this more often, how much worry could we spare ourselves, how

**Lunch Club** - is for the retired and will usually be held on the 2nd Tuesday each month. Maureen Corbett can be contacted for more details on 830296.

New members are welcome.

Please give Maureen a ring.

**The Well Group** - An ecumenical ladies group which offers a time to socialise and share a meal for Christian women or those interested in the Christian faith. Meeting 12-2pm, including a simple lunch.

27th June—Caroline Gooch & Roger Harris  
Age UK Northamptonshire

Contact Alison Brierley on 830770 or Ann Atkin on 830907 if you would like to join us.

**Monday Club (Reception, Years 1 & 2)**

**'Sunday School' after school 3.15-4.15pm at Pattishall Primary School**

Organised and run by John Atkin and Jackie Bell— helpers needed, speak to John on 830907, if you are interested.

**Book Group**—Last Wednesday in the month at 8pm—variety of books—contact Kate Stretton on 830115 for more information.

## Bible Studies

Bible study sessions, organised by Holy Cross, Pattishall, recommence on Thursday 13th June at 14.00. at Holmeview 8, Greenway Eastcote.

This session will be six weeks, looking at The Ten Commandments following The Pilgrim series.

Please contact Jean Pugh on 830909 if you are interested.

Other bible studies organised by the Methodist Circuit are shown in the Plan and at the back of the latest Open Doors Circuit Magazine

### **Messy Church Picnic on 8th June is open to everyone!**

There will be games organised for all ages and a chance to sit and chat. Will be held on School Hall if wet.

***MONTHLY FOOD BANK ALERT—Don't forget to leave a contribution at your local supermarket.***



***Finally some sad news ...Elizabeth Scowen died on Friday 24th May. It is sad to think she will not be joining our little congregation again, but is no doubt with that bigger congregation in heaven. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Mike, daughter Michelle and all the family. God bless you.***

much anxiety could be relieved by growing our trust in the Lord my Good Shepherd?!

Try looking at this list alongside Psalm 23

He will ... meet all my needs (even when I'm worried)

... teach me to relax when I'm stressed out

... replenish my strength when I'm empty

... guide me when I'm confused

... walk with me in my dark and fearful days

... protect me when I feel insecure

... publicly show His favour on my life

... be good to me no matter what happens

... take me to heaven one day

After all, as Jesus taught his disciples, *'if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.'*

I'm not always that good at remembering so I've started writing down a list of the day-to-day things I bring to God in prayer and he then provides and helps me with. It's really encouraging seeing it grow and it helps me be more thankful.

As you go out into each day remember to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd (and not other negative voices), and follow as He leads you and provides for you and don't forget his purpose – *'I have come that they might life... abundantly'*

Blessings in Christ,

*Phil*

Rev Phil Snelson



## News & Dates

**FUNDRAISING** always seems to be part of church life and being a Christian. Of course our faith is not centred on money, but on Jesus. However, the fact is that to run our building extra amounts to pay for repairs, running costs and equipment are necessary. In opening up our Chapel for fundraising events, we are inviting people to be part of our community for a short time and it is an opportunity to get to know them and for them to get to know us. Without the support of those who come to the events we have planned we would be struggling financially. So please make the most of the next two events to invite those you know, and to welcome everyone into our chapel.



### **Plant Sale & Afternoon Tea Saturday 1st June 2-4.30pm**

Jeanne (830519) and Kate (830115) are running the kitchen and would love to hear if you can bake a cake or help on the day.

Ann (830907) would love to hear if you have any plants—potted up and labelled please. These will be needed for setting on Saturday from 10am.



## Tickets now available!

### **Sara Spade & The Noisy Boys : Friday 26th July, 7.30pm**

Tickets already being reserved so please buy yours soon and tell your friends and relatives.

Tickets are £15, cash or cheques made payable to 'Astcote Methodist Church'.

Contact Ann on 830907 or  
ann.atkin51@btinternet.com



We know it will be a great evening!

### **'Scottish 500 Charity Bike Ride'**

Malcolm & Fiona will be completing this arduous 500 mile motor cycle ride around the Scottish Highlands at the end of June to raise funds for an orphanage & hospice in India run by the Murari family. More details can be found at the back of the church.

Donations can be made in cash to Malcolm & Fiona or via the JustGiving page:

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mercyministries](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mercyministries)

Thank you

