



CARLTON-IN-LINDRICK METHODIST CHURCH

CONTACT

February 2022

Dear Friends

I begin writing my letter for February as I prepare to head off on the district retreat for the early years ministry group, where I am sure there will be time to light a candle and sit in the solitude and silence with God, to reflect God and others. A time to stop and step back from the busyness of circuit ministry, albeit just for a few days. The celebrations of Christmas and Christ's birth over. The festival of Candlemas on the 2nd February marks the end of Christmas.



There are several traditions associated with Candlemas (including the eating of crepes in France and the more widespread reference to snowdrops as 'Candlemas Bells'). However, for most Christians it is the idea of Jesus-as-light-bringer that is uppermost on this day. Candles may be blessed; a candle-lit procession may take place; and, on Candlemas night, many people place lighted candles in their windows at home – all actions that remind us that Jesus is often described as the "light of the world".

We look over the horizon of the next few months, Lent and Easter waiting in the wings before us. For me, my retreat, a gift of the district when I and other ministers in our early years of ministry gather together for what will be a time to recharge a little and allow time to speak and pray to God and be attentive to his prompting.

I have had the privilege of presiding at four Covenant services with the congregations in my section of the circuit, and January saw me take home communion, a first since Covid struck and since my arrival in this circuit. There does seem to finally be a sense of familiarity of rhythm of church

life and liturgical seasons returning. I refrain from using the term "back to normal" because what will that be, the "new normal" or the "old normal", more than likely a mixture of the two.

Our Covenant services have given us a starting point to begin our 2022 journey of faith and discipleship exploring our calling. We have presented ourselves before God and spoken the words "***I am no longer my own but yours***". How will we each respond this year? I have been involved in two prayer days where we have taken the theme stepping out of the boat. Taking time to listen to God and seeing what he places upon our hearts. So it has proven to be a busy start to the new year.

It is that time of year when we have our church councils, and we shall be setting dates for each church to have a separate meeting to consider and vote on the resolutions which were passed at Conference in the "God in love unites report" from last year. We shall follow a format set out by the Methodist Church and the meeting will solely focus on this decision and vote. These meetings will take place in every church in the circuit. By the time this letter goes out some churches will have already voted. Each church making their own individual decisions. More information will follow.

So, we journey through the shortest month of the year, and see a gradual lengthening of days, and it may still be minus degrees for some of it. May you all find some time to be still, listen to God, seeking his will and reflecting how we shall respond to the renewing of our covenant relationship with Him. What is the mission field before us, around us? How might we seek to fulfill our calling and discipleship?



Loving God
 Winter is still with us,
 as spring slumbers.
 As the snowdrops push their way through
 and we catch glimpses of the
 awakening of your creation
 once again.
 We give thanks that you gift us such beauty.

May the light of Christ shine
 In us and around us
 And out from each of us.
 May the love of God,
 the breath of the Spirit
 and the grace of Jesus Christ your Son,
 be upon us always.
 Amen.

In Christ's love
 Rev Angela

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY		
Sunday 6 th	3.00 pm	Café Church – Rev Angela Pothecary
Monday 7 th	10.30 – 12 noon	Coffee Morning
Sunday 13 th	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Judy Smith
Monday 14 th	10.30 – 12 noon	Coffee Morning
Sunday 20 th	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Nicola Hurton
Monday 21 st	10.30 – 12 noon	Coffee Morning
Sunday 27 th	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Rev Angela Pothecary – Holy Communion

Please note the change of time for Sunday 6th
 This will be a slightly less formal service

Advance Date

11th March – Bags 2 The Future collection – bags available early this month. See January Contact for full details.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

If you would like to make some new friends, support your community, build your confidence and empower girls to know they can do anything, then find out more about volunteering with Girlguiding today.

Join us today – register your interest to volunteer with Girlguiding:
www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest

All volunteers will have a DBS and safeguarding training

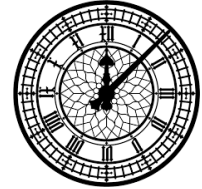
Carlton-in-Lindrick meetings are below
 All meet in the Methodist Church, High Road

Rainbows	Thursday	5.45 pm – 6.30 pm
Brownies	Monday	6.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Guides	Thursday	7.00 pm – 8.30 pm (spaces for girls too)

Bev Bury
 Division Commissioner

TIME (Yvonne)

At the end of next month we'll put our clocks forward an hour to British Summer time, then put them back an hour in October when we revert to Standard time. Before the 1850's everywhere in the world kept its own local time. There was no set way for time to be measured. When railways came in 1850's and 1860's, there needed to be a national time standard. Greenwich was chosen as the centre of world time and used by ships etc on charts and maps. The prime meridian passes through the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in London. You can stand astride, with a foot in the east and a foot in the west. Did you know that the meridian also passes through Cleethorpes? Big Ben is the great bell in the clock tower at the Houses of Parliament in London. The familiar chimes were silent for four years while restoration took place, and chimed for the first time again at midnight on New Year's Eve 2021, when fireworks and lasers lit up the London sky. The clock is accurate to within 2 seconds a week.



To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under Heaven.

A time to be born and a time to die,
A time to plant and a time to reap that which is planted,
A time to kill and a time to heal,
A time to break down and a time to build up,
A time to weep and a time to laugh,
A time to mourn and a time to dance,
A time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together,
A time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
A time to get and a time to lose,
A time to keep and a time to cast away,
A time to rend and a time to sew,
A time to keep silence and a time to speak,
A time to love and a time to hate,
A time of war and a time of peace.

Ecclesiastes 3 v 1-8

*Be still and know that I am God
(Psalm 46 v 10)*

*Learn to do nothing
without feeling guilty.*

Take time to think - it is the source of power.
Take time to play - it is the secret of eternal youth.
Take time to read - it is the fountain of wisdom.
Take time to pray - it is the greatest power on earth.
Take time to love and be loved - it is a God given privilege.
Take time to be friendly - it is the road to happiness.
Take time to laugh - it is the music of the soul.
Take time to give - it is too short a day to be selfish.
Take time to work - it is the price of success.
Take time to do charity - it is the key to heaven.

Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Yes, today is the tomorrow God got ready for you yesterday. Have you thanked him for it? Have you/will you use it for him. It's no good worrying about yesterday. It's over and done with and can never come again. You can, however, learn from it and put into practice today what you have learned.

Today God might speak to you. Will you hear him? Will you obey him? Today you might have to make a momentous decision. Make it with prayer. It is important that we use today fully – to God's glory.

(Author unknown)

If you get up one hour earlier than other people, you get 30 hours a month more of life than they do. While they have 12 months in the year, you get 365 extra hours, or 30 more days, that is 13 months to their 12.

(Author unknown)

RECIPE CORNER (Yvonne)



In a hurry? You need fast food!

Stir Fry using any vegetables and cooked chicken, ham or cooked prawns

Slice or chop any veg – onions, celery, carrots, broccoli, green beans, peppers, mushrooms, courgette and spring onions. Heat oil over high heat in wok or frying pan. Add onions, then rest of vegetables. Fry for about 10 minutes then add prawns, chicken or ham and a dash of soy sauce. Switch on a pack of microwave rice a few minutes before stir fry is ready.

More time? Slow food – lovely slow stew or try a bit spicy ...

Hungarian Goulash

Fry braising steak with chopped onions and garlic. As it starts to brown, sprinkle on a little flour. When absorbed, add mug of beef stock and can of chopped tomatoes. Chopped carrot, celery, herbs and seasoning will add flavour – and a tablespoon of paprika for a proper goulash. Simmer for 2 hours. Serve with a swirl of yoghurt.

If you had a bank that credited your account each morning with £86,400, that carried over no balance from day to day, allowed you to keep no cash in your account, and every evening cancelled whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day, what would you do? Draw out every penny every day of course, and use it to your advantage !

Well, you have such a bank, and its name is Time. Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it rules off as lost whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balances. It allows no overdrafts. If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against 'tomorrow'. It is up to each of us to invest this precious fund of hours, minutes and seconds in order to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success.

(Author unknown)

February 17th is 'Random Act of Kindness Day' (a very good use of time). Could you do something kind for somebody else and help to brighten up their day. This could be by creating a gift, doing something for your community or buying a coffee for the person behind you in the queue.

This poem sent by Lilian links very nicely.

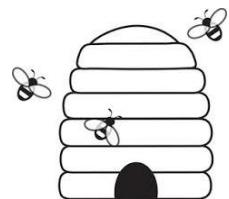
Bee Kind to yourself and others



Be kind to others,
Take a good look around.
Although we are different,
Similarities abound.

Try not to judge,
Pick on, or tease.
Treat each other fairly,
With kindness and ease.

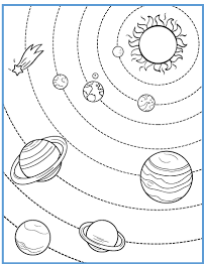
Wait until you know
What's deep down inside,
You might find a friend
Standing right by your side.



Anon

Time

Oh Lord, it's bedtime already,
And somehow I haven't done all I set out to do today,
I've forgotten so much.
I wanted to chat to my wife about our son's school report.
We never got round to it.
Maybe the day started all wrong, I don't know.
We just never seem to have time these days.
But we should, Lord, we should.
We've got a modern home, Lord, as you know.
The grass only takes a moment to cut with the electric mower.
And the kitchen, well, I ask you.
Could we get any more devices in it?
There's the mixer, the electric knife sharpener,
The power tin-opener, a toaster you don't have to watch.
A dishwasher, a rubbish disposal unit, and down in the laundry,
There's a washer that only needs a button pressed.
Lord, in these days when there are so many time saving devices,
Why is it we are always rushing?
Could it be, Lord, that in saving so much time we have become
Miserly, so miserly that it no longer means anything to us.
Another thought.
It's not our time, Lord, is it?
It belongs to you.
When you set the planets on their courses,
You set the time.
The sun to begin each day
And the softness of the dusk to say that work should cease.
And the seasons
The Spring with its new life.
Autumnal gold colours.
Lord, help us to make our time yours,
That we might do the things that need doing.
Like spending time with our families and friends.
Time to speak a kind word to others.
Time to show selfless concern
And above all, Lord, time to take just a few moments of quiet
Wherein we might speak with you.
In timelessness
We offer you our time, Lord, your time.
A sacrifice we pray you will find acceptable.



Roger Bush (adapted)

QUIZ TIME



January Quiz Answers

1. Garnet
2. Martin Luther King Jnr Day
3. Pilot
4. January 25th
5. Australia
6. "January, February"
7. Charing Cross Station
8. 1983
9. Edgar Allan Poe
10. Six (in a 3 x 2 pattern)
11. David Bowie
12. Pall Mall
13. October
14. Richard M Nixon
15. Bahrain and Rio de Janeiro

See overleaf for Terry's Word Search instead of a quiz this month

Closing date for items for the next Contact – Monday 21st February

CHILDREN'S PAGE

David and Goliath

Would you stand in front of a T-Rex and fight it? It was twice as high as a room and the length of a bus. You might think that you would have a go. What about a boy who took on a very big man for the Israelites.

It was like this: David had gone to take food to his brothers who were in the army. While he was there this big giant of a man came out and shouted a challenge to the Israelites for someone to fight him and the winner would have beaten a whole army. No-one was prepared to fight this man in his heavy armour with a man in front carrying his shield.

David said, "I will fight him. He is defying the army of God." King Saul said, "You are only a boy. How can you fight him, he has been training as a fighter since he was a boy." David said, "God, who gave me strength to kill a lion and a bear, will give me the strength to beat this monster." David was offered armour but it was too heavy for him so he took five small stones from a stream in his shepherd's pouch. He took his shepherd's staff and set off. Goliath, the giant said, "Am I a dog that you come after me with a stick?"

Before Goliath could strike a blow David fired a stone with his sling. It hit Goliath in the middle of his forehead and he fell to the ground. David went forward and drew Goliath's sword and cut off the giant's head. The Israelites had been saved from shame by a young boy.

God can give us the strength to overcome difficult situations such as bullying, bad days or illness, but without using violence. It may not be a T-Rex but it can be as difficult. We only need to ask for God's help.

God bless you
Rev Alan



David & Goliath Maze

Help David find his slingshot and stones.

