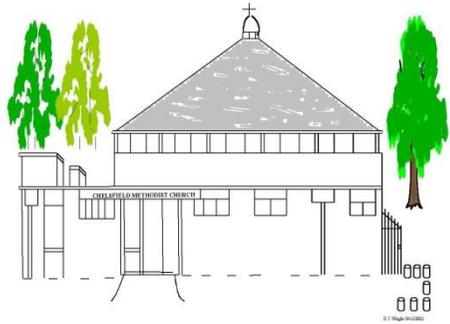


**Chelsfield Methodist Church**  
**Windsor Drive, Chelsfield**  
**BR6 6HD**  
**Tel: 01689 856290**

**Minister: Revd Terry Wright**  
**The Manse, 20 Tower Road,**  
**Orpington BR6 0BQ**  
**Tel: 01689 825129**



## **FEBRUARY 2019**

### **A Letter from The Manse**

What do we bring to 2019?

In this season of new beginnings new years resolutions and generally stepping out on a new footing, many Christians take time in the new year to reflect on their service to God and the church.

Take a moment to read Isaiah 6:1-8 (isaiahs call) and Mark 12:41-44 The widows mite. These readings are about people who offer what they have to God's service. The stories are very different in many ways, but both contain a message of encouragement for us as we offer God our gifts and service.

In the first place we have Isaiah given an incredible vision of God seated on His throne in Glory. Isaiah is reminded of what makes Israel's God Jehovah so different from other so-called gods; He alone is Holy. That is perfect totally 'other' than anything or being in the world.

Having seen God's Holiness immediately makes Isaiah see how far from perfect he is – (A man of unclean lips) And yet this far from perfect man has been given a vision of God to inspire him to serve God.

Sometimes we feel exactly like Isaiah felt, unworthy, not good enough to serve God and far from being up to God's standard. But I take a great deal of comfort that God sends his angel to enable Isaiah to serve. And through Jesus we today are cleansed made worthy to serve God.

Yes it's a mystery to us today of how this can be and it was a mystery to Isaiah in his day all we can do is say thank you God for your grace!

In our second reading Jesus tells the story of a poor widow who has very little to give financially, In the worlds eyes what she brings has little value, her mite cant solve any big issues like hunger or need and yet her offering is deemed by far the greatest in spiritual terms; why? Because she gave all she had without holding back.

Such generosity is reflected in the Hymn 'Take my life and let is be' in verse 4 we sing – *'Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold'*

Her gift speaks of a personal generosity and sacrifice on her part which the world cannot see but God does and values her gift in a way that the world never could.

I recall early in my ministry when a lady with a disabling mental illness came to the front of the church during a service and placed a posy of wild flowers on the communion rail and said to me – *These are for Jesus*. Truly that day I understood that parable of Jesus – That woman gave all she could and there was no money involved at all!

So let us ponder what we bring to God in our service or our giving in 2019?

- Perhaps we are at a time of life when we feel we are not able to bring much?

- Perhaps we feel we already do so much and any more would be simply impossible.
- Perhaps there are times when we feel guilty about our giving both in service and our gifts?

May we know deep in our hearts that God accepts what we bring (whatever that is) when we bring with an open heart.

We bring what we are able. We give of our time and money openly and with joy and can be rest assured it is a pleasing sacrifice before God.

God does not ask us to be something we cannot be nor do he ask us to give beyond what we are able to give.

So let us allow the God who encouraged Isaiah through an angel and Jesus encouraged his listeners through a parable speak to us as we start this new year.

Yours in Christ,

Terry



## SERVICES IN FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Mr R Brandhorst Stewards: Rodney & Shirley Carder
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Revd. David Graham H.C. Stewards: Audrey Lancaster & John Crowther
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mrs Kate Kwafoakoto Stewards: Gordon & Gladys Handley
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr D MacBean Stewards: Rodney & Shirley Carder

## CHURCH CARE

A reminder of our rota for Church and vestry cleaning prior to:

### February

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gordon and Gladys
10 <sup>th</sup>	Brenda
17 <sup>th</sup>	Paul
24 <sup>th</sup>	Rodney and Shirley

## OUR PRAYER DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2019

Taken from Methodist Prayer Manual 2018/19 – (available from Audrey Lancaster)

### **FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>** Praying with the people of **WEST AFRICA**

We give thanks for the many positive changes happening within the **Eglise Protestante Methodiste du Benin**;

For the forgiveness shown during the reconciliation and reunification process;

For the willingness of older workers to step aside for the new worker;

We pray for wisdom and patience for the people as they walk the road of reconciliation;

For persistence and endurance as they work according God's Plan.

*Michael and Joanne Tetley - Mission Partners Benin*

### **FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup>** Praying with the people of **LATIN AMERICA**

We give thanks to God for the people of **Chile** and for sustaining the **Methodist Church in Chile** for over 100 years.

We pray for the Church's work with migrant groups;

For the indigenous peoples who for centuries have lived through discrimination and marginalisation;

For the elderly, many of whom live in poverty.

May the Church in Chile be an instrument of God, sharing the message of love and hope in the midst of despair whilst giving bread to the hungry and comfort to the helpless.

*Jorge Marino Biffo - Bishop to the Methodist Church in Chile*

### **FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>** Praying with the people of **INDIA**

We give thanks to God for all the blessings given to the **Church of North India (CNI)**;

For partners who support the CNI's programmes with the most vulnerable people and deprived communities.

For the Churches leaders, its Bishops and Presbyters, and for the Church as it continues to focus on evangelism;

For its projects with the Dalit and tribal communities;  
For spiritual growth, service and fellowship.  
*Alwan Masih - General Secretary of the CNI*

**FEBRUARY 24<sup>th</sup>** Praying with the people in the **PACIFIC**

We give thanks to God for the many faith-filled Christians in the Pacific who are seeking a deeper understanding of His will;  
For those studying and teaching in the **Pacific Theological College, Fiji**;  
For print based course that are going on-line;  
For the skills of the Fijian educators, their administrators and IT professionals.  
We pray for ongoing investment and resources for Education by Extension – that its work may bear rich fruit;  
For patience and persistence on challenging days.  
*Val Ogden - Director of Education by Extension. Pacific Theological College, Fiji*

# Film Night

@ New Eltham Methodist Church

Wednesday 13th February at 7.00 pm

Four Weddings & a Funeral In Britain, slightly bumbling and always tardy Charles and his closest group of friends seem always to be attending weddings but are never the bride or groom, and as such, each, with the exception of gay couple Gareth and Matthew, is looking for love.

At the wedding of their friends Angus and Laura where Charles is acting as best man, Charles meets an American woman named Carrie. For him, it's love at first sight. She too is attracted to him.

Although they spend a memorable evening together, that's all it ends up being. Over three more successive weddings - some of the brides and grooms who are very near and dear to Charles' heart - and one unfortunate funeral, Charles runs into Carrie, but something always seems to prevent the two from getting together. He also runs into a plethora of old girlfriends, one of whom he may believe is really the one he was meant to end up with, especially if Carrie seems to remain unattainable. Will Charles settle for who in his heart is second best, or will fate finally bring Charles and Carrie together?



Running time 1hr 57m.

All welcome to come along and enjoy the film which will followed by a short discussion and light refreshments. The film is free but there will be a small charge of £1 for refreshments. Bring a friend!

## Helping Hands

A mother, wishing to encourage her son's progress at the piano, bought tickets to a performance by the great Polish pianist Ignace Paderewski. When the evening arrived, they found their seats near the front of the concert hall and eyed the majestic Steinway waiting on the stage. Soon the mother found a friend to talk to, and the boy slipped away.

At eight o'clock, the lights in the auditorium began to dim, the spotlights came on, and only then did they notice the boy - up on the piano bench, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." His mother gasped in shock and embarrassment but, before she could retrieve her son, the master himself appeared on the stage and quickly moved to the keyboard.

He whispered gently to the boy, "Don't quit. Keep playing." Leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in the bass part. Soon his right arm reached around the other side and improvised a delightful obligato. Together, the old master and the young novice held the crowd mesmerized with their blended and beautiful music.

In all our lives, we receive helping hands - some we notice, some we don't. Equally we ourselves have countless opportunities to provide helping hands - sometimes we would like our assistance to be noticed, sometimes we don't. Little of what we all achieve is without learning from others and without support from others and what we receive we should hand out.

Anon

## Bible Word Search: Proverbs 17

All the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and click its first letter then its last letter to highlight it. After you have found all the words, put the leftover letters in the correct order to form the **mystery answer**.

Y H N I N H E R I T A N C E W  
T T A U H T E T T E G E B H A  
I E U N D E R S T A N D I N G  
S T G P R H M O C K E T H O C  
R T H U I C O N S F H N T I A  
E E T N S A S G T E O E E T L  
V L Y I S O O E R I B L N A A  
D E T S E R B S T H E L M N M  
A S O H N P O C S C G E E I I  
D R N E R E U R M S I C D M T  
E O G D E R E O S I N X N O I  
P M U V T H D S R M N E O B E  
A Y E S T S E C I F I R C A S  
R R E A I C O N T E N T I O N  
T D F W B O N J U D G M E N T

Find the words listed below.

Abomination, Adversity, Begetteth, Beginning, Bitterness,  
Bosom, Calamities, Condemneth, Contention, Depart,  
Destruction, Dry morsel, Excellent, Fathers, Inheritance,  
Judgment, Letteth, Mischief, Mocketh, Naughty tongue,  
Reproacheth, Sacrifices, Understanding, Unpunished,  
Whithersoever, Wisdom

**ANSWERS IN NEXT MONTHS NEWSLETTER**

# Puzzle Pages

## Headgear Quiz Answers

1. Fez
2. Crown
3. Deer Stalker
4. Turban
5. Tiara
6. Windsor
7. Skull cap
8. Straw hat



## Disciples Quiz

1. Who was also known as Cephas?
2. Who were known as “The Sons of Thunder”?
3. Who was Bartholomew also known as?
4. Who was Didymous?
5. Who was Levi?
6. Who was Thaddeus?
7. Who was known as ‘The Zealot’?
8. Who were the elder and the younger (or the less)?
9. Who were the Boanerges?
10. Who was Peter’s brother?

**Answers next month!**

# What's on during the week?

(Regular Clubs and Classes – term times)

## **Mondays:**

9.30 – 11.00am Yoga

4.15 – 8.00pm Ballet & Dance (Zena)

## **Tuesdays:**

10.00am – noon AcaFellas (every other Tuesday)

1.30 – 4.30pm Art Club (every other Tuesday)

5.00 – 7.00pm Kumon Class

## **Wednesdays:**

2.00 – 2.45pm Ballet (Colleen)

6.50 – 7.50pm Pilates

8.00 – 9.00pm Pilates

7.30 – 10.00pm Freedom in Christ (every other week)

## **Thursdays:**

9.30 – 11.00am Yoga

2.00 – 2.45pm Ballet (Colleen)

4.00 – 6.00pm Ballet (Colleen)

8.20 – 9.20pm Pilates

## **Fridays:**

9.35 – 10.35am Pilates

10.45 – 11.45am Pilates

Noon – 1pm Pilates

4.15 – 5.45pm Dance (Zena)

## **Saturdays:**

10.00 – 11.00am Dance (Zena)

4.00 – 6.00pm Kumon Class



# ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES IN FEBRUARY

## February

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm – 4.00pm	Art Club
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Bible study at OMC
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Film Night New Eltham (see pg)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm – 4.00pm	Art Club

## Thought for the Month

You can't control the past, but you can ruin a perfectly good present by worrying about the future.

*Philippians ch6 v38*

If you wish to contribute to the March Newsletter, may I have your items by Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> February please.

Email: [chelsfield.mc@gmail.com](mailto:chelsfield.mc@gmail.com)

**Chelsfield Methodist Church is now online!**

The website link is [www.chelsfieldmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.chelsfieldmethodistchurch.org.uk)

Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/chelsfieldmc](http://www.facebook.com/chelsfieldmc)

Twitter @chelsfieldcmc

Why not give us a like and share and keep updated on what's happening at the church.