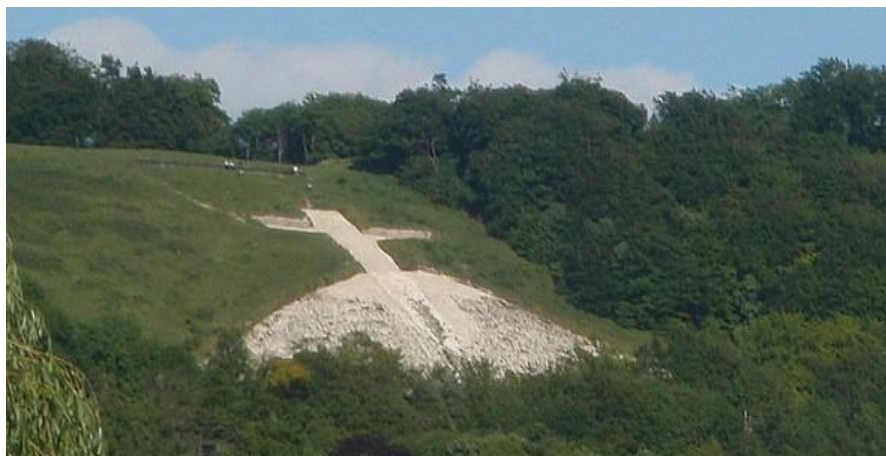


The Messenger

October 2016



**This magazine comes with the best wishes of
Princes Risborough Methodist Church**

Princes Risborough Methodist Church

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***Material for the November Messenger to the editor by Tuesday,
17th October at the latest please.***

***This Church is proud to be a member of 'Churches Together
in Risborough associated with the Baptist Church, Elim
Pentecostal Church, St. Dunstan's Church, St. Mary's Parish
Church and St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church.***

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

Whilst studying for my Mission Shaped Ministry course recently, my mentor asked me about whether I had thought of setting up a prayer group for the project I'm working on as she believed that nothing happens without prayer, and she's right. However, we often seem, as Christians, to have difficulty praying. Jesus said this in Matthew 6

And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

And Paul said " *pray continually* " in 1 Thessalonians 5:17

But how do you do that? I came across a concept that has a modern take – Tweet Prayers. Tweets are 140 character Twitter® messages that have become such an integral part of modern communication.

The idea is to say very short prayers as and when they are needed rather than struggling to make bigger longer prayers. Nehemiah shows how he used short prayers to talk to God and how to use them, e.g

Tweet prayers can stand alone (Nehemiah 5:19) or they can be part of a longer prayer (Nehemiah 1:11). They are uttered in the context of reverence and awe for the holiness and majesty of God (Nehemiah 1:5) They are conversational and spoken in our natural language (Nehemiah 13:14) They are simple and not filled with a lot of formal or religious language (Nehemiah 6:9) and they are tied to the setting and situation of the one praying (Nehemiah 13:9)

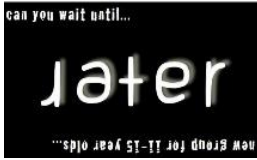
So when you hear a siren you can pray for the services and for the people they serve. If you're meeting someone for lunch say a tweet prayer without closing your eyes. If you're talking with people concerned about the health of a friend, say: "Father, we know you heard our conversation of concern for our friend, please bring them healing. We ask this in Jesus' name."

So go ahead, Tweet some prayers today and see what a difference it makes.

Grace and Peace

Keith

Junior Church & Crèche – Our October dates are the 9th and 16th, the other two Sundays being half term. - *Fran McMullan.*



The Later Group meet at 6pm in our church on the 3rd Sunday of the month, the next being 16th October. We welcome a number of 11-17 year olds and enjoy various activities including table-football and snooker. We have a 'God Slot' led by someone from one of the local churches and Ryan Romano, St. Mary's Church youth worker joins us. If you have any ideas for activities please speak to Fran McMullan on 274853. You don't need to attend but ideas would be very helpful.

Fairtrade Stall
The September stall took £27 in spite of very low stock, so well done to everyone. John Vicary is totally restocking before our next stall on 2nd October, so I hope you can find something to buy when we have the stall after the service that day.

Retiring Collection

We recently sent £175.40 to ROPE (*Relief for Oppressed People Everywhere*) from our retiring collections this year. This is a small Christian charity based in Amersham working through partners to make a difference to marginalised and disadvantaged people, often those forgotten and neglected by others. They celebrate their 25th Anniversary this year and continue to work with 40 partners in 25 countries around the world.

There will be a retiring collection after the service on 2nd October, so please try to support our nominated charity for this year.
- *Judith Gerrard.*

'Link to Hope'

A reminder about this Family & Elderly appeal, details of which were in last month's Messenger.

I am happy to give more information and will be pleased to receive contributions of items or money towards the purchase or transportation of goods. As boxes must be at Area Collection points quite soon any contributions will need to be with me by **23rd October at the latest.** Thank you once again for your support. - *Pam Scott*

God's Plan for Ageing



Most older people never get enough exercise. In His wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things thus doing more walking. **God looked down and saw that it was good.**

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose co-ordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach and stretch. **God looked down and saw that it was good.**

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. **God looked down and saw that it was good.**

So if you find as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

Easyfundraising



www.easyfundraising.co.uk

The online Christmas shopping frenzy is about to begin for most of us, so, if you shop online at Amazon, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, Majestic, and other big brands then it's easy to raise money for our Church without it costing you a penny. Please use this site, 'Every Little Helps'.

One Can Trust -

Our collection box in the back room goes to the Foodbank headquarters in High Wycombe, before distribution to those in need. List of suggested food items is pinned to the box. - *Marilyn Dore.*

Christian Aid

The monthly lunches are held on the first Thursday of each month in the Baptist Church hall at 12 noon. The next two being 6th October and 3rd November. Everyone is welcome to attend these friendly lunches.

Advance notice of the Coffee Morning on Thursday, 10th November. - *Margaret Stevens*

Silent Prayers at St.
Dunstan's Church Hall
Monday evenings at 8pm.
The next dates are 24th October
and 5th December.

We need silence to help us get a perspective on our lives; to hear the still, small voice of God and refresh our inner being. All are welcome of any faith or none. Each meeting lasts about 45 minutes to an hour. More details from Revd James Tomkins (01844) 275944 or jamestomkins@btinternet.com

Joint services –
These monthly services are led by our clergy at 6pm.

- * *9th October at the Baptist Church.*
- * *13th November at our Church.*

SALT

*Sharing & Learning
Together*

We meet at 7.30pm on the 6th and 20th October at the home of Maureen Judd. New members are welcome to join us for Fellowship and Bible Study. Please speak to Victoria Haydon, Joe Needham or Maureen Judd for more information.

Church Flowers –
Please remember special occasions, birthdays, anniversaries etc. by donating flowers to decorate the Church. They brighten up the day and makes God's house feel lived in. Fresh flowers are a way of saying welcome and proclaim 'Love Lives Here'. There is a rota in the Church Porch.

R.O.P.E.

**Relief for Oppressed People
Everywhere** www.roke.org.uk

Please pass used postage stamps (with a border of ¼") to Judith Gerrard for this charity which is one of our Church's designated charities for the current year.

Lesson in Lying

A minister told his congregation, "*Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17.*" The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "*Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying.*"

Big Band Swing

**Saturday, 15th October at
7.30pm at St. Dunstan's Church**

Great music and tracks by Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra etc. Complimentary glass of wine/soft drink Prize raffle Tickets £10 from Rachel Ungi (01844 761535) or Susanne Carr (01844 346827).

Princes Risborough Music Society -

The autumn concert Rossini's *"Petite Messe Solennelle"* will be held at the Baptist Church, Princes Risborough, at 7.30pm on Saturday, 26th November.

The Christmas Concert will be at St. Mary's Church on 20th December.

Childrens' quotes :

"You should never help a baby to walk because it falls down and cuts its knee and you always get a smack."

"We went to see Peter Pan and I hoped that Tinkerbelle would die because she's like my sister."

"Babies need to be loved by their mother in case everybody hates them when they grow up."

Annual Supper Dance

**26th November at the
Wendover Memorial Hall**

Tickets are now available for this event organised by the Aylesbury Methodist Church. We will be dancing to *The John Wheeler Band*. Ticket price is £25 each but please bring your own drink and glasses. All proceeds will go to The Community Coffee Bar Project. Ask your friends and get up a table for what promises to be a good night. Tickets available from Gill Marks 01296 748659.

Tuesday Fellowship

Our August meeting was in the garden of Barbara and Peter Oates and it was a very warm and enjoyable afternoon. Thank you to Barbara and Peter for their hospitality and a superb tea.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18th October at the Church at 2pm when John Cotton, Chairman of 'Karibuni' will be updating us on the work of the charity. There will be a stall when Christmas gifts/cards can be purchased in aid of 'Karibuni'.

All are welcome to join us.

Pam Scott.

They need your underpants!

Yes, it's true! Whitechapel Mission is desperate for certain items, particularly men's underwear!

Our Church store of clothing and goods is due to be collected and taken to the Mission at the beginning of October. Although we will have our Harvest Festival contributions to add to this collection we understand that the Mission is also in urgent need of **toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and plastic carrier bags**. They are also short of hand and bath towels. We have a box in the Church porch in which small toiletries may be placed.

Every single pound that the Whitechapel Mission receives is fully allocated to its designated project. Not a single penny is removed for other purposes. No donation will be used for:

- Administration
- Fundraising
- Telephone bills
- Gas & Electricity bills
- Maintenance
- TV adverts

You have never seen the Whitechapel Mission advertising on TV, and you never will. Your

donations are only ever used for direct expense to assist those in need and will never be spent on million pound TV adverts. For example: If a donor gives £10 with the intention of it helping towards feeding the homeless, the Trustees will ensure that every penny is used to feed the homeless. Since the charity's inception in 1876, not a single penny has ever been deducted for fundraising or administration costs. Tax reclaimed from the UK government's Gift Aid scheme is spent on direct expenditure. This allows taxpayers to increase the value of their donation by 25% and know it is also being spent delivering services to the homeless. All the charity's administrative and fundraising costs are covered by:

- *Investment income*
- *Income generated from the Whitechapel Mission building. Money raised from rental income*

We are pleased to report that the sum of **£190**, gift aided, has been sent to the Mission as a result of our Church BBQ in September. Thank you to everyone who supported the event in any way. It was a treat to welcome Linda and Roger Reynolds back from Suffolk and catch up with their news. - *Barbara Oates.*

Missions Report

Our Church contributions this year towards Methodist World Mission and Mission in Britain Funds are as follows:

World Mission

Collecting boxes	£121.76
Self Denial	£93.75
Donation from Church Funds	<u>£ 85.00</u>
Total	<u>£300. 51</u>

Mission in Britain

Collecting boxes	£71.00
Retiring Collection	£53.75
Church Anniversary Lunch	£90.00
Donation from Church Funds	<u>£70.00</u>
Total	<u>£284.75</u>

These amounts have been sent to the Circuit Mission Treasurer. In addition to the figures above £93 was contributed during the year to the Easter Offering. Thank you to all those people who have boxes and save regularly and to all who have contributed in any way towards this total. Thank you to the Church Forum for agreeing to contribute £155 from Church Funds towards Missions. Your continued support for Methodist Missions is much appreciated. - Pam Scott

I am thankful:

For the wife who says its pizza tonight because she's home with me.

For the teenager who lies around because it means she is at home and not on the streets.

For the taxes I pay because it means I am employed.

For the mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends.

For the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat.

For a lawn that needs mowing and windows that need cleaning, gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.

For all the complaining I hear about the government because it means we have free speech.

For the parking spot I find at the far end of the car park because it means I am able to walk and I have transportation.

For my huge heating bill because it means I am warm.

For those in church who sing off key because it means I can hear.

For the pile of laundry and ironing because it means I have clothes to wear.

October diary

2nd : Retiring Collection for ROPE
 2nd : Fairtrade Stall after Morning Service
 4th : Church Forum meeting
 6th : Christian Aid lunch 12noon in the Baptist Church Hall
 6th : SALT group meet at 7.30pm
 9th : Junior Church with crèche
 15th : Big Band Swing
 16th : Junior Church with crèche
 16th : 'Later' Group meet at 6pm
 17th : Last date for November Messenger material
 18th : Tuesday Fellowship 2pm at the Church
 20th : SALT group meet at 7.30pm
 23rd : Last date for Shoebox contributions

Forward dates:

3rd November – Christian Aid lunch
 10th November – Christian Aid Coffee Morning in the Baptist Church Hall
 26th November – Music Society concert
 26th November – AMC Annual Dinner Dance in Wendover
 20th December – Music Society concert

Stewards' Rota : (01844 unless otherwise stated)

2nd : Mr. Will Richmond – 342448
 9th : Mr. Mike Pullen - 343188
 16th : Miss Marilyn Dore – 345537
 23rd : Mrs. Maureen Judd – 344935
 30th : Mrs. Judith Gerrard – 01494 449732

There's no answer to that!

A man was reading Bible stories to his son. He read "*A man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife turned back and was turned into a pillar of salt*".

"What happened to the flea?" his son wanted to know.

October Rotas

Welcoming Stewards :

2nd : Mrs. F. Shephard and Mr. J. Needham

9th : Mr. and Mrs. D. Robbins

16th : Mr. and Mrs. B. Palmer

23rd : Mrs. M. Stevens and Mrs. B. Oates

30th : Mr. and Mrs. G. Hudson

Bible Readers :

2nd : Mrs F. Shephard and Mr. J. Needham

9th : Mr. and Mrs. D. Robbins (am) *Mrs. M. Judd (pm at the Baptist Church)*

16th : Mrs. C. Palmer and Mr. M. Pullen

23rd : Mrs. M. Stevens and Mrs. J. Gerrard

30th : Mr. and Mrs. G. Hudson

Church duties : (Saturdays)

1st :

8th :

15th :

22nd : YDA

29th :

Cleaning

Mrs. C. Palmer

Mrs. F. McMullan

Mr. K. Smith

Mr. J. Needham

Mr. D. Stevens

Grass Cutting

Mr. B. McCleery

Mr. C. McMullan

Miss M. Dore

Mrs. S. Wilson

Mrs. M. Stevens

Flowers : 2nd : Mrs. J. Gerrard

16th : Mrs. K. Trout

9th : Mrs. D. Robbins

23rd : Mrs. B. Willett

30th : Mrs. B. Oates

Refreshments :

2nd : Mrs. V. Spires Lane

16th : -

9th : Mrs. J. Gerrard

23rd : Miss P. Scott

30th : Mrs. B. Oates

If unavailable for any date listed, please arrange an exchange or replacement, notify the Steward and amend the porch and vestry. Please contact a Steward if you are able to offer help with any of these duties.

**As we go to press – “Belated birthday greetings to
Diana Robbins who celebrated a special birthday on
24th September”**



October 2016

2nd : 10am Rev. Keith Edwards
with Holy Communion

9th : 10am Mr. John Shaw
Junior Church & Crèche
6pm United Service at the Baptist Church

16th : 10am Mr. Terry Stewart
Junior Church & Crèche

23rd : 10am Mrs. Betty Blake

30th : 10am Rev. Andrew Shergold

Refreshments available after Morning Service