

## Longlands

As we progress with the first 12 months of our Longlands outreach project we are planning two events in June.

### Family Fun Day : Saturday 25th June 2-4pm.

Free Bar-be-que for the locals, activities and entertainment... and the invitation to "Freedom Café" on the Sunday.

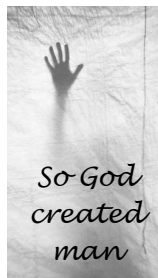
### Freedom Café : Sunday 26th June 3-4.15pm.

Coffee, cakes *and* a video presentation with the opportunity to ask about the Christian faith. Please pray for wisdom and guidance for all involved so that the Gospel will be shared in a sensitive and productive way.

The next Freedom Café is on 24th July, and we will resume after the summer holiday on September 25th.

## Men's Weekend 2011

Back in March, 30 of the MDMC men-folk headed off to Llandudno for our first Men's Weekend. It was a time when we were able to meet with God, and many were challenged and encouraged in their Christian faith, particularly in their relationship with God the Holy Spirit. We were able to welcome men from other churches who have contact with us, enjoying fellowship and food! Watch this space for news of our next Men's weekend!



## Dates for your Diary.

### June

Thursday 9th	9.30am	Ladies' Breakout - at 7 Martindale, Loggerheads	Meet at MDMC 9.15am
Saturday 11th	9.30 pm	ARK Pastoral Training Morning	MDMC
Monday 13th	7.30pm	Local Preachers Meeting	MDMC
Friday 24th	9.30am	Ladies' Breakout with Crèche	MDMC
Saturday 25th	2.00pm	Longlands Family Fun Day	Longlands Park
Sunday 26th	3.00pm	Freedom Café	Longlands School

### July

Thursday 7th	9.30am	Ladies' Breakout	42 The Oval
Sunday 10th	7.00pm	At 7 - contemporary worship with St Mary's	MDMC
Friday 22nd	9.30am	Ladies' Breakout with Crèche	MDMC
Saturday 23rd	10.00am	Network Coffee Morning with cake & Bring & Buy stall	MDMC
Sunday 27th	3.00pm	Freedom Café	Longlands School

### September 24th & 25th Church Anniversary Weekend with Piers Lane of Cliff College.

Saturday 25th	2.00pm	Drum & Percussion: Worship Workshop	MDMC
	7.00pm	Worship Celebration Evening	MDMC
Sunday 26th	10.30pm	Morning worship	MDMC
<b>November 26th</b>		<b>ARK Advent Celebration Day</b>	Swan Bank, Burslem

1.00pm	Messy Church with 'Big Ministries'
3.00pm	All Age Church with 'Big Ministries'
5.00pm	Tea - £3, and you need to book
7.00pm	Worship: Speaker: Andy Hawthorne, Worship Leader Philippa Hanna

MDMC: Bible School continues on Tuesday afternoon and evening as advertised.



# Market Drayton Methodist Church

## Messenger

### Newsletter and Circuit Plan

Summer quarter - lazy, hazy days of summer and all that. That's as may be, but the worship of God and doing his work continues. Summer is a time though when we slow down a bit, and rightly so, and we can look forward to holidays. Work and rest are both a part of God's plan and purpose for us.

However for the Christian we never cease to be his witnesses and ambassadors. We are always on duty, and we are always called to worship and to serve God in serving one another. Throughout the year we have frenetic activity, with so many ministries, jobs to do, events to arrange and attend, all alongside our family and work life.

We recently looked back over the year in the life of MDMC and were amazed again at how much we have achieved and are doing in God's name, and through His power. It is always easy though to become weary, tired of the same things, wanting some peace and quiet, and it is a difficult balance to keep. God calls us ever onward and forward and strengthens us for the tasks he calls us to. As we respond to His call, we are equipped for the task. But even then its easy to grow weary and lethargic and give up the call we so enthusiastically took up.

I want to encourage you all this summer to try and find some rest and relaxation, find refreshment in holidays, resting and enjoying the summer weather. But let us always remember that we are His ambassadors, servants and witnesses, and remember those words in Gal 6:9, *'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.'*

Have a lovely summer, enjoy God's love for you, and keep on going, don't give up.

Roger



**Friday 4th - Sunday 6th November**

**The Mickleover Court Hotel, Derby.**

**Guest Speaker : Bev Murrill.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION please contact LYNNE BRETT - 01630 658955 or NESS SAVILL - 657784

or collect a leaflet from the church foyer.

June, July & August 2011

## Easter Children's Club .

As part of the Market Drayton Churches Together "Easter Expressed" activities, we hosted a children's club each morning between 18th - 21st April, here at MDMC. We provided a range of activities including games, songs, crafts, Easter gardens, prayers, dvd clips and memory verses based around the themes of Jesus' life and ministry and telling the story of the first Easter.

We had between 20 and 28 children attending the sessions, some from each of the churches in town, some children with no connection to a church at all, who were there because their parents had seen the club advertised either on a poster in town or in the town magazine that had been delivered through every door.

As well as seeing the children enjoy the activities and recount the memory verses and listen so well to the Easter story, the leaders commented on what a fantastic sense of "togetherness" we all experienced. Volunteers from all the churches in town worked together to plan, resource and lead the activities and we felt a tangible sense of unity in participating in kingdom work during the week.

I would like to thank all the adults who gave up their time to help with the project and I am looking forward to finding other projects to develop this unity of purpose for the children of our town in the future.

*Kevin Lee.*

---

## Ashley Methodist Church.

As many of you will know by now, in September, Ashley Methodist Church, a congregation of approximately 45-50 people will join the circuit family (the group of churches of which we are a part). This is a great joy to welcome them into the circuit family, and we look forward to meeting them as the months go on. There are things we may do together occasionally, but they are committed to ministering in their community, as we are in ours, so we can pray for each other and support each other as appropriate.

As Roger is becoming the minister of a fairly large congregation (for a rural Methodist Church) it will mean more of his time will be taken with issues and visiting at Ashley. However all the usual ministries and outreach activities will continue here at MDMC and we look forward to what God will do through us all. Please pray for the Ashley part of our new family as they say farewell to their previous circuit (Newcastle) and join us.

### Three AMC Facts

- In 1860 land was purchased to build a Chapel in Wesleyan Road, Ashley.
- In more recent years the premises were refurbished, and the new Chapel, opened in 1998, is very versatile as a place of worship and as a room for the community.
- When it's dark you can see the illuminated cross on the front of the church as you travel to Drayton from Newcastle on the A53.

Mid-week Holy Communion takes place on the last Wednesday of each month at 11.00.am at MDMC.

## MDMC:Bible School.

*Roger has been in touch with "Buzz", a monthly e-mail newsletter that goes out to subscribers throughout the Methodist Church and beyond, and has sent in details about our Bible School. Buzz tells inspiring, challenging and encouraging stories submitted by local churches, circuits and districts and can be accessed or subscribed to via the Methodist Church website; [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk).*

Market Drayton Methodist Church is celebrating the year of the Bible in a variety of ways, but by far the most popular has been the Bible school.

We have six schools throughout the year, each running over five weekly sessions. The Revd Peter Davies, recent Old Testament lecturer at Cliff College and Regents College, leads the sessions. Peter is a gifted Bible teacher and has brought the Bible alive in a new way, explaining much of the background and history of the Bible, the characters, and circumstances in which the various parts of the Bible were written. He applies it all in an inspiring and challenging way to the 21st century. Around 70% of the church membership has been involved at some point, and because of Peter's skill, the sessions have been accessible to both the experienced Bible student and the beginner.

The Bible schools have been inspirational and have set people talking about the Bible like never before. We are eagerly looking forward to two more series this Autumn.

*Please continue to support the Bible School or come along for the first time. Leaflets are available in the foyer. The next session runs from June 14th.*

---

## North Shropshire Methodist Youth Choir.

The North Shropshire Methodist Youth Choir has been growing older over the past few years and we have been praying for guidance about the future of the choir. We have felt very strongly that the choir needs to continue as, not only does it have a role in leading others in worship, it is also where young people can spend time in a Christian environment, learning more about having a relationship with Jesus whilst being encouraged by other young Christians.

Over the past few months we have been really encouraged by fresh interest in the choir by a number of teenagers both within our own church family and also some from around our local area, and we feel that this a real answer to prayer. Some have tentatively 'tried us out' and have come and gone – while others seem to have got their feet firmly under the table and have become an integral part of the group. We would love it if you could pray for the choir, particularly for the younger members. From a choir point of view we still need teenagers joining us to sing and produce a beautiful sound when we travel around leading worship, but more importantly, we want them and their friends to meet with Jesus and have a lasting relationship with Him.

*Alison Savill.*

The Messenger is great for sharing news and testimony. See Paul if you have any ideas or contributions.