

July Worship

July 2nd

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
Dr. Roy Swanson
6.00 pm Evening Worship
Rev. Derek McLean

July 9th

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
Katie Breekyk
6.00 pm Evening Worship HC
Rev. Derek McLean

July 16th

- 09.30 am **Breakfast Church**
Rev. Derek McLean
6.00 pm Evening Worship
Rev. Gill Hulme

July 23rd

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
Jenny Harris
6.00 pm **CIRCUIT SERVICE**
At North Watford

July 30th

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
David Williamson
6.00 pm Evening Worship
Dr. Roy Swanson

HC = Holy Communion
*Bible Month Topic

For further information, please contact one of our Church Stewards: -
Mrs. Rita Richardson 01494 785935
Mrs Lorraine Pearce 01494 775071
Mrs Sue Mallett 01494 776404
Mr. Lindsay Faulkner 01494 783048

Our minister, Rev. Derek McLean may be contacted by:
Tel. 01923 261717 or Email:
derek.mclean@methodist.org.uk

August Worship

August 6th

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
Christine O'Reilly
6.00 pm Evening Worship
Lina Hillier

August 13th

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
John Benson
6.00 pm Evening Worship HC
Rev. Derek McLean

August 20th

- 11.00 am Morning Worship HC
Rev. Derek McLean
6.00 pm Evening Worship
Rev. Vindra

August 27th

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
Paul Achaew
6.00 pm Evening Worship
Rev. Richard Lowson

Midweek meetings

In chapel unless otherwise stated

Tuesday

2.30 pm Well Seasoned (fortnightly
- see programme inside)

7.00 pm Youth Club (fortnightly)

8.00 pm Young People's Fellowship
(Weekly) at Neil & Kirsty's

Wednesday (except school hols)
Under 3's @ 10.00 - 11.30 am

Friday

7.30 pm Music practice as necessary



MONTHLY DIARY

July & August 2017

MUSINGS FROM THE MANSE

Strong and Stable?

As I write this, I've just been watching Hospital, the documentary from St. Mary's hospital in Paddington. It was the episode in which the cameras were already recording when they heard the news of the Westminster terrorist attack. Before that, I was listening to a radio programme about the 'Day of Rage' following the terrible fire in the Grenfell Tower block of flats. The previous day I was reading the reports of the attack outside the Finsbury Park mosque.

How do we respond to such a sequence of awful events? My first reaction mingles sadness, grief and anger, but I feel compelled to offer some words of wisdom, some deep theological insight.

In a sense, the Christian Gospel offers some good answers to these deep troubles. It speaks of Jesus, God in human form, come amongst the worst of the world's violence and being on the receiving end of it. It speaks of Jesus' words of peace, and his demand that we turn the other cheek: the message that the Christian response to Westminster, Manchester and Borough Market is not to attack the Finsbury Park mosque, but to love our Muslim neighbours all the more. The image of Jesus overturning the money changers' tables in righteous anger at the way the political establishment was complicit in the neglect of the poorest.

Yet, that doesn't seem enough. We then need to turn back to the Psalms and discover that this has always been true: in anger and despair we have a right to shout at God and complain that we have prayed "Thy Kingdom Come" so many times, and yet it is still not here...

...except, of course there are glimpses of the Kingdom already there. As we rush to the rescue we find Jesus there ahead of us. We see the images of Notting Hill Methodist Church (just outside the Grenfell Tower cordon) being a place where people are fed and sheltered.

At times like these we need revert to childlike faith and I offer a childlike song: "Our God is a great big God, and he holds us in his hands." **Amen?**



MOVING ON

I will come to the end of my five-year appointment in West Herts in the summer of 2018. Like most ministers in their first circuit, I have decided not to ask for an invitation to stay beyond then, so the circuit will be looking for a new minister to take over from me.

Margaret is your representative on the Invitations Committee so if you've any ideas what Ministry should look like here in the future, please let her know.

God bless you

Rev. Derek

IF YOU WANT TO BE **HOT** ... *GIVE A LOT!*

(Slogan © Becky Gorst)

We need to replace some of the church heaters, and the June Church Council decided that this should be a priority. As a step of faith we've committed to doing this work, but we need to raise the money to pay for it. We decided to hold a **Gift Weekend** on the **23rd & 24th September**.

Rev Derek will also write to all members before then asking them to consider supporting this. The work will cost a total of around **£3,000**. We have other funds to cover any shortfall, but that would mean that we have to decide what else doesn't get done.



CHESHAM

Sunday 16th July
3.00 p.m.
Praise in the Park

Rendezvous
Every Wednesday
at 12.15 p.m.
(May not be any in August)

CIRCUIT

Saturday 22 July
7 p.m.
Luton Male Voice Choir
at Southdown Church

Sunday 23rd July
Circuit Farewell Service
6 p.m. at N. Watford -
for Rev. Jill Hulme and Rev.
Geoffrey Farrar

VILLAGE

Wednesday 12th July
6.30-8.30 pm
Ley Hill School's
90th Anniversary

Thursday 13th July
Distribution of "It's
Your Move" books at
Ley Hill School with
Revs. Derek & Sylvester.

PRAYER

Prayer Breakfast

No more Prayer Breakfasts
until 2nd September
(at Chapel)

Topics for prayer:

- ⇒ Those suffering the consequences of various disasters and attacks.
- ⇒ Rev. Derek & Sylvester distributing "It's Your Move" books at the school
- ⇒ Our Young People and Leaders as they go to Youth Camp on 26th August

ON THE NOTICE BOARD

Well Seasoned

2.30 pm in the Chapel
unless stated otherwise

11th July SPORTS DAY at Crabtree

25th July GARDEN PARTY at
Crabtree

August Walk to be confirmed.



YOUTH CLUB

7.00 - 8.45 pm
fortnightly
in the Chapel
(term time)

Contact Rebecca &
Graham Gorst for full programme

Youth Camp to Boscombe
Saturday 26th to
Tuesday 29th August

EVENING STUDY GROUP

As people were away in June and early July, we have delayed our last two studies on James until the following dates:

Wed. 19th July
James 3:1 - 4:12

'Speech and Wisdom' @ Crabtree ?

Wed. 26th July
James 4:13- 5:20

'Living for the Lord' @ Mabank ?
(Venues to be confirmed)

Meet 7.30 pm for tea/coffee and
cake 8.00 study and discussion

St. George's Dates

Thursday 6th 7.30 p.m.
Women's Fellowship Frances
Tuffney on 'Hand Bell Ringing'

Tuesdays 4th & 18th
Tots on Tuesday 10.00 - 10.30

Saturday 22nd July
St George's Fun Day
(formerly the fete) at Ley Hill
Village Hall from 12 noon to
4.00pm

Morning Prayer

7.00 a.m. every Wednesday

(To check whether St. George's
activities continue in August
Tel. Geoff 01494 778185)

