

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear friends,

Is Church a place to attend or a home to belong?

I will never understand why we (that includes me) use the name Emmanuel for Jesus only at Christmas. I rarely meet with anyone during other seasons praying to Emmanuel. Yet this is the name that describes exactly why Jesus came to us. He came to dwell among us, to be one of us. Indeed the gospel he brought is not primarily informational but relational/missional. This gospel recognises that imparting information about how to be individually saved is secondary to inviting people into relationship with a king and with members of a kingdom whose foremost concern is wholeness for a broken world, rather than an insurance policy for eternal destiny.



That explains where we are as Martin Way Church. We all recognise that we are unfinished products in the potter's workshop and invite everyone to join us in following Jesus by faith (without claims of certainty or absolute knowledge) with the goal of being transformed and participating in the transformation of the world. We believe that the gospel starts "with God's concern for the world, in which God creates a community called the church, comprised of persons who stop (or repent of) being 'part of the problem' and choose instead to join God as 'part of the solution'—thus simultaneously entering a mission and a community in which one is accepted by grace, through faith in Jesus."

This is what we are exploring in the Alpha and in our new 3rd Sunday service, a place where people worship not out of tradition or duty but out of their love for God and community members. Such worship is real fun and inspirational. It is based on our belief that Church is not a place one attends but a community to which one belongs. The community shares in mission and spiritual practice. It is rooted in a common story whose emphasis is on the continuing work here and now, always drawing from our past. In this new dispensation, rather than measuring the church by its attendance, we will measure it by its utilization.

I heard someone describe the church as fortress or social club that sucks Christians out of their neighbourhoods, clubs, workplaces, schools, and other social networks and isolates them in a religious ghetto. There it must entertain them and hold them through various means, many of them epitomized by the words *guilt* and *fear*. Thus Christians are warehoused as merchandise for heaven, kept safe in a protected space to prevent spillage, leakage, damage, or loss until their delivery.

We refuse to be one of those. Rather we are and continue to work to be a church that is an open community, welcoming strangers as Jesus welcomed all.

This is our 2006 Resolution, with God's help.



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FAIRTRADE RECIPES

Fairtrade Banana bread

By television chef Michael Barry.

Makes one loaf.

225 g (8 oz) self-raising flour

100 g (4 oz) butter

150 g (5 oz) caster sugar

450 g (1 lb) Fairtrade bananas (the gooier the better)

½ teaspoon salt

2 eggs

175 g (6 oz) mixed dried fruit



Pre-heat the oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas Mark 4. Peel and mash the bananas, and then mix all the ingredients except the dried fruit together. You can do this in a food processor, or by hand in a basin. When they're all thoroughly mixed, add the dried fruit. Spoon the mixture into a 1 kg (2 lb) non-stick loaf tin, spread it out evenly and bake it for 1½ hours. The loaf is done when a skewer pushed into its middle comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack before slicing.

A LETTER FROM JOHN SWARBRICK THE CHAIR LONDON SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT



Dear friends,

It has been said that the rôle of a district chair is that of a circuit minister writ large. In that sense, the year has its own distinct rhythm, though one that is rather different from the Church's year. I have not measured my time in terms of the liturgical seasons and the fixed points of circuit life, but much more in terms of special events and, especially, the process which surrounds the appointment (or 'stationing' to use Methodist jargon) of presbyters, and to a lesser extent deacons, to serve in circuits and local churches across the District.

Stationing never goes away. To those of you unfamiliar with the system, it begins in May of any given year with meetings of presbyters and circuit stewards, as I and the District lay stationing representative David Lindsay outline the process by which presbyters and circuits test whether an invitation to an appointment should be extended or not—for September the following year. There are personal interviews with presbyters and their partners; there is a process of consultation arranged by circuit stewards with the churches concerned and the presbyter. And when an invitation is not extended, both presbyter and circuit face change, as each embarks on the 'stationing matching process'. My district chair colleagues and I meet over three rounds from late October to early January in an attempt to match presbyters to new appointments. Presbyters and circuits then meet to see whether that match will turn into an invitation to serve in a new appointment. We continue over those three rounds until all presbyters available for stationing in a given year are matched; and even beyond January the process continues until Conference in June when the 'stations' are confirmed, and new presbyters arrive for their Welcome Service in late August/early September. (A parallel, but rather different process takes place for deacons.) That's why stationing never goes away!

It is not, however, as simple as that thumbnail sketch suggests. The Methodist Church has a problem—and the problem is that we have more appointments available than there are presbyters to fill them. These short-

ages have been with us for some years, but have been acute in the current round, as we have struggled with a shortfall of 50 presbyters. In the 2007 and 2008 rounds, that shortage will increase significantly because of a ‘bulge’ in ministerial retirements.

If all that sounds a bit of a bureaucratic jog-trot through what Methodism has to do in these circumstances, let me try asking a question. What is God saying to us? Is God saying something disturbingly pessimistic to us about a gently declining ecclesiastical institution? Or could God be saying something urgent and compelling to us about vocations to ordained ministry? There are things to be said in answer to both questions, but I want to focus on the second. These are extraordinarily demanding and complex times for Christian people, but I do believe that God still calls women and men to serve through the ordained ministries of presbyter and deacon. That is not in any way to devalue the many varieties of lay ministry which we exercise together as part of the ministry of the whole people of God; but it remains the case that churches and circuits continue to seek those who will respond to God’s call to focus worship and service, learning and caring, and evangelism through these distinctive callings.

In other words, one way to address the current shortages would be for you who are reading this letter to consider whether you might have a calling from God to serve as a presbyter or deacon, or in some form of authorized lay ministry. Would you be prepared to put such a calling to the test, and for the Church to discern it with you? I am not asking this simply to ease the way for the chairs-designate in the London and South-East Districts, who will be dealing with stationing in the future. This is about much more than propping up the existing system and meeting the expectations of local circuits and churches. Methodist ministers are not ‘Ministers of the Church’ — as I sometimes see printed in the obituaries column of my morning newspaper — but ‘Ministers of the Gospel’; they are not functionaries of an institution, but those who are called of God both to embody in their being and proclaim through word and action what the Good News of God’s love in Christ can be for every person. To be a ‘Minister of the Gospel’ is increasingly going to mean how the Gospel and Christian values can be earthed and articulated in a much wider variety of ways than the standard expectation of a presbyter whose ministry is focused in a local congregation. (We have different expectations about the

ministry of deacons which is not so tied to the pastoral charge of a local church.) Such women and men will still be needed. Could it be you? But do we in addition have the courage to identify, train, equip and release others to minister in new and experimental ways? Could one of those others be you?

Best wishes,

Yours ever,

Tom

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THOUGHT OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY 2006



Often on the way to church I meet a lady from the local Baptist church. Our encounter always proceeds along the same lines. “going to church?” she asks. “Yes,” I reply. “Have a good time,” she says. “And you..” By that time we passed each other. The last time that happened I began to wonder.

Do we go to church “to have a good time”? If so, in what way? Perhaps in several ways.

When we meet together after the service we may “have a good time”. Especially for those who live alone, the social aspect of fellowship and church-going is something which is much appreciated. We “have a good time” in the company of like-minded friends and we experience a sense of belonging.

We can “have a good time” if the hymns we sing are ones we like and we can really let ourselves go. Last night I took a Bible study at Wimbledon. There were only six of us but we raised the roof when we opened with the hymn “God is working his purpose out” – and we sang unaccompanied! Years ago I took a “Songs of Praise” service here at Martin Way. At the end no-one moved and several people were in tears.

Were they “having a good time” through being moved by something we had sung or by memories a particular hymn may have evoked?

We can “have a good time” if the service lifts us spiritually and gives us food for thought to take away with us. The need to be stimulated has to be met if we are to grow in faith and understanding.

But the best occasions when we “have a good time” are rare, Mountain-top experiences do not happen every week. If they did, they would be common-place and cease to be special. Their significance would diminish and their impact would be nullified. But all of us can look back on experiences which have led us to feel that God has come very close to us even for a short while. Over thirty years ago I was called upon at three hours notice to take the Christmas morning service at Central Hall Westminster because the minister had lost his voice. Behind me was the great organ being played by Bill Lloyd Webber (father of Andrew) and the Central Hall choir and I knew beyond any shadow of doubt that God was helping me throughout that service. There have been other times too, as well as times when God has seemed far away.

Come to church and “have a good time” – and when those rare mountain-top experiences come your way, thank God for them and treasure them. And when you have a “God seems far away” experience think about a Wayside Pulpit poster which said, *“If God seems far away, guess who’s moved.”*

Bill Cox

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DISTRICT CHAIR FAREWELL DONATIONS

John Swarbrick has served as our District Chair for the last four years but will be returning to a circuit appointment in September this year.

A farewell presentation will be made at the District Synod on Saturday 8th April and if you wish to make a donation please hand it to our Treasurer, John Butland, or any of the stewards. Alternatively you can send cheques to the District Treasurer made payable to “Methodist Church London South-West District” with a note to say that it is a donation towards a presentation to the District Chair.



CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE

Some years ago at the Methodist Women's Lunch, I heard Baroness Caroline Cox speak about Christian Solidarity Worldwide, usually abbreviated to CSW. She spoke about visiting Burma and meeting with persecuted Christians and how they had several miraculous escapes, on one occasion when they were carrying a rucksack full of forbidden bibles. I asked how one could find out more and since then I have visited the website (www.csw.org.uk) and received alert emails to take action or pray about persecuted Christians in difficult situations often after arrest or imprisonment.

CSW is an organisation that helps us to reach the parts of the Christian family who we feel for in so many ways but don't know how to respond to. Hidden from the world's eyes and unable to speak out, there are over 250 million Christians around the world suffering torture, imprisonment and even the threat of death for their faith.

Burma, China, Cuba, Egypt, North Korea, Pakistan, and Sudan - these are but a few of the many countries where Christians face serious abuse of their human rights and religious freedom. The lives of our persecuted brothers and sisters are precious to God. He calls us to defend the oppressed, comfort the broken hearted and speak out about injustice and persecution.

I recently became the Martin Way representative for CSW and would like to bring to your attention some of the cases.

In one of them, three Christian women have been sentenced to three years imprisonment having been found guilty of the charge of 'Christianization'. The charges against Dr Rebecca Laonita, Mrs Ratna Mala Bangun and Mrs Ety Pangesti, stem from their involvement with a children's holiday initiative called 'Happy Week'. The camp was organized for local Christian children but, with parental consent and supervision, Muslim children were also welcomed. The programme consisted of opening and closing prayers, singing songs, practical tutoring in reading, writing and mathematics and trips to parks and swimming pools. The initiative proved

so successful that it came to the attention of the local authorities. The women were arrested on May 13 despite the fact that all the children had full parental consent and none of the children had changed religion.

The case of 'Christianization' was brought against the women by the local chapter of the Indonesian Council of Muslim Clerics (MUI) who alleged the women enticed Muslim children to participate and tried to convert the children to Christianity by giving them gifts. The trial, which started on June 30, has attracted considerable national and international attention. A CSW staff member attended their trial and was able to meet with the women, prior to the sentencing. In his summing up, the prosecutor stated that a tough sentence (three years and a fine of 1.5 million rupees (about £90)) was sought because of the 'feelings of the crowd'. The three women have lodged an appeal.

Islamist militants regularly attended the court hearings. Some were members of a hard-line militant organization linked with Abu Bakar Bashir who is believed to be the spiritual head of a regional terrorist organisation.

In bringing the case, it seems that the MUI, were hoping to set a legal precedent from the Child Protection Laws of 2002 which would prevent Muslim children from attending Sunday schools or any Christian-led activities. However, moderate Muslim leaders have spoken out in favour of the defendants and the former President of Indonesia, Abdurrahman Wahid, asked for the case to be withdrawn.

Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim nation, enjoys a reputation for religious tolerance and freedom but it is clear that the militants' plans have dealt this a serious blow in West Java. CSW hopes to intensify its reconciliation and advocacy work in order to equip and support the church and interfaith community facing this nationwide crisis.

Please pray:

Thank God for the moderate Muslims who have spoken out against this injustice. Ask God to give strength and courage to the three women and their families.

Pray for justice in the appeal process.

I have put up some posters on the board that held the Christmas cards, and there are some Response magazines on the table below. This is the bi-monthly magazine of CSW.

Joyce Plant

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THANK YOU

Over the Christmas period donations were received for various organisations through special Services, Festivals, Collections and other means. Thank you to all involved.

Christmas Tree Festival:

Christmas cakes - £187.00, Programme money - £76.00,

Refreshments - £93.00 - **a total of £356.00**

This was divided equally between NCH Action for Children and MCW Rafiki Trust - £178.00 each.

NCH Action for Children:

Carol Service - £35.00, Morden Station Carol Singing - £635.00,

Christingle Service - £115.00, Christmas Day Service - £90.00,

Christmas Tree Festival - £178.00 - **a total of £1053.00**

Church Christmas Post Box:

Methodist Homes for the Aged - **£143.20**

Christian Care in Merton:

Two retiring collections produced **£110.00**

Karen and Jennifer's stall:

For MCW Rafiki Trust for two months produced **£92.00**

Reminiscences of a Journey to Kenya (part 2) **8th - 22nd August 2005 by Joyce Plant**

Thursday 11th August

We went by coach to the village. We took the presents we had brought, as the coach was then returning to Nairobi, and in future most people would have to walk to and from the village. Some of us visited the villagers, others stayed and played with the children.

I went with Leo and Nick. We were escorted by John Nyota's sister, Frescia, and Isaiah, a neighbour. We visited yet another neighbour's smallholding. We walked beside fields of crops and on meeting some ladies standing and selling bananas, Isaiah bought a hand. They were smaller and sweeter than the ones we buy in England.



We arrived in a field with two wooden buildings, a wooden bench, a cow, and some hens, and a small fire burning in the middle, around which were laid some cobs of corn roasting. After we ate some fruit, Isaiah's daughter, Naomi collected two eggs from the henhouse, which were boiled and given to us and we shared them. Leo had a good supply of cleansing wipes! Isaiah's daughter also demonstrated milking the cow, and they made us hot sweet tea. There was a second small fire burning in the shed which was used for the tea and eggs. There were two or three dogs wandering about. We passed plenty of fields and the ladies selling bananas, but I did not see any houses. The village is very straggly, with houses presumably built on the land they own, and not clustered together as would be the case in England. Perhaps England was like this when we were all farmers or smallholders. A few centuries ago, probably.



I think England was probably always different, and that houses were built in the centre of the community with the fields stretching out to the outside.

Any comments?

The owner of the field arrived, an elderly gentleman, tall, thin and shabbily dressed. Frescia says he has a lot of land and is wealthy. He grows ‘meera’, which is harvested as a drug and is the most valuable cash crop. We saw meera, sweet corn, which they call maize, sweet potatoes and bananas growing. When we left we walked through the neighbour’s banana plantation and also picked some meera, a smallish shrub with reddish coloured stems.



Most people had to walk back to the village, but John took good care of me, and I ride in the front of the van. Betty rides in the back. She later decides not to do this again as the back door had to be locked and there would be no way out in the case of an accident!



Tonight when we arrived back at the village we found buckets of hot water outside the dormitory, for which we were very grateful. Most of us had a good wash, and a lot of us finished up by soaking our feet! The younger girls were getting quite concerned about being unable to wash their hair and the fact that it was getting greasy, so they had plaited and tied it back. They could not understand why the older ladies did not have the same problem! This was however one of the benefits of staying in the hotel and we were all glad of the opportunity of washing our hair.

We had been told that Baraimu would be very dusty and I did not think it was as bad as I had expected, and was not unduly troubled, but certainly a lot of red dust came out of our hair, when we eventually did wash it.

Friday 12th August

We again went to the village and I again had a ride in the van. I might have managed the walk, but perhaps it is as well I didn’t have to try. Betty did the walk on several occasions! I spent the day near the church and the members of the party, who had stayed and played with the

children on Thursday, had their chance to visit the village. The villagers were friendly and helpful and if ever I was standing a chair always appeared behind me.



Today I met Gerald and his daughter and baby grandson and had a long chat with Gerald. Quite a lot of people stayed in the village overnight with various families. I decided, at the last moment not to stay in the village overnight, because it seemed like too much hard work to dismantle the mosquito net and refit in the village and

have to replace on the bed at Kibuline on the next night. I am very envious of Barrie visiting so many homes!

I haven't yet mentioned the water toilet, and small basin for hand washing that the villagers had installed for us, near the church. It was supplied by water from a large tank.

Edith took us back to the village this evening and both Betty and I had a very comfortable ride in a nice car. Edith was one of the ladies who had helped us settle in on the first night, and had stayed around for a long time to see that we were comfortably settled. I later heard that she was the one who had taken Simon to be checked over at the hospital, and then had taken him to their home for the night. The next morning she also took him out and bought him a nice Kenyan shirt and a pair of trousers! Amazing, the kindness of the Kenyan people. Again buckets of hot water!

Saturday 13th August

The coach arrived this morning and took us to Maua Hospital, on the way picking up all the visitors from their hosts. Simon stayed with Edith and her family until the evening. We had a small tour of the new block of Maua hospital which comprised a maternity unit and a fracture ward. We then had a good ride round Kenya and saw lots of tea plantations, ending up at a tea factory. We were unable to gain admission because the manager who issued the permit had moved to another





factory. It was decided to go back to the village ready for the service, which was late starting and it was nearly dark. It was dark when the food was served. We then returned to Kibuline school and more buckets of hot water. We again washed in the dormitory. I don't know that we ever used the washroom.

Sunday 14th August

We rose early this morning, our last at Kibuline school. Some of us felt that we would have liked longer in the village, getting to know the people better. Perhaps it would be necessary to have some structured activities if we did spend longer there, but I still feel we should have spent at least another day or two there.



Something to think about for next time! We packed up and left for a service at the church at 9.00am. We said our final goodbyes to all who had turned up and it was quite sad. We then left on a trip to a trout farm,



where monkeys live in the trees. On the way we crossed the equator and saw how the water goes down a drain in a different direction to the north and south of the equator and straight down on the line. There were lots of shops in a line to the north and south of the equator, and many people bought all their presents. Alright if

you don't mind haggling! We had a good lunch, which was spoilt by the loss of Jenny's handbag. We had to visit a police station to report the theft. A tiny little building, with a small housing complex built in the same area.

It was then decided to return to Nairobi that night, as visits would have to be paid to the embassy and airport before we would be able to fly to Mombassa. We were lucky to be able to stay another night at the Methodist Guest House!

PUZZLE CORNER ONE

Due to an error in the printing of the Christmas Word Search in last Issue we felt it only fair to give you another go, but with the correct word square!

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

ANGEL CHOIR

BABY JESUS

BETHLEHEM

BOXING DAY

CAROL SINGERS

CHRISTINGLE

CHRISTMAS CARDS

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

CHRISTMAS TREE

COLD WINTER NIGHTS

DECEMBER

FATHER CHRISTMAS

GLOVES

JOSEPH

MANGER

MARY

PANTOMIME

PRESENTS

SHEPHERDS

SNOW

STABLE

STOCKINGS

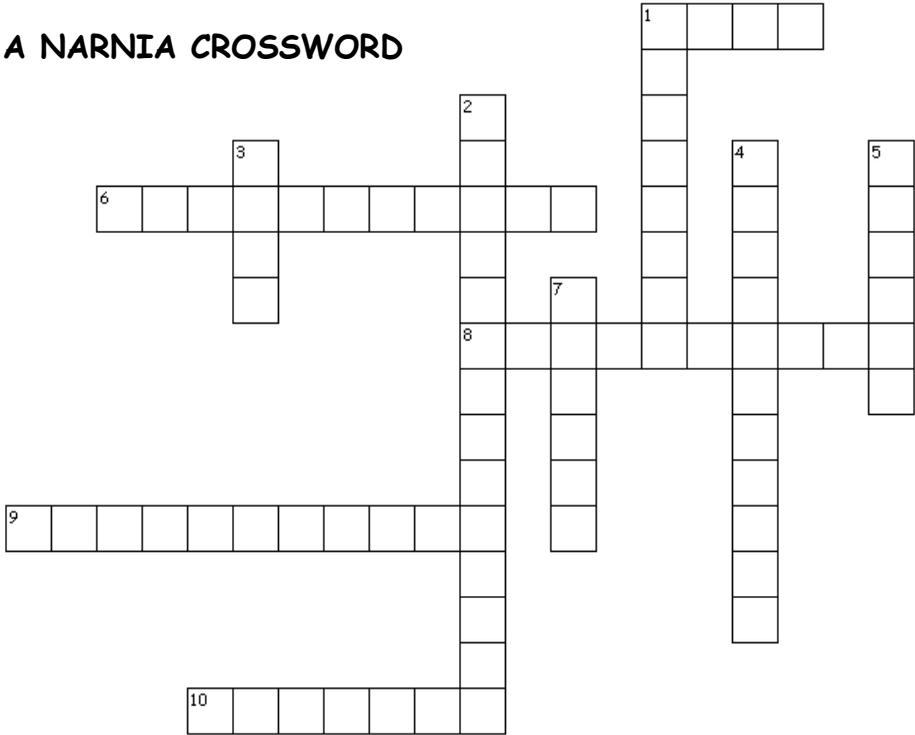
THREE WISE MEN

TURKEY

WARM FIRES

PUZZLE CORNER TWO

A NARNIA CROSSWORD



Across

1. Animal killed by Peter
6. Susan's gift from Father Christmas
8. Aslan's place of death
9. Castle of the High Kings & Queens
10. Tree of Iron in the woods

Down

1. Entrance into Narnia
2. Edmund's favourite sweet
3. Mr Tumnus is one of these
4. Game played by the children
5. Season lasting for 100 years
7. Wartime city



WOMAN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



Once a year, this special day and its services that are held all over the world, unite the women of the world in prayer. Churches in England have been taking part in this for over 70 years.

Thank you to those of you who have responded and pledged your support in so many ways for the Evening Service here at Martin Way on Friday 3rd March at 8pm. To those who haven't offered to help, can we count on **YOU** to come and support this service by your presence please? Faith Nyota will be giving the address.

The Morning Service is at 10.30am at St. Winefride's Church Hall, Bridges Road. If anyone needs transport for either service, please phone Mary Heaton on (020) 8395 6130 or Joyce Plant on (020) 8540 4221.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

John is excellent at getting us all to sing Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating a birthday within the church. But just how many of these special occasions slip by un-noticed?

We hope to be able to start a new feature in our forthcoming issues to let everyone know of those who are celebrating their Birthday for the coming month. Be it a special one, such as the big 40 or someone reaching the ripe old age of 1, please contact a member of the Communication team so that everyone will be able to join in wishing those special people a very Happy Birthday!

And why stop there, if you are or you know of someone who is celebrating any special occasion why not let us know so the whole church family can join in wishing those involved all good wishes!

LUNCH WITH GOD

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his backpack with a couple of sandwiches and a can of drink, and started on his journey.

When he had gone a short way he met an old woman, she was sitting in the park just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to her and opened his backpack. He was just about to take a drink when he noticed the old lady looked hungry, so he offered her one of his sandwiches. She gratefully accepted and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a drink. Again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted!

They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, and they never said a word. As it grew dark, the boy realised how tired he was and got up to leave, but before he had gone a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever.

When the boy got home, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God!" But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She has the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face and asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied, "I ate sandwiches in the park with God." Before her son responded, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected!"

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

Remember, we don't know what God will look like. People come into our lives for a reason, a season or a lifetime.

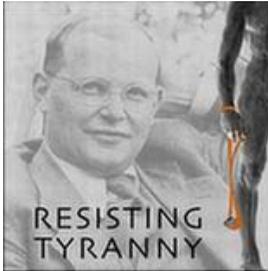
St Cuthbert Wells Newsletter March 2005

CHURCH DIARY FOR FEBRUARY

Thurs	2	7.15 pm	Alpha Course
Sun	5	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Rev John Nyota
		6.30 pm	Communion Service led by Rev John Nyota
Mon	6	2.45 pm	Fellowship - Pauline Riley
Tue	7	10-12 pm	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	8	7.45 pm	Midways Group – <i>When I bumped into God</i> – Moira Bailey
Thurs	9	7.15 pm	Alpha Course
Fri	10	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	12	10.30 am	Communion Service led by Rev Michael Meech
Mon	13	3.45 pm	Fellowship
Tue	14	10-12 pm	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Thurs	16	7.15 pm	Alpha Course
Sat	18	3.00 pm	SIGMA Presentation
Sun	19	10.30 am	Praise Service led by Brenda Cannon
		7.00 pm	SIGMA Presentation
Mon	20	2.45 pm	Fellowship – Bill Cox
		8.00 pm	Finance & Property Committee
Tue	21	10-12 noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.30 pm	Men's Supper Club – D.S. Mark Lilley <i>City of London Police Fraud Squad</i>
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	22	7.45 pm	Midways Group – <i>Member's Evening Quiz</i>
		7.00 pm	Circuit Meeting at Stoneleigh
Thurs	23	7.15 pm	Alpha Course

Fri	24	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	26	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Dr Arthur Miller
Mon	27	3.45 pm	Fellowship
Tue	28	10-12 pm	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer

Please refer to the Website (www.martinway.org.uk) or Weekly Notice Sheet for any additional information



RESISTING TYRANNY AN EXHIBITION

CELEBRATING DIETRICH BONHOEFFER
METHODIST CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER

26 January -19 February 2006

10.00-4.00 Monday to Saturday
Late Night Thursday 'til 8.00

An exhibition of painting, sculpture, icons, fabrics and woodcarving by artists exploring the legacy of Bonhoeffer, reflecting upon German/Jewish memory and or celebrating a freedom beyond the reach of some of their ancestors.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a remarkable man who lived during a truly remarkable period in German history. During his short life he experienced two major wars and dramatic changes in German life.

The rise of the Nazi regime and the complicity of the Church to it, filled Bonhoeffer with dread and he worked tirelessly against the Germanisation of the Church and the Nazi regime which, in the end, arrested and executed him in 1945 aged 39.

*Organised by Colloquy and Methodist Central Hall, Westminster.
Assisted by Amnesty International*

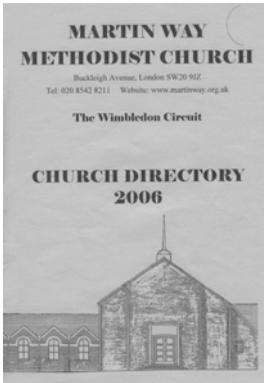
STAMP COLLECTING

Bill Cox, Derek Heaton or Maralyn Loft are still collecting stamps to pass to various charities. If you still have any special Christmas and foreign stamps from the cards you received, please give them to Bill, Derek or Maralyn. Also if you can also remember to pass on any special issue stamps or foreign stamps over the coming year as these would also be gratefully received.



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NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY



The updated Martin Way Church Directory for 2006 will be available from mid-February to anyone who wants a copy. They can be picked up from the Church vestibule or can be ordered directly from Andrew Fox by sending a stamped addressed envelope to 38 Dorset Road, Merton Park, London, SW19 3HB.

In addition to the Church Directory, Andrew can also mail out any back issues of our Newsletter to anyone who may have missed a copy.

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UPDATED E-MAILS

John and Faith Nyota have recently changed their e-mail address and our Treasurer, John Butland, has now joined the growing ranks of e-mail users.

For those who like using this modern form of communication they can be contacted on the following addresses.

John & Faith - jfnyota@btinternet.com

John Butland - johnbutland@blueyonder.co.uk

Items for the **March Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox, (email: roife@aol.com) by **Sunday 18th February** at the latest