

Martin Way Methodist Church

serving the communities of

Morden & Merton Park



Minister: Rev Paul Timmis

(020) 8337 2348



Buckleigh Avenue, Merton Park, SW20 9JZ

Newsletter July & August 2018

www.martinway.org.uk

enquiries@martinway.org.uk

MINISTER'S LETTER

Hello again! It's been a while!

At the time of my last letter (March), I was about to embark upon a three month sabbatical and was looking forward to all that that would mean and bring. As many are already aware, a month of that time was to be spent in the United States - first, returning to House For All Sinners and Saints in Denver, Colorado for the end of Lent and for Holy Week and Easter, then visiting St Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church in San Francisco for the first time before finally spending a few days with a friend in New York City ahead of our flight home.



Some photographs have already been shared in church and some will undoubtedly appear in this newsletter in the coming months, as the rest of the Timmis family share some of their memories of this special time with you. Inevitably, my reflections upon



our experiences within these very different church communities will also emerge at different times, in different ways.

In this letter, I merely want to share one thing that came back to me repeatedly during my sabbatical - an acute awareness that time is passing.

After the first couple of days of not working - when I felt all at sea and, in a way, bereft - I soon settled into a more relaxed way of being. We had the big US adventure to make final preparations for and all was exciting. There was so much to look forward to - four weeks, packed full of once-in-a-lifetime experiences. As well as the church-based

focus, there would be a night in a log cabin in the Rocky Mountains, a return to Dinosaur Ridge, a thirty three hour train journey that would take us from Denver, through the Rockies, across the Utah and Nevada deserts and into California. We would see the Pacific Ocean for the first time, cross the Golden Gate Bridge, visit Alcatraz, go whale-watching, drive up Highway One and ride on San Francisco's famous cable cars. And all that before returning to the Big Apple, which we had found so breathtaking last time. As we boarded the plane, it felt like time stretched out endlessly before us.

As one by one these experiences were ticked off, however, I became aware that time was accelerating away from us. Although in some ways it felt like some of the things we had done had taken place a long time ago, in others time had passed in the blink of an eye. Before we knew it, we were on the plane home.

Just a couple of days before that flight, I got lucky. Having tried desperately but unsuccessfully to obtain tickets from the UK, I walked into the Walter Kerr Theatre box office and unbelievably managed to buy a returned ticket for Springsteen On Broadway - Bruce Springsteen's one-man show that has been completely sold out for months. I didn't really have the money for it - by that point the budget was blown - but I had longed to see it and I have an amazingly supportive and understanding family.

I mention this because, as Bruce told something of his story in word and song that night, standing playing his guitar or sitting at a grand piano, I was moved on more than one occasion to weep. As he talked about his late father (who struggled with mental illness and with whom he shared a very difficult relationship), his mother (the rock of the family but now 92 and seven years in to a journey with Alzheimer's Disease), friends that died in Vietnam, band members who have died in recent years and the current state of his nation, tears flowed down my cheeks. Bruce's own understanding about this life - that "all of this is finite" - had touched something within me.

Whenever I go on holiday, the first couple of days always seem to last for ever. Once the half-way point of the holiday is reached, however, I know

that the remaining days are going to fly by. I can try to convince myself that “We’ve still got as much time left as we’ve had so far” - and that’s often true - but time does seem to go by much quicker from then on.

The sabbatical was a bit like that. Our return from America marked the half-way point and, sure enough, the next six weeks sped by. But the more I thought about it - and the more things I read (most notably Bernard MacLaverty’s novel *Midwinter Break*) or watched (Brendan Gleeson’s remarkable performance in *Calvary* springs to mind as does *Field of Dreams*, an old favourite that I returned to) - the more I came to see the passing of time on a holiday or a sabbatical as being human life in microcosm.

Worry not, I am not experiencing a midlife crisis but I am now, incredibly, in my fiftieth year. I am more than aware that for some it might not sound it but that feels significant to me. Using the analogy of holiday time, I am conscious that the half-way point was probably passed some time ago and that the days ahead, in some way, now become even more precious.

So a number of things.

One - thank you for the sabbatical. It was a very special time and one that, as a family, has given us memories that we’ll always cherish.

Two - enjoy the summer. It’ll be over before we know it!

Three - let’s talk about ageing more. The more conversations we share, the more we will be able to help one another to make sense of this God-given journey that we’re all on.

Four - some questions. Does living with an awareness that this life is finite lead us to change anything about who we are, what we think or believe and/or what we do with our time? If not, should it?

As Springsteen on Broadway draws to a close each night, Bruce talks about a time a couple of years ago when he drove back one quiet and warm November evening to the neighbourhood where he had spent the first years of life, wanting to see his favourite childhood tree once more.

Unknowingly to him, it had been cut down since his last visit. Feeling a deep sense of loss, and with the streets deserted, he stood for a while reflecting on his life and on all those no longer here but who live with him still. In the shadow of the steeple of St Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church, he found that words that, as a child he had “chanted thousands of times...bored...mumbling as an endless drone”, came back to him, but how, on this night - “once again surrounded by God” - they “flowed differently”:

*“Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day...
...just give us this day
and forgive us
forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil,
all of us,
forever and ever. Amen.*

Amen, indeed.

With every blessing

Paul

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COFFEE AND CHAT EXTRA

Anyone who fancies a cup of tea or coffee, a slice of cake and a chat is welcome to come along. If you or someone you know is lonely, at a loose end, just passing the church or simply wanting a chat, you are welcome to pop in and join us - the more the merrier!



Our next meeting will be from 2.30pm to 4pm on Friday, 27th July.

Music Therapy for Dementia

Dementia is fast becoming the health care challenge of the 21st century and with an ever increasing older population, the numbers affected are likely to soar. Organisations like 'Singing for the Brain', 'Music for Life', 'Lost Chord' and 'Golden Oldies' have been instrumental in dealing with the special needs of elderly, memory-impaired audiences in many care homes. Many studies of music in dementia care have been made in recent years. Professor Paul Robertson, a concert violinist and musician observed: "The auditory system of the brain is the first to fully function at 16 weeks which means that we are musically receptive long before anything else. So it's a case of first in, last out when it comes to a dementia-type breakdown of memory".

Two of our church members are now resident in a local care home. As part of our pastoral visits to the care home, we discovered that some days we were unable to communicate verbally or arouse any interest with our friends. But taking them for walks, going back in time and recalling early years, singing, reciting poetry and praying with them invariably induced a reaction.

We felt challenged one Sunday morning to use the gifts God has given us and to respond to the many needs around us. We thought especially of our two friends now in care homes, who have been faithful members at Martin Way and for whom attending church was a normal part of their lives. For the past 4 months we have been visiting the care home with music therapy on a weekly basis not knowing where this new venture would take us but convinced that it was the Lord's doing.



What a journey it has been! From nervous beginnings we have grown in confidence each of us using our musical, acting and dancing skills to a very receptive audience. We have discovered the therapeutic power of music in unlocking memories of the past. We try to engage with all the residents with dementia who wish to participate to whatever extent they are able, some of

whom have an amazing ability to remember songs from their past, but recently residents from other parts of the home without dementia have joined in too. Words of familiar hymns especially, are a powerful means of non-verbal communication. One lady sang a whole song word perfect to the amazement of her daughter who, on recognising her mother's voice when she came up in the lift to the dementia floor, became quite emotional. Even if the residents appear not to speak, they are able to sing, clap their hands or tap their feet in rhythm and a few of them like to dance and blow bubbles. They enjoy all types of song from their era including hymns, Sunday School choruses, nursery rhymes and songs from the 40s and 50s. Favourites include 'Amazing Grace', 'Great is Thy faithfulness', 'All things bright and beautiful', 'This little light of mine', 'Ten green bottles', 'Heads shoulders knees and toes' (complete with actions!) and the 'Teddy bears' picnic'. Even though their speech and minds appear muddled, their souls are intact. According to one of the carers, one resident is always humming the songs long after we have left.

As we have come to know all the residents on the dementia floor so we have become friends with the staff and especially the carers whose work is often challenging and difficult. They have expressed their appreciation that we remember them in prayer before the sessions and enjoy tea and fellowship afterwards. It is often when we are joining with the residents in a cup of tea that one will suddenly remember a song from the past and start singing again. It still surprises us and delights us that so many of the residents can still recite the Lord's Prayer at the end of the sessions. It is such a joy to see them come alive, albeit briefly but mostly we are thankful to God for the lasting effects it has on our own souls.

Geraldine, Karen Smith, Moira Bailey, Gwen Wildman

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Next to theology I give to music the highest place and honour.
Music is the art of the prophets, the only art that can calm
the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent
and delightful presents that God has given us.

Martin Luther

Martin Way Methodist Church

General Church Meeting - 24th June 2018

Present: Rev Paul Timmis (Chair), Moira Bailey, Tim Johnson, Caroline Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Derek Heaton, Roy Ellis, Geraldine Ellis, Yvonne Turnbull, Sylvia Baxter, Sue Boyd, Pete Boyd, Tony Loft, Maralyn Loft, Karen Smith, Andy Smith, Bob Dunnell, Colin Smith, Rosie Wills, David Wills, Nicola Johnson, Andrew Fox, Zandile Sepanya, Gwen Hayes, Mike Fuwa, Lesley Mortley, Gwen Wildman, Rosemary Keen, Eileen Handy, Valerie Ashcroft, Mary Davies, Iain Worley, Rebecca Timmis, Amélie Timmis, Matilda Timmis, Mike Mortley (Minutes)

1. Welcome

Paul welcomed and thanked everyone for staying on after the service for the meeting.

2. Apologies

Brenda Cannon, Jane Smith, Celia Johnson, Phil Baxter, Simon Turnbull, Abby Herring, Anne Conquest

3. Minutes of previous meeting (12th March 2017) – Moira Bailey was added to the list of attendees. The rest of the minutes were agreed and signed by Paul

4. Matter arising not elsewhere covered

- a) **Toilets** – all toilets have now been fully refurbished
- b) **Hall** - This has been decorated – thanks to Colin for organising and to all who lent a hand.
- c) **Safeguarding** – Will need to revisit next year. Len Hillhouse has joined the team.
- d) **Merton Citizens** – Peter Brierley came to Martin Way service to explain what the Merton Citizens organisation was about. Some members have attended meetings and will do so again in the future. As a church we have also made a financial contribution.

5. Notification of AOB (dealt with here)

Summer Fair – Sylvia Baxter reminded everyone of the Summer Fair on Saturday, 21st July and asked for assistance for promoting the Fair.

6. Finance

- a) Tim Johnson is our Treasurer; Roy Ellis is our Deputy Treasurer
- b) Tim Johnson gave a report which was discussed in detail. We will be incurring large expense for repairing the Coffee Lounge floor and £16,000 has been budgeted for this. Two potential solutions are being investigated.
- c) Paul said that we are grateful to everyone who gives to the church in these hard financial times. There was a reminder that it is possible to arrange Gift Aid for any donations.
- d) David Wills asked how our reserves have been affected. Tim replied that that will be reduced because of the Coffee Lounge floor repairs but they will still be within accepted margins.

7. Membership

Lynn Donald has been transferred, Derek Matthews has died; Pauline Riley and the Harker family have moved away BUT Nic and Annette Gould will be becoming members.

8. Appointments

Worship Coordinator

Valerie Ashcroft will be taking over from Mike Mortley as of 1st September 2018. This was a unanimous decision.

Reps to Church Council

Pauline Riley has moved away

Rosemary Keen has served her term

David Wills agreed to be a rep to Church Council

This leaves one position free – as there were no further volunteers from the meeting, it was left to the Leadership Team find someone.

9. Conversation

Paul and family gave a talk illustrated by a slide-show (prepared by Amélie) about the time they spent in America whilst Paul was on his Sabbatical.

10. Closing Devotions

The meeting closed with the Grace.

Summer Puzzle Page

We all like Ice Creams. How many of the flavours can you find?



BLACK CHERRY

MINT CHIP

PRALINE PECAN

BUBBLE GUM

MOCHA ALMOND FUDGE

RAINBOW SHERBERT

BUTTER PECAN

MOOSE TRACKS

ROCKY ROAD

CHOCOLATE CHIP

NEAPOLITAN

STRAWBERRY

COOKIE DOUGH

NUTTY COCONUT

VANILLA BEAN

COOKIES AND CREAM

PEANUT BUTTER CUP

FRENCH VANILLA

PISTACHIO ALMOND

Extreme Kids of Courage

Taken from: Extreme devotion, the voice of the martyrs from the co-authors of Jesus freaks. Serious followers of Jesus pay a price, and extreme followers often pay the ultimate price. Each story is true.

NORTH KOREA: CHENG LEE AND HONG JUN

Communists tell North Korean children that they will suffer a horrific fate if they are ever caught in China. But the children also know that if they are fortunate enough to escape, they should look for a building with the shape of a cross on it to find help. Two North Korean children who managed to arrive at a Chinese church relayed their stories to the pastor.

"My name is Chen Lee. My sister and I watched our parents starve to death. We managed to walk across the Yalu River while it was still frozen. Once on the other side, my older sister said, 'You stay here. I have to go on a little further by myself.' She never returned." Cheng is only six.

Hong Jun, an eleven-year-old boy, said, "I want to return to North Korea and tell others about Christ. Then he cried as he sang:

Oh, Lord, give us the voice of the gospel,
for our beloved brothers the Lord so loved before.
Where are all these gone? The Lord is looking upon them.
Oh, Lord, send us to them, to our beloved Korean brothers,
Oh, Lord, send us to them, to our beloved Korean brothers.
wherever they are, let them bloom as flowers.

A few months later, Hong Jun was kidnapped from the village and forcibly returned to North Korea. Perhaps he is witnessing to his captors even now.

Courage is one of those things people don't know they have until a situation requires it. At the crucial moment when it is needed, they either have it or they don't. The same can be said of character -- certain situations will definitely reveal whether we have it or we don't. As a result, character and courage are two things that are difficult to fake. Fortunately, Jesus Christ gives us irrevocable courage and unquestionable character for the times we need it most. We may put on a brave front, but only Jesus can make us courageous. We may have a sterling public reputation, but only Jesus can give us character for those times when no one is looking. When do you see character and courage at work in your life?

When they saw the courage of Peter and John.... They were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus (Acts 4:13)

A Birthday Treat with a Difference!

I was asked by Gwen Wildman if I'd like to go to the Clink for afternoon tea to which I replied yes. Gwen had mentioned the Clink on more than one occasion and knew she had been there I believe for a breakfast.

So what is the Clink? It is a restaurant within a prison that the public can access with prior booking online, this particular one is in High Down.

The Clink Restaurant was set up to provide training for prisoners to obtain City & Guilds NVQ. It is a function of The Clink Charity which helps offenders break the cycle of crime, by nurturing self- belief, work place skills and offering nationally recognised qualifications; more information can be obtained via enquiries@thelinkrestaurant.com or by visiting their website at www.thelinkcharity.org.



Gwen had invited several friends so we were a goodly number. We were well looked after and the service was excellent. As with any waiters one might chat with this was no different. Two of the trainees had been asked to share how the training was helping them this then led one to ask questions to the waiters as they served.

I found the experience really touching seeing and hearing how lives are being transformed.

"These opportunities when taken hold of change attitudes, transform lives and create second chances."

Quote from the Clink Charity Publication

Moira Bailey



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For further information contact:

Mike Fuwa

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SUMMER FAIR & TABLE TOP SALE**



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or phone - 0780 372 4989



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IN AID OF COFFEE LOUNGE FLOOR

EYES WIDE OPEN

Sharing moments all around us in pictures.

A view from one of the walks near the
Conference Centre in Cefn Lea



Please submit your images, digital photographs or scanned artwork to Andrew (Newsletter Editor) at roife@hotmail.co.uk. Every picture tells a story (or so they say) but if you want to add just a few words to accompany your image, please do.

Healing Ministry Summer School 11th -14th June 2018

“The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught.

Then Jesus said “Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile”

This verse comprises for me the need to come away from the busyness of life, to tell, relate and review all that our ministry entails, to Jesus as well as the need for solitude, rest and refreshment for ourselves. The annual Ministry of Healing Summer School held in Cefn Lea, Newtown, Powys this year celebrated its 65th year and was, as in previous years the highlight of my summer. Not until I ‘came away to a quiet place’ and met up with others in similar ministries did I realise how tired and exhausted I had become. This was to be an opportunity for receiving, to be refreshed in body, mind and spirit and to hear what God is saying in the solitude.

There is always joy and laughter on the first day as we assemble into our discussion groups, meeting old friends as well as newcomers to share our stories. During our opening service there was also an opportunity to remember those who in the past year have been promoted to glory. There were moving tributes from those who have been involved in the Healing ministry from its early days and who have witnessed the miraculous healing hand of God in their own lives. The theme of the opening service centered on the healing of the paralysed man (Mark 2:1-12). How often, we were challenged, are we, like the 4 men, moved to compassionate action on behalf of others who have no voice, or those in need of healing. Sometimes, to our shame, we are too busy with our own agendas to notice those in our own congregations who are hurting.

Each morning we came together for devotions before breakfast and I was privileged to lead one of these sessions. Surrounded as we were with such magnificent scenery of the Montgomeryshire countryside (my homeland), it was conducive for giving thanks to our Creator God, seeking his direction in our lives as we spend times of quiet reflection thereby equipping us to minister to a needy world. Having 2 free afternoons afforded time for solitude, prayer or going for a walk and there was time

for all three.

In one of the Bible studies, we looked at the healing of Peter's mother-in-law (Matt 8:14-17). During the study we were asked to imagine ourselves as one of the characters. Interestingly I had no problem identifying with Peter's concern, or with Andrew, James, John and others who were accompanying Jesus and being witnesses of the healing. However, I did not want to be Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed and feeling rotten! Ouch! From conversations with others with medical backgrounds, many feel the same and want to be the one who serves rather than the one receiving.

There was an opportunity for receiving at the Blessing service which included prayer, the laying of hands or anointing with oil. Many of our friends in leadership roles who cannot afford to get time to attend the whole conference, often don't want to miss this Blessing service and benefit greatly from being there. The presence of the Spirit was tangible in the stillness and in the responsive singing as only the Welsh can sing, in unending praise and worship.

As in previous years, the time of sharing is an extension of the Blessing service with many expressing the real thoughts and desires of their hearts in a safe environment. Those who came for the first time said they didn't want to leave and would definitely be back next year. There were harrowing personal stories from Christian leaders in our group who have been through dark times, others falsely accused, struggling with addictions, depression and other mental illnesses. Hearing the honesty and vulnerability of these friends was akin to the stories of persecution than many Christians suffer in different parts of the world. But this is in Britain. How we need to be praying for our leaders and those in the front line who are under severe attack from the enemy.

Before leaving the conference, we come together at the Lord's table to be fed on Him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving, remembering His ultimate sacrifice on the cross and to remember that we ourselves make up the Body of Christ. As part of the Body we need to be in tune with God in the inevitable busyness that awaits us when we return. May we be obedient to his call to be channels of his grace and healing, the healing

that is nourishing for the soul.

With George Matheson's words of his hymn resounding in my ears:

'O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.'

I felt richer for having being fed with Christ's presence, and being one with the fellowship of believers, feasted on His love by spending time in solitude and had my soul nourished and my body refreshed to serve.

If you hear Jesus saying '*Lets go by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile*' please, it's worth heeding His voice.

Gwen Wildman

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SUMMER BOOK REVIEW

from **RE:FRESH BOOKS** (now part of **CLC Bookshops**)

Take it & Leave it!

Take a good Christian book on holiday, read it, then leave it for other holidaymakers to read. Many holiday venues have a 'library' area where holidaymakers can exchange books

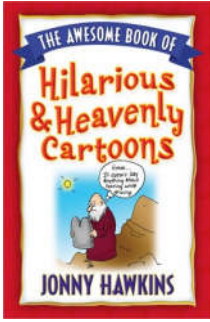


A Taste of Heaven: First steps for Jubilee 2000

by Isabel Carter - £8.99 - 164 pages

ISBN: 978-1788156516

Flying over central Africa in 1994, Isabel Carter sensed God's anger at the huge injustice of Third World debt and was given a vision from God - that the year 2000 was to be a year of Jubilee in which the burdens of debt would be cancelled. As she shared the vision and sought help from aid agencies, a small group of 'nobodies' began working together on helping this idea gain momentum. Isabel was a member of the steering committee that oversaw the founding and development of Jubilee 2000, which eventually led to an unprecedented international coalition of aid agencies in 40 countries and a record-breaking petition to cancel world debt. Isabel tells the story of how a vision from God on an aeroplane became a world-changing movement in just 6 years.



The Awesome Book Of Hilarious & Heavenly Cartoons

by Jonny Hawkins - £6.99 - 160 pages

ISBN: 9780736949170

Jonny Hawkins offers more than 150 cartoons that provide hilarious new perspectives on...

- well-known Bible stories and characters
- tidbits of spiritual wisdom
- common elements of contemporary Christian life

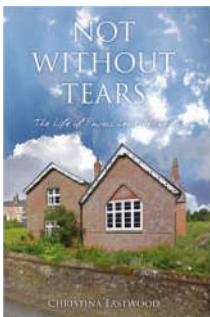
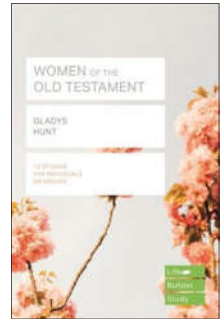
With helpful indexes by themes and by Scripture references, this is also a handy resource for speakers, pastors, and teachers who want to inject a little humour into their messages.

Women of the Old Testament

by Gladis Hunt - £4.99

ISBN: 9783943362428

We tend to think that Old Testament women lived in a suppressive environment, under a patriarchy in which they had few rights. But many of them made significant choices – leading people to freedom, daring to believe God for deliverance, taking real initiative – that changed history. Sarah, Miriam, Ruth, Rahab, Naomi, Abigail... here are 12 studies on ordinary yet remarkable women whose lives demonstrate real courage and faithfulness.



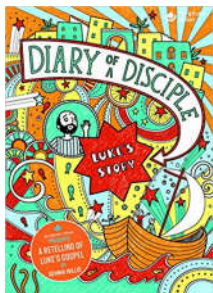
Not Without Tears: The life of Favel Lee Mortimer

by Christina Eastwood - £7.99 - 144 pages

ISBN: 9781912522330

This is the story of a remarkable lady - Favel Lee Mortimer. Her little books brought the pure simple gospel to millions of very small children all over the world in the nineteenth century and beyond. Rarely has anyone expressed so clearly and simply the most important truths of life and death.

As this biography shows, she became a very gifted communicator with children through a series of fascinating experiences. From her early childhood she was uniquely prepared for her task. Her books were so popular that they helped shape whole generations of young readers.



Diary of a Disciple: Luke's Story

by Gemma Willis - £9.99 - 352 pages

ISBN: 9781785065699

Dr Luke has a story to tell. It's a super incredible, massively, mind-boggling totally AMAZING, absolutely awesome, epically HUGE story. Luke wrote down everything that happened because he wanted everyone, everywhere in the whole world to hear what he had to say. Luke's Story tells you who Jesus is, what he did, the people he met, all the super interesting things he had to say, and it has a pretty jaw-dropping twist right at the end...

Ideal for 7-12 year olds.

Ten Girls Who Changed the World.

by Irene Howat - £5.99 - 160 pages

ISBN: 9781857926491

Isobel Kuhn questioned whether God even existed.

Mary Slessor grew up in a slum with an alcoholic father.

Joni Eareckson broke her neck during a diving accident and

Corrie Ten Boom just lived with her family in a little watch shop in Harlaam, Holland.

What is so special about these girls and how did they change their world?

Ideal for 7-12 year olds.



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THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

MISCHIEF MAKERS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2018

visit the library website <https://arena.yourlondonlibrary.net/web/merton/>

And for the 4-11 year olds who enjoy reading, starting on 7th July, Merton Libraries are running the Summer Reading Challenge again. To find out more either call into your local Merton library or



**CHRISTIAN
SOLIDARITY
WORLDWIDE**
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**June Press Releases
from CSW**

“Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.”
Daniel 2:20-21

These verses from Daniel, spoken by a religious and ethnic minority in the court of a conquering, corrupt government, remind us that while certain governments and leaders can seem all-powerful, they are still subjects of the same almighty King that saved Daniel from a furnace and a den of lions.

In June, the world watched as President Donald Trump met North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Singapore, for a summit in which, sadly, it seemed that human rights, including freedom of religion or belief, were swept to the side.

Prior to the summit, CSW joined over 300 other nongovernmental organisations in calling for “lasting improvements to the dire human rights situation” in North Korea. Following the initial meeting between these two world leaders in Singapore, and as they develop this process of engagement, join us in putting the situation into God’s hands and praying that they would not take human rights off the negotiating table.

Please pray:

- ◆ For wisdom and justice to prevail in future talks between President Trump and Kim Jong Un.
- ◆ That human rights would be a key concern for world leaders as North Korea begins to negotiate with them.
- ◆ For God to protect and preserve North Koreans who are living under one of the most repressive regimes in the world.

China

In February, the Chinese government introduced revised ‘Regulations on Religious Affairs’, with the aim of tightening control over religious affairs in the country. In March, it was also announced that an agency of the Communist Party of China (CPC) will now oversee all ethnic and religious affairs, which analysts fear could lead to a situation where the Party leadership may bypass laws and regulations in an attempt to control religious minorities.

Lord, we pray for China: we ask you to move in power to restore freedom for people to choose, change and practice their religion. We thank you for brave church leaders such as Pastor Yang Hua and human rights defenders like Jiang Tianyong. Though their only reward today is prison, you have a heavenly reward waiting: please grant them strength, courage and, soon, freedom.

Amen

Pakistan

Christians and other minority faiths in Pakistan not only face the prospect of being targeted in a violent attack, but also face everyday institutional and social discrimination.

Lord, we thank you for the work of CSW partners in Pakistan, especially Michelle Chaudhry and her brother, Cecil Chaudhry Jr. Thank you for their calling to work with religious minorities and seek justice for the oppressed: please bless their work and grant them the physical and spiritual resources they need.

Amen

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

The CSW team
admin@csw.org.uk

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Do not let us fail one another in interest, care and practical help; but supremely we must not fail one another in prayer.

Michael Baughen

July



CHURCH DIARY

Sun	1	10.30 am	Morning Service led by David Eagle
		3.00 pm	Rev Margaret Adams Farewell Service at Raynes Park Church
Tue	3	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	6	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	8	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Richard Graham
		6.30 pm	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	10	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	15	10.30 am	Café Worship with Communion led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	17	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.00 pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>Summer Social with Friends</i>
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	20	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sat	21	10.30am-4pm	Summer Fair & Table Top Sale
Sun	22	10.30 am	Morning Service led by David Eagle
Tue	24	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	27	2.30 pm	Coffee and Chat Extra
Sun	31	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Viv Newitt
Tue	31	10.30am-noon	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*

CHURCH DIARY



Sun	5	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Tony Loft
Tue	7	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	12	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Valerie Ashcroft
		6.30 pm	Healing and Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	14	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	19	10.30 am	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	21	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	26	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Brenda Cannon
Tue	28	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer

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We wish all of those who celebrate a birthday during these months a very

Happy Birthday

and especially to:

Francesca Heald on 5th July

Anne Jenkins on 12th July

Jessica Hazen on 26th July

Rebecca Smith on 11th August



Important advice when handling emails

as published in The Voice

1) Anytime you see an email that says “forward this on to 10 of your friends”; “sign this petition”; “you’ll get bad luck if you don’t...”; “you’ll get good luck if you ...”; “you’ll see something funny on your screen after you send it” or whatever - it almost always has an email tracker program attached that tracks the cookies and emails of those folk you forward to.



The host sender is getting a copy each time it gets forwarded and then is able to get lists of ‘active’ email addresses to use in SPAM emails that demand you “to send the email on”. These people don’t care how they get your email addresses - just as long as they get them. Also, emails that talk about “help find a missing child/dog/cat” or “help someone with an incurable disease” - they’re another set of emails with trackers. Ignore them and don’t participate.

2) Almost all emails that ask you to add your name and forward it on to others are similar to that mass letter years ago that asked people to send business cards to an ill child who wanted to break the Guinness Book of Records for the most cards. This type of email is just a way to get names and ‘cookie’ tracking information for telemarketers and spammers to validate active emails for their own profitable purposes.

Do yourselves a favour and stop adding your name to these types of listings regardless how inviting they might sound! Don’t feel guilty if you don’t forward on or reply! You may think you are supporting a great cause, but you are not. Instead, you’ll be getting tons of junk emails (and so will you friends) and some may have viruses attached. You’ll be helping spammers get information! Let’s not make it easy for them!!

Items for the **September Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox, (email: roife@hotmail.co.uk) by **Sunday 19th August** at the latest

Are you looking for a part-time or full-time income?



We are Recruiting

We are looking for:

- The employed looking for additional PART-TIME income
- The unemployed looking for FULL-TIME employment.
- Retired/looking into retirement with no hope of enough retirement income.
- Mothers at home who want to look after their children and want a steady income.
- Graduates/undergraduates with no employment and no work experience.
- Students who fear huge students loan debts after graduation.



For further information contact:

Mike: 07956 369579

www.mof.flp.com

www.iforevercare.com

Church Activities

SUNDAY	Morning Worship	10.30 am
	Morning Communion (once a month)	10.30 am
	Evening Communion (once a month)	6.30 pm
	Sunday Club	10.30 am
	SIGMA—the Circuit Choir (occasional)	4.00 - 5.30 pm
	Platform 10¾ YPF (1st & 3rd Sundays)	8.00 - 9.30 pm
TUESDAY	Coffee & Chat	10.30 - noon
	Men's Supper Club (3rd Tuesday in month)	7.00 pm
	Time for Prayer	8.00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Frogs Club (for Carers & Toddlers)	10.00 – 12.00
	Rainbows (1st Merton Park)	5.30 - 6.30 pm
	Guides (2nd Merton Park)	7.30 - 9.00 pm
THURSDAY	Brownies (2nd Merton Park)	6.00 - 7.30 pm
FRIDAY	Luncheon Club (Fortnightly)	12.30 pm

House Groups, Coffee Mornings, Concerts, etc. (as advertised)