

Mickleover Methodist Church

February 2021

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You can now follow us on Facebook at Mickleover Methodist Church

February is a time when our thoughts turn to love with February 14th being St Valentine's Day. One story is that Valentine was a Roman priest who was martyred for secretly marrying Christian couples at a time when Christians were under persecution during the reign of emperor Cladius II. St Valentine's day has become a day for celebrating romantic love, this may be a looking forward anticipating the years of love between two people who want to spend the rest of their lives together but may also be a looking back celebrating the years of love we have shared with the one we chose to spend our life with.

February is also the start of Lent, the time when we remember the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness immediately after he had been baptised in the River Jordan and a voice came from heaven saying 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.' What sort of love is this? Love that freely gives of self. Love that is patient and kind, love that keeps no record of wrongs, love that rejoices in the truth, love that never fails. This is God's love for each one of us. Love that we know in our hearts when we choose to spend our life with God. Love that is for sharing with others.

How can we show God's love for others when we have to stay at home?

One way is to create a **Window of Love** to let those in your neighbourhood know they are loved.

Decorate your window with Paper hearts or Origami hearts or Hearts with messages of God's love or Wool hearts.

To make wool hearts – Cut a heart shape from card. Wrap some wool around the card until it is covered.

As you wrap the heart think of those you are grateful for and remember God's love for you. Hang this in your window to remind you that **YOU ARE LOVED.**

You could also make wool hearts for those you love and care about, and weave in a piece of paper with their first name on before hanging them in your window to show **YOUR LOVE FOR OTHERS.**



Church services in February 2021

All church services on Zoom at the moment

Church is closed for worship.

See the link to Zoom at the bottom of page



Sunday 7th February – Racial Justice Sunday

10am Theresa Hartwright

4pm Worship @4 on Zoom

Sunday 14th February – Sunday before Lent

10am Revd Gill Sharp

4pm Worship @4 on Zoom

Sunday 21st February – First Sunday in Lent

10am Sally Jones

3.45pm Spark to a Flame on Zoom

Sunday 28th February – Second Sunday in Lent

10am Revd Gill Sharp

4pm Worship @4 on Zoom

6.30pm Songs of Praise

Sunday 7th March - Third Sunday in Lent

10am Anna Forey

4pm Worship @4 on Zoom

Sunday 14th March – Mothering Sunday

10am All Age Worship

4pm Worship @4 on Zoom

Information
about all these
services correct
at time of
printing

If you would like to join our regular Zoom services
please email church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk

These services include Messy Church, Spark to a Flame, prayers and chat,
coffee and chat and Sunday Worship



A Little Light Reading?!!

What did you do in the pandemic Grandpa? I wonder if this is a question which will come up in the future?

I have spent a great deal of time during the months since March reading. Many of them “trashy” novels of the detective or thriller variety. I have read books by Bernard Cornwell, Clive Cussler and several of my favourite genre from Norwegian authors. These books have been sheer escapist entertainment. Unfortunately, as Kedleston Hall has been closed I now have several boxes of books which are cluttering up the bedroom without a home to go to at present.

I decided that to give myself a challenge, I would read some of the theology books which have been gathering dust over the years. Some of these I bought, thinking that they would enlighten me but never got round to reading, and others were inherited from my Dad and Stepmother. Reading of these has been interspersed with lighter reading.

Some of these books I have found thought-provoking, as a fair number of them are written by people whose beliefs are somewhat different to mine..

These have challenged my own ideas and helped me to clarify what I actually do believe. Many books have given me insights which have enabled my own faith to develop and grow by opening up ideas and insights which I had not previously considered.

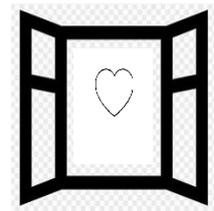
Others have left me in a daze as I wondered what language they were written in. “Orthodox dyotheletism claims there is a real and meritorious struggle in Jesus` life” - two hundred pages of such erudite language can leave one`s brain scrambled. As the font in many theology books is minuscule it also left me with an aching head.

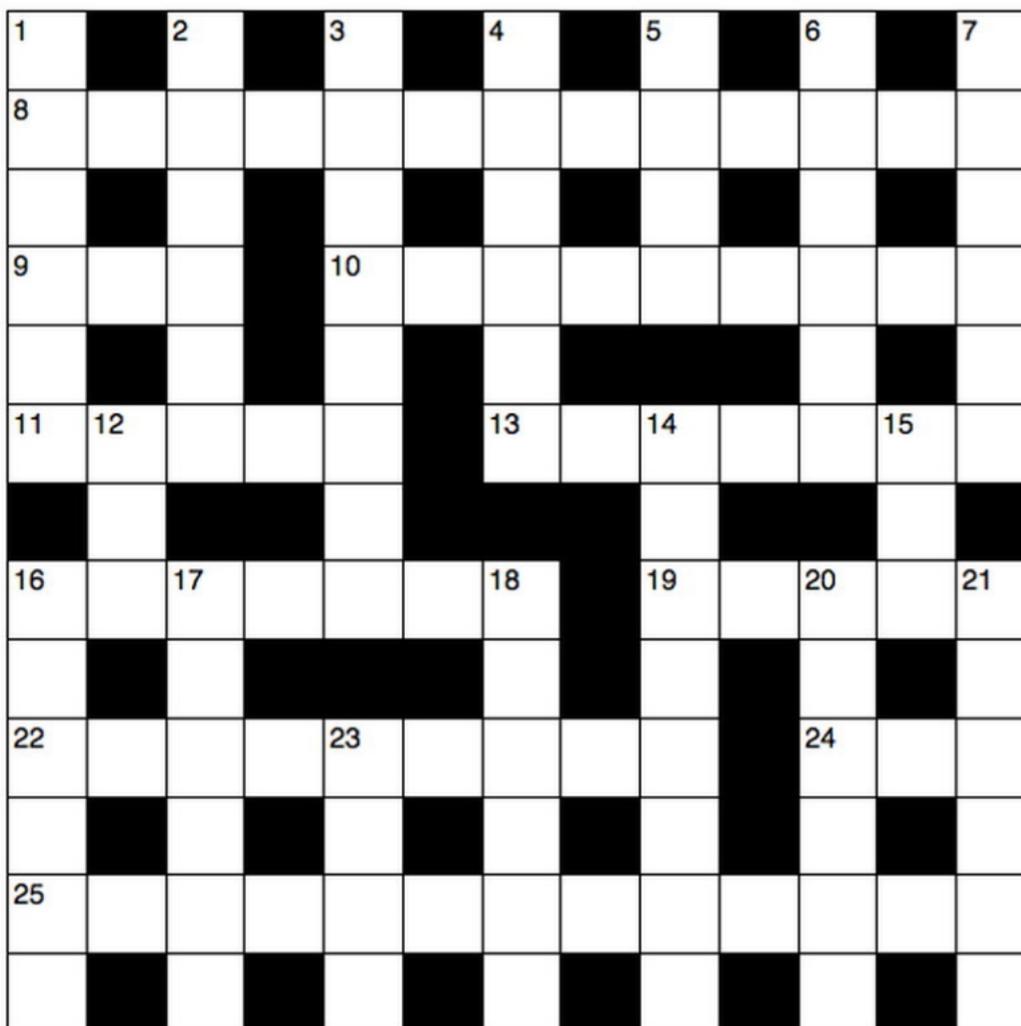
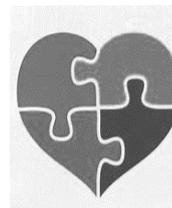
However, I feel more widely read and, on the whole, have benefitted greatly from the challenge. I also read the Bible from beginning to end – but more of that next time.

Phil Royle

Windows of love

Decorate your windows with hearts in time for Valentine`s Day. Share your love with those around you, your neighbours and the community by making hearts through drawing, painting, cutting and sticking for display on windows.





Crossword Clues and Answers

Across

8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)

9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)

10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)

11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)

13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)

16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)

22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)



24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)

25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)

2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)

3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)

4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)

5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)

6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)

7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)

12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)

14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)

15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)

16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)

17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)

18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)

20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)

21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)

23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)



***Abide in God's love, go into the world
and bear the fruits of this love***

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where charity and love are, there is God

At our ecumenical prayer meeting in January for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we were challenged, by those who produced this year's resources, to 'Go and Do' - globally, locally and personally. And those present were keen to explore further how we might take up some of those challenges!

- **Global:** What action can we take in response to the compassion needed in the world?
- **Local:** Consider making a banner or quilt together as churches and the wider community to demonstrate the things that thread and weave you together.
- **Personal:** Consider the clothing in your wardrobe and the lives and hands that have touched them. Have these clothes been made with fair pay and good working conditions?

Our response In response the following suggestions were made:

- **Global:** In view of the imbalance between the availability of the COVID-19 vaccine in rich and poor countries we should explore what we could do. E.g. as we will receive the vaccine free on the NHS, consider whether we can pay for someone in a poorer country to receive the vaccine. The following article from Oxfam is on this issue, and contains information on 'The People's Vaccine':

[Campaigners warn that 9 out of 10 people in poor countries are set to miss out on COVID-19 vaccine next year Oxfam International](#)

Please share any other information or ideas you have on how we could take action on this global issue

- **Local:** The idea of making a banner together as churches and the wider community was well received and it was suggested a group of interested people should be formed to discuss this further.
An initial meeting to share ideas on themes, design, and how to proceed with this project has been arranged for 10am on Thursday 11th February on zoom using our usual church zoom link. All are welcome.



Bible study on Zoom this month

Wednesday 3 rd February at 2pm	Walking through Acts	Terry Root
Wednesday 10 th February at 2pm	Philippians –Vic Green	Dot Thompson
Wednesday 17 th February at 2pm	Walking through Acts	Terry Root
Wednesday 24 th February at 2pm	Philippians –Vic Green	Dot Thompson
Wednesday 3 rd March at 2pm	Walking through Acts	Terry Root
Wednesday 10 th ^d March at 2pm	Philippians –Vic Green	Dot Thompson

Emergency Household Store Closed.

The Hope Centre is shutting the emergency household store for the next few weeks due to the problems with Covid.

As soon as they open again, I'll let you know.

The food centre is **still open** and in as much need as ever. The church has now given over a thousand bags of food (and carload after carload of household equipment) which has helped so many lives. Thank you all, for all you have given.

I'll still be collecting food on Thursday mornings. All my thanks to you, Hilary

Churches Together Mickleover (CTM) are planning a joint **Lent course** on zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm but it hasn't been decided what yet. It will start on 23rd February.

CTM Prayer for Mickleover By Zoom Thurs 4th Feb 10.15am

As we cannot currently meet in peoples houses to pray, we will meet via Zoom at our normal time of 10.15am on Thursday 4th February. We get 40 minutes on the free Zoom software, which allows us reasonable time to pray, and wait on God. If you would like take part in this ,please contact me for the meeting I.D. and password. Tel 239645 or email raylee16@yahoo.co.uk

Thanks *Ray Lee*

ACROSS: 8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visted. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

DOWN: 1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.