

## Mickleover Methodist Church

June 2021

Minister - Revd Gill Sharp

***Be God's people, everywhere, everyday***

Doors are opening up again! This is good news!

The doors of shops and restaurants and entertainment venues and other businesses. Doors which have been shut for so many months during lockdown. The doors of our homes, of family and friends. We are able to go through so many more doors now - if we choose to. We are free to resume our 'normal' life or free to create a 'new normal' for our life. Which will you choose?

Doors can represent opportunity; a door may open on a new job opportunity, or a door may open to learn a new skill, or a door may open giving the opportunity to meet new people. I wonder what doors of opportunity are before you now. Which will you open? How do you choose?

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost opened a new door for the followers of Jesus, it was a door of opportunity for a 'new normal' for themselves and created doors of opportunity for a 'new normal' for many other people. This is good news for all! A new normal filled with God's spirit.

In his letters the apostle Paul writes of a 'door' being opened for him in a new place to speak to new people, '*a great door for effective work has opened to me*'. (1 Cor 16) This was a door of opportunity for Paul also to create a 'new normal' for many people, a door he chose to go through.

In the book of Revelation, the words spoken to the church at Philadelphia are '*I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.*' (Rev 3:8) I wonder what door of opportunity God has placed before you now. Will you choose to go through it?

May God be with you as you step through the door of opportunity he sets before you.

*Rev Gill*

## Church services in June 2021

Church is open for Sunday morning worship services at 10am and the service continue to be on Zoom at present for those preferring to worship at home.

**Until further notice restrictions in place for face to face worship is as before  
– wearing of face masks, social distancing, no singing,  
no coffee after service.**

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June -10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10am Mr Phil Royle  
4pm Informal Worship

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10am – All age worship led by Sunday School leaders  
4pm Worship @4 on Zoom

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10am Rev Gill Sharp - Holy Communion  
3.45pm Spark to a Flame in the Park

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June– 13<sup>h</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10am Rev Gill Sharp  
4pm Worship @4 on Zoom  
6.30pm Songs of Praise

Information about the services correct at time of printing.

**Worship@4, Spark to a Flame, prayer times 10am Monday and Friday ,  
coffee and chat 10am Wednesday and Sunday Worship continue to be  
available on Zoom.**

You can now follow us on Facebook at Mickleover Methodist Church

### **Summer Gardens – tea and chat**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2pm- 5pm**

**An opportunity for tea and chat in the Manse garden and elsewhere,  
more details to follow**

## **Main points from the AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 on Zoom**

**Those we wish to remember** who have passed on since this time last year; Sybil Adamson. Alan Woodcock and Lou Stevens, (a member of Alvaston Methodist Church but worshipped with us on Zoom). We pause to remember them giving thanks for all they have contributed to the life of Mickleover and Alvaston churches and the Derby Circuit in service and in fellowship.

We welcome into membership from transfers- Patrick and Katherine Miller and Angela Nightingale. There are now 113 members.

### **Annual report 2019-2020: from report written by Revd Gill Sharp.**

At the start of 2019-2020 with a new minister, a new Children and Families Worker, a Church administrator, later a student presbyter, all were settling in, forming relationships and getting to know the wide variety of activities provided at Mickleover Methodist. Then the pandemic came.

In March 2020 all Church activities, including worship were cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions and lockdown. The introduction of Zoom technology and the willingness of people to learn new ways of working technology has resulted in the continuation of Sunday worship opportunities. The Church has continued in a new way to seek to fulfil its mission of developing a Church family which is continuously growing in Christian faith, worship and outreach.

The Business Team has done a huge amount of work in preparing Risk Assessments and Action Plans for the return of worship. Many thanks to all those who helped with this task and took on the work of co-ordinating it all.

May we continue to seek God's will for ourselves and Mickleover Methodist Church, learning from a year that has been so different, keeping what is good and constantly looking to Jesus so that others may know the love of God through Christ.

### **Financial statement 2019-2020: by John Spray**

The finances of the Church have been affected by the restrictions of the pandemic. Church income has been hit as it has not been able to rent out the premises for months. It has relied heavily on standing orders from members as well as the back up of the reserves built up in recent years to get through. Some of the cottage monies were used to refit the kitchen and install a new AV system, a great benefit for Zoom services. Support for other Methodist causes and external organisations have also suffered. Although expenditure reduced because of lack of activity at Church, the finances have suffered a significant loss.

**Re-appointment of Leadership Stewards:** Janet Patmore, Viv Richard, Derrick Tuplin, Laraine Tuplin and Dot Thompson – all re-appointed unanimously for a further year. Appointment approved of Janet Tristram as new Leadership

Steward (relinquishes position as representative to Church Council)

There are still two vacancies for the team to be at full capacity. Please pray that these positions, important to the life of church, be filled.

**Re-appointment of Vestry Team Members:** Anna Forey, Ray Forey, Jill Harrington, Ken Harrington, Janet Patmore, Geraldine Read, Viv Richard, Mike Shooter, John Spray, and Margaret Vincent -all re-appointed unanimously for a further year. Appointment approved of Pauline and Joe Kellett as new Vestry Team members.

**Election of representatives to Church Council:** Ray Forey, Phil Royle and Margaret Vincent re-elected for three years. Marilyn Bagworth not for re-election as Church Council Secretary. Pam Morgan elected as representative.

2017-2020 & 2020-2023 Chris Moore

2018-2021 & 2021-2024 Ray Forey, Phil Royle and Margaret Vincent

2020-2023 Mike Bagworth, Ian Clark, Margaret Clark

2021-2024 Pam Morgan

There are seven vacancies

**Leadership team** provided Power point presentation on proposals to consider, reflecting on how Church life has changed - as restrictions are lifted what do we want to continue and what is best for our community.

**Life after Lockdown:** Focus on making people feel welcome, providing Friendship, a place to meet and chat and reconnect with old and new friends

**Welcoming:** welcome desk, comfy chairs and table so people can sit down, posters on walls with what's on this week, a bench in the front garden?

**Friendship:** Reconnect with people in our congregation - informal get togethers in gardens. Get better at talking to new people either at Sunday worship or midweek groups

**Church events:** Most due to restart in September. Make them more inclusive to the wider community.

- Better advertising and communications – role of church magazine.
- Make Saturday lunches more inclusive.
- Restart Fairtrade Café Saturday mornings.
- Consider running luncheon club with other churches (*Live at Home*).
- Consider if any new groups needed to serve the community needs.

We have a great building and great people! Everyone's contribution can make a difference.

Our Mickleover has given Mickleover Methodist Church £500 as recognition of our support to go to a charity of our choice. The choice of charity will be taken to Church Council to decide.

## “Phil”osophical Questions

Today, I was pondering some of those deep philosophical questions such as “Why does lockdown mean pretty much the same as lockup?”, “Who WAS the mother in Mother’s Pride?”, “before Typhoo, did we live in Briain?” and “why does Mindfulness insist that we empty our minds?”. In the midst of these musings my mind started to wander (perhaps Mindfulness was setting in) to my first years of teaching Deaf children.

As we left the staffroom my colleague, with whom I shared a class, would turn to me and smile, saying “Another day of opportunity!”. This was a play on words, as we had the “opportunity class” which was made up of those pupils who, for various reasons, could not cope with a normal curriculum.

The accepted rules of engagement did not apply in our class of eleven misfits – which included Bob and myself! We were allowed to use sign-language (banned in the rest of the school in those days) and we could do whatever we thought was necessary to give the children an appropriate education. It was definitely a challenge. T, aged twelve, for example could not fathom out which end of the pencil made a mark on paper, whereas S, aged nine was a genius (IQ 160) who could multiply four figure numbers together in his head, but was extremely volatile. We had to learn to think on our feet and if we got to go home without any cuts and bruises, Bob and I would deem it a good day. Bob, incidentally was from the Gorbals in Glasgow, ex Black Watch and SAS, and the best teacher I ever saw. That class taught me much more than I taught them as they taught me the importance of adaptability.

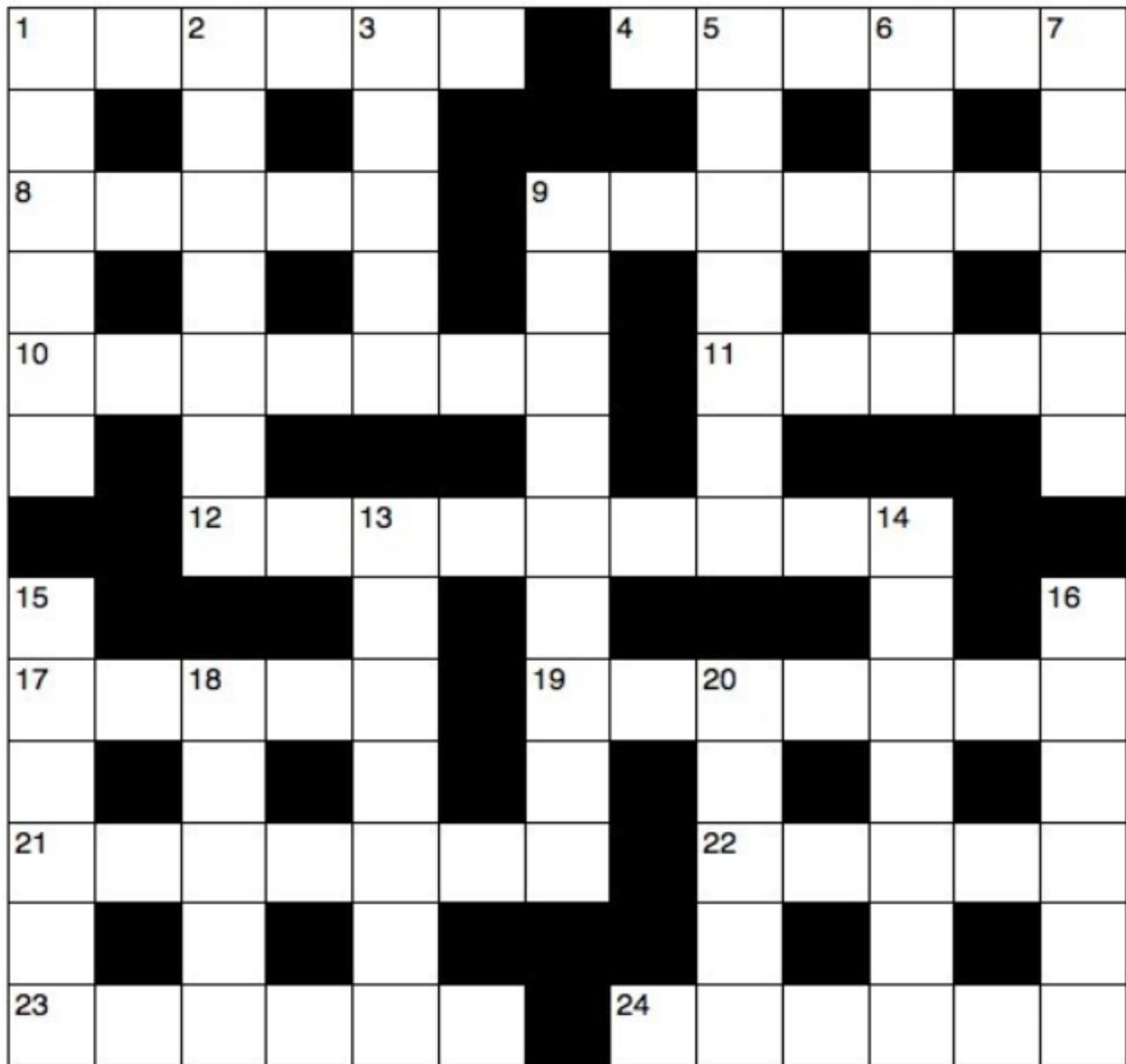
As we slowly emerge from the situation caused by Covid, we must learn to adapt to new situations as individuals and as a Church. This may offer challenges but also opportunities to offer Christianity to our community, not by telling them what we think they ought to know, but by listening and discerning their needs, both practical and spiritual, thus adapting to each person’s situation. As Bob would say “Another day (month, year, lifetime) of opportunity!”

Phil Royle

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### The Big Questions???????

1. Why don’t they make whole airplanes out of the same stuff as indestructible black boxes?
2. Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?



## Crossword Clues

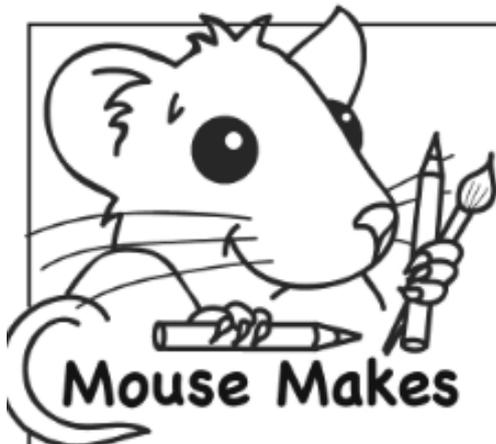
### Across

- 1 Military tactic used by Joshua to attack and destroy the city of Ai (Joshua 8:2) (6)
- 4 Place of learning (6)
- 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it' (Exodus 17:12) (5)
- 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus (Matthew 24:7) (7)
- 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken (Esther 2:8) (7)

- 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines (1 Samuel 28:7) (5)
- 12 Propitiation (Hebrews 2:17) (9)
- 17 Turn away (Jeremiah 11:15) (5)
- 19 So clear (anag.) (7)
- 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet (Luke 14:20) (7)
- 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5)
- 23 Musical beat (6)
- 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover (Exodus 12:22) (6)

### **Down**

- 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6)
- 2 Art bite (anag.) (7)
- 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5)
- 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7)
- 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5)
- 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6)
- 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9)
- 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7)
- 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7)
- 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6)
- 16 How Jesus described Jairus's daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6)
- 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5)
- 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)



## Mouse Makes



### JESUS HEALS

Who was the first person Jesus healed?

*John 4:46-54*

Who did Jesus heal from fever?

*Mark 1:29-31*

How was the the paralysed man brought to Jesus?

*Mark 2:1-12*



Where did the demons ask Jesus to send them when he drove them out?

*Mark 5:1-20*

How long had the man by the pool been disabled?

*John 5:1-15*

What did Jesus say made the woman well?

*Matthew 9: 20-22*



"There are **many** things that Jesus did. If every one of them were written down, I suppose the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."

*John 21:25*

How many men were healed from leprosy?

*Luke 17:11-19*

What did Jesus heal Bartemaus from?

*Mark 10:46-52*



Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, how many days had he been buried?

*John 11:1-45*

Jesus **healed** and made the...

SICK

ABLE

DEAD

WALK

BLIND

FORGIVEN

DEAF

ALIVE

CRIPPLED

SPEAK

SINNER

MOVE

MUTE

SEE

PARALYSED

WELL

DISABLED

HEAR

As June (hopefully) heralds the start of more freedom, how has Covid-19 restrictions and lockdown affected your life?

- Your holiday plans for last year and this year
- Your homes – have you redecorated, bought new furniture?
- Your home-based exercise – have you redone your garden? Taken up walking?
- Your relationships – did you use the time and space of lockdown to take a step back and look at your relationship with God.? Were you aware of God’s presence and did you come closer to God? Did you miss seeing and hugging family and friends?
- How are you feeling now that life outside of lockdown is starting to pick up? Are you nervous about going out, fearful of mixing with people?
- Do you feel you have accomplished something during these lockdown periods?
- What is the thing you are most looking forward to doing after the lockdown is somewhat resolved?
- What are you being called to be? Do some things need to change, so that God’s mighty power and glory is seen and known by all? Do we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us? How can we enable that to happen? How do we share the good news of Jesus with others?

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## The Parable of Responsibility

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. T



There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody’s job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn’t do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done

## **Thy Kingdom Come:           BLACK SHOE**

The black shoe has walked the corridors of power: even in the House of Lords. Its wearer has found his Christian walk taking him through Indian slums, African villages, and quaint English villages as the carrier of Good News. The wearer is acquainted with suffering and ridicule, and yet the Christ he serves is always with him

**I was walking with the Lord in my dream.**

**Just wanting to be a child holding onto my father's hand. We came to a cliff edge and as we often did then we were kids, we laid down on our tummies and looked over the cliff edge into the valley below.**

**I expected to see the usual thing – green pastures, trees, beauty – but what I actually saw was the darkness of the world.**

**I could see bullying and war and discrimination.**

**I saw poverty and famine, with injustice, and refugees queuing in long lines.**

**I saw knife and gun crime.**

**I saw diseases and the whole gamut of evil in the world.**

**I sensed that the Lord was telling me that I had to get down into all of that and try and do something about it.**

**I felt totally overwhelmed and asked how I could even get down the cliff face never mind what I could do about it once I was there in the middle of it all.**

**Then I noticed some steps cut into the cliff's edge that were so steep I had to be carried down them as they were too big for me to manage.**

**I saw that on each step was carved a word – HOPE, COMPASSION, INTEGRITY, FAITHFULNESS, SINCERITY, LOVE, TRUTH, CONSISTENCY, TENACITY, AND PRAYER.**

**Having finally arrived in the middle of all this blackness, I saw that I'd become like a tiny flickering flame that lit up just a minuscule part of my surroundings.**

**Then as I looked up, other people came with their tiny flames. Like mine they were almost insignificant, and yet together we**

**began to light that particular part where we were standing, and it wasn't dark anymore. It was making inroads into the darkness. Gradually those lights lit the lives of people caught in darkness.**

***Sit with God and see how your tiny light can make a difference where you are placed, with the people you are in contact with, and with your family. Commit yourself again to carry the Christ light even in what seem the darkest places.***

## Summer gardens – time for tea and chat

Here is an invitation to have a cup of tea and a chat in gardens this summer.

We are organising some afternoons this summer where people open their gardens for tea and chat.

These will be on 3 Saturday afternoons from 2pm – 5pm in the summer months: on June 19<sup>th</sup>, July 17<sup>th</sup>, and August 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Manse garden will be open on June 19<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup>.

If you are willing to open your garden to visitors for tea and chat on one (or more) of these dates please let me know so we can distribute a list of gardens that can be visited each summer month.

Everyone is invited to visit the gardens that will be on the list. We have not been able to meet each other face-to-face for such a long time, so please take this opportunity to visit some gardens, to have a cup of tea, to sit and chat, to meet old friends and make new ones.

Any donations received on these days will be split between church projects and a local charity.

Many thanks and I look forward to seeing you.

Gill

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### **Time to remember**

Treetops Hospice would like to invite you to a special event to remember loved ones. Time to remember will take place

**on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 6,30pm**

On Zoom providing an opportunity to come together online for about 20 minutes. The event will be led by our spiritual support team and is for anyone who has been bereaved, of no faith or any faith.

Zoom joining details:

<https://treetopshospice-org-uk.zoom.us/j/95072244060?pwd=UUo4Ty9abHEXMW5TYVdYUWpSVXc5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 950 7224 4060

Passcode: 828160

**Bible study on Zoom this month**

Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 2pm	Walking through Acts	Terry Root
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June at 2pm	Walking through Acts	Terry Root
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June at 2pm	Bible study with Vic Green	Dot Thompson
Thursday evenings at 7.30pm	'Re-thinking worship' based on a book by Jan Berry - looking at our gathered worship	Revd Gill Sharp

**CTM Prayer for Mickleover**  
**Thurs 3rd June @10.15am**  
 please contact Ray Lee for details.  
 Tel 239645 or email  
[raylee16@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:raylee16@yahoo.co.uk)

**From Jane Limbert:**  
 A huge thank you to the church fellowship for the lovely flowers and cards that we received for our Golden Wedding Anniversary.  
**Book in your diaries:**  
 Jane's' Blooming Great Tea Party' at Church  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August!

**Churches Together in Mickleover** invites all members of the community of Mickleover, young and old, male and female, to create a fabric square for **Mickleover's 'Be a Community of Hope' hanging.**

The design on your fabric square may be in embroidery, cross stitch, applique, or painted – using pictures, words, or shapes – the choice is yours!

Further information: email at [church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk](mailto:church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk) or [admin@allsaintsmickleover.org.uk](mailto:admin@allsaintsmickleover.org.uk)  
 Or by telephone on 735052 or 510446

**ACROSS:** 1, Ambush. 4, School. 8, Tired. 9, Famines. 10, Citadel. 11, Endor. 12, Atonement. 17, Avert. 19, Oracles. 21, Married. 22, Lance. 23, Rhythm. 24, Hyssop.

**DOWN:** 1, Attach. 2, Biretta. 3, Sided. 5, Compete. 6, Owned. 7, Lustre. 9, Falsehood. 13, Ostrich. 14, Talents. 15, Farmer. 16, Asleep. 18, Early. 20, Alley.

The Big Questions?????(cont.)

3. Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?  
 4. Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?  
 5. Why do people order a double cheeseburger large chips,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,and a diet coke?