

Notices

Friday 19 January

FAMILY TOTS HAS RESTARTED

1.15 – 2.45 pm . An open group for parents and carers with pre-school children.

Sunday 21 January 3.00pm: There will be a **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** service at St Andrew's, Great Linford, organised by the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership.

Monday 22 January 4pm. Officers' Meeting at Gill's, 43 Pannier Place, Downs Barn.
7:30 C&S Charities' directors meet in Vestry

Thursday 25 January 2.00 for 2.30 to 4.00 pm Home Bible Study, at Mike and Pru McConnell's 15 Kemble Ct, Downhead Pk.
Acts of the Apostles - Next Meeting 1st Feb

Please Pray

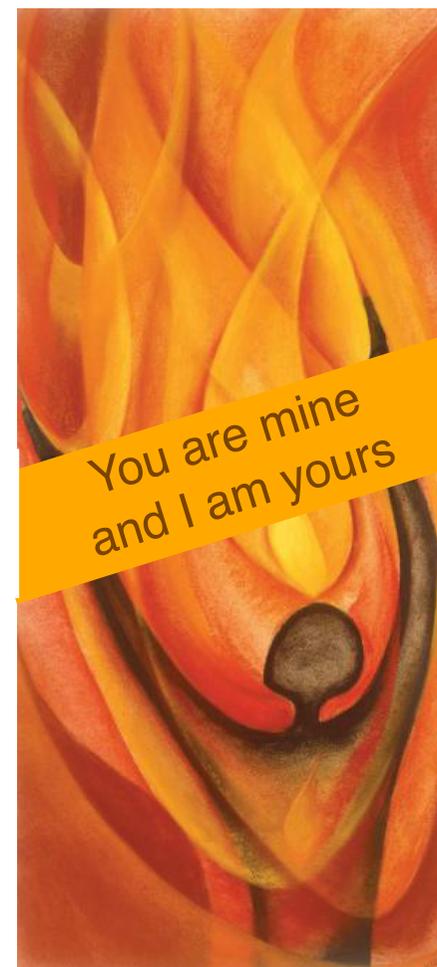
For our members & friends: Gill Grant, Amy Head, Suresh, Damayanthi Joseph, Bevan and Andrea-Rose; Dan Cavanagh.

For the sick: Amy, Betty Lloyd at home. Paul (Sue Baines' cousin) receiving ongoing treatment. Shirley, Yvonne.

RIP: Dorothy Pattinson!

The Cross and Stable

14th January - Epiphany 2 - Covenant



John Wesley invited Methodist people to renew their covenant relationship with God. The earliest service was based on 17th century Puritan material.

The service gained great popularity after the publication of the 1936 Methodist "The Book of Offices". The present version is from the 1999 Methodist Worship Book.

reflection
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I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing; put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,
exalted for you or brought low for you;
let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing;
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.

And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.

And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

The Methodist Covenant Prayer

Next Sunday - Epiphany Three- 21st January

I I am Communion Service- Peter Green

Genesis 14:17-20 • Revelations 19:6-10 • John 2:1-11

Cross and Stable is part of Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
Church of England • Baptist Union • Methodist Church • United Reformed Church

Hymns

501 O Jesus. I have promised
396 Just as I am without one plea
51 Be thou my vision
359 Jesus calls us o'er the tumult

Collect Epiphany Two

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Samuel's Calling and Prophetic Activity

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down;

and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.' ' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' ¹¹Then the Lord said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

15 Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' ¹⁷Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.' ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.'

19 As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

New Testament Reading

Revelations 5:1-10

Gospel

John 1:43-end

Hear the Gospel according to John

Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called

you.' ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' ⁵⁰Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' ⁵¹And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Please Pray for:

- The church officers meeting on Monday 22nd in their responsibility for care of the church in this time of vacancy.
- The Home Bible Study group continues their study of the Acts of the Apostles on 25th January; that they will find encouragement and wisdom in God's word.
- The homeless sleeping rough on our streets.
- For Peace: that we act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you, our God.
- Pray for Jerusalem, eternal City of Peace.
- For decency in our common life.

Contacts

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Cross & Stable

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