

Welcome to Bethlehem Methodist Church
Rev. Deborah G Poole
Deacon Sally Wheadon
Email : sallyanneheadon@gmail.com
Telephone : 491877
Website: bethlehem.org.je

Sunday 04th October 2020

At Chapel – 10.30am – Preacher – Revd Tony Morling
Worship Leader – Doreen R. : Steward – Glenys

Please remember there is guidance in place for attending worship – sign in sheet, hand sanitiser, social distancing & NO singing being the main ones.

**Bethlehem Service next week: 11th October – Preacher – Revd Nola Webster
Worship Leader – Ruth: Steward – Barbara J : Laptop – Ali : Flowers - Doreen M**

This Sunday's online Service : led by the **Rev'd Tony and Mrs Cathy Morling.**

You can access the **service** on: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLapCu7RgUoebklqouaAkDA>

It will be available **from 10.30am** on Sunday but you can watch it any time at your convenience after that.



[Methodist Circuit Jersey UK - YouTube](#)

Enjoy the videos and music you love, upload original content, and share it all with friends, family, and the world on YouTube.

www.youtube.com

Bethlehem Family

Our autumn church council meeting will be held at the church on Tuesday 10th November at 7.30 pm. Please submit all reports about the life of the church by email to Jean Schooling (jeanscholing@hotmail.co.uk) in time to be circulated before the meeting and notify Deacon Sally of AOB at least a week before the meeting. Please also contact Deacon Sally if you would like to join the church council or if you are intending to stand down this year. Please note only those who receive an annual membership ticket are eligible to be on the church council. Please speak to Deacon Sally if you would like more information about becoming an official member of the church.

A very grateful thanks has been received from Vini of Grace Trust for the food and donations received from our Harvest Sunday. Jean L has also told us that a further £122 was collected for Grace Trust from our Film on Friday last weekend. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

Bethlehem Weekly Prayer Meeting

Zoom themselves require that if using the link to access the meeting, you now need to be signed into your Zoom account. If you are not, you will be presented with a message saying 'This meeting is for authorized attendees only' If this happens you need to click on the 'sign in' box and enter the email address and password you used to set up your Zoom account.

Finally, when Zoom asks you to update your account for security reasons, you must do this, otherwise it will cause problems for you when trying to access meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87351600511?pwd=OTBUdDBxKzdDb0h3bzhXUGh2aXBWdz09>

Meeting ID: 873 5160 0511

Password: Bethlehem

By Telephone - Dial 0203 481 5240

Meeting ID: 873 5160 0511#

Participant ID #

Password: 690246#

Updates from the Methodist Circuit Office

No circuit newsletter received this week.

Bethlehem Prayer Focus

Please pray for :

- The World, Jersey, our Bethlehem family, all our extended families here and far away, as we learn to deal with this awful Corona Virus pandemic and the restrictions imposed on everyone.
- Those who live alone and those who live with families in confined spaces
- Those who used to be part of our fellowship but are no longer able to worship with us due to frailty or ill health, we pray for God's healing touch to be upon them.
- We continue to pray for healing for all our Church Family and their families, who are struggling with ill health. Lord we pray that you will be with each one of them and give them Your Healing and Strength.
- All who have been recently bereaved, we think especially of Frank, Alice and Philip and all their family and friends, as the Lord has taken Christine to be with Him. No more pain and suffering. We pray that they would know the peace and comfort of our Lord and Saviour Jesus.

Cynthia has asked that we continue to pray for the Leprosy Mission - Dear Lord and Heavenly Father We unite to pray for a hedge of protection around all the Leprosy Hospitals and around all the staff who are helping these vulnerable people. At the moment, the hospitals are free from the Corona Virus and we pray that this would continue to be so. The suffering and alienation the people with Leprosy have to endure from their families who cast them out, and the places where they live is already intolerable. Father we place this situation in your hands and ask for your mercy and grace. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

PRAYERS FOR ISRAEL

- Please Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6) .
- For the people of Israel to come to know their Messiah, Yeshua (Psalm 40:7; Isaiah 53)
- For her borders to be secure (Exodus 23:31a)
- For Jerusalem to be protected from being divided (Joel 3:2) .
- For God to keep a watchful eye over His People, and bind the schemes and resources of their enemies so they can do them no harm (Zechariah 12:1-5; Psalm 91)

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS – No 38 on the World list is Bangladesh

How many Christians are there in Bangladesh?

There are 887,000 Christians out of a population of over 168 million – about half a per cent of the population.

Why are Christians persecuted in Bangladesh?

Until recently, Bangladesh had managed to stay clear of the kind of Islamic extremism that has plagued other parts of the world. That's changing, and the government is struggling to counter the growing strength of radical Islamic groups.

Meet Mizanur

"They said, 'You Christians are making trouble. We will beat you.'" MIZANUR, A CHRISTIAN CONVERT IN BANGLADESH

What's life like for Christians in Bangladesh?

Converts from other faiths – Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism – suffer the most persecution in Bangladesh. Mizanur is a Christian from a Muslim background and was attacked by his brother and other villagers while singing worship songs with his family. He was beaten and tortured, and his family's house and belongings were destroyed. With the help of an Open Doors partner, they've gone into hiding. Christians who belong to ethnic minorities are doubly vulnerable to persecution. Christians among the Muslim Rohingya, who fled to Bangladesh from Myanmar, are facing harassment and strong pressure from their community as well.

This year, Cyclone Amphan and Covid-19 have brought more challenges. The poor are especially vulnerable. This includes Christians, notably those who have converted from a different faith. Many families have lost jobs. Pastors' incomes have also been affected with Sunday services stopping.

Aid is available from the government, but as with other countries, Christians often find themselves deliberately overlooked, particularly those from a Muslim or Hindu background. "You are Christian, you became Christian," they are told. "You've got lots of money! You don't need food!"

A graduate from the Open Doors women's discipleship programme has two children and runs a small business, selling cosmetics. Because of Covid-19, she lost her business - with people losing their jobs there is no money to spend on cosmetics.

Affected by Covid-19, her name was put on a list for government aid. But when she got there her name had been removed from the list because she had become a Christian. She and her children did not eat for two days. Her family is one of 1,100 families Open Doors partners have helped feed during the pandemic.

How can I help Christians in Bangladesh

Please keep praying for your brothers and sisters in Bangladesh. Your gifts and prayers make an enormous difference to those following Jesus no matter the cost.

Open Doors works with local churches to support persecuted believers in Bangladesh through training, distributing local-language Bibles and other Christian literature, literacy and socio-economic development projects, and providing emergency relief to victims of persecution.

Is it getting harder to be a Christian in Bangladesh?

Bangladesh has risen 10 places in the World Watch List this year, and this reflects worsening persecution in all spheres of life, including a sharp increase in violence.

[Read about Mizanur and other recent violence in Bangladesh](#)

PLEASE PRAY

Lord, we lift up our brothers and sisters in Bangladesh as they face increasing levels of persecution. Please give them comfort and encouragement to stand strong in their faith, and give wisdom and insight to those distributing emergency aid and implementing long-term projects.

Birthday Greetings for this and last week:

Apologies for missing the birthdays last week, I do hope you had a Blessed time.

Phillipa (3rd) and 2 birthdays who are at present are not worshipping with us due to ill health or not being on Jersey

Beryl Alexander (2nd) and Steve Le Mouton (2nd)

This week we are wishing Doreen M (7th) a very Happy Birthday and God Blessing with you

Room Requirements

If anybody needs to use the Bethany room on a Saturday or in the evenings or the Sunday School Hall at any time - A booking should be made by contacting a steward, they also need to be advised of the dates that any groups may be meeting in ANY of our rooms/Church at any time.

House Groups - Most house Groups are suspended for now

Tuesday (fortnightly) - St Ouen Contact: Mary Richardson (483020)

Tuesday (weekly) - St Mary Contact: Eric Lucas (483599)

Tuesday (weekly) - 10.45am - 12.30pm in Bethany Room - This is a House group that explores Scripture from a Jewish understanding viewpoint' - ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US! Contact: Jean Schooling 07797 841414 - **This group has resumed in the Hall from 11.00 until 12.30.**

Thursday (weekly) - St Peter Contact Katie Norman (482364) If you do not already attend a house group, how about giving it a try.

Our Stewards

Dianne Huddleston (483917) : Glenys Best (766020) : Barbara Jacobs (481192)

Concerned? - If you have any concerns about anything to do with church life please contact one of the stewards.

Caretakers - Fernando & Raquel de Almeida Tel 864520

Notices should be sent (by Wednesday) to email : bethlehem-notices@hotmail.com or by post to Brenda De Oliveira, Flat 1, Elmwood, Les Hamonnets, St John JE3 4FP