



Southside Methodist Church

October 2020



Superintendent Minister: Revd Dr Langley Mackrell-Hey Tel: 01733 573147

Sharing Jesus – in the “new normal”

We are starting to hold some services in the church building
(provided the government don't bring in new restrictions preventing us)

Services/Prayers	Location	Details
Re-opening Trial Service 3 pm Wednesday 30th September	At Southside in the Church	Please let Janet Rich know if you wish to attend
Think Reflection 9:15 am Some Sunday mornings	Online	Led by our Local Preacher Janet accessible through Facebook see item on page 2
Circuit Online Service 10:30 am Sunday Mornings and Morning prayers Every morning at 8:30 am	Online	Led by Reverend Langley Mackrell-Hey on Facebook or youtube https://www.facebook.com/peterboroughmetho distcircuit/ Links also on home page of the Circuit Website
Harvest Thanksgiving Service 10:30 am Sunday 11th October	At Southside in the Church	To be led by Reverend David Parkes See article below
Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday 25th October	At Southside in the Church	To be led by Nigel Lightfoot

Harvest Thanksgiving Service

We will not be decorating the church as we normally do, but you are still invited to bring your Harvest gifts with you to the service on October 11th.

These may be placed in the box provided inside the worship area and they will then be passed on to the food bank, so any suitable tin's, packets, jars bottles etc would be most acceptable and appreciated.

Food Bank collections via the 'Bin' in the entrance will re-commence from 25th October.

Find out more about Southside Methodist Church on our website:

www.southsidemethodistchurch.org.uk



For information on Methodist churches in the Peterborough area visit www.peterboroughmethodistcircuit.org
 For more information on the Methodist Church nationally visit www.methodist.org.uk

**Would you like someone
to pray for you?**

Please phone or text:

Southside Methodist Church.

Prayer Hotline: 07506 893786

If nobody answers please leave a message
and someone will get back to you.

Thank you 1

We would like to say how much we
appreciate the '**Think**' service
that **Janet** is leading on facebook each
Sunday morning.

For us it's a good way to start a new
week and helps to keep us connected.
We hope it will continue until we are
able to worship together again in church
on a Sunday morning.

Thankyou Janet

Thank you 2

What a treat to see the photos in the
September newsletter of the church
gardens looking so **lovely** and
so **colourful** and so tidy. A big thank you
to **Chris (Dixon)** for all his hard work
over the summer - surely a labour of
love.

From G & S

November 2020 Newsletter

If you have anything you would like
published in the November edition please
can you e-mail:

southsidenewsletter@virginmedia.com

by Midnight Sunday 18th October

Thank you

**Please also use this e-mail address if you
would like to be added to the mailing list.**

Ed

Think and Sing to God - online

Hi folks

I am doing a short, **Think** type reflection on
Facebook **live each Sunday morning at 9.15 am.**
If you would like to join us, even if you have never
been to Think before, you would be most
welcome.

I think in order to access it you need to be my
Facebook friend-just send me a request and I will
sort it.

Similarly, we hold a **Sing to God** on line on Zoom,
each month singing in our own homes and if you
would like to join in the next one you would be
very welcome then too. E-mail me with your
details I will respond.

Keep safe! love and blessings

Janet x

If you want to join in on zoom and don't know Janet's
e-mail address please e-mail the newsletter:

southsidenewsletter@virginmedia.com

and I will forward it on to Janet - Ed.

We've all seen or heard of the
Angel of the North
but have you heard about the
Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer?

The Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer will be
a [monumental piece of public art near Coleshill
Manor](#) alongside the M6 and M42 motorways on the
outskirts of Birmingham, UK.

The sculpture will be built of **one million bricks**, with
each brick linked to an **answered prayer**.

Your answered prayer could even be one of the
bricks. Read about it here www.eternalwall.org.uk

Ed

To all my Church friends, thank you for
all the nice cards I received for my
birthday
God bless you all - **G P**

Your Harvest Prayers and Messages

I would like to say a special "thank you" at this Harvest time that I had such help during the lockdown getting food that God gives to us all.

My son-in-law and a very good neighbour made sure I was well provided for so was able to enjoy the gifts from God every day. It must never be taken for granted that food will appear as if by magic, but we know that God will always provide what we NEED but not always what we WANT. I am so grateful for all I receive and thank God for everything.

God bless all my friends at Southside.

I H

I am so thankful for seeing things grow in my garden.

*For the tomatoes and so many pears I have been able to give a lot away.
So, I give thanks to God for these things.*

P H

The Changing Face of the Harvest Festival

In Oct 1939 the U.K. government launched the "Dig for victory" project. Everyone was urged to grow food anywhere they could. Dig up the tennis court, or that little patch out back and plant some veggies.

I have warm memories of the harvest festival in Warmington Methodist Chapel. The victory was won but the veggies kept on coming. Every Autumn the harvest festival would celebrate the bounty from these efforts; with a spectacular display of produce, proudly on show around the front of the pulpit. The centrepiece would be the wheatsheaf loaf, baked to a bronze colour and glazed. My father was the village baker so I imagine he was involved. Later everything was sold by auction for the benefit of the chapel funds.

What will future Harvest Festivals look like? With climate change, extreme weather conditions and the global population ever increasing, the technical advancements in food production will be paramount. In the digital age we live in, "Multi-level Farming" may escalate.

Facilities with controlled environment, precise temperature, humidity, nutrition and LED lighting. The crops growing on shelving stacked in multiple layers, robotically planted and computer controlled. One such unit in Japan turning out 30,000 lettuce every day of the year, claiming zero carbon and water 98% recycled.

With "work at home" on the increase, empty office buildings could become farm factories, producing the harvest right in city centres, with minimal transportation to reach the consumer.

Meanwhile we give thanks to the Lord for the food on our table and pray the World Leaders be given the wisdom to orchestrate production and distribution of food Worldwide to the necessitous, so all may enjoy the harvest festival. **C D.**

It wasn't until lockdown began to be lifted, and we could go out in the car to find places to walk, that we realised we'd completely missed seeing the yellow oil seed rape growing in the fields this year. How much we take for granted in 'normal times'. It got me thinking ... hopefully we all kept the shop workers and those who deliver our food to the shops, in our thoughts during lockdown but did we really think about the farmers and farm workers all over the world who grow our food and those who prepare it and continued to do so throughout that awful time? Living in a city it's easy to forget the thriving farming communities around our own area and the way their work continues in a cycle year on year. Did we think to thank God for the gifts we are blessed with? This Harvest time I'm going to think of them all.

At the same time, I want to remember those who aren't as blessed as me, when they don't have enough food and even clean running water. I hope we can resume our support for the Peterborough Foodbank because in this city poverty is an increasing issue. So many more people have become unemployed through no fault of their own, a side effect of the pandemic and we can, at least, do something to help them. We may not, have a cure for Covid 19 but we can help solve the effects of poverty.

S B

When I think about it there are so many things to thank God our creator for when it comes to Harvest. There is the way he has created everything with such diversity. For instance, some parts of the world are able to grow bananas and coffee while others like Britain apples and wheat. Maybe God planned for different things to grow in different places to teach us how to trade. And maybe he wants us to trade fairly rather than taking what we want and dumping what we don't want on others. But human nature being the way it is we don't always treat others fairly or look after the world the way we should.

Not being a farmer, I thank God for the personal opportunities he has given me and Chris to experience growth and harvesting. This year we have been able to pick blackberries found in abundance on local bramble bushes and Chris has been able to grow some chilies in the back garden from seeds his mother gave him as a Christmas present. We have also been fortunate to have been given rhubarb, tomatoes, apples and pears grown by others.

K L

Psalm 8 verses 2-8 (from the Good News Bible)

When I look at the sky, which you have made, at the moon and the stars, which you have set in their places - what is man, that you think of him; mere man, that you care for him?

Yet you made him inferior only to yourself; you crowned him with glory and honour.

You appointed him ruler over everything you made; you placed him over all creation: sheep and cattle, and the wild animals too; and the birds and the fish and the creatures in the seas.

O Lord, our Lord, your greatness is seen in all the world!

Bible verses chosen by the Editor