



Messenger

Solihull Methodist Church

July / August 2026

Wet Walking in the Lakes

Monday 1st June saw 7 men from the church (an average age of 80, two in their 90's but young in heart) plus 2 sons of much loved Reg Bywell, and John from Marlborough, our leader, gather in Keswick. John first came 43 years ago and was now ready for his 40th walk. It was raining. It rained rather frequently in the next 4 days. 7 of us started on the Monday 'warming up' with a steep up and down hike from the Whinlatter Visitor Centre which, a few years previously, had a camera above an osprey nest. Happily the ospreys are returning, but, to a different nest.

Tuesday saw the group walk up the old railway track, an engineering marvel at its time, as it crosses and re-crosses the steep sided Greta River valley, to Threlkeld 4 miles on. Thereafter the group split with 4 diverting to walk another 6 miles up St John's Vale to Stannah. And, wonderfully, the rain ceased, the sun appeared and the Lake District revealed itself in all its beauty.

By Wednesday the rain was back. Undeterred or, perhaps, just plain stupid, the walkers set off up the Newlands Valley and got as far as Hawes End before deciding, now exceptionally wet, to catch the ferry back. Thursday was little better but they did have a very pleasant walk to the end of Derwent Water in the afternoon. The non-walkers enjoyed lunch at the Orient Express.

Of course the reason these annual walks have gone on so long now is not just the opportunity to enjoy the best walking country in the World, but the chat and banter and the hospitality of the gracious 157 year old hotel.

Richard Balmer



Very wet walkers



The odd occasion when they saw the sun



All the group



The non walkers in the Orient Express

Church Family News

New grandson



Emily, Leo, Sam and Max Tucker

Chris and Alison Tucker welcomed a new grandson, Max, born on May 26th (hottest day of the year). He weighed in at 9lbs 7oz.

Engagement

John and Karen Handford are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Katrina, to Mr James Shireby of Tunbridge Wells.

Wedding



Liz Pickles daughter, Sarah Jayne married Matt on 30th May

Baptism



Theodore Stanley Turner, son of Sam and Charlotte (Charley Branson) was baptised by Rev Chris Giles on Sunday 31st May

Death

We are sorry to announce the death of Sue Marshall (Branson) after a long battle with cancer. Her thanksgiving service will be on Monday 20th July at 10.15 am at church

We remember her family and friends in our prayers.

80th Birthday



Rev Chris Giles celebrated her 80th birthday the same day as the church celebrated its 89th Anniversary on Sunday 7th June.

Thank you

As I continue to recover from my broken wrist, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to my friends and the wider church family for the incredible support, kindness and generosity they have shown me over the past five months. From sharing meals and providing lifts to appointments, to offering company, encouragement and practical help, you have carried me through a very challenging time. Your care has been a blessing, and I am deeply grateful for every act of kindness, big and small. Thank you for walking alongside me and reminding me what a wonderful church community we are part of.

Pam Beattie



Anna Clarke

14th June 1935 – 11th May 2026

Anna McLean was born in the village of Knockloughrim, Co. Londonderry. The McLeans were a farming family of deep, steady Presbyterian faith. Anna was very close in age to her elder sister, Margaret, and so they started

school together, even though she was underage. She continued to be the youngest in her class all through her time in school, but this in no way hampered her academic achievement. She was too young to go to college and she had to wait a year, staying at home to care for her mother, who was seriously ill and moving towards the end of her life.

In due course Anna went to college and became a Domestic Science teacher, first in the Enniskillen Collegiate school and then in Glenlola Collegiate in Bangor, Northern Ireland. Through the Student Christian Movement, she met a young and gifted doctor called Wilson Clarke, and although his teaching took him to the United States for a time he was sure, when he returned to Northern Ireland, that she was the lady for him. They were married in 1969 by the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland that year.

So began a new chapter, greatly enriched by the birth of their two children, Deborah and Alistair. Anna left full-time teaching, and built a home for her family. She helped develop the A Level course in Home Economics for

Northern Ireland and became an examiner for the subject,

She still visited people who were unwell, was involved in the work of Cancer charities, and supported Wilson as Clerk of Session in High Street Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, and also his very significant role in the Order of St John, whose work we know best through St John Ambulance. Anna herself was also a member of that caring order.

Anna was proud of her family. She was a loving caring woman enjoying holidays on road trips across Europe to the Alps. Her meticulous planning and preparation of provisions and meals played to her professional strengths. She was a game lady, up for anything. She was the one who went on the corkscrew in Alton Towers, and cracked a rib. Anna was the one who, in arranging an outing for Wilson's 70th birthday took the whole family gliding.

A few years ago Wilson and Anna decided to make the move from Northern Ireland to Solihull in order to be nearer the family. Hollywood's loss was definitely Solihull's gain. They have both been a blessing to us. Even with declining health and depleted energy Anna made the effort to be at her best, whether at a family gathering, or out for coffee with friends, or here Sunday by Sunday. Anna Clarke had a quiet, firm faith in the God. Her call to us today would be to put our faith in that same God. Wilson reminded us of the words from 1 Peter ch. 1 v.22 "Love one another, with a pure heart, tenderly; see that ye love one another".

Tudor Bufton 'Buf'

13th November 1928 – 24th April 2026

Buf was born in Leicester in 1928 and had a younger brother, Ivor. He went to the City of Leicester Boys' Grammar School, where his father taught. He was 11 years old when war broke out he was evacuated to Tyddyn Ucha Farm (near Conwy), where he had the daily task of collecting dwr glan (clean water) for everyone to drink.

On leaving school, Buf started work at Lloyd's Bank, being conscripted into the army in 1947. He spent the 18 months in the army as an accounts clerk, which he hated. He also loathed the food and lost so much weight that the army moved him to a camp near Chester to fatten him up. On leave in Tyddyn Ucha, he was fed proper food by his aunties. This was to be a holiday home for many years.

On leaving the Army, he returned to Lloyds Bank in Leicester where, in 1953, he was spotted by Brenda Law. They married in 1955 and their love story continued for 64 years. They had four children: Susan, Kathryn, David and Andrew. School holidays were spent at Tyddyn Ucha. Christmas was the only holiday they didn't go to North Wales.

In the early 70's, they moved to their permanent home in Solihull. Buf had a long and very successful career with Lloyds Bank, declining promotions, because he prioritised family life. He was never late home from work, never let Brenda wash up, always cooked Sunday breakfast and tea. He was active in the Shirley Rotary Club, both as treasurer and President. They were also members of our church. He retired in 1988 and enjoyed foreign holidays with Brenda. After her death in 2017, he became even more deeply woven into the lives of his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren



He went to the Men's Coffee Morning, kept fit on his exercise bike, and was very proud of being able to touch his toes at 97. He loved conversation, banter, and storytelling, especially over a pint of beer. He had an astonishing memory of steam trains, the weather, Churchill, WW2 and Putin.

Buf was wise, kind and utterly unforgettable.

Minister's Message – Rev Donald Ker

Dear friends.

In our house the radio tends to be set at BBC Radio 4, and so we hear quite a lot of news, comment and opinion. One of the questions, which is coming up repeatedly at the moment, is around how we can live together as a nation despite our racial and religious differences. I'm proud that the Methodist Church here in Britain describes itself as a "Justice Seeking Church". God's desire is that all his children should flourish, and they cannot do so if they are being treated unjustly. However it isn't always easy to recognise when we're acting in an unjust manner.

I had to learn some uncomfortable lessons about this a few years ago while serving in Northern Ireland. In 2009 a report on how churches had behaved during Northern Ireland's troubled times was published, and it was very critical of the churches. In particular it noted that patterns which Protestant churches thought were natural actually caused great offence to their Catholic neighbours and vice-versa. As the report noted "In divided societies Churches, particularly at local level, can become locked into the communities they minister to. The experiences of their 'own' community come to dominate. The experiences of the 'other' community are alien and consequently there is no understanding of why clergy and people of the other community respond as they do."

I was thinking about this when a simple example from childhood came to mind. During my childhood and early teenage years the City Council in Belfast, where I grew up, was dominated by those who took a very strict Protestant 'Sabbatarian' position. This meant that even the children's swings in the public parks were chained up on Sundays so we would not be tempted to play on them. The public parks were open but the playgrounds were shut. Growing up within Protestant church circles, where Sunday involved a considerable amount of quite pleasant church-going, I don't think I questioned this restriction too much – it was life. But Catholics, and indeed those who professed no Christian faith, had a different view on what you might or might not do on a Sunday. Chaining up the park swings was an imposition on them which was unfair, and it re-inforced the view that Protestants would treat them unjustly and not give them a proper say in the country we shared. You'll be glad to know that eventually the City Council changed its policy, but not before time. Looking back it all seems so pathetic and wrong. But I wonder whether some of the loud voices in England today aren't falling into the same trap of seeking to impose their culture upon others. Furthermore the Christian faith is being dragged into this debate, just as it was in my Belfast childhood.

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It's ironic that the Christian faith should be used as a pretext to boost the power and influence of one group in society over all others. The thrust of the New Testament is quite the opposite.

During this month some of our Sunday morning readings come from Paul's letter to the Romans. In that letter Paul uses every form of argument he can muster to stress that Christ heals one of the deepest divisions of his day, which was between Jews and Gentiles. We'll also be reading some of the parables in Matthew's Gospel, where Jesus draws pictures of how God's Kingdom is far wider than we can ever imagine.

Perhaps the first step, if we really want to be obedient to Jesus, is to get to know people whose view of life is very different from ours, and see if we can get some understanding of how life feels for them. And if you want to play on the swings on Sunday, go right ahead!

Rev Donald Ker



Prayer Box



We pray for

- Matt, Tom, Andrew and Charley and their families on the death of their Mum, Sue Marshall
- our new church stewards, Kevin and Tim, as they settle into the team
- Sheila Hollaway, continuing to recover from her back injury
- John Godfree, Ian's Dad, who remains very poorly in a care home
- Sarah Tall and all the family, as Sarah recovers from surgery
- Rebecca Lo, as she continues her weekly chemotherapy
- Rev Molly Chitokwindo and all the family as they move to their new church in Witney
- Rev Andy Moffoot, his wife Sheila and their family as they begin to make their farewells and prepare to move to Solihull
- our young people and adults who are considering membership and confirmation

Church Project News

Piano Recital



We are very fortunate that such a talented prize winning pianist as K K Hung joined Solihull Methodist Church when he moved to Solihull. K K gave a piano recital on Saturday 20th June to raise money for the church project. It was an absolute treat to hear him play Bach's Toccata in F# minor, Beethoven's Piano Sonata in D major, Brahms' Fantasies Op 116 and Schumann's Novelette in F# minor. K K puts such expression into his piano playing and it is amazing to watch the speed of his hands as they fly up and down the keyboard.

Thank you so much K K for giving up your Saturday afternoon to entertain us.



BBQ service



Sunday 19th July
in the church grounds

6.00 pm Food served

(hot dogs and chicken wings)

**6.30 pm Short service to be led
by the Greener Church Group**

Funds raised will go to the church project

Presentation of cheque

A cheque for the money raised for the current church project will be presented to a representative from the Awareness Foundation during the morning service on Sunday 9th August.

Church Project 2026 – 27

The group who goes to Spring Harvest will run the Church Project for the year 2026/2027 to support **Young Minds**.

Young Minds is a UK based charity which supports both young adults and parents with mental health concerns. The latest figures suggest that 1 in 4 young adults aged 16–24 are experiencing common mental health issues, a significant rise from 19% in 2014. Over 550,000 children and young people in England are currently referred to mental health services with over half facing waits of over a year for treatment.

Young Minds provides young people with tools to look after their mental health and empower adults to be the best support they can be to the young

people in their lives. Their purpose is to stop young people's mental health reaching crisis point. Their vision is a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health. Their mission is to make sure all young people get the mental health support they need, when they need it, no matter what.

To support their purpose, vision and mission, **Young Minds** runs "You Matter" which consists of 3 strategic programmes:

Never Alone this helps young people to look after their own mental health

Someone to Turn to making sure young people have adults around them who can really help

Powerful Young Voices building a youth-led movement to make sure support is there for everyone who needs it.

Church Council Report

At the church council meeting on Monday 8th June, the council:-

- Heard that the welcome service for the new minister Rev Andy Moffoot will be on 6th September at 6 pm at Carrs Lane church.
- Thanked Anne Kemp for all the work with lettings she had done for the past 2 years.
- Approved Young Minds as the church project. It will be run by the group who go to Spring Harvest.
- Heard that income is slightly up due to lettings income, but collections are down. It is predicted that the collections will increase by the end of the financial year.
- The budget for 2026/2027 was approved.
- Approved the circuit assessment as £127,300.
- Approved Wallace Crooke as the auditors of the church accounts.
- Approved the list of counters – people who count the collections each week.
- Approved that Glen Mullineux be the council representative for the communications group and Alan Hung be a member of Church, Life and Mission Committee.
- Agreed that as part of the room 3/community hall redevelopment, new doors could be purchased for the Margaret Wharam Room and Community Centre and to improve safety, that all new electronic locks be fitted.
- Noted that all the work at Solihull in the circuit action plan had been completed. This will also be useful for when the new minister Rev Andy Moffoot starts.
- Recognised the need to appoint an equality, diversity and inclusion lead to support our work in these areas.
- Thanked Marjorie Roper for all her work in setting up Church, Life and Mission Committee and guiding them in their work.
- Received reports from the Greener Church Group, Safeguarding, Church Life and Mission, Lay Pastor and Community Worker, Children, Youth and Family Worker, and data protection.
- Agreed the Circuit Assembly reps would be Christine Burr, Caroline Hinchliffe, Yan Yeung, Ian Hancock and Karen Handford.
- Recognised that there are still spaces on the steward team. If anyone felt it is a role they could undertake please speak to Rev Donald Ker or one of the stewards.
- The next council meeting will be on Monday 12th October 2026 at 7.30pm

Helen Banks, Church Council Secretary

Work on Hall / Room 3

Everything that was on and under the stage is now in the large storage container in the church car park, for the work to upgrade room 3 to start on **Monday 6th July**.

There will be no access to the hall and room 3 until the work is completed.

Rainbows, Brownies and Pushchair Club will meet in the church. Beavers and the Youth Club will meet in rooms 4 and 5. Other meetings will still take place in rooms 4 and 5 as usual. Some car park spaces near the fire exit in the hall will be cordoned off for the builders to use,



Organist award

Many people will remember Jeremy Heald, who was the organist at Solihull for some years before he moved back to Chester, where his mother is a minister and his father is the church organist. In the recent King's honours list, Jeremy's father (Brian Heald) was awarded the British Empire Medal for his services to music and the community in Chester. Congratulations



Farewell and Thank You Rev Molly

The Birmingham Circuit of the Methodist Church said their farewells to Rev Molly Chitokwindo and her family at a special service at Shirley Methodist Church on Sunday 14th June. It was very fitting that both the Cantonese and Zimbabwean choirs took part. Molly's friendly welcome, her dedication to pastoral care and her work with the Hong Konger community in Solihull were highlighted. We are very grateful for her ministry.

Molly will be taking up a new appointment at Witney, Methodist Church Oxfordshire in September. We send her our best wishes for the future.



Dedication of Church Stewards



Church stewards, Yan Yeung, Tim Weatherup, Kevin Garnett, Jackie Lancaster and Christine Burr were dedicated during the morning service on Sunday 14th June.

World Church Service Sunday 12th July

6.00 pm at
Longbridge Methodist Church,
B45 9TY

Rev Dr Andrew Ashdown will be the speaker. He is the Partnership Coordinator for the Methodist Church in Britain and has visited all the Church's partners across the continent of Africa.



Graduation

Dr Sue Ann Mak graduated from Queen's College on 6th June. Here she can be seen with Audrey and friends from Solihull Methodist Church after the ceremony. She will take up her new appointment in Warrington in September.



Circuit Welcome Service

The new ministers to the circuit

Rev Andrew Moffoot
(Solihull Methodist)
and

Rev Tokunbo Asogbon
(Selly Oak Methodist)

will be welcomed at
Carrs Lane Church on

Sunday 6th September
at 6.00 pm

All are welcome

Green Matters

Is what goes down your drain safe?

I often wonder what visual image is conjured up when seeing a headline like "Water Company fined for more Raw Sewage spills". What is 'Raw' sewage? What does it look like? I hope you will believe me when I write "washing up water". Think about it. Most of what you put down the kitchen sink, wash hand basin, washing machine and/or dishwasher is soapy water. Trying not to be too indelicate, pee represents a bit over 1% and poo about 0.1% respectively.

Where your 'raw' sewage goes depends on the age of your house. Post 1936 sewers go straight to a sewage works but pre 1936 houses it goes down a 'combined' sewer. This collects both 'raw' sewage from houses and rainfall from streets on its way to a sewage works (Often, in earlier times, it went to a sewage farm providing the land with water and fertilizer. Staff were regularly proud of the prize winning crops they produced). In the past engineers realised that if the rain was too heavy a 'combined' sewer wouldn't be able to cope. Roads would stay flooded and, worse, sewage could back up into low lying houses. So, they concluded it would be far better for the sewage to spill over into nearby streams. A formula was agreed: the size of a sewer would be enough to carry 6 times what was called the 'dry weather flow', that was the amount coming from households alone when there was no rain. The 'raw' sewage therefore would be diluted 5 times before it left the sewer and went into the stream. That was not all. If it was raining, the stream would be carrying lots more water too, so the already diluted 'raw' sewage would be diluted even more, perhaps 4 or 5 more times.

Of course other things, like scraps of food, get put down the kitchen sink but this, and the poo, is not necessarily a bad thing. Both are organic and provide food for the water's wildlife. (This is why sewage farms were often successful and why, in the 19th century, you could get good prices for 'poo' (euphemistically called 'night soil') as a fertilizer.) This all sounds good but, of course, time passes. Not everything works as intended. There will be overflows in delicate places which do need attention though, I suspect, not in the dramatic numbers suggested by the press. If a stream or river looks clean and safe for swimming, I have and would paddle or swim so long as I didn't have cuts or open wounds and didn't plan to drink the water.

There is a more important point though. Other things get into both types of sewer. Tyre and brake

dust, and oil from cars also get into combined sewers but, the reason for this contribution, is that nowadays we use all kinds of chemicals to kill 'germs' on kitchen worktops and toilets.



So, what should be done.

- Please use household chemicals as little as possible. It is often suggested that the cleaner a house the greater the risk children won't build up resistance to common bugs.
- Look in stores for chemicals which have eco-friendly labels, such as the one here, and do their best to reduce the harm they can cause.
- Look online for eco-friendly chemicals. Start by trying those sold via the Delphis Eco website.



Update on Waste Food Collections

The Council plan to start these new collections of waste food from 5th October. Households will be given a small bin for the kitchen and a larger one for outside collection. No doubt leaflets will come with the bins but we understand even eggshells, and fish and other bones as well as peelings etc can go in. The waste will be digested to produce gas for the gas mains and fertilizer. Flats will not be included in this first wave.

Richard Balmer:

On behalf of the Greener Church Group: John and Linda Innes, Pam Beattie, Bryan Fitter, Anthony Gough, Sue Kelley, Derek Giles, Sue and Richard Balmer, Glen Mullineux, Sandra Ker, and Kevin Garnett.

We are proud to be a GREEN CHURCH caring for God's Creation

Chandlers Ford Methodist Church became a 'Science Dome'.

The event was part of the Winchester, Eastleigh and Romsey Circuit's 'Caring for our Planet' community day. Eighteen months in the planning, the day was a way to gather with the local community and think about how we care for our world, at the same time as celebrating nature and having fun together.



There were lots of things to do during the day. For younger visitors, the Bee Crafty zone provided eco-friendly craft activities. In the marketplace, local and national groups, including the local refillery and repair café, helped visitors to think about actions we can take to care for our world, from rewilding gardens, encouraging diversity, and advice on how to navigate solar panels and making our homes more energy-efficient.

A top tips board gave everyone the opportunity to share their top suggestions too. In the seminar room, Ruth Valerio (from Embrace the Middle East) talked about why we need to care for our planet and Steve Collins (Net Zero Carbon, Church of England) explored how we can do this. In the afternoon Helen Stephens (A Rocha) and Jo Crocker (from Winchester Action on Climate Change) joined the Q&A panel. In the quiet zone, prayer stations were set up on the theme of creation.

The refreshments raised £660 to go towards the work of A Rocha and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. The circuit churches followed the day with Sunday worship thinking about climate change and how we can care for creation.

The event was inspired by the Revd Kate Cambridge, Circuit Minister, "The day came about because I was at 3Generate and they had a 'Science Dome' there. I thought it was inspiring and helped the young people to think about the wonder of our world and also how important it is to us to care for it.



We all want to care for our planet, the Methodist Church is working towards Net Zero and we know we are in a climate emergency, but it can feel difficult and overwhelming. I thought it would be good to put on a day across the circuit and community which would be fun and interactive, and help us all to learn what we can do to make a difference.

"As something many people are passionate about, I also thought it was a good thing to do together with the wider community. It is good to work together and also helps show people that the church cares about the environment too!"



District Chair Farewell

Saturday 25th July 3:00pm
Coventry Central Hall

Rev Novelte Headley will be retiring.
Speak to a church steward if you want to make a donation

Soupa Talks



Light lunch, chat and an interesting talk
1.00 pm in the Community Centre

Wed 23th September Laurence Ince
*Charles Dickens, Warwickshire and the Great
Jennens Case*

Wed 14th October Henrietta Lockhart
*These flowers are from my garden:
the Nettlefolds and their garden*

Church Mission Statement

We believe that to make the all-embracing love of
Jesus Christ known, we need to be brave in God's
changing world so that all can belong and find hope

Anxious?

Concerned?

Contact the confidential

Prayer Chain

via Chris Giles through the Church Office

The Messenger

You will have seen that the last couple of Messengers
have looked slightly different. We have had to find a
new company to print it. Additional Curates, which
had printed it for many years closed at Easter.

As we have to use another printer now, we are trying
to use a new software programme (more up to date
with AI) for setting it out. It is a huge learning curve!
There will probably be a few hiccups, so please bear
with us.

The Messenger Team

Rev Donald Ker, Bryan Fitter, Jeff Horton, Sue
Kelley, Glen Mullineux, and Lawrie Rumens

Please send material for publication to
messenger@solihull-methodist.org.uk

We reserve the right to edit articles if necessary.
Please send photographs separately as jpeg files

NB. Last date for the September Messenger
items is **Sunday 9th August**

Church Team



Rev Donald Ker
Minister
Day off - Friday



Abi Godfree
Children, Youth and Families
worker



Janice Smith
Church Administrator
Tuesday - Friday



Wai Kong
Finance Assistant



Diane Webb
Pastoral and Community
Worker



Chris Giles
Pastoral Coordinator



Deborah Webb
Church Lettings Officer

Church Office
0121 705 7367

[www.solihull-
methodist.org.uk](http://www.solihull-methodist.org.uk)



July / August Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	2 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs 8.15 Badminton	3 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 6.30 Youth Club	4 2.00 – 4.30 Earlswood Fete
5 10.30 Morning service Rev Peter Bates	6 9.45 Pushchair Club 10.00 Shall we talk? 7.30 Scouts	7 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee 5.00 Rainbows 6.00 Brownies 7.00 Youth study	8 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	9 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs	10 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 10.30 Friendship cafe 6.30 Youth Club	11
12 10.30 Morning service with Holy Communion and confirmation Rev Donald Ker and Dr Sue Ann Mak 6.30 Prayer Space	13 9.45 Pushchair Club 10.00 Shall we talk? 7.30 Scouts	14 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee 5.00 Rainbows 6.00 Brownies	15 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	16 9.30 Ramble 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs	17 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 6.30 Youth Club	18
19 10.30 Morning service Diane Webb 6.00 BBQ service	20	21 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	22 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	23	24 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 10.30 Friendship Cafe	25 3.00 District Chair Farewell Coventry Central Hall
26 10.30 Morning service Rev Donald Ker 6.30 Healing Communion Rev Chris Giles and Fiona Beadle	27	28 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	29 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	30	31 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship	1 August
2 10.30 Morning service including baptism Rev Chris Giles and Alison Faulkner	3	4 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	5 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	6	7 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship	8
9 10.30 Morning service with Holy Communion Rev Donald Ker	10	11 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	12 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	13	14 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship	15
16 10.30 Morning service Rev Peter Bates	17	18 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	19 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	20	21 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship	22
23 10.30 Morning service Rev Donald Ker	24	25 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	26 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	27	28 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship	29
30 10.30 Morning service Sue Kelley	31					

Pentecost – Celebration Saturday

This Celebration Saturday we continued to look into Pentecost. We played the 'speak out' game where a device makes it hard to speak clearly and we have to guess what each other are saying. We made blown paint art, we decorated flames of fire.

We talked about how at the Tower of Babel God decided to separate the nations, dividing language to stop evil taking over the world and how at Pentecost he brought us all back together, in unity to his Glory to share in inclusive church together.



SMASH presents a production of Disney
Musical Theatre Group



"Be our guest!"

If you would like to perform or help backstage in SMASH's show next March, please email smash@solihull-methodist.org.uk for details of the launch evening (in July) and auditions (in September). Come and join us in a "tale as old as time".

Church Anniversary Sunday 7th June

When the young people joined the Sunday morning service on 7th June (the 89th Church Anniversary) they came in with loaded pockets.

Abi asked the older children to go round and hand out what was in their pockets to the congregation. This turned out to be beautifully decorated stones. No wonder the youngsters had very heavy pockets!



One of the stones that was handed out