

# MOTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER MAY 2018



## PENTECOST

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...." Acts 2:1 to 4

Thank you, oh my Father  
For giving us Your Son  
And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til your work on Earth is done.



## PENTECOST

Pentecost completes the story of the birth, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. It is the moment when Jesus provides his followers and church with the Holy Spirit - the spiritual power they need to undertake His work.

Acts chapter 2 verses 1 to 4 describes that moment - "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

There was a time when the day of Pentecost (or Whitson) was celebrated as part of the national calendar of holidays. Today this has been replaced by the 'Spring Holiday' which comes on the last Monday in May each year. Both the existence and significance of Pentecost has been lost to the majority of people. Our spiritual life and that of our church still depends on the power of the Holy Spirit of that first Pentecost. Our prayer this month is that we will be refreshed and renewed in the power of the Holy Spirit as individuals and the church as we serve God in Mottingham.



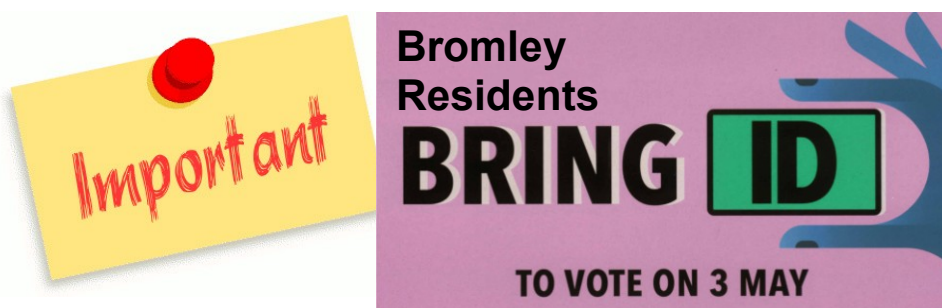
## LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Once again, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May everyone who is over 18 throughout the London Boroughs is given the opportunity to vote in the local elections. This was not always the case.

### THE RIGHT TO VOTE

There has been a lot in the news about the significance of 2018 as the centenary of women's rights to vote and the battles and bravery of women over many years to win that right. But the history of voting rights shows that it was not only women who had no right to vote before 1918, but also 70% of men. Before 1918 and after 1867 only men over 21 who personally paid rates whether as house owners or tenants were eligible to vote. In 1918 all men over 21 in this country were given the right to vote and included those previously excluded such men who were non-householders – those living with their parents, or in the homes of their employers (such as servants), or in barracks (soldiers, etc), or who were homeless.

For women, however, 1918 was only a turning point. The majority of women were still unable to vote. Only women who were over the age of 30, and who were either registered property occupiers of land or buildings with a rateable value greater than £5 (or married to registered property occupiers) were now able to vote. It was not until 1928 that discrimination against women's eligibility to vote was finally rectified so that women over 21, like their male counterparts, were able to vote. It was not until 1969 that the voting age was dropped to 18.



# DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICE PREACHERS

## MAY 2018

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am** – Messy Church: Theme - Pentecost  
Messy Church is preceded by breakfast

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am** – *John Sennett*

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am** – Communion Service: To be advised

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am** – *David Ball*



## Calendar of Events

### Messy Church

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am: Theme - Pentecost

This is preceded by breakfast

### Prayer meeting

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30pm: At the house of Eddie and Dallas Green

### Good Companions

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am: Jim Shepherd- New of Bob Hope Theatre

### All Sorts Craft Group

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 10.30am for one hour

### Community Lunch:

Every Wednesday at 12.30am

### Saturday Youth Club

Every Saturday from 7-10pm for 9-14 year olds

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH

- **1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10.30am:**  
Messy Church - *This is preceded by breakfast*
- **1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7.30pm**  
Prayer Meeting at Eddie and Dallas's home
- **2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10.30am**  
Good Companions
- **4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 10.30 - 11.30am**  
All sorts craft group
- **EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 12.30pm**  
Community Lunch
- **EVERY SATURDAY FROM 7 - 10pm**  
Saturday Youth Club - for 9 - 14 year olds

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MOTTINGHAM BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER MEETING

A new series will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at St Andrew's church commencing on the 15th May



### CHRISTIAN AID BIG BREKKIE 12th May 9-11am

For the second year running Churches Together in Mottingham are holding a 'BIG BREKKIE' in the Mottingham Methodist Church Hall. **Come, and Bring a Friend!**



## ONCE A MONTH CONGREGATION CALLED MESSY CHURCH



'He is not here He is risen' was the theme of the Easter morning Messy Church which was illustrated by making the empty colourful cross and the empty tomb with a stone that rolled away



*Part 5 of a six-part series by Rev Paul Hardingham.*

### .....TO COMFORT

Paul shares his experience in Asia, when writing to the Corinthians: 'We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death' (2 Corinthians 1:verses 8&9). God proved able to comfort him in all his hardships.

## **GOD IS A GOD OF ALL COMFORT:**

*'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort' (2 Corinthians 1 verse 3)* Comfort, which is inherent to God's character, means *'getting alongside to help'*. It also describes the work of the Holy Spirit as *'comforter'* (John 14:16). Whatever our circumstances, God comes alongside with His presence, provision, protection, guidance and peace.

## **GOD IS ABLE TO COMFORT US:**

*'For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.'* (2 Corinthians 1 verse 5) God does not promise to keep us from suffering, but Jesus shares this experience with us. We have the assurance that God is present in our difficulties, setbacks and disappointments. God uses troubles to teach us trust and dependence, as well as building our character.

## **GOD ENABLES US TO COMFORT OTHERS:**

*'...He comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.'* (2 Corinthians 1 verse 4). It's easy to offer cheap comfort: *'I know what you are going through!'* Yet sharing God's comfort means telling our story and pointing them back to Him. We cannot offer comfort to people at a distance, but need to be prepared to get alongside others in their troubles, whatever the cost to ourselves.

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## **WE PRAY FOR**

Revd Alex Terrett  
James  
Janet  
Maureen and Roy

Maureen's family  
The Community Lunch  
The Children's Clubs

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**PLEASE  
NOTE:**

**WEDNESDAY 16TH MAY:** There will be a Church Council Meeting at 7.30pm in the Church.



## IN AND AROUND MOTTINGHAM MOTTINGHAM LIBRARY IN MAY 2018

### **COFFEE MORNING:**

**Celebrate 'The Muse' by Jessie Burton**





On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May between 10.30 & 12 noon,  
come and hear historian and author, David Ebsworth, as he talks  
about the Spanish Civil War.

### **'ARMCHAIR' TALK**

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May between 6.15 & 7.30pm join Chris for her next  
illustrated 'Armchair' Talk and come and discover the area of  
Piccadilly and Jermyn Street

Title: 'From Eros to Easels'

## MOTTINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

-  **ADDRESS:** 62 Mottingham Road, Mottingham, SE9 4QR
-  **CONTACT:** The Minister: Revd. Alexandra Terrett. (T) 020 3237 1084  
Please Note: The minister's normal day off is a Friday
-  **THE CHURCH WEB SITE:**  
Church information is available on the WEB site  
Log in to: <http://www.mottinghammethodistchurch.org.uk>.
-  **THE CHURCH AND CHURCH HALL FOR HIRE**  
Contact: [mottinghammethodist@outlook.com](mailto:mottinghammethodist@outlook.com)



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