

New Eltham Methodist Church
Sunday 28th January 2018
Holy Communion and Covenant Service

www.newelthammethodist.org.uk

Prayer for the Week

Polycarp of Smyrna (c. 155)



Blessed be your name, O God,
for the glory of this hour and
the holiness of this day.

Today may we drink from the cup of your salvation,
rejoice in the company of your saints
and offer you the sacrifice of eternal praise;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Eltham Methodist Church
437 Footscray Road
London, SE9 3UL

www.methodistchurch.org.uk


The Methodist Church

Minister: Revd. Duncan MacBean

Tel: 07432 093 353

Email: duncan.macbean@gmail.com

Church office: **Jane Cowie**

church@newelthammethodist.co.uk

020 8859 4932/07981 269345 (Answerphone out of hours)

Church Office open Tue-Fri 10.00 to 2.00 (term time only)

Please submit weekly news to Jane by **10 am Thursday**

New Eltham Methodist Church Zimbabwe Fellowship.

There are services in **SHONA** at this Church (12.30 - 14.30) each Sunday

For more details contact 07707310098 or 07944881977

 facebook

Please 'like' us 'New Eltham Methodist Church'

10.30 am Sunday 28th January 2018
Holy Communion and Covenant Service

We welcome all who worship with us, and especially visitors. We also welcome the **Reverend Duncan MacBean and Reverend Annette Rose** who will lead this Service with **Paul Tickell** as Steward and **Simon Gill** providing the music.

Order of Service

Welcome

Hymn: No. 545 Be Thou my vision

Prayer

Readings: Exodus chapter 2 verses 3-11
John chapter 15 verses 1-10

Sermon

Hymn: No. 511 Speak in the Stillness

The Covenant

Hymn: No. 549 Come, let us use the grace divine
Covenant prayer

The peace

Hymn: No. 548 Blessed assurance, Jesus in mine

The offering

Prayer of thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

Hymn: No. 566 Take my life, and let it be

Benediction

**Please join us for a cup of coffee and a chat
at the coffee bar following the service.**

Origins of the Covenant Service

Those unfamiliar with Methodism, or those for whom it is new might be interested in the origins of the Covenant Service.

All are welcome to share in our Covenant Service today. You are welcome, whether you are sharing in a Covenant Service for the first time, have done it annually for many years, or simply want to watch what others do without taking part yourself.

The Covenant Service is at the heart of Methodists' devotion and discipleship, and their dedication in working for social justice. In the service the Church joyfully celebrates God's gracious offer to Israel that "I will be their God and they shall be my people".

The service is a gift not a demand! And God will give you the grace to do it all. You are not alone! This idea of Covenant was basic to John Wesley's understanding of Christian discipleship. He saw the relationship with God in Covenant as being like a marriage between human beings (both as a community and as individuals) on the one side and God in Christ on the other (cf. Ephesians 5.21-33). His original Covenant Prayer involved taking Christ as "my Head and Husband, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, for all times and conditions, to love, honour and obey thee before all others, and this to the death". Wesley recognised that people needed not just to accept but also to grow in relationship with God. He therefore emphasised that God's grace and love constantly prompts and seeks to transform us, and so we should continually seek and pray to grow in holiness and love.

Over a number of years Wesley gradually saw the need for some regular ceremony which would enable people to open themselves to God more fully. He looked for some means of helping them to hear God's offer and challenge ever more deeply, and to allow God to prompt and enable them to respond. In 1755 Wesley created a form of service adapted from the works of Joseph and Richard Alleine. These works came from the Puritan tradition of pastoral and spiritual guidance. Wesley therefore insisted that the Covenant Service be located in a framework of pastoral care, preaching and guidance. It therefore linked personal devotion with corporate worship.

Young Church – 28th January/4th February

Unfortunately there will be no Young Church session available for under 13s today and on Sunday 4th February. There will still be a session for children aged 13 plus. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Traid Craft Stall

The Traid Craft stall will be open after the service today selling a variety of goods including rice, dried fruits, cereals, preserves, cards, gifts and chocolate.



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Social Media Workshop for the Circuit 31st January 7.30-9.30 pm

A session to be led by Neil Quarmby at Chislehurst Methodist Church providing an opportunity to explore Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms. The session is designed to develop the impact of our Church in the local community. A free detailed handbook will be provided. Please bring along a laptop or tablet.

NECP Spring Quiz Night – 7th April

Don't miss the next NECP event, a fundraising Quiz Night on Saturday 7th April at 7.30pm, teams of 6, bring your own soft drinks and snacks. Kevin Doig is the Quizmaster, please let him know if you can make our fundraising Quiz.



Pastoral News

We remember in our prayers John Broomhead, Muriel Bennett, Gill Coutts, Reverend Kevin Taylor, Michael O'Brien, Rene Johnson, Shirley Wright, Marianne Outteridge, Genevieve Manda, Margaret Webster, Susan Tilbury, June Penney and David Helps and family.

Diary Dates

31 st January	7.30-9.30 pm. A Social Media Workshop at Chislehurst Methodist Church. Please see notices.
3 rd February	3.00 pm. Family film afternoon in Church. Film 'Bee Movie.'
12 th February	2.00 pm. Jigsaw Group. Room 1.
14 th February	7.00 pm. Film Night in Church. Film 'Message in a Bottle'
22 nd February	8.00 pm. Church Council. Room 1.
7 th April	7.30 pm. NECP Spring Quiz Night. See notices.
26/27/28 April	Save the date. NECP present Gilbert & Sullivan operetta "Patience." Further details available in due course.

Forthcoming Services

Date	Time	Preacher	Music	Steward
4 th February	10.30	Mrs Sue Cope	FB	Colin Scott
11 th February	10.30	Rev. Duncan MacBean All Age Service Baptism	BS	Graham Bunce
18 th February	10.30	Mr Ralph Brandhorst 1 st Sunday in Lent	RS	Cate Bradford
18 th February	16.00	Worship Leaders A service of reflection & renewal	Lynton	Graham Bunce
25 th February	10.30	Rev, Duncan MacBean Holy Communion Service 2 nd Sunday in Lent	RS	Paul Tickell

