



Monthly Newsletter
markyate
baptist church
November 2023

Remember, remember...

November is a month very focused on remembering.

We have the (rather ominous) nursery rhyme reminding us about the gunpowder plot, that we now celebrate in the UK as Bonfire Night.

We also have Remembrance Day, the national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those who have defended our freedom and way of life. We will be marking this as a church and wider community on Sunday 12th (see “What’s On” in this newsletter for more details).

Why do we have days like these that focus on remembering history? So that we can pay our respects to those who have helped shape our present? So that we learn from our past? So we don’t repeat past mistakes?

God is also in the business of making sure people remember their past. In fact, it may come as a surprise, but the Hebrew word for “remember” (which is *zachor*) is the most repeated command in the Bible. God uses this word on many occasions with the Israelites in the period after they escaped from Egypt. God’s people would regularly get fed up whilst in the desert, declaring that they had it better when they were in Egypt. Time and time again, God reminds them: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery”. This reminder appears not once, not twice, but on 87 occasions!

Human beings have a bad habit of misremembering the past, or not really

focussing on it at all. God wants us to remember it clearly, the good, the bad, and the ugly, so that we can live well in light of it.

On and around Remembrance Day, many of us wear red poppies to remember the lives of those lost who have fought in war. At this time, some people alternatively/also wear a white poppy. The white poppy represents a strong symbolic desire for peace and was first produced in the 1930s when the fear of another world war was brewing. It was, and still is, produced to remember all victims of war – both the lives lost of those who have fought in wars, and those who have been civilians.

These themes of remembering and desires for peace feel as relevant as they ever have been, with the devastating conflict taking place in Israel/Palestine. Many Christians have been praying for peace for a land and people with a very complex history. God’s heart breaks for the lives that were lost in Israel on October 7th. God’s heart breaks for the many more lives lost and still being lost in Palestine. We cry for a just peace for all those people. In the name of remembering the past to inform the present, I encourage folks to read further on the history of Israel/Palestine, and use this remembering of history to feed into your prayers for this terrible conflict. Remember the lives lost. Remember we have a God who loves all people, equally. Remember God loves you in your past, present and future, and use this to guide you forward.

Grace and Peace, *Nick*



What's On—November 2023

Friday 3rd

MBC Community Café

All welcome—10am—12pm

Saturday 4th

9.30am Prayer Meeting

In Church

Sunday 5th

10.30am Morning Service with
dedication followed by lunch

With Nick Drury

Monday 6th

MBC Community Café

All welcome—**9am**—12pm

Friday 10th

Jack & Jills baby & toddlers

10am—11.30am

Saturday 11th

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting

Ask for login details

Sunday 12th

Remembrance Service with St

John's

9.30am - service at Markyate Y2K
Hall,

10.30am - procession to War
Memorial

10.45am - Short Remembrance
Service at the War Memorial

Monday 13th

MBC Community Café

All welcome—**9am**—12pm

Friday 17th

MBC Community Café

All welcome—10am—12pm

Saturday 18th

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting

Ask for login details

Sunday 19th

10.30am Morning Service

With Nick Drury

Monday 20th

MBC Community Café

All welcome—**9am**—12pm

Friday 24th

Jack & Jills baby & toddlers

10am—11.30am

Saturday 25th

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting

Ask for login details

Sunday 26th

10.30am Morning Service

With Graham Clarke

Monday 27th

MBC Community Café

All welcome—10am—12pm



Christmas Plans in December

Theme: Following the themes of 4 advent candles

Saturday 2nd

Decorations Day

Sunday 3rd

Advent 1 on Hope

Sunday 10th

Advent 2 on Peace

Sunday 17th

Advent 3 on Joy - 3pm Carol Service (no morning Service)

Tuesday 19th

Blue Christmas service for those who find Christmas difficult

Friday 22nd

Carols at the Fire Station
6pm—joint with St Johns

Sunday 24th

Church community Christmas dinner—further details tba

Monday 25th

Advent 4 on Love—Christmas Day service

Minister: Nick Drury

e: minister@markyatebaptist.org

t: 07952 785452

Usual days off are Mondays and Saturdays

Administrator: Tracy Cripps

e: admin@markyatebaptist.org

t: 07419 846982

Working days—Tues and Thur.

Deacons:

Jeremy Bottrill,

Ruth Kieran

Jim Salmon

Rosemary Salmon

Chris Trew

Heidi Trew

Our Vision Statment:

Growing Together by loving God loving others & serving our community



Jack & Jill's baby & toddler group meets

Every 2nd & 4th Friday of the month

Could you volunteer to help?

zoom | **PRAYER MEETING**

Most Saturday Mornings on Zoom

9.30am

Ask for the log in details via

admin@markyatebaptist.org

Or contact Rosemary or Jim Salmon



Monday MBC Café now open from the earlier time of **9am**—12pm in November—18th December

This is in addition to every 1st & 3rd Friday of the month

**Every Wednesday
2.30pm—4.30pm
Drop in Café for asylum seekers and refugees**

Come along to help with clothes distribution, serve drinks or play games.

A rewarding experience for all.

Further details from Jeremy