

# What's On—October 2023

## Sunday 1st

10.30am Communion Service  
With Richard Palmer

## Monday 2nd

MBC Community Café  
All welcome—10am—12pm

## Friday 6th

MBC Community Café  
All welcome—10am—12pm

## Saturday 7th

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting  
Ask for login details

## Sunday 8th

10.30am Morning Service  
With Jeremy Bottrill & Step

## Monday 9th

MBC Community Café  
All welcome—10am—12pm

## Friday 13th

Jack & Jills baby & toddlers  
10am—11.30am

## Saturday 14th

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting  
Ask for login details

## Sunday 15th

10.30am Morning Service  
With Nick Drury

## Monday 16th

MBC Community Café  
All welcome—10am—12pm

## Friday 20th

MBC Community Café  
All welcome—10am—12pm

## Saturday 21st

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting  
Ask for login details

## Sunday 22nd

10.30am Morning Service  
With Nick Drury

## Saturday 28th

9.30am Zoom Prayer Meeting  
Ask for login details

## Sunday 29th

10.30am Morning Service  
With Nick Drury  
Followed by an Open members meeting

## Monday 30th

MBC Community Café

**Minister:** Nick Drury  
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**Administrator:** Tracy Cripps  
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Monthly Newsletter  
**markyate**  
baptist church  
October 2023

From mid-October, we will be starting a series on Mission, which will take us through to Advent (are we even allowed to talk about Christmas yet?!).

### So...what is Mission?

A straightforward question, with a myriad of answers!

The word mission is used in general society today: charities will talk about their mission and objectives; people will recount how it was 'a mission' to find a certain item in a store; diplomats will have a special mission assignment in a specific location. The word itself originates from the Latin word *Missio*, which is 'the act of sending'. The word/term was used as far back as the 1590s by the Jesuits (a Catholic order of priests), who sent members of their order overseas to establish schools and churches. Since then, churches and followers of Jesus have continued to use this term to describe the vocation of people who travel overseas to do/support work under the banner of Christianity.

When considering faith and the Church, how do we define mission today, almost 500 years later? For some, it might still solely be the act of working overseas in the name of God, particularly through evangelising with people and sharing about the Christian faith. I would, however, suggest that whilst this particular work is important, the mission of the church is much broader than this. The

Mission of God (also known as 'Missio Dei') is not limited to just us telling people about God 'over there'. A brilliant theologian called David Bosch provides a much more expansive and holistic description of mission:

"Mission is a multifaceted ministry, in respect of witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, church planting, contextualization, and much more"

I'm really excited for MBC's upcoming series on Mission, where we will hopefully capture a flavour of the all-encompassing, rich, diverse, and vital nature of the Mission of God described above. My hope is that it will help us recognise and name the ways that God has already been using us collectively and individually in furthering the Kingdom of God, and to hone in on how God may be leading us as a church in helping people experience 'life in all its fullness' in our immediate community as well as across the world.

So, a final less straightforward question (or two!) for whoever might be reading this newsletter piece: *Considering the quote from Bosch above, what are the ways I have been carrying out the 'Mission of God' already that I might not have realised is mission before, and what are the new missional ways that God might be inviting me and/or MBC to make a difference in the lives of others going forward?*

Something for us each to be mulling over in the coming months!

Have a blessed October. Grace and Peace,

*Nick*

Our Vision Statment:

Growing Together by loving God loving others & serving our community