

WELCOME TO



www.gigmillchurch.co.uk

November 2018



Minister : Rev. Michael Payne
e-mail : michaelpayne230@msn.com



Weekly Meetings

- Sunday :** Church Services - 10:30am and 6:30pm
Junior Church - 10:30am (Joy Jeffrey)
- Tuesday :** Handicraft - 2:30pm (Peggy Broadhead)
Community Tea (1st Tuesday) - 2:30pm (Jane Linford)
- Wednesday :** Prayer Meeting (2nd Wednesday) - 7:30pm-8:30pm
- Thursday :** Friendship Group (3rd Thursday) - 2:30pm (Delia Page)
Choir Practice - 7:45pm (John Walley)
- Friday :** Bible Discovery Group (23rd November) - 7:30pm

If you are a visitor to our Church, we give you a very warm welcome, and hope that you enjoy this time of worship with us and will visit again.

If you would like any information about Gig Mill Methodist Church, please ask any of the Stewards, who will be glad to answer your questions.

LOVING GOD BY LOVING AND SERVING OTHERS



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY 4th NOVEMBER - After the morning service, there will be a 5 minute Extraordinary Church Council meeting to approve the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2018.

This month's Community Tea will be held on Tuesday 6th November, the first Tuesday of the month. Transport can be arranged - please speak to Jane Linford.

The date of this month's Prayer Meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month, Wednesday 14th November. All are invited to attend and share in this uplifting meeting.

The Bible Discovery Group meetings scheduled for this month are on Friday 23rd November. All are welcome to explore the Bible in fellowship, finding out more about the Bible and sharing what it means to you.

The Gig Mill Friendship Group continues the spirit and friendship of the Bright Hour on Thursday 22nd November, although any change of date will be announced. All Ladies and Gentlemen are welcome. *Please come and join us for fellowship, speakers, entertainment, events and a chat !*

Fund-raising for 2018 continues with Gig Mill's...



Autumn fair

on Saturday 17th November at 11:00am
in the Church Hall



🌀 Stalls 🌀 Bric-A-Brac 🌀 Crafts 🌀 Tombola 🌀 Christmas Cards and Items 🌀
🌀 Cakes 🌀 Bangers and Bacon Baps 🌀 Refreshments 🌀

Donations of Chocolate and Bottles gratefully accepted for the Tombola

Please bring any Cakes for the Cake Stall on the morning. Thank you !

Gig Mill will host an Advent Nativity Weekend over the Saturday 1st / Sunday 2nd December weekend and we hope to display as many Nativity Scenes as we can ! Do you have a Nativity Scene you would be willing to share with us in the display, with a short note explaining what the scene means to you ? Please see a steward if you can help enhance our display !

Come along and help make this a weekend to remember !

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOX APPEAL - It's that time of year again when we think about the many children who will not be as fortunate as our families this year. Leaflets are on the table which include a label for your box, the donation envelope, and details of what can and cannot be included in your "Box of Love" ! Please bring your completed shoeboxes nearer to the date of the service at which they will be blessed - which is on Sunday 25th November. As always, very many thanks for your generous support to this charity.

RETIRING COLLECTION - Your kind donations for the month of November will benefit the local charity S.O.D.A - Survivors of Domestic Abuse. Thank you.

Churches Together in Stourbridge produces a prayer list, to allow people to remember and pray for places of worship in our locality. Please remember the following churches in your prayers throughout the month of November :

4 th November	Our Lady and All Saints
11 th November	Riverside Christian Fellowship
18 th November	The Society Of Friends (The Quakers)
25 th November	St James' Church, Wollaston

Emma Alston's Local Preacher Accreditation Service will be held on Saturday 10th November at 4:00pm, at Overend. The Preacher will be Rev Paul Nzacahayo, and Rev Ajay Singh will conduct as Superintendent. The service will be followed by tea and cakes. Please make a note in your diaries so that we can support Emma on this important occasion.

GIG MILL NEWS

Joy Jeffrey is now taking orders for the popular Action For Children diaries for 2019. They are £3 each and proceeds go towards Action For Children.

Maureen Worsley writes - It will soon be 11-11-2018, the one hundredth anniversary of the official end of the First World War. Over the next few weeks, please think about any remembrances you have about any wars, stories you may have heard from grandparents, parents or neighbours : memories of the wars in 20th century, right up to the wars in Afganistan, the conflict in Syria and everything in between.

During our services on 11th November there will hopefully be time to reflect on your remembrances and an opportunity to write them down. If you have any artefacts relating to your story, we could photograph them and put the photos by the side of your remembrance. If we don't make a record of them, they will in time be forgotten, and that should not be an option. We hope eventually to make a display for all to read, and maybe get it onto our website as Gig Mill Remembers...

The Black Country Foodbank currently has the following shortages :

Tinned Fruit, Tinned Potatoes, Packets of Mash, 1 Litre UHT Milk Cartons, Tinned Spaghetti, Biscuits, Tinned/Cartons of Ready Made Custard, Tinned Rice Pudding, Jam/Marmalade, Squash/Cordial, Vegetarian Ready Meals (Mac Cheese, Veg Curry), Packets of Savoury Rice, Tinned Tomatoes, Breakfast Cereal, Tinned Meat (Ham, Corned Beef), Small Jars of Coffee. Male Shaving Foam, Male and Female Deodorant, Washing Up Liquid, Small Boxes of Washing Powder, Bath Foam.

All donations are gratefully accepted ! Thank you, thank you for all you do.

Gig Mill's Prayer Chain is there for you. If you have a prayer need, please contact any of the names on the list of links in the chain at the back of the Church.

Churches Together in Stourbridge

At the back of the church there is a sheet to sign to support those who are trying to get something done about the **Universal Credit** situation which is causing many to go hungry, and rely on Food Banks and the Life Centre for Debt Advice in Stourbridge. Please sign if you feel that you can.

Look at what God is doing in Stourbridge for you to go and join in!!

Wednesday 7th November 7th @ 7:30pm -

How is Stourbridge doing?

A discussion evening at the Quaker Meeting House, Scotts Road, Stourbridge

Saturday 10th November (time tbc) -

A choir of Young People from disadvantaged backgrounds sing at St. Thomas'

Saturday 24th November (time tbc) -

Men's breakfast at The Old Bank

Friday 14th December @ 7pm -

The Nutcracker Pantomime at Stourbridge Town Hall by Saltmine

Saturday 15th December @ 10:30am -

Carols in Town - outside Tesco's, then on to Ryemarket

Saturday 15th December @ 4pm -

Carols in Greenfield Gardens

Friday 21st December (time tbc) -

Carols in the Park

Also look out for **Knitivity** by New Road, in shops around town,
and **Get in the Picture** outside Tesco's

A Message from Rev Josephine Soon

Looking back over recent weeks, have you been aware of being called and sent by God? Literally the word 'disciple' translates from the Greek word 'manthetes', which refers to a learner, adherent or follower. The word, as originally used in a classical, Hellenic Rabbinic context, 'manthenes', is someone who commits to learn from a rabbi : not merely his teaching, his way of ministry, imitate his life and character, but also to raise up their own disciples. The follower is expected to become a rabbi and is going to make disciples of himself once the learning from the teacher is complete.

However, as a disciple of Jesus, the requirements are more than these; the disciple of Jesus is someone who has responded to God's call to follow Jesus Christ - who must follow all that, in all its dimensions. I wonder, looking back over recent weeks, have you been aware of being called and sent by God to follow Jesus? Have you been aware of God's presence in your daily life?

It is a privilege that God has called me and sends me to follow Jesus to the Black Country. God is continually calling me, and calling you every day, to follow our Lord Jesus Christ; to be the hands and legs of Jesus in order to serve one another. The question is: is it important that we seek God's movement in our life?

Yes, because if we do not know where God is working in our daily life, we will be living our everyday life without a relationship with God. Living like that, what would the difference between being an atheist and a Christian? How could we be the children of God and do not have a relationship/encounter with the Father? In addition, how could we follow Jesus (be a follower of Jesus) if we do not know : where is Jesus?

We believe prayer is God's breath and the Bible is the Living Word of God. Thus, daily prayer and searching the scripture should not be the add-on choices for God's children. We believe that God calls us and he sends us to follow Jesus into the world to love one another. Therefore, in order to know where Jesus is in our everyday life, we (both as individuals and as the Body of Christ) need to growth our faith by initially spending more time, and intentionally seeking to grow, a deeper relationship with God.

In this note, I therefore urge you (as a congregation and an individual) to spend more time in prayer and searching the Bible; to hear God's instruction - in order to follow our Lord Jesus Christ more closely, and to grow our faith in God.

May the peace and grace of God be always with you.

Josephine Soon

Please remember the following people in your Prayers



Rev Peter and Felicity Knight and family ; Jane and Barry ; David ; Janet and Keith ; Graham and Gwen ; Jean and family ; Ted and Peggy ; Steve and Jane's mum, Elsie ; Jessie ; Rose ; Irene ; Joy ; Mike ; Ann and her son, Gwyn ; Jackie ; Barbara and Roly ; Thelma and Lindsey ; Ann ; George ; Maureen ; Colin ; The Stourbridge Street Pastors, the Stourbridge Food Bank volunteers, our friends at Oriel House, and all of our fellow Gig Mill members who are unwell at the moment.

If you, or someone you know, would like a visit from our Pastoral Care Team or would like to be included on our prayer list, please contact Delia Page or see one of the Stewards on duty.

Weekly Offerings :

23 rd September :	£329.57
30 th September :	£302.57
7 th October :	£290.67
14 th October :	£291.57
21 st October :	£286.17



Please give generously if you can !

Please consider the level of your contribution, as we need a minimum of £6.50 per week from each member to cover all of the Church costs, including our payment to the Circuit to cover ministerial costs, and the running costs of our Church.

If you wish to make a contribution or suggestion for our Newsletter, please contact

Malcolm Jeffrey (e-mail: enquiries@gigmillchurch.co.uk), or

Joy Jeffrey by the 25th of the month

so that it can be included in the notices and newsletter for December.

All contributions gratefully received !

If you have any items for the Church weekly notice sheet, please contact Jane Linford by the Thursday before, for inclusion the following Sunday.

Don't forget that we have our own website :

www.gigmillchurch.co.uk

If you have e-mail, your copy of this newsletter can be e-mailed to you :
just give Malcolm your e-mail address.

God Bless You All.