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## BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH

Website: [www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk)

Email: [barrowmeths@gmail.com](mailto:barrowmeths@gmail.com)

**Minister: Rev Sandra Marshall**

**Telephone: 0116 2304689**

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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
10.00 am until 2.00 pm

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## NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2024

### WEEKLY DIARY

Playgroup meets every day during school term time

Sunday 25 February	10.15 am	Roger Latham Steward: Natalie Coffee:
Monday 26 February	8.45 am – 4.00 pm 6.30 – 9.00 pm 7.30 pm	Playgroup 1 <sup>st</sup> Barrow upon Soar Guides Sharing Scripture Bible Study
Tuesday 27 February	8.45 am – 4.00 pm 4.30 – 7.30 pm 7.30 pm	Playgroup Cosmic Theatre School Men's Supper Group
Wednesday 28 February	8.45 am – 1.00 pm 3.15 pm	Playgroup Fun@Church
Thursday 29 February	8.45 am – 4.00 pm 12.30 pm 6.30 – 9.30 pm 7.00 – 9.30 pm 7.30 pm	Playgroup Thanksgiving Service for the life of Iris Perkins BATS Playgroup Committee Meeting in the Welcome Coffee Bar Bible Study
Friday 1 March	8.45 – 4.00 pm 12.30 pm 2.00 pm	Playgroup Lent lunches served at Holy Trinity Rooms Proceeds in aid of BACA World Day of Prayer Service here
Saturday 2 March	10.00 – 11.00 am 2.00 – 3.00 pm 6.00 – 7.15 pm	Minimarket Motion Dance Karate

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 3 March	10.15 am	Rob Newton Steward: Heather Coffee: Adrian and Sue
Mothering Sunday Sunday 10 March	10.15 am	Local Arrangement Steward: Kate Coffee: Mike and Pauline
Sunday 17 March	10.15 am	Circuit Service at Quorn
Palm Sunday Sunday 24 March	10.15 am	Rev Karen Beecham Steward: Sandra Coffee:
Good Friday 29 March	12.00 pm	Churches Together Good Friday Service Steward: Sandra Followed by lunch
Easter Sunday Sunday 31 March	9.00 am 10.15 am	Communion Breakfast with Rev Sandra Marshall Steward: Natalie Local Arrangement Steward: Natalie Coffee:

### BIBLE READING FOR SUNDAY:

Genesis Chapter 17 verses 1-7. 15-16

Romans Chapter 4 verses 13-25

Mark Chapter 8 verses 31-38

### REV SANDRA WRITES:

Some of you might be aware that we are struggling to find new stewards at Barrow upon Soar. Last night at the Church Council meeting we discussed a way forward. We must have stewards or the church is unable to function and the final result of not being able to find stewards is sadly that we will have to close. I'm sure none of you wish that to happen and neither did those at the meeting.

We discussed a possible way forward: to split the stewards into vestry stewards and leadership stewards. A vestry steward need not be a church member and is solely responsible for making sure everything is in place for worship to happen. The tasks include contacting the preacher, contacting the readers with the readings for Sunday, opening up in good time, checking that all is in place – is the Bible open, the candle present is there fresh water in the pulpit, is the prayer book out, are there names in it, are the mics available, is the collection plate out, tidying up afterwards, counting the collection and turning out lights and locking up.

This role is not onerous or difficult – if you are able to be on the coffee rota then you have the skills to go on a vestry stewards rota. If we could get a good number of volunteers then it might mean only being on Sunday duty once a month or even less.

Please pray and ask yourself if God might be calling you to be a vestry steward. Feel free to speak to me or any of the existing stewards about the role. It would be fantastic if we could get at least 8 volunteers. Is God speaking to you?

God bless, Sandra

### TABLETOP SALE

Are you having a Spring clear out? We are having a Tabletop Sale on Saturday 23 March from 10.00 am until 2.00 pm – table must be pre-booked (£10 each) and if anyone would like a table then please see Natalie or Janet.

### NEWS OF THE FOODBANK COLLECTIONS

As you will be aware, we have been collecting food for the Charnwood Food Hub for some time. Recently the items have dwindled, partly because some people are now donating money which we understand is more flexible for the organisers. Maybe some have found other places where they can leave their donations. In view of this it does not seem worth making one or two-weekly trips, so these will end on 1st March. We hope to continue passing on donations for drinks and refreshments at Mini-Mart and on Sunday mornings. This money and any other personal donations will be passed to the treasurer who will send it from the Church account at appropriate times.

We thank you for the gifts you have given up to now, and hope that you will continue if you can, we believe that it is most appreciated - Sue and Adrian

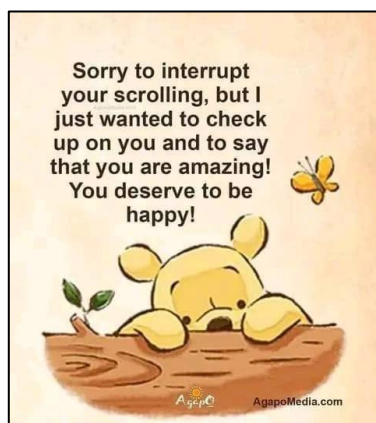
### ANNUAL REPORT

It will soon be time for the Annual Report – could Group Leaders please start thinking about this and have their report submitted by Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March please. If anyone else has an article that they would like included please let me know. Many thanks to those who have already submitted their reports! Janet

### PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Holy God, you are our greatest treasure, may we search you out in the darkness of our pain and in our light-filled joy, and in the everyday ordinariness of our lives. When we do not, or cannot, or do so without enthusiasm, touch us again with the flame of your love and enliven us. You made us to be like you, to bear your love and to be your faithful witnesses, may all that we are, and do and long to be, give you glory and praise. Amen.

Helen Cameron, District Chair, Northampton District



# CIRCUIT NEWS

## The Methodist Church Loughborough Circuit

5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Church Notice

Dear Friends

Following a review of the circuit pastoral resources the CLT have agreed to a 'levelling up' of responsibilities, in particular it was considered necessary to provide further assistance to Rev Sandra Marshall, who currently has pastoral responsibility for six churches, which places a heavy demand on Sandra preventing her from being involved as much as she would like in areas such as church and worship development.

The CLT have therefore agreed to implement the following changes within our existing pastoral team by redeploying our current staff as detailed below, all staff members involved have been consulted and have agreed to these changes and new responsibilities.

1. Rob Newton will take on the role of Local Lay Pastor at Sileby with responsibilities as listed in CPD which includes chairing Church Councils, with Sandra as oversight.
2. Eleri Bristow will take on the role of Local Lay Pastor at Wymeswold with responsibilities as listed in CPD which includes chairing Church Councils, with Sandra as oversight.
3. Martin Swan becomes the Minister for Knightthorpe
4. Karen Beecham becomes the Minister for Quorn

### These changes will mean the following:

Sandra – 3 churches, (Barrow, East Leake & Mountsorrel), plus oversight for 2  
Karen – 3 churches, (Quorn, Trinity & Woodhouse Eaves), plus Superintendency  
Martin – 2 churches, (Christchurch & Knightthorpe)  
Calvin – 1 church, (Chinese)  
Rob – 1 church, (Sileby)  
Eleri – 1 church, (Wymeswold)

These changes will be will take effect from 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact either Rev Karen Beecham 01509 219804 or Trevor Ranson 01509 416928.

Please think and pray about all these people as they take on new responsibilities in the life of the church and Loughborough Circuit.

Blessings

Trevor Ranson  
On behalf of Loughborough CLT

