



# Kettering & Corby Circuit (23/19)



## July/August Newsletter

### Festival of Barrows & Baskets with Boots

After weeks of dry weather, the rain came down in torrents just as we were setting up for the festival. Undaunted we carried on, the entries began to fill up, the Church and the Community Centre was set up and ready for the visitors. We began with a visit from some of the school classes who took time out of their busy schedule to talk with us about the exhibits in church and old Desborough traditions. The public began to arrive on Friday afternoon and there was a steady stream all weekend. The plant hall was kept busy, as was the Panier cafe. The kitchen ladies served a delicious lunch on the Sunday which was very popular. The favourite entries were -



- Adult's Favourite Basket** - St Giles Craft Group "Merry Mouse Maypole"
- Child's Favourite Basket** - St Giles Community Centre "A Big Hello From Tiny Tots"
- Adult's Favourite Barrow** - Stella "A Blooming Good Charity"
- Child's Favourite Barrow** - Milne Class Loatlands Primary School "The Hare and the Tortoise"
- Adult's Favourite Boot** - Katie Steel with "The Gospel according to Johnathan"
- Child's Favourite Boot** - Elliot and Ava with "Muddy Puddles"

### Circuit Prayer Meetings

Tuesdays 7.30pm Central

All are welcome at our Circuit Prayer Meetings:-



2nd,9th,16th,23rd, 30th July  
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th August  
NB No further Bible Studies are planned at this time.



### NEW!

At Central at 3.00pm  
Afternoon Service followed by tea  
Once a quarter  
Starting July 14th  
All welcome - why not bring a friend?

For any enquiries or comments please contact the Circuit Administrator, Mary-Ann Ansdell on 07842478693 or email her at [methodistcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:methodistcircuit@gmail.com) .  
All regular services and events should be on the Circuit website at [www.ketteringcorbymethodists.org](http://www.ketteringcorbymethodists.org)

**"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13 v 13**

As I write this letter I am very aware that my time in this Circuit is drawing to a close and I and Marilyn must move to a new stage in our life. Throughout my years in ministry I have often been asked 'what the word spirituality means for me?' As we all move on in life that's a good question to ponder in a world where there is a vast market place of spiritual directions on offer. I believe that at the very centre of Christian spirituality is our understanding of love. Love is the origin of what it means to be Christian. A Christian cannot claim that he or she is spiritual if they have no love for their brothers and sisters. And I must say that I have always felt loved by so many people in this circuit

Over the years many hymns and songs have had a great influence upon me. One such is the great hymn of Charles Wesley. *'Love divine all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down'* When we consider the words of this hymn, we will see that when we love one another, then we begin to be thankful for one another. Spiritually we will grow both as individuals and as a circuit. Our spiritual journey should reflect this and our spiritual journey must be deeply rooted in love. For me St. Paul's words written to the Philippian church is a wonderful example of Christian prayer both of praise to God and thankfulness for other people. *'I thank my God for you every time I think of you, and every time I pray for you.....'*

As I finish this farewell letter to you all, I echo St Paul's words and I too give thanks to God for each and every one of you. My prayer for you all is, 'May the Lord Bless you and keep you, May the Lord make His face to shine upon you, May the Lord be gracious unto you and give you His peace

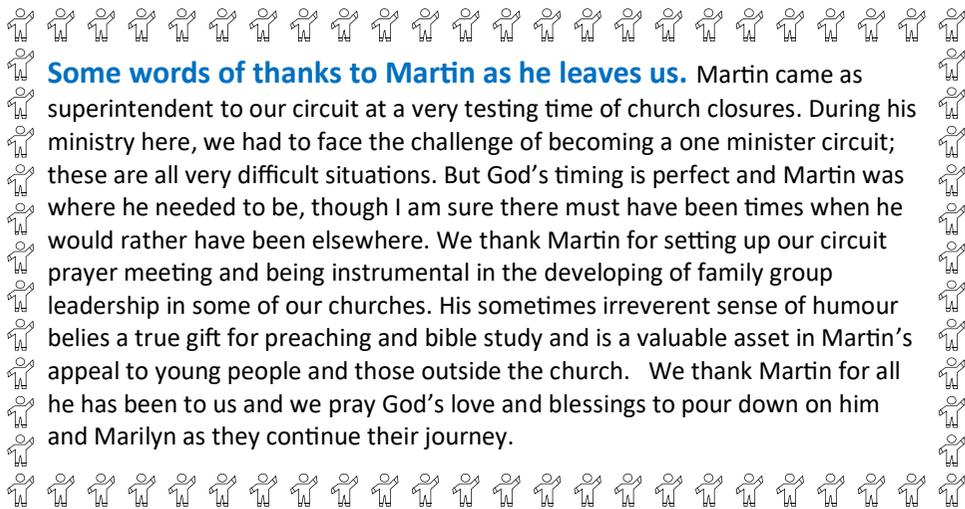
Keep on loving; Keep on serving, Keep on growing

Reverend Martin Swan

### Dates for your Diaries.

**Martin's Leaving Service:**  
Sunday 28th July  
Rothwell at 10.30am

**Andrew's Welcoming Service:**  
Saturday 31st August  
Central at 3.00pm



**Some words of thanks to Martin as he leaves us.** Martin came as superintendent to our circuit at a very testing time of church closures. During his ministry here, we had to face the challenge of becoming a one minister circuit; these are all very difficult situations. But God's timing is perfect and Martin was where he needed to be, though I am sure there must have been times when he would rather have been elsewhere. We thank Martin for setting up our circuit prayer meeting and being instrumental in the developing of family group leadership in some of our churches. His sometimes irreverent sense of humour belies a true gift for preaching and bible study and is a valuable asset in Martin's appeal to young people and those outside the church. We thank Martin for all he has been to us and we pray God's love and blessings to pour down on him and Marilyn as they continue their journey.

### Update on Youth Discipleship Group

The Youth group is still meeting on the first Sunday of every month to discuss questions surrounding our Faith and to look and learn more about the life of Jesus. 6 young people from Central and Rothwell attend regularly.

In June we looked at the story of Pentecost and explored what the Holy Spirit came to do and the impact it had on Jesus' friends. The young people took part in various challenges that proved to be impossible but when we work together we find we can perform more effectively.



**Next meeting - July 7<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a BBQ and games night at Wicksteed Park.**  
**More information from Caroline Barratt on 01536 724815 or cbarratt50@gmail.com**

### Coffee Mornings in July/August

**Central** - Thursday 18th July  
 10.00am - 12.00noon  
**NB.** No Coffee Morning at Central in August.  
**Cornerstone** - Thursday 18th July & Thursday 15th August 10.30am - 11.30am.



**Café Church**  
 Burton Latimer  
 Sunday 14th July at 10.45am  
 All welcome

### Together Mission

On Saturday June 1st a team of volunteers from Central launched the first Pop up Church event in Kettering town centre for the Together Missions. We set up our bright orange gazebo in a prime position and spent the day engaging with local people through conversations, craft activities for children and also giving out leaflet's explaining some of the activities and times of services at Central. Our first event was very successful and it was fantastic to be out in the town meeting new people and sharing our Faith. We were very grateful to Jill Marsh and some members of the Stamford Circuit who came along to help and encourage us. Our next event will be during the "Kettfest" event which is on the weekend of 13th/14th July. If you would like to find out more about the day you can view a video that we made which is on You tube. It is called Kettering Together Missions Team June 2019.



**the girls' brigade**  
 girls' lives transformed  
 god's world enriched



**Do you like a challenge?  
 Are you passionate about young people?**

Burton Latimer are looking for a new leader to help in leading their Girl's Brigade.  
 Please contact Helen on 07948481679 for more information.

### Prayer Corner



Please hold the following people/situations in your prayers:-

- Martin and his family as they move to pastures new
- Andrew and Fiona Farrington as they prepare for ministry here
- The need for a new Circuit Treasurer
- The need for a new Lay Worker
- Our Boys' and Girls' Brigades and their leaders

**Deadline for Sept/Oct Newsletter will be Friday 23rd August**  
 If you have an event at your church please write a few lines and/or send photos to [methodistcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:methodistcircuit@gmail.com)