

OTHER NOTICES

- ◇ Please pick up a **Contacts sheet** to fill in and return to Lin, so that we can have an up-to-date Contacts Directory. Information is entirely optional, and only those whose information appears on the list will receive copies, and they are to be held confidentially, not placed publicly, in accordance with GDPR.
- ◇ If you have a home **collection box** for **Action for Children**, please could you give it to **Chris** for opening, as soon as possible, thanks.
- ◇ The next **Men's Dinner** at The Lord Nelson is proposed for Thursday 4th April. Enquiries to Ian (Clarkson) on York 791877
- ◇ Please collect your new box of **free-will envelopes** from the back of church today and in coming weeks. There are spares if you don't use these yet but would like to. Please speak to Robin.
- ◇ Don't forget to order your **FairTrade Easter Eggs from Paul** - there are loads of goodies to choose from across a range of prices, and of course no profit from Paul's FairTrade stall subsidises the tea, coffee etc which we use in church.

As noted overleaf, Mo would really value our prayers for the final stage of her Candidating process, which she describes below:

The Candidating process began last August when I let the Candidates Office know of my intention to candidate as a Presbyterian. I also began a 30 hour work placement, spread out over a few weeks. My placement was based with Rev Ann Fox in Starbeck, Scotton and Knaresborough. In September I gave an account of my call to the Circuit Council, and received their support to go forward with the Candidating process. In October I sent in my formal application form and worked on my 8,000 word portfolio which was a mixture of essays on a variety of topics, including my call to ministry, types of ministry in the Methodist Church in Britain, an account of my placement, and Theology. The portfolio was handed in in December and references were taken up from my employer, the Circuit Leadership Team and my 'critical friend'. Into this year, and in January I received feedback on my portfolio, which was very positive. I was interviewed and gave a presentation to the District Candidates Committee, receiving their support to go forward to Connexion. And the final part of the whole Candidating process takes the form of Connexional interviews at High Leigh conference centre beginning tomorrow. My interview will take place over 24 hours from 3pm Monday to 3pm Tuesday. As well as interviews there will be a group activity, and a short presentation about God's grace, based on Hymn 320 in Singing the Faith. All the way through the process I've been supported in prayer by many people here and around the Connexion, it's hard to express just how much that's appreciated. **I will find out whether my offer has been accepted on 3rd April.** Whatever the outcome, the process has been helpful and even transformative.

Mo.

A Statement from The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference: The Westminster Parliament continues to struggle with the Brexit process. Like no other issue of our time, Brexit has divided our politics, our society and our communities. The coming days and months harbour uncertainty and, for many, even fear. We know that faithful Methodists hold a spectrum of views on Brexit, as they do on many other issues that shape our country and world. We do not minimise the challenge of responding to this hugely emotive issue. Yet we believe that, as Christians, we are bound to one another in Christ, whatever our differences. And we are called to serve our communities even, perhaps especially, in these troubling times. Churches around the country have been providing safe spaces of welcome, reflection and conversation, places where name-calling and abuse are not acceptable, but where differing views can be heard. Offering such a gift of welcome to our communities is not always easy. We hold each other in prayer as we try to serve others at this time. We also pray for the politicians and civil servants, in this country and in the EU, who are at the centre of this storm and must make important decisions. We pray for those with whom we disagree as much as those who share our personal views. While we may feel at sea, blown about by a chaotic political process, we believe that we have an assurance that flows from the faithfulness of God. And therefore we can offer love, practise compassion and speak justice to the communities we serve.

Rev Michaela Youngson, President of the Methodist Conference
Mr Bala Gnanaprasadam, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

There are a few new dates here to put in your Diaries:

5th-7th April	MWiB Conference at Swanwick
Monday 15th April	Ladies' Leisure Group Meeting 2.15pm: Pauline Mason on Street Children of Nepal
Sunday 5th May	Circuit Service at Stillingfleet Parish Church 3pm
Tuesday 7th May	Property Committee 7.30pm
Sunday 12th May	Shared Lunch after the Service
Thursday 16th May	Stewards Meeting 7pm; Leadership Meeting 7.30pm
Sunday 19th May	Church AGM after the service
Monday 20th May	Worship Meeting 7.30pm
Sunday 26th May	Circuit Easter Offering Service at Huntington Methodist 4pm
Wednesday 19th June	Church Council 7.30pm
Sunday 1st September	Circuit Service of Welcome to Rev'd Steve Barlow
Wednesday 9th October	Church Council 7.30pm
Sunday 13th October	Harvest Festival at Lidgett
18th-20th October	<i>Flourish</i> District Gathering weekend in Scarborough

Please do have a look at the new notices on our Church notice board, which are updated regularly