

Woosehill Church



Worship for 7th August

10:00am Holy Communion Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby

Steward: John Hoskins
Sidesperson: Lynn Smith
Reader: Lynn Smith
Prayers: John Hoskins
Projector: Lynne Paine
Audio Visual: Bob Clark
Communion steward: Linda Hoskins
Coffee: Sue Falquero
Music: Recorded
Flowers: Lynne Paine

The link for the live stream of this service is <https://youtu.be/tMj1d-nLP5M>

Diary - this week -

Thurs	10.00am-12midday	WoolWAM - knitting & crochet - All very welcome
Sat	11am	Sip & share - coffee/tea & chat. All very welcome

If you have any concerns please talk to the Minister or Steward on duty.

If you have any enquiries or would like to speak to a minister for any reason, please contact Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby - soba.sinnathamby@hotmail.co.uk
01189894374

Events & Notices

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Currently on summer break. Resuming on Tuesday 6th September with Soba leading and hosting Communion. Meeting in person at Soba's and Nava's Manse, starting 7:15pm. Tuesday 13th September. New series: Life of Elijah the prophet. Normal Zoom meeting, starting 7:15pm

THURSDAY MORNING ART GROUP

The Art Group will not be meeting in July or August. We will recommence in September (22nd) under a new name: Colour & Chat. We no longer have a regular experienced water colour teacher so have decided to widen our remit. The water colour paints will still be available for those who want to use them but we will also be providing general colouring (felt tips and pencils) & collage. The idea being that participants do their own thing (or nothing!) while sharing tea/coffee & chat. Doodlers & thumb twiddlers also welcome! From time to time we may do some special sessions e.g. card making, scrap booking, water colour, etc.

THURSDAY MORNING SEWING GROUP & SING SOMETHING SIMPLE GROUP

These groups will not be meeting in August, next meetings - Sing Something Simple - 1st Sept, Sewing group - 15th Sept.

MARK & GILLIAN PAYNE NEW ADDRESS

Mark & Gillian have now moved into their new home. Their new address is Russets, Dell Road. Finchampstead. Wokingham. RG40 3TB

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - HARVEST FESTIVAL with BBQ

Our Harvest festival this year will be on Sunday 25th September at 10 am, all very welcome. We will be supporting Wokingham Foodbank & Yeldall Manor. After the service we will be holding a Harvest Lunch in the form of a BBQ. Please bring a salad or dessert if you can but most importantly bring yourself. Please email stewards@woosehillchurch.org to let us know that you are coming. Entertainment provided.

MEDITATION GROUP

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, St Paul's Church (note, August meeting has been moved to 16th August). Arrive from 1pm for 1.15pm start. Finishes by 2pm. All welcome. Further details from Susannah Riley

meditationgroup@spauls.org.uk

PRAYERS

If you would like prayers for yourself, your family or friends, please contact the Prayer Coordinator, Lynn Smith woosehillprayerchain@gmail.com or tel.07757 701730. Messages on the prayer chain are totally confidential and only seen by those Church members on the chain, if you would also like to be included in the intercessions on a Sunday morning then please let Lynn know.

VIRTUAL PRAYER WALK

On our virtual prayer walk around Woosehill, this week please pray for the residents of Beryl Close & Diamond Way as part of our journey praying for all our neighbourhood.

REFLECTION FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

Zephaniah's Promise for the Exiles

During this week I joined a webinar arranged by a Christian charity. It concerned providing help and support to Ukrainian refugees. Several stories were shared by the facilitators. Most stories were about the kindness and generosity shown by ordinary people in the UK. At the same time, there were stories of absolute hatred, indifference and exploitation. One of the Ukrainian participants highlighted, however broadminded the general public the government and the local authorities are, there are loopholes and shortcomings in meeting the needs of the expatriates. Several families and individuals have been left in the lurch after the initial reception they received. The general expression in the seminar, as well as our common understanding, is that no one wants to be a burden to anyone and that as soon as the situation in Ukraine improves, they want to get back to their own country. The feelings of those who were forced to leave their own homes are so deep, no matter how well they are settled in another place, there is always a strong desire to go back home and help contribute towards the rebuilding of their nation.

In the background of all of this, something else is also happening that has not received much limelight. It is the return of many of Asian origin back to Uganda. This is the 50th year of nearly 60,000 people of Indian and Pakistani origins being expelled by Idi Amin, the then president of Uganda. They arrived in the UK with almost nothing in their hands. But over the years, they settled well and worked hard and became very successful. For the successive generations, Britain is their homeland. But to the older generation - those who fled Uganda - there is still a hankering for their country of birth! Now several of them are going back and helping the growth of the economy of that country. The businesses and industries their parents and grandparents have established came to a halt when they left. These very things are now being revived, paving way for more employment and economic growth in that country.

These brief descriptions identify among many things, the deep feelings of displaced people have for their homeland. Nobody likes to be forced out of their homes. When the time is right, they want to go back and play their part in the restoration of their communities and nations.

This is exactly the sentiment expressed in Zephaniah's prophecy. There will be invasion and subjugation of people by foreign powers who will cause them to scatter. The destruction of their land and their exile will expose them to the evil of their 'little shortcomings'. It took a few decades before the actual destruction of the nation and the captivity of people to happen. But at the same time, Zephaniah prophesied of a time of restoration and rebuilding will follow [3:19-20]:

....I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honour in every land where they have suffered shame. At that time, I will gather you; at that time, I will bring you home. I will give you honour and praise among all the peoples of the earth...

Anyone forced to leave their country and longing to go back will find these words very reassuring.

With prayers,

Soba-

Worship for 14th August

10:00am MorningWorship Doreen Murgatroyd

Steward: Lynn Smith
Sidesperson: Ruth Smith
Reader: Alison Lewis
Prayers: Lyn Brown
Projector: Bob Clark
Audio Visual: Geoff Peck
Coffee: Janine du Plessis
Music: Andy Kensley
Flowers: Linda Hoskins

Coming up in the next couple of weeks:

Sun 21 st August	10.00am	Holy Communion - Rev'd Richard Lamey
Sun 28 th August	10.00am	Morning Worship - Christine Morgan

To keep up to date, visit our website - www.woosehillchurch.org or 'like' our Facebook page - 'Woosehill Church'

Please send any information for the notice sheet to woosehill.church@googlemail.com before 8.00pm on **Wednesday**.
Thank you. Alison