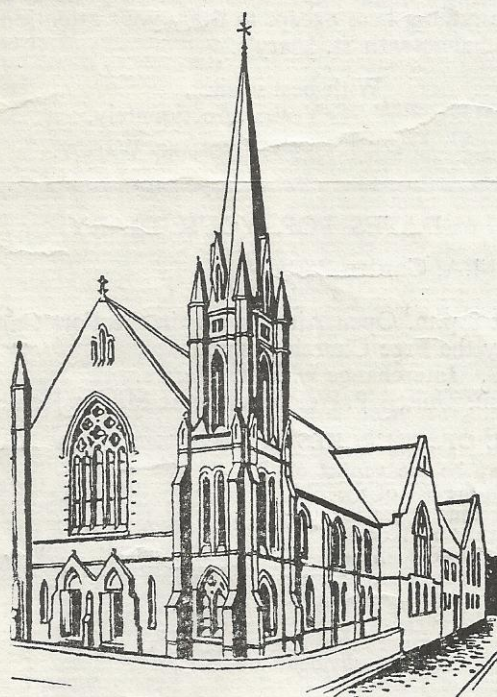


MILTON ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

GRAVESEND



No. 8

NEWSLETTER

June, 1959

Minister: Rev. J. Leonard Waddy, 9 The Avenue, Gravesend

PUBLIC WORSHIP: Sundays at 11.0 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Morning at 11.0 o'clock, Afternoon at 3.0 o'clock
(Graded)

WEEK-DAY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

3 p.m. Women's Meeting.
5.30—6.30 p.m. Primary
Play Hour.
5.30—7 p.m. Junior Guild.
6.30—8.15 p.m. Intermediate
Guild.
7 p.m. Badminton.

4.30 (alternate weeks).

5.30—7 p.m. Brownies.
7 p.m. Boy's Brigade.
8 p.m. Choir Practice.

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Under 17's Club.

TUESDAY

6.30—8.30 p.m. Guides.

SATURDAY

7 p.m. Badminton.

WEDNESDAY

2.30—4 p.m. Wives Club (First
and third Wednesday in the
month).
7.30 p.m. Over 17's Club.

CLASSES as announced.

THURSDAY

3 p.m. Sewing Circle—Tea at

Within this arrangement there
is something for everyone. We
cordially invite all who read this
letter to avail themselves of the
opportunities provided.

THE PASTORAL LETTER

My dear Friend,

Once again I have written so much in other parts of this Newsletter, I will not add anything here except to draw your attention to what I say about the interchange with St. Mary's.

With best wishes,
Yours affectionately,
J. LEONARD WADDY.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 13. J.M.A. Garden Party.
June 14.)
July 12.) at 8 p.m. Open Air Services in the Fort Gardens arranged
Aug. 2.) by the Free Church Council.
June 21. and 28. Interchange with St. Mary's.
June 22. 8 p.m. United Prayer Meeting at Milton Road.

THE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Whatever may be the verdict of the historian upon the life of the 20th century; whether they stress the unparalleled bloodshed and cruelty of the unmatched advances in science and in material prosperity, it will stand out in Christian history as a time of world-wide advance of the Faith and for the increasing sense of unity between the hitherto divided parts of the Church of Christ.

The last fifty years records many organic unions some of which would have been deemed impossible. One of the great factors towards unity in our country is the Council of Churches and the growth and increasing influence of the local branch is most encouraging. Through this Council the various Churches in the town are kept in touch with one another and in many ways act together. The interest of the Council in refugee work, both by the adopting of families and the Inter-Church Aid Week collection is well-known. Our resolution on Nuclear Tests was not given the prominence in the Local press which it deserved. The school-leavers' service and other matters of public interest are arranged by the Council. Working together thus there is a growing sense of fellowship.

I am proud of the place which our Milton Road Church plays in these affairs, but we do not want the interest to be shown by only a few. We want all our people to be "Ecumenically minded." That big word stands for a big thing. The

dictionary defines it as "Belonging to or representing the whole (Christian) world, or the Universal Church." There is no disloyalty to Methodism to see her life in the wider setting of a Universal Church, to co-operate with every other Christian who loves the Lord Jesus, and perhaps in this way to bring about the forming of a greater Church than England has ever known.

Let us support every endeavour of our local Council especially the monthly prayer meetings where we mix and let us support with our prayers the World Council of Churches.

I want to ask you particularly to take your part in a most unusual adventure in June. It is now no uncommon thing for Anglican and Methodist ministers to exchange pulpits. Next month we are exchanging congregations with St. Mary's. (This is not a ministers' stunt but was carried at the Society meeting in January by an overwhelming, if not quite unanimous, majority. St. Mary's Church Council have responded. On the 21st and 28th June the members of our congregation whose surnames begin with A to K are asked to attend St. Mary's evening Service. The A to K group from St. Mary's will attend Milton Road. The next Sunday evening the L to Z groups will change. (This is not inflexible: if B is courting W we will not separate them!) But follow the pattern as much as you can. Our service will be the usual Methodist

service and St. Mary's the usual Anglican. We are not trying to imitate each other but to gain an insight into each other's worship.

Perhaps the whole work of the Council of Churches can be summed up most adequately in the words of Wesley,—“If thy heart is as my heart, give me thy hand.”

J.L.W.

WOMEN'S MEETING

The Committee once again wish to thank all speakers and friends for their help in making the meetings a success. We were very pleased to welcome some new members and extend a very cordial invitation to any other women of our Church who would like to share this time of happy fellowship with us. Our Bring & Buy Sale held on May 4th was well attended and very successful. At this time we should like to wish Mrs. Fox a very happy holiday in Canada. Our Outing to Broadstairs is arranged for June 22nd.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

The J.M.A. Garden Party will be held on Saturday, 13th June, in St. James's Vicarage Garden (if wet, in St. James's Institute) to be opened at 3-30 p.m. by Mrs. A. Cox. Chairman I. G. Roberts, Esq. J.M.A. Collectors will present a Play produced by Mrs. C. Mills.

Gifts for the Produce Stall and Cakes and Sweet Stall will be gratefully received by Miss Kathleen Kennedy.

AGED MINISTERS' RETIREMENT FUND

Everyone will agree that the Welfare State has materially benefitted many people, but what about those who are outside its blessings? What about the retired Methodist Ministers and their widows who are too old to benefit? There are about 900 of them and their need is great. Methodism has a Fund that assists these men and women. Will you help it? Mrs. Harvey is the collector in our Church and she will be pleased to receive donations. If you are unable to contact her, any of the Stewards will be happy to pass on your contribution. Thank you.

OBERAMMERGAU

It appears that the response to this proposed trip is not going to be so great as we had expected. I have, however, booked a party to go by air to Munich and spend a fortnight

abroad from the 25th August to 8th September. Owing to heavy demand these dates cannot be changed. If the response to the May trip is not very much greater immediately, I shall have to ask the few who were going, to transfer to August; and to be content with one party.

THE WIVES CLUB

Members of the Wives Club always feel the Club is somewhat like an iceberg, two thirds below water and one-third above. Our underground or underwater activities are often greater than those that show above. A side of our work which has been slowly but surely developing is our visiting similar meetings in other Churches. We started by going to our smaller Churches in the circuit with a little music and talk and we have had a great deal of pleasure from doing so and hope we have given pleasure and possibly inspiration too. Now, lately, we have visited other denomination and sung some of our Mothering Sunday music and arranged the whole programme for the afternoon. In this way we have recently visited Ridgeway Avenue Congregational Church Women's Meeting and Christ Church Young Wives (King's Farm Group). We have had a very warm welcome from both and spent happy afternoons in warm fellowship and greater understanding. To us comes the greater realization that we serve the same God and we are sure in such ways we are contributing to a greater unity between Churches of all kinds.

As always we welcome newcomers and can assure them of many a happy and profitable hour spent in this Christian Fellowship.

THE NEWSLETTER

Please note all items for the next issue must be handed in by 16th Aug.

As before the box will be in the vestibule and contributions towards the cost of printing will be gratefully received.

There is an invalid chair at the Church which can be borrowed for short periods, e.g., for the purpose of taking out sick folk. Any friends wishing to avail themselves of this are asked to get in touch with Mr. A. Rayner, 19 Harman Avenue.

We also have an infra-red lamp for use by sufferers from rheumatism etc. Will anyone interested please contact Mr. D. Fleming, 19 Devonshire Road.

PERSONAL NEWS

We have received by Baptism, three children into the "congregation of Christ's flock" :-

Andrea Kelly
Vanessa Greenwood
Kim Diana Fallows

There have been three marriages:

John Smith Greenwell to
Joan Marion King.
John Robert Hosegood to
Margaret Winifred Davis.
William Smith to Gylfa Edith
Maude Scott.

With deep regret we announce the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Charlotte Burren at the age of 50.

On 3rd May we received into membership :-

Leonard A. Brown
Ralph B. T. Baker
Bronwen M. Allen
Lesley A. Lennard
Ruth M. Sherlock
Maxine E. Hunt
Ruth Carpenter
Elizabeth A. Selling
Alistair Kay

and by transfer from other branches of the Christian Church :-

Patricia M. Bowden
Clifford F. Snayden

and from other parts of the country we have received into our fellowship :-

Mr. James and Mrs. Violet Kelly
(Greenock)
Miss Anne Andrews (Brighton)
Mr. John H. J. Eason
(Canterbury)

It was with a sense almost of horror that we learnt of the accident to Mr. Gordon Morey and his elder daughter, Lesley. We are glad that his injuries so quickly healed. Severe injury to anyone is distressing to see, but in a child it is heart-breaking. It is with gratitude to God that we state that the surgeon accomplished what he had hoped through the difficult operation which he performed. Recovery will be slow but news up to date is encouraging. We shall not "let up" in our prayers for the full restoration to health and strength of this brave child; nor shall we forget her equally courageous parents in our prayers.