



## West Bergholt Methodist Church

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# THE LINK

MAY 2019

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**Please note** that we are no longer holding Sunday morning services in our Chapel. Transport will be arranged to a service at Mile End Methodist church, leaving the village at 10.00am for the 10.30am service. Please contact Judith, 01206 241969, or Andrew, 01206 242511, if you would like a lift.

**WORSHIP at Mile End at 10-30 am** will be led by  
May 5<sup>th</sup> Rev Ken Chalmers  
May 12<sup>th</sup> Rev J Cassidy with communion  
May 19<sup>th</sup> Mr Alan Beesley  
May 26<sup>th</sup> Mr Ron Firmin

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**Thy Kingdom Come** is a global prayer movement in which Christians pray that people would come to know Jesus. Taking place between Ascension and Pentecost, Thy Kingdom Come this year falls between **30 May - 9 June 2019**.

During Thy Kingdom Come:-

- People commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family.
- Churches will hold prayer events, such as 24-7 prayer, prayer stations and prayer walks, across the UK and in other parts of the world.
- People will be transformed through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

The invitation is simply for people to pray in whatever way they want, with whoever they want and wherever they can, that others might know Jesus Christ. To take part, 'pledge to pray' on the Thy Kingdom Come website - [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global).

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## **A NEW MINISTER FOR THE CIRCUIT**

The Circuit has been seeking, through the stationing process, to secure a new minister for the Circuit from September 2019 to replace Rev Steve Swan who left in 2018. The Rev Joseph Neil Adams has been invited and will live in the manse at Tollgate, Stanway with particular responsibility for the churches at Lexden, West Mersea and Wimpole Road. The Rev Joe Adams is hoping to start a little early, in July, so that he can join his churches for some of their summer activities. Joe's welcome service will be at Wimpole road on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 7.00pm. Therefore, it is possible that we will be back to having three Ministers in the Circuit from September.

## **THE REVD JOSEPH NEIL ADAMS INTRODUCES HIMSELF TO THE CIRCUIT**

**I am a Methodist, not by birth, but by a combination of accident and choice!**  
I'll tell you more when we meet.

The Wesley's love of music, open theology and pursuit of scriptural holiness have kept me within the Methodist Church, where I definitely feel I belong.

The practical personal discipleship of prayer and fellowship within Class Meetings John Wesley began remain deeply relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and if we could rediscover the enthusiasm that burned in our denomination we could bring fresh hope to our communities as we join in with the work of the Kingdom of God.

My greatest honour in life so far has been to be Dad to four children and I am immensely proud of them. My second granddaughter will, God willing, be born this month. Niamh, my first granddaughter, will celebrate her third birthday before you read this.

Sport is very important to me and I am a passionate supporter of my home town team, Wolverhampton Wanderers, where I have held a season ticket for many of the last 30+ years. I enjoy many differing pastimes including the big four C's – comedy, cinema, cooking and cars!

I am so happy to have been matched with Colchester Circuit, and am looking forward to starting this next chapter of my life and Ministry with you. I was so impressed by the Churches and especially the people I met when I visited Colchester, and can barely wait to start working with Ken and Alan, and getting to know you all and your communities.

My partner, Dave, will be joining me in Colchester, along with my middle daughter, Hannah, who will be relocating from London to live with us. We are all very excited about this opportunity.

God is good, and together we have the wonderful privilege of joining in with Him in the work of God's Kingdom; living, laughing and learning together we will see the glory of our Lord.

It's going to be fun! God bless you! *Joe*

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**  
**MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> – MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>**



**Stand Together this Christian Aid Week**  
**For dignity, For equality, For justice.**

Volunteers are needed for distribution and collection of envelopes around the village. Please contact Andrew Wilks (01206 242511) if you can help.

**“Big Brekkie” Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>** at St Mary’s Church hall at about 9.00am, further details nearer the time. A new fund raising event. Last year more than 2,500 people held a “Big Brekkie” and helped raise vital funds for people around the world. Christian Aid supporters helped deliver life-changing support. Sharing a meal with your closest friends, neighbours, family or small church group is a great way to raise money and help people out of poverty. You’ll be raising vital funds to help poor communities worldwide. All are welcome to the “Big Brekkie”, but to help catering please let Andrew know (01206 242511) if you plan to come along.

Christian Aid Week is the single biggest act of Christian witness in Britain and Ireland. For thousands of churches, it’s a way of getting out into the community, answering Jesus’ call to help people in need. This week, we will be sharing stories from Sierra Leone: here, Christian Aid’s partner RADA is working with some of the country’s poorest communities, to improve healthcare and ensure mothers don’t die in childbirth.

Christian Aid Week will be focusing on maternal health in Sierra Leone, which is the most dangerous place in the world to give birth with 10 mothers dying every day in childbirth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

We believe that all mothers should live, so we’re asking people to stand with mothers in Sierra Leone by raising awareness and funds for the work of Christian Aid to provide new and improved health centres, training for new health workers, and support for new and expectant families to improve their access to the vital finances, education and practical facilities needed to receive adequate healthcare.

This Christian Aid Week, together, we can make childbirth safe for mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world’s poorest mums a chance to live.

Christian Aid Week brings Christians together with a common purpose to achieve something incredible.

We need your support now, more than ever. With every envelope, every Big Brekkie, Every one of us can help deliver babies safely.

**OTHER MEETINGS**

*Please feel free to join us at any of these – you will be made most welcome...*

Please join us for our monthly **mid week informal worship** activity in our hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 11.00am. The next such event will be on **Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup>** led by Rev Ken Chalmers  
All are welcome

The next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on  
Weds. 8<sup>th</sup> MAY, 10 - 11.30am  
BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU  
Coffee or Tea and Biscuits - 50p  
Gifts for Cake and General Stalls  
will be appreciated.



**Books and Greetings Cards will be on sale**

Thank you for your support. April result - £33-71

<p><b>Bible STUDY</b> Join us!</p>	<p>Our Bible Study Book Club meets every third Wednesday, next meeting <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am</b> in our hall. We are looking at Corinthians. All are welcome</p>
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WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting will be at 2.30pm



On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – a members meeting so please bring along an item to share.

ALL ARE WELCOME

If you would like to come to any of our services, or any other church activities, but would need a lift, please phone 01206 242511 or 241969.

**Action For Children** - a sponsored walk will take place in Layer-de-la-Haye, on **Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>** at 10.00am. All are welcome to join in the walks (two choices - one or two hours) and sponsorship for the walkers would be welcomed. Please speak to Sylvia Wilks for more details.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

May 12<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid week.  
Sat. May 18<sup>th</sup> – Christian Aid “Big Brekkie”  
May 30<sup>th</sup>-June 9<sup>th</sup>- Thy Kingdom Come, prayer initiative  
Sat. June 8<sup>th</sup> – Action For Children Walk 10.00am.  
Sun June 9<sup>th</sup> – Methodist Homes Sunday.

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**Copy for the June edition should be with Andrew Wilks by the third Sunday in May – May 19<sup>th</sup> please.**