



Billericay Methodist Church 
at Queens Park, Western Road and
St Andrew's, Herongate

Sunday 7th August 2022

Connecting with each other

Dear Friends, I recall someone saying *'I'm not interested in the passages people underline in their Bibles; it's the verses they don't that worry me'*. And I rather think the Gospel today could be one such passage as Jesus' words makes for uncomfortable reading. It's a story of a man unhappy about his inheritance (**Lk 12: 13-21**) and a self-obsessed rich man who believes he can know and plan for the future in the same way he's made beneficial decisions for himself in the present. They are stories about greed; of a brother wanting more than his due and a rich man believing he's entitled to all the benefits the surplus has made possible (in large part) by the work of others.

However, it's important to say that wealth itself isn't intrinsically bad; rather it's the choices on how it's used and spent that is the issue and eventually will be open to scrutiny and judgement. John van de Laar a South African Methodist minister writing on this passage, writes, *"The way we view, earn and use money in our churches, families and individual lives, is a window into how we understand and live the Gospel..... Apart from sexuality, perhaps, money is the issue that we deal with least helpfully and honestly in the church, and yet it is a primary issue in the Scriptures. Dependence on God sounds like a quaint, outdated and unrealistic way of living in today's wealth-focussed world. Simplicity is all too often equated with foolishness and naivety"*. The parable in Luke's gospel is about greed and where real security lies. It challenges individuals and churches on where trust is placed; money or faith in God.

Clearly, we are called to be good stewards of the wealth we have. But, it's Paul in Col 3:1b,2, who sets out the right balance when deciding what is saved and what is spent ...seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth... When we invest our lives in the things above then we discover where real security and wealth lies. Blessings! Kathleen

Theme for the Year – Caring for God's World

We will actively engage with the Tearfund Climate Change Emergency declaration process and continue to explore other ways as individuals and as a church to better care for God's world. (Genesis 1: 27-28)



Statement of Mission:

Billericay Methodist Church is called to encourage a living faith in God. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we proclaim the love of Jesus Christ in: worship and fellowship, evangelism and teaching, serving others and working for social justice.

Prayer

Please pray for the following people this week, asking God to meet their every need Elizabeth Forward, Rex Kemp, Jean Kenway, Barbara Kite plus Moses, Diana and family (as they prepare to move to Billericay).



Precious beyond jewels is the treasure of your Word, living God. May we live by your Word, focus on you in our daily lives and share with others the blessings and counsels of the Holy Spirit . Amen.
(RKG)



Praying together at 10am - a time each day when you can know that others are praying with you.

Prayer Chain Please contact Geraldine with any prayer chain requests that you have.

Notices

2019 church directory: Mike T is attempting to update this , so he would be grateful if you would send him any amendments/deletions for inclusion.. This could also include any offices that you do/do not hold currently. If you are not in the church directory and would like to be please let him know and he will send you the appropriate GDPR documents. Many thanks.. Mike.

Service DVD for 7 August: This week there will be no DVD available for the online service for those who are unable to access the internet but we hope to place the 7th and the 14th August services together on one disc for the 14th August edition

Correction: The funeral for MICHAEL WOOD will take place on Friday 12 August with a committal at Bentley Crematorium at 10.30 am followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at Emmanuel at **12.30pm**, followed by refreshments in the church hall. Everyone is welcome to attend both services.

Billericay Baptists : For a number of years, Billericay Baptist has held a special 2-day event for seniors (over 70's). The idea is to give older folk who cannot necessarily go on holiday, a 2-day 'at home holiday' where they are made to feel special and have a fun time. We provide transport where necessary. This year we are holding it in our Perry Street building on 9th & 10th August, from 10:15 am to 2:30pm both days, suggested donation £5 per day, lunch included. More details are here: https://billericaybaptist.org.uk/Groups/326249/Holiday_at_Home.aspx

For more details or to book contact the Baptist Church Office (Mon-Thu 9:15am-12:30pm) on Tel: 01277 654316 or by email admin@billericaybaptist.org.uk

Notices

Graham Kendrick is coming to Billericay: Yes it's true and get your tickets quickly as he sold out within 4 weeks last time. It was a great concert. He and his band will be at Emmanuel Church on Sunday 11th December, 2022 7pm. Lorraine H has offered to get tickets if you do not have access to the internet <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/552781>



Rev Sammy texted on Sunday evening to say that he had completed his academic tasks at the University in Harare, Zimbabwe and had managed to book a flight back to Kenya on Monday evening, and should be back in Mombasa on Wednesday. Thank you everyone who has prayed for his safety and his completing the tasks and for the amazing generosity of gifts to help him fly home. Thank you everyone who has prayed for his safety and his completing the tasks and for the amazing generosity of gifts to help him fly home.

Kenya 
Partnership

Encouragement



*Early birds!
This family of waddling geese were spotted this week by Rachel at the gym car park!*

Contemplation Corner

A. W. Tozer "The Pursuit of God" 1967

"The man who has God for his treasure has all things in One. Many ordinary treasures may be denied him, or if he is allowed to have them, the enjoyment of them will be so tempered that they will never be necessary to his happiness. Or if he must see them go, one after one, he will scarcely feel a sense of loss, for having the Source of all things he has in One all satisfaction, all pleasure, all delight. Whatever he may lose he has actually lost nothing, for he now has it all in One, and he has it purely, legitimately and forever."

Opportunities to worship together

Services at Western Road and Herongate have a scheduled **10:30am** start but please aim to arrive or join the online service at least 15 minutes before.



Onsite Services

	Queens Park Friday 11:45am	Western Road Sunday 10:30 am	Herongate Sunday 10:30 am
5 August	M Smith		
7 August		Rev K Allen S	R Gallehawk
12 August	E Hardy		
14 August		A Williams	
19 August	Rev C McDonald S		
21 August		I Brown	No Service

P Parade	S Communion	LA Local arrangement	WL Worship Leader
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For those who are unable to attend onsite services and who are without internet access, printed copies of online services will continue to be provided, and DVDs can be requested by contacting David A.

Online Services

Our weekly **ONLINE Worship** continues each Sunday at 10.30am

A reminder for those with Internet Access that the Church website has an [archive](#) from the last year of services plus [all-age materials](#) in addition to links to other [worship resources](#).

Ministry Team	Website and Social Media
Minister: In case of need of a minister contact Rev F Al-Hassan 01268 542822 Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Lyn Bowditch 01277 659530 Pastoral Assistant - St Andrew's Mrs Julie Cristin 01277 656478	web: billericaymethodistchurch.org  @BillericayMethodistChurch  @Methodistbcay
	Notices
	The next edition will be issued on Friday 12th August items for inclusion by 8pm Tuesday to notices@billericaymethodistchurch.org