

UKRAINIANS IN THE STRETTONS

I would like to share some recent news about our Ukrainian guests. If you hear of any property to rent please let me know and I will pass the message on. My friend has written:

It may be of interest just to know a little bit about them and how they have settled

- 3 families in rented property- moved on from hosts
- 4 families / individual still with hosts
- All adults in employment
- All children in school accessing main stream curriculum with the minimum of support
- 2 adults returned / about to return to Ukraine – v different reasons – homes not immediately in the war zone

If you knew of any potential property available for rent, one mother and 10 year old son would be very interested and keen to move to independent living,

Ruth Davies

REFLECTION..... on being "fed up".

The saying seems to suggest that someone is very satisfied with the food they have eaten. They have eaten well, maybe too well. Strangely, it has nothing to do with food as the saying might indicate, but a phrase which expresses a condition of being bored, without any sense of purpose. Things are not as we would wish that they were. We are "fed up".

An antidote to such a feeling is to be preoccupied with some interest which holds our attention. Our thoughts will not linger aimlessly. They are focussed on the object of our attraction. The feeling of being "fed up" disappears.

Even in our Church we may feel "fed up". Fed up with the hymns, the preacher, the welcome we receive. We overlook the long hours spent in preparation for each Service. Our feelings of gratitude is at the heart and purpose of our coming to worship. We are thankful to God for all He does for us, our daily food, our homes and friends, our families. The list is endless. We are thankful beyond measure for Jesus, his Cross, his Resurrection. Why should we then be "fed up?"

There must have been many occasions when Jesus might have been "fed up". People did not understand, even his disciples were slow to understand. It was his firm intent of doing God's will that kept him from being disappointed and "fed up". Pray to God that we may understand what Jesus is telling us. For when we do, there is no place for being "fed up", but only for our deepest commitment and gratitude.

Tony Hearle



The Methodist Church



Church Stretton

IN THE SHROPSHIRE & MARCHES CIRCUIT

MINISTER

REV'D GEORGE HEINZ

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***A WARM WELCOME TO YOU ALL IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD
IF YOU ARE VISITORS WE TRUST THAT YOUR HOLIDAY WILL BRING YOU JOY AND
REFRESHMENT OF SPIRIT.***

SUNDAY SERVICES

Please join us for coffee & fellowship in the hall after these services.

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2024

10.30 am Rev George Heinz - Holy Communion

SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2024

10.30 am Mrs Joyce Evans

WHATS ON THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY 14th February 2024

10.00 am to 12 Noon Babies & Toddlers – in the church hall

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm “Cuppa & Chat” – in the church hall

COMMUNION SERVICE SECOND COLLECTION THIS MORNING

There will be a second collection this morning during our communion service. This is as you know our usual practice , the monies are placed in our Benevolent Fund which is used to alleviate suffering in this area , this country and abroad.

FLOWER ROTA

Many thanks to all who have heard the call and put their names on the flower rota for this year. There are just a couple of dates left to fill now if anyone has forgotten.

Linda Moores

SANDFORD SERVICES

Our first service of 2024 at the Sandford will be at 11am on February 20th. For those who attend regularly the following dates have been agreed for the year if you want to put them in your diaries. **March 26th, April 23rd, May 21st, June 25th, July 23rd, August 27th, September 24th, October 22nd, November 19th.** All services start at approx 11.00am and are on Tuesdays. Please do NOT come if you are feeling unwell or have tested positive for Covid.

Ann Cooke

CIRCUIT FINANCES

The Circuit Treasurer has sent out the audited Accounts for the last year with a request for these to be printed out and displayed on a notice board to share with the church members. As this document is 26 pages long and we are clearing the hall for decorating it would seem more sensible for an email copy to be sent to anyone who wishes to read it. Please let me know if you would like a copy and I will be happy to send it.

Linda Moores, Treasurer

PAINTING THE CHURCH HALL

We have now received a start date from the decorator doing the painting in the hall. Please note he has given us a start date of Friday 16 Feb (maybe Monday 19th if he is delayed) If you have any concerns about how paint odours may affect you, please bear this in mind. We don't yet know how long the job will take. If you want to check progress please ring me and I'll try to help.

David Moores

"RALLY AROUND UKRAINE"..... Saturday 24 February 2024

We are approaching the second anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces. The Shropshire branch of the United Nations Association is planning a 'Rally Around Ukraine' on the carpark in the centre of Church Stretton 10.30 am to 12.30 on Saturday 24th February. If you wish to show support for Ukraine please attend for a short or longer time.

Ruth Davies

SATURDAY MORNING MUSIC

"Music for the Parlour" is the title of the next event in this series . It will take place on Saturday Morning **24th February** in this church commencing at 10.15 am. Gay Walker narrates Poulenc's setting of Baber the Elephant and some musical melodramas. Paul Moorcroft sings songs of the period . Accompaniments by Richard Walker. Admission is free with a retiring collection to be shared by this church and Mayfair Community Centre.

The next concert in this Spring series will be held on **March 23rd** at the URC.

"ENGAGING ISSUES"

The last talk in the 2023/24 series of "Engaging Issues" will take place on Tuesday February 20th entitled "Scams and Scammers". The speaker will be Dr Jan Blain from the Centre for Ageing and Mental Health at the University of Chester. Dr Bain will present her research into how older adults are affected by scams and scammers. URC Church Stretton 7.30 pm.

**Items for the church notices for Sunday 18th February 2024
to cdgtorridon@aol.com or 01694 328319**

FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF DOS

The flowers this week and next are in loving memory of our dear Dos (Doris Cooper 27th February, 1926 – 28th February, 2018). She loved this Church and all its members. Her favourite hymn, which she learnt as a child, is number 504 in Singing the Faith. We rarely sing it, so I will play it before the service on February 18th, as I am operating the hymnal on that day.

May the mind of Christ my Saviour
live in me from day to day,
By his love and power controlling
all I do or say.

Christine Richardson