

A Modern Version of the 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my pacesetter ~ I shall not rush.
He makes me stop for quiet intervals,
He provides me with images of stillness which
 restore my serenity,
He leads me in ways of efficiency through
 calmness of mind,
 And his guidance is peace.
Even though I have a great many things to
 accomplish each day, I will not fret,
 For His Presence is here,
His timelessness, His all importance, will
 keep me in balance
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the
 midst of my activity,
By anointing my mind with His oils of
 tranquility,
 My cup of joyous energy overflows.
Truly harmony and effectiveness shall be the
 fruits of my hours,
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord
And dwell in His House for ever.

by a Japanese writer ~

Tokio Megashie

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JUNE-JULY 2017 SERVICES & MEETINGS

4 June	10.30 Café Worship for Pentecost—Rev Sarah & Claire
11 June	10.30 Martin Osman
18 June	10.30 Terry Riches
25 June	10.30 Rev Sarah Simpson <u>Membership service</u> H/C
No Church Meeting	
2 July	10.30 Café Worship Sara Crabb and Claire Edmeston
9 July	10.30 tbc
16 July	10.30 Rev Sarah Simpson
23 July	10.30 Rev Sarah Simpson H/C
30 July	10.30 Bernard Crabb
6 Aug	10.30 Café Worship Sara Crabb and Friends



Monday morning, May 22nd, myself and a Ministerial friend discussing what we were going to write in our respective newsletters, both due this week. Tuesday morning May 23rd, the country wakes up to the news of the bomb in Manchester. Amongst the many tweets I read it was one from Laurence Moore, former director of the Windermere Centre that said, "prayers without words, because there are no words", he was right and the vigil that followed showed how powerful silence can be.

Murmerings
from the Manse

In this situation words can help but they can also increase feelings of hurt and therefore there must be a sensitivity about their use.

Some words that I found which have helped my understanding of this heart breaking event come from Deuteronomy 30,15, "See, I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil", they remind me of the daily tension that we live with in our world. They remind me also that whilst we must be vigilant it cannot be at the expense of living our lives and engaging fully in the world, if we feel to do so then evil wins.

I was ordained on the day the previous bomb went off in Manchester, June 15th 1996, after that day I wrote that Manchester would rise, 'phoenix like' from the ashes, such was the Mancunian spirit - we have seen that same spirit already shown and it will continue in the months ahead, people will never forget what has happened and those children and adults who lost their lives, but neither will they allow their lives to be wasted by refusing to live their own lives to the full.

It is easy at this time to preach hate instead of love, division instead of conciliation, segregation instead of unity, but that helps no one and festers feelings that do no one credit, save those who see it as their 'cause'. I would like to end these thoughts with the words found scratched onto a wall in Auschwitz.

*I believe in the Sun, even when it is not shining.
I believe in love, even when I cannot feel it.
I believe in God, even when He is silent.*

In the name of the Prince of Peace.

Sarah

BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

3rd John Auburn 6th Maureen Pike
6th Irene Clark 14th Linda Clark
24th Val Cousins 27th Ella Tomlin

JULY

19th Terry Riches 31st Jasmine Tomlin

AUGUST

6th Jean Fitzgerald more to follow



In April The Foodbank was awarded the Paul Dove trophy for the Organisation of the Year.

Trustees and volunteers were delighted at this unexpected honour and fully appreciate it has only been possible because the support given by the community has been incredible. The challenge is still to get to people for whom food shortage is a problem. If anybody knows of someone needing help get in touch, we really do want to help. The picture shows three trustees and three volunteers receiving the award from Malmesbury town Mayor.



**CHRISTIAN AID
RECORD BREAKING
TOTALso far**



The following sums are the current totals raised during Christian Aid Week this year.

Soup Lunch	- £ 449
Car Wash	- £ 319
Market Cross	- £ 1,496
Coffee Morning	- £ 295
Street Collection	- £ 229
Big Brekkie	- £ 130
House to House	- £ 5,203

TOTAL to DATE - £ 8,121

This is a **RECORD** total for the Malmesbury Christian Aid Week!

Many thanks to all who helped and supported these activities.

Dick Gray – Chairman, Malmesbury Christian Aid