

We are delighted to welcome to the Celebration,
representatives of the companies which contributed
to the work on the Church Regeneration Project, including,
Philip Orchard, architect (Whitworth)
Andrew Mowbray, contractor (Smith of Honingham)
Paul and Ruth Fuller, cabinet-makers (Fullers Finer Furniture)
Malcolm, Alison and Daniel Cunnings, A/V design and installation
(Cunnings Recording Associates)

Sincere thanks for today's celebration to,
The Reverend Canon Julian Pursehouse
The Reverend Jennifer Potter
The Reverend Andrew King

MUSICIANS

Ian Futers (organ) / Geraldine Allen (clarinet)
Sarah Rodgers (piano) / The Singing Group

TECHNICAL

Grant Kennedy (screens and sound) / Mike Hills (photography)
Geraldine Allen (production)
Sarah Rodgers (editing and Celebration programme)

STEWARDING

Barrie & Anne Thorp (welcome)
Martin & Linda Burton / David Pirie / Josephine Walker (seating)

REFRESHMENTS

Sandra Simm / Ruth Emery / Vera Dye / Dorothy Ellis / Jan Hills
Muriel Bean / Carol Harrison / Elizabeth Laws / Sheila Laws
Anne Thorp / Jo Trick / Joyce Arbon / Vanessa Elvin

FLOWERS

Linda Burton (main display)
Muriel Bean (posies)

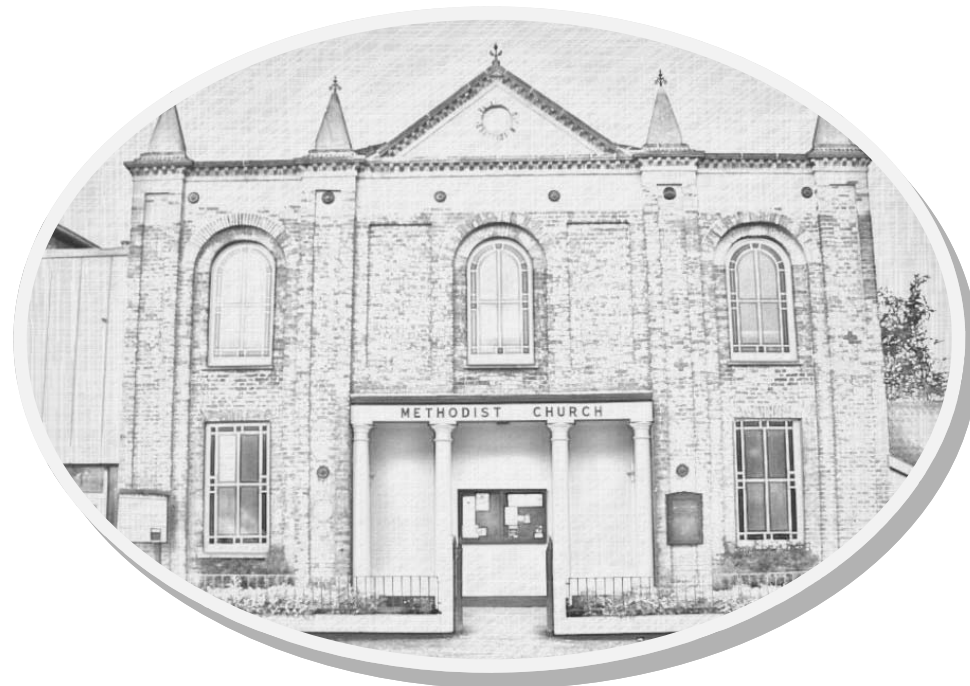
Swaffham Methodist Church Registered Charity No: 1163777
Website: swaffhammethodistchurch.org
Email: help@swaffhammethodistchurch.org



Saturday 22nd June 2019

at 3.00pm

Celebration of Praise and Thanksgiving



Swaffham Methodist Church

Moving Forward in Faith

The Celebration is led by
The Reverend Canon Julian Pursehouse,
Chairman of East Anglia District of the
Methodist Church
with

The Reverend Andrew King,
Superintendent Minister of the
Central Norfolk Circuit and
Minister at Swaffham.

The Guest Speaker is
The Reverend Jennifer Potter,
formerly
Minister of Wesley's Chapel, London.

Assembled are over 100 guests,
members and friends.

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

BLESSING The Reverend Canon Julian Pursehouse

Generous God, of your great goodness you renew your people in their daily living. Bless this congregation. Empower us, on this day of dedication, for fresh ventures in faith, greater commitment to worship, and new acts of service.

**In the name of God the Father, God the Son
and God the Holy Spirit, we dedicate ourselves
in service and praise,**

Amen.

MARTIN The centre of community
We give ourselves to share.

ANNE All the people that will meet here,
Lord, bless and welcome, as we care.

RAY As we use this place for worship
We offer all a sacred space.

KAY All the riches of past ages
Lord, bless and grow in future days.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.**

Amen.

HYMN Love divine, all loves excelling
"Love divine, all loves excelling
joy of heaven to earth come down."

WELCOME The Reverend Andrew King

Psalm 118 This is the day the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it

CALL TO WORSHIP The Reverend Canon Julian Pursehouse

Genesis 28 Truly the Lord is in this place
**This is none other than the house of God;
This is the gate of heaven**

HYMN Christ triumphant, ever-reigning
"Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!"

1. Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

2. Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

3. Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

4. Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

5. So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Michael Saward (b. 1932)

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LITANY OF GRATITUDE The Reverend Canon Julian Pursehouse

Minister Generous God, for the abundance of your blessings
to us, day by day and year by year,
We give you our thanks.

For the simple pleasures of life: for garden harvests,
coffee conversation, and familiar surroundings,
for health and strength to appreciate the wonder of life,
for needs met and desires fulfilled,
We give you our thanks.

For foods distributed to nourish body and spirit,
for homes which supply shelter, which nurture
order and beauty, and offer hospitality,
We give you our thanks.

BIBLE READING Ephesians 2: 19-22

Read by Carol Harrison

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

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CELEBRATION TALK

from The Reverend Jennifer Potter

"Community of Christ – looking past the church's door."

PRAYERS The Reverend Andrew King

Prayer couplets specially written for this Celebration by
The Reverend Elizabeth Jolly.

Readers: Mavis Parsonage / Jan Hills / Martin Burton / Anne
Thorp / Ray Cunningham / Kay Kennedy

MAVIS At the threshold of fresh changes
We dedicate ourselves anew.

JAN All the work and thought and planning,
Lord, bless and prosper, keep us true.

3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

*All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone,
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

*All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

5. Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

*All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

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With hearts that forgive as freely as you have forgiven,
with enthusiasm of spirit for the gift of life,
with music which declares your everlasting goodness,
with prayers for mutual understanding and peace,
We worship you with joy.

With creative pursuits which contribute our
God-given talents,
with words which honour you as Creator,
Redeemer, and Holy Spirit,
with time volunteered and dedicated to service
in church and community,
with years committed to extending the love of
Jesus Christ,

We worship you with joy.

With gifts of money which reach farther
than we can manage ourselves,
with deeds done in service of neighbour and stranger,
with holy days set apart to celebrate
your goodness and grace,
with family and friends distant and nearby,
**We worship you, God, with grateful hearts and joyful spirit.
Alleluia, Amen.**

(Rev. Kathy Jo Blaske)

A NEW HYMN

Specially written for this Celebration by Malcolm Reddington. The Singing Group will lead the first time through and the Congregation are invited to join in for the second time.

1. At this time of celebration,
As we gather here today,
God of present, past and future,
Come and bless this sacred day.

2. Thanks for those who had the vision,
To erect this house of prayer.
For their life of love and service,
As they sought their faith to share.

3. Now today that work continues,
Looking forward, never back.
To the future You will lead us,
Going on we cannot slack.

4. So this day our lives we offer,
All our talents now we share.
To a life of faith in action,
Guide us Lord and hear our prayer.

Now today that work continues, (repeat of verse 3.)
Looking forward, never back.
To the future You will lead us,
Going on we cannot slack.

So this day our lives we offer, (repeat of verse 4.)
All our talents now we share.
To a life of faith in action,
Guide us Lord and hear our prayer.

© Malcolm Reddington

OUR REGENERATION JOURNEY IN PICTURES

Photography by Mike Hills
Narration by Sarah Rodgers

THE NEW CHURCH MURAL

The Reverend Andrew King talks with artist, Eddie Goodridge,
about the church mural.

FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

A short film with contributions from church members and
friends about what the church, old and new, means to
them.

Presented by Geraldine Allen
Filmed by Mike Hills / Edited by Sarah Rodgers

HYMN **Let us build a house where love can dwell**

“Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live.”

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

*All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

*All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*