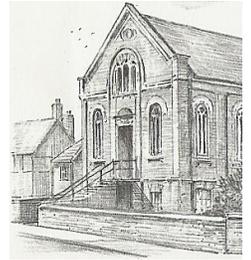


STOTFOLD METHODISTS the church on the crossroads



150th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Paul writes: May our fellowship in faith lead you to full knowledge of all the good we can accomplish for Christ. Philemon 1-25

After-Easter arguments?

No, I don't mean, "Which Easter Egg was best?" or "Why can't I have yours now that I have eaten all my Easter Eggs?"

I'm referring to the arguments experienced by the first followers of Jesus after that first Easter, as recorded in historical letters from the first century onwards and, in part, dramatised in the biblical book called the Acts of the Apostles. They argued about *who* Jesus was, *what* Jesus was and how to refer to him, and what those things might mean for the daily life of those who believed in Jesus. Although some of those arguments might seem irrelevant for us living in these days, they show something significant : that Jesus was very important in their lives. The arguments were not merely academic - They were fundamental to their lives.

In today's world, people rightly argue over climate change, equality, justice or any number of other serious subjects. We argue because we care and there's disagreement over how to address significant issues. Whether Jesus features in any of those issues is rather up to us, the church. Jesus had a lot to say about how people treat each other, and in the end, most of today's issues are about how we treat each other. So, what believers have to decide is whether he's important enough for us to take a Jesus-like stand.

And churches still argue, internally and between denominations, not because we're argumentative but because we have those same concerns of those first believers, wanting to do the right thing, and because Jesus is still very important to us.

It's not Easter Eggs, but the events of the first Easter, the man who died on the cross, was buried and then was very much alive, that causes our arguments. But they're arguments I'm happy to have, because he means the world to me.

Graham

Sunday Services

Time	Date	Preacher
10.00am	5 May	Peter Rogers (United Service with Arlesey)
10.00am	12 May	Andy Searle
10.00am	19 May	Christine Warren
10.30am	26 May	Katherine Harris (United Service at Arlesey)

What's On

Time and Date 10.00 to 11.30am Saturday 4.5.19 2.00pm Mondays 2.00pm Thursdays (third in month) 9.30am Friday (term time only)	Event Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy for Christian Aid) Monday Club Carers Group Toddlers Group
Minister Church Secretary & Hall Hire Senior Steward	Rev Graham Claydon-Knights 07340 857386 Julie Longhurst 01462-731167 Maggie Turner 01462-731030

Christian Aid Week

Other events

Sunday 12 May – 10.00am Sunday Service at St Mary's Rev Bill Britt will preach on Christian Aid retiring collection for Christian Aid

Sunday 19 May 5.30pm Café Church at Salvation Army donations to Christian Aid

Thursday 23 May 2.30-4.30pm Afternoon Tea at Kings Baptist Church donations to Christian Aid



www.stotfoldmethodists.org.uk