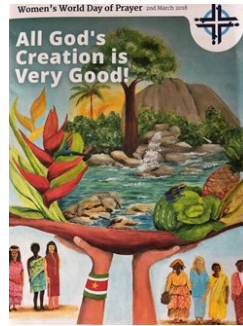


Our Community

All God's Creation is Very Good!

Members from churches across Colchester joined together at the Mile End Methodist Church to share a special service for the Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP) in March, prepared this year by the women of Suriname (a country on the north-east coast of South America).



The service focused on the wondrous beauty of God's creation and the responsibility of us all to care for it. We listened to the story of creation from Genesis 1; and we heard about the Suriname communities and their concerns for their country's future. The front cover of the service booklet (above) illustrates the beauty and abundance of the Suriname landscape, flora and fauna; the hands symbolically receiving this divine gift ready to pass on to the next generations. Yet this gift is being spoiled: rivers contaminated with mercury in the pursuit for gold, forests destroyed for bauxite mining (the raw material for aluminium), and people and wildlife driven from their homes and habitat because of the destruction to the environment.

We were invited to reflect on this and its wider context, and on how our own attitudes and actions impact on the environment, including the amount of waste we generate, especially plastic and paper.

You may like to spend some time reflecting on this as well, using the following prayer from the service:

Lord God, creator of the world and God of all humanity, we come into your presence to ask for forgiveness for the harm and destruction we have done to your creation. Forgive us our neglect of the world and our intolerance of others. We are sorry for what we have done and commit ourselves to being better stewards of your creation. **Lord, we ask you to forgive us.**

The offering from the service amounted to £121.50, which will be sent to the WWDP central branch in England who use it to give grants for projects run by Christian charities throughout the world.

A huge thank you to our friends at the Methodist Church and to everyone involved in the service and who provided the refreshments afterwards, and to all who attended and gave so generously. It was an enjoyable and thought-provoking afternoon of prayer, praise and fellowship.



Parish of Myland
St. Michael's Church

Serving the community of Myland
Braiswick - Chesterwell - Mile End - The Myle - New Braiswick Park
Northfields - Northern Approaches - Romans - Severalls - Turner Rise



NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2018



Have Faith in Jesus

Easter and April Fools' Day, what a collision. Easter, where we make that leap, which is called faith, and where every individual makes the choice: did he rise, or did he not? There is no sitting on the fence or hedging your bets, this is it, either you have faith in Jesus and what he did for you, or you don't. What the resurrection of Jesus promises is that things can always be new again. It's never too late to start over, nothing is irrevocable. I know it is easier living with the known, living in the past, living safe, and there was a time when I would seek God in the theologies, devotions, and mediations of the past, and it took a while for me to realise that all of these scholarly and learned books that I read, and all the wonderful music I listened to, meant nothing, unless they pointed me to Christ's saving work today. Any act which breaks through prejudice and fear; any new bond of friendship across cultural divides; a new genuine smile every day, help to bring the fullness of life to all of us; it is a glimpse of the dawn of the resurrection. If we as a church are to share and be a witness to the resurrection, then we must be free from fear. There is too much fear these days in the church, in the world and within us. There is too much fear of making mistakes, of not being approved of, a fear that so often extinguishes a joy that should puzzle us and fill us and others with wonder and awe. Christ is Risen! This good news, this Easter story, this wonder, assures us that God never gives up, even when we give up on ourselves. God is with us! This resurrection of Jesus means we can move beyond bitterness and fear, no matter our age, our mistakes, betrayals, wounds, and deaths, we can begin each day afresh. We are the Easter people!

Revd. Ray Gibbs, Priest-in-Charge



The Church has a hearing loop. If you wear a hearing aid, please turn it to the "T" position for best reception.



This Church uses non-alcoholic communion wine. Gluten-free wafers are also available on request.

2-3 News 4-5 Diary 6 Prayer Diary 7 Readings 8 Our Community

NEWS

For up-to-date news
check the website
www.mylandchurch.org.uk



An Easter Thank You

Holy Week and Easter is a busy time in the church and so we'd like to thank you all for your help and support in making our services and events so very special. We are truly blessed!

Groups

Church Mice will not meet during the Easter holidays; they are returning on Monday 16th April.

No **Knit & Natter** on 4th April due to Easter break.

Young at Heart

18th April 1.30pm; trip to Perrywood Garden Centre.

Bag2School

Thank you for your support. We sent out 48 bags and raised £64.00.

Lent Hunger Lunches

Another thank you - to all who helped with and supported the Lent Hunger Lunches. £426 was raised for Christian Aid.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 15th April

The APCM will immediately follow the Sunday service.

There are 4 vacancies on the PCC. PCC nomination forms are at the back of the church. Please speak to Ray if you are interested.

If you are not on the electoral roll, you cannot vote. If you would like to be on the 'roll', then please complete the relevant form (available at the back of the church).



Bible Readings for April

Sun	1	Isaiah 25: 6 – 9; Acts 10: 34 – 43; John 20: 1 – 18
Mon	2	Exodus 12: 1 – 14; I Corinthians 15: 1 – 11
Tues	3	Exodus 12: 14 – 36; I Corinthians 15: 12 – 19
Wed	4	Exodus 12: 37 – end; I Corinthians 15: 20 – 28
Thurs	5	Exodus 13: 1 – 16; I Corinthians 15: 29 – 34
Fri	6	Exodus 13: 17 – 14; I Corinthians 15: 35 – 50
Sat	7	Exodus 14: 15 – end; I Corinthians 15: 51 – end
Sun	8	Exodus 14: 10 – end, 15: 20-21; Acts 4: 32 – 35; John 20: 19 - end
Mon	9	Samuel 2: 1 – 10; Romans 5: 12 – end
Tues	10	Exodus 15: 22 – 16: 10; Colossians 1: 15 – end
Wed	11	Exodus 16: 11 – end; Colossians 2: 1 – 15
Thurs	12	Exodus 17; Colossians 2: 16 – 3: 11
Fri	13	Exodus 18: 1 – 12; Colossians 3: 12 – 4: 1
Sat	14	Exodus 18: 13 – end; Colossians 4: 2 – end
Sun	15	Zephaniah 3: 14 – end; Acts 3: 12 -19; Luke 24: 36b – 48
Mon	16	Exodus 19; Luke 1: 1 – 25
Tues	17	Exodus 20: 1 – 21; Luke 1: 26 – 38
Wed	18	Exodus 24; Luke 1: 39 – 56
Thurs	19	Exodus 25: 1 – 22; Luke 1: 57 – end
Fri	20	Exodus 28: 1 – 4a, 29 – 38; Luke 2: 1 – 20
Sat	21	Exodus 29: 1 – 9; Luke 2: 21 – 40
Sun	22	Genesis 7: 1- 5, 11-18, 8: 6-18, 9: 8-13; Acts 4: 5-12; John 10: 11-18
Mon	23	Joshua 1: 1 – 9; Ephesians 6: 10 – 20
Tues	24	Exodus 32: 15 – 34; Luke 3: 1 – 14
Wed	25	Isaiah 62: 6 – 10; Acts 12: 25 – 13: 13
Thurs	26	Exodus 34: 1 – 10, 27 – end; Luke 4: 1 – 13
Fri	27	Exodus 35 : 20 – 36: 7; Luke 4: 14 – 30
Sat	28	Exodus 40: 17 – end; Luke 4: 31– 37
Sun	29	Genesis 22: 1 – 18; Acts 8: 26 – end; John 15: 1 – 8
Mon	30	Numbers 9: 15 – end, 10: 33 – end; Luke 38 – end

We invite you to follow these daily readings which are taken from the Common Worship Lectionary, and are those which are read at Morning Prayer and other daily services in St. Michael's.



Daily Prayers

Please pray for:

Ephesians 6 v 18

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” NIV

- Sun 1 Give thanks for and rejoice in the blessings of Easter
- Mon 2 Those who do not yet know the truth of Christ
- Tues 3 Charities that work to care for wildlife and nature
- Weds 4 Highwoods Country Park staff and volunteers
- Thurs 5 Those who pick up litter and help to keep our streets tidy
- Fri 6 All who work in refuse and recycling collection & disposal
- Sat 7 Those who do not have access to health care (*World Health Day*)
- Sun 8 The National Health Service and social care services
- Mon 9 Staff, volunteers and patients in Colchester’s hospitals
- Tues 10 Staff, volunteers and residents in Colchester’s care homes
- Weds 11 Those needing care in the home and their carers
- Thurs 12 Children who are carers for their parents or siblings
- Fri 13 GPs, dentists, paramedics and other health workers
- Sat 14 Charities that focus on health issues or on supporting carers
- Sun 15 Fruitful discussion and decision-making at today’s APCM
- Mon 16 Charities that work in countries devastated by war/disasters
- Tues 17 Those forced to flee from their homeland
- Weds 18 The innocent civilian victims of war, and their families & friends
- Thurs 19 Doctors & nurses who care for those injured in war/disaster
- Fri 20 Those who deliver aid and supplies to areas in need of help
- Sat 21 Those who are persecuted or killed for their faith
- Sun 22 Those being baptised today; may God’s love be revealed to them
- Mon 23 Charities that care for the homeless and the starving
- Tues 24 All who are in need of food, water or a roof over their head
- Weds 25 Those struggling to get the welfare benefits they desperately need
- Thurs 26 Colchester Foodbank, Colchester Night Shelter & Beacon House
- Fri 27 Colchester YMCA, Emmaus and Women’s Refuge
- Sat 28 Light to shine on all those in darkness and despair
- Sun 29 Guidance on how you may help someone in need
- Mon 30 The mission and ministry of St. Michael’s Church

Please remember each day: Those around us who need our prayers: for healing, for peace or for release from the burdens that they carry; and for those mentioned on the Prayer Cross at St. Michael’s.

Dates for your Diary Spring Plant Sale & Coffee & Cake

Saturday 19th May
11am - 12.30pm

A plethora of plants for sale in Myland Parish Halls. There will also be a Coffee and Cake morning held in the church 10am - 12 noon.



The Military Wives Choir will be performing here on **Saturday 16th June.** Tickets are now available from Sarah in the office. Ticket price £12.50 each.

Pet Service



Sunday 9th July, 10.15am

26th, 27th & 28th August Flower Festival

Planning is now taking place for this year’s event. If anyone feels that they would like to do an arrangement please speak to Ivy.

Contact Details

Revd Ray Gibbs
352 Mill Road, Mile End CO4 5JF
01206 843926
raymond359gibbs@btinternet.com

Revd John Chandler
4 Longdryve, Wavell Avenue,
Colchester CO2 7HH
01206 366930
john@mylandchurch.org.uk

Revd Hazel Greenland
hazel@mylandchurch.org.uk

Churchwardens
Lesley Hindle
01206 533934
Jill Bollen
01206 851434

Office Administrator
Sarah King

Church Office
(in Myland Parish Halls)
Open Monday - Friday
9.30am - 12 noon
01206 855040
office@mylandchurch.org.uk

Hall & Community Room Bookings
07518 437488

Websites
www.mylandchurch.org.uk
www.mylandparishhalls.org.uk

Next deadline
Friday 13th April



Sunday 1st April 2018 *Easter Day*

10:15 Holy Communion with Prayer and Healing

Tuesday 3rd April 2018

08:30 Morning Prayer

14:00 Bible Study Group (home group)

Wednesday 4th April 2018

09:30 Holy Communion

14:30 Mothers' Union, in Myland Parish Halls

Thursday 5th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Thirsty Thursday

Friday 6th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Friendly Friday

Sunday 8th April 2018 *2nd Sunday of Easter*

10:15 Family Service

16:00 Said Communion in Celtic or Taize style

Monday 9th April 2018

20:00 Book Club

Tuesday 10th April 2018

08:30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 11th April 2018

09:30 Holy Communion

10:30 Knit & Natter

Thursday 12th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Thirsty Thursday

11:30 Woodland View - Communion

Friday 13th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Friendly Friday

Sunday 15th April 2018 *3rd Sunday of Easter*

10:15 Meerkats

10:15 Holy Communion with Big Issue sermon

11:30 APCM after the service

16:00 Hymn Singing at Tall Trees Care Home

**DIARY
FOR
APRIL
2018**

Details as known at the time of going to press. For the latest information check: www.mylandchurch.co.uk
Group leaders, please remember to update the office with changes to the calendar.

Monday 16th April 2018

13:30 Church Mice

Tuesday 17th April 2018

08:30 Morning Prayer

14:00 Bible Study Group (home group)

Wednesday 18th April 2018

09:30 Holy Communion

10:30 Knit & Natter

13:30 Young at Heart - Trip to Perrywood Garden Centre

Thursday 19th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Thirsty Thursday

10:30 Comms Meeting

19:30 Bible Study Group, in the Board Room

Friday 20th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Friendly Friday

Saturday 21st April 2018

10:00 Coffee Morning at Mile End Methodist Church

Sunday 22nd April 2018 *4th Sunday of Easter*

10:15 Holy Communion with Baptisms

Monday 23rd April 2018 *St. George*

13:30 Church Mice

Tuesday 24th April 2018

08:30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 25th April 2018 *St. Mark*

09:30 Holy Communion

10:30 Knit & Natter

Thursday 26th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Thirsty Thursday

11:30 Woodland View - Communion

Friday 27th April 2018

10:00 Morning Prayer

10:30 Friendly Friday

Sunday 29th April 2018 *5th Sunday of Easter*

10:15 Agape Communion

Monday 30th April 2018

13:30 Church Mice