



# Church News

## SAPCOTE METHODIST

## CHURCH

### MISSION STATEMENT:

To proclaim the Gospel to all ages by worship, care and nurture through Mission and Service.

Minister: The Rev. Dr Tim Woolley



Minister:	Rev. Dr Tim Woolley	Tel: 01455 635654
Church Stewards:	David Watts (Snr. Steward) Christine Grantham Shelley Piercy Rebecca Seviour Marie Mason Sheila Scott	Tel: 01455 272840 Tel: 01455 274898 Tel: 01455 644730 Tel: 07974 134129 Tel: 01455 271503 Tel: 01455 272450
Treasurer:	Barbara Williams	Tel: 01455 273142
Pastoral Secretary/ Action for Children Rep	Judy Hall	Tel: 01455 270707
Hall Bookings:	Alan Watts	Tel: 01455 272747
News Sheet:	John Hall	Tel: 01455 270707 e-mail: john.r.hall@btinternet.com
Sunday Worship:	See page 2	

**WEEK beginning 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

## **SUNDAY**

**NO SERVICE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING**

**Morning Worship for Sapcote, Burbage and Sharnford via zoom at 10.30 am**  
**Preacher: Sheila Grice**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/76628948816?pwd=M3BwSnVaNmtGWfk1MlZoL3gzWjlodz09>

Meeting ID: 766 2894 8816 Passcode: 5vEegV

**AFTER-SERVICE 'COFFEE' via zoom at 11.15 am — time for chat, link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89565662832?pwd=QW8vN1NFdkJIUnJ5TXVxYXl3bjNhUT09>

Meeting ID: 895 6566 2832, Password: 089014

## **WEDNESDAY**

**PRAYERS via zoom at 10.00 am**

Meeting ID: 842 0944 5657, Passcode: 800056

## **THURSDAY**

**BIBLE STUDY via zoom at 10.00 am**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82204088196?pwd=MXJtL2dOS20rZDNQMmFud05aTzdjdz09>

Meeting ID: 822 0408 8196, Passcode: Bible

**You can also join with sound-only by telephone (charges may apply):**

020 3901 7895 or 020 3051 2874 or 020 3481 5237

**When joining zoom meetings,  
log on within the 5 minutes before the official start time.**

### **PRAYER MINISTRY**

**PRAYER CHAIN –**

**Mike Newton**

**Tel:01455 272218  
or [mjpnnewton@gmail.com](mailto:mjpnnewton@gmail.com)**

**Monthly Prayer Diary –**

**Jenn Baker**

**Tel: 01455 614106**

## Pastoral letter from Revd Dave Haseldine

I write this on the day of the transition of Presidents in the USA from Donald Trump to Joe Biden. There is, to put it mildly, a lot of division and squabbling over what truly happened in November's Presidential election in the USA. So I would like to think a bit about truth and grace.

Do you remember John McEnroe? For those that don't, he burst onto the scene as an absolutely brilliant young tennis player but sometimes displayed an inability to accept umpires decisions that went against him. Notorious for his spectacular melt down at the 1981 Wimbledon final. If John McEnroe had grown old but not grown up (which he did), I think he would have become a character very like Donald Trump is now. On the face of it, many might think that the biggest problem he has is with truth. Understandable given the number of times he seems to live in a world of alternative truth that few others striving for impartiality can find any credible evidence for.

However, I begin to wonder if Donald Trump's biggest problem is actually with grace. To get 75 million people voting for him must mean he has some impressive skills and talents. But being able to admit you have been wrong, do not have all the answers, and do need a team around you to make up for your fallibilities, these qualities appear to be pretty much absent in Donald Trump.

Mike Pilavachi of Soul Survivor has spoken of how much he has pity and sympathy for supremely talented, independent, self-made people, because it is so hard for them to enter the Kingdom of God, to become like a little child and receive God, and all God's love for them. To do that we all need to realise and admit that we need grace. It is tragic when anyone cannot do that. In the USA grace is needed now more than anything. You need saving grace to climb down, without 'saving face', to contemplate the humanity of your adversaries, and the beam of inhumanity in your own eyes.

Interestingly, truth and grace get a big mention right at the start of the Gospel according to John:

*... the one and only Son... came from the Father, full of grace and truth... Out of his fulness we have all received grace in place of grace already given.*

*For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."*

*[From John 1:14-17]*

John writes after a lifetime of reflecting on the marmite character, Jesus. And the brilliant thing that John does is that he sees two things in Jesus. First, he sees that Jesus is full of truth, that his words are true, that Jesus is one with God, and that when we see Jesus, we see the Father. Second, John also sees that Jesus is full of grace, the unearned love of God, that Jesus embodied all the way to the cross, that we all desperately need. Except that grace is not second. John puts grace before truth! So does Paul in 1 Corinthians 13.

When I think of the times that I have shared my version of truth with others, about Jesus, or politics, or engineering, or anything, I have been most effective when I have shared my version of truth *in grace*. And the worst times have been when I have done so *without grace*. In Jesus, the Father of truth has shared as much truth with us as we can cope with, in grace. We are to do the same: we are to share as much truth as we have grasped, hopefully with as little truth that we have distorted, with others, in grace, so that they may receive grace and truth, and grow in grace and truth.

May we have a go in practising this among ourselves and grow in becoming effective in practising this with others, and so be a blessing, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**Dave Haseldine.**

## **To include in your prayers**

Malcolm and Liz Ware, Kate, Christopher and Darren and all the members of their families who are ill;  
Shelley Piercy;  
Peter and Margaret Gubb;  
Cirstie and Chloe;  
Mary Forster and all the family;  
Pauline Forster and the family;  
Sheila and Les Makepeace;  
Eva and Ken Crosse;  
Jennifer Birkby;  
Gill Spatcher whose friend Rebecca has died;  
Margaret Webster;  
Ros Crowe;  
Marie Mason  
John Marfleet;  
Enid Procyk;  
Richard Kalnins;  
Violet Harratt's son-in-law;  
Claire Orton's daughter Amy;

Ministers and Lay Workers of the Circuit;  
the Pastoral and Leadership teams;  
people coming out of furlough facing redundancy;  
the Government's management of the current demands on the NHS;  
the medical and nursing staff;  
the speedy operation of the vaccination programme;  
people waiting for operations and treatment;  
people who are lonely, grieving or ill and especially people suffering from dementia;  
people suffering from domestic violence;  
people who are self-isolating who are suffering from mental health problems.  
parents home-schooling and struggling to feed their families, vulnerable children, school leaders and teachers and youth workers;  
for the Youth Allotment Scheme in Earl Shilton;  
for the new President and government of the USA.

**Praise the Lord for** the modern technology that enables families to maintain contact and for us to 'meet' together for worship and fellowship; for the life of Derek Forster and his wonderful witness; for the NHS and especially its front-line staff; for the work of Army; for the foodbanks and the volunteers who staff them; that teachers are to be regularly tested for Covid-19; for the vaccination programme which is proceeding; for our food distributors and farmers during the lockdown; for our local church family and the leadership team.

**Please send any items for publishing in the News Sheet by THURSDAY EVENING  
via email or telephone.**

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