

CONCORD

EAST DIDSBURY

Minister: Rev. Krystyna Kwarciak



On the third day, God creates all plant life both large and small. He creates this life to be self-sustaining; plants have the ability to reproduce. The plants were created in great diversity. The earth was green and teeming with plant life. God declares that this work is also good.

September 2017

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Dear Friends,

It was a joy to meet with some of you in May and hear about the life of your church - I look forward to joining all of you in ministry this September. As a way of introduction, let me share with you a bit about my journey.

After receiving my Master of Arts in Linguistics (with concentration in Finno-Ugric languages) and another Master's Degree in International Relations and European Studies I worked as a language teacher, translator and interpreter. Hoping to become a diplomat I joined a highly competitive civil service training programme, but God had other plans for me and His call was simply too strong to ignore. This led me to enroll for a full-time, five-year Master of Divinity programme in Protestant Theology. Balancing my studies with full-time work was very challenging; I was also painfully aware that churches in my home country do not ordain women, so I would have to look for opportunities abroad. Thankfully, I managed to complete my Degree and was ordained as Lutheran pastor in 2013, in the Czech Republic.

I am originally from Poland, but my life experiences have taken me far and wide. I have lived, studied and worked in the USA (where I spent my early childhood, for 4 years), in Hungary (for 6 years), Canada (where I started my PhD studies in Theology, for 1.5 years) and the Czech Republic (for 4 years). If I was asked to name my top three passions for ministry I would list exploring new and creative ways to worship God, ministering to young adults/youth and community outreach, but in all honesty, all of my ministry has been a wonderful journey for me.

My theological interests include pastoral counselling, liberation and postcolonial theology, biblical Hebrew, Greek and digital evangelism.

In terms of hobbies, I enjoy reading, running, cooking and travelling.

In the days ahead, I look forward to meeting you all, hearing your life and faith stories and answering any questions you may have.

Blessings and peace,
Krystyna

Meeting someone new; making sure everything is perfect. The anxiety of not knowing; figuring out each other. Anticipating the first conversation and starting over; meeting someone new !

Leave it all in God's hands;
He knows what He's doing !



The Welcome Service is at Whalley Range Methodist Church (M16 7EX) on **Sunday 3rd September** at **6.30pm** when we will welcome Rev. Dr. Caroline Wickens as our Circuit Superintendent. Due to unforeseen circumstances, another Welcome Service will be now organised for Rev. Krystyna Kwarciak, our new minister, shortly - please check your notices, thank you.

HELP!



Would you seriously consider the position of being a flower steward at East Didsbury to ensure that we continue to have fresh flowers each Sunday? Please have a word with Ann Johnson, Margaret Woosey or any of the stewards, thank you.

Ladies Circle 2.30pm

7th Sept Autumn Quiz - Rosie
21st Sept Anyone for Bingo ?!

Ladies - you are welcome to join us in Room 3

This is a lovely fellowship meeting in love and friendship - we finish around 4.00pm following tea and biscuits/cakes.



FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The next meeting is on Tuesday 5th September at the home of Nick Palfreyman. Flat 1, Thorne House, Fallowfield, M14 6DW - 7.30pm. All welcome. For more info speak to Julie - juliejones9@ntlworld.com



BOOK CLUB

The next Book Club is Wednesday 13th September at 7.30pm reviewing 'New Boy' by Tracy Cavelier - in the vestry. Speak to Julie Jones or email her.



COMMUNITY LUNCH

The lunch is on Thursday 14th September, 12 for 12.30pm. Get your £6.50 ticket from Ken Whittaker or Jean Thickbroom. Tickers must be bought/ordered no later than *Sunday 10th September* please.



COFFEE EXPERIENCE

Why not pop along to the Coffee Experience in Room 3 on Saturday 30th September between 10am and 11.30am for coffee and a chat.



FILM CLUB AT DIDSBURY

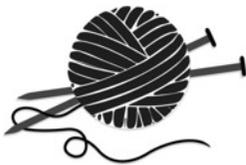
You are very welcome at Didsbury Methodist
on Wednesday 27th September at 1.45pm to see

'QUARTET'

The afternoon closes with tea and biscuits

Synopsis for the film Quartet:

Lifelong friends Wilf and Reggie, together with former colleague Cissy, are residents of Beecham House, a home for retired musicians. Every year on Giuseppe Verdi's birthday, the residents unite to give a concert to raise funds for their home. But when Jean Horton, a former grande dame of the opera who has fallen on hard times, also Reggie's ex-wife and the fourth and most celebrated member of the their former quartet, moves into the home, the plans for this year's concert start to unravel. Based on Ronald Harwood's stage play of the same name, Quartet is a wickedly comic film about redefining old age and growing old with hope, demonstrating how art illuminates life and the human spirit remains undimmed, even as the brightest stars start to fade - *come along and enjoy!*



You are invited to pop along on Monday
afternoons at 1.00pm to a Knit and Natter
session in the Vestry at East Didsbury - all
welcome to learn new skills, strengthen old ones
and chitter-chatter!

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Colossians 3:17

*Thank
you*



For the gifts and good wishes as we left East Didsbury and moved to pastures new - thank you; we were touched by your generosity.

We have moved into the new Manse in Preston and are beginning to unpack boxes. You all remain in our prayers.

God bless
Jane



NEW VENTURE Stay and Play for Parents , Carers and Toddlers - a Christian based group with stories, songs crafts, toys and snacks.

Friday mornings from 9.30-11.00am during term time. - first session 8th September.

Cost is £1 per child, no booking required. For further details speak to Liz Stuart at Didsbury Methodist or ring 07821-190322 or email lizstuartlp@aol.com

When Jesus saw this, He as indignant.
He said to them, "Let the children come to me,
and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God
belongs to such as these.

Mark 10:14

Overcoming the giants in our daily life:

We probably all know the Bible story of how a boy named David fought and killed a giant named Goliath. Now, Goliath was a mighty warrior who was more than nine feet tall! He was protected from head to toe by a suit of armour made of bronze. His armour alone weighed more than one hundred pounds and he was armed with a sword and spear.

David, on the other hand, was a young shepherd boy. He had no armour for protection. It would have been much too heavy for him to carry. And how about a sword and spear? No, David's weapon was a sling and his ammunition was five smooth stones which he picked up from a nearby stream. And yet, David was able to defeat a giant that all of the soldiers of the Israelite army were afraid to face.

We will never face a giant such as Goliath, but we face giants of another kind in our daily life. We face giants such as fear, insecurity, loneliness, and failure. How can we overcome those giants that want to defeat us? These five stones can help us to remember the story of how David defeated the giant he faced.

- The first stone represents **COURAGE** - David was not afraid to face the enemy. "Don't worry about a thing," David told Saul. "I'll go fight this Philistine!" (1 Samuel 17:32 NLT) It also takes courage to fight the giants you will face in your life.
- The second stone represents **CONFIDENCE** - As a shepherd, David often had to protect the sheep from wild animals. This gave him the confidence he needed to face the giant. "The LORD who saved me from the claws of the lion and the bear will save me from this Philistine!" (1 Samuel 17:37 NLT) Like David, you can have confidence that God will help you overcome the problems you face each day.
- The third stone represents **PREPARATION** - David didn't go to face the giant unprepared. He went down to the stream and picked out five smooth stones and put them in his shepherd's bag. Then armed with his

shepherd's staff and sling, he started out to fight Goliath. (1 Samuel 17:40 NLT) It is important for you to do everything possible to be certain you are prepared to face the challenges which you will meet in your daily life.

- The fourth stone represents **TRUST** - David did not trust in his own ability to slay the giant. When Goliath shouted at David, cursed him, and was ready to kill him, David said, "You come to me with a sword and spear, but I come to you in the name of the LORD God Almighty." (1 Samuel 17:45 NLT) When you face problems, put your trust in God, not in your own ability.
- The fifth stone represents **VICTORY** - "It is God's battle, not ours," David said. That is why David was able to win the victory over the giant with only a stone and sling. (1 Samuel 17:50 NLT) When you turn your battles over to God, you will have the victory over the giants in your life.

So, the next time you are facing a giant in your life, remember the story of David and Goliath --and five smooth stones.

Dear Father, just as you gave David the victory in his battle with Goliath, we know that when we put our trust in you, you will give us the victory over the giants we face in our daily life. Amen.

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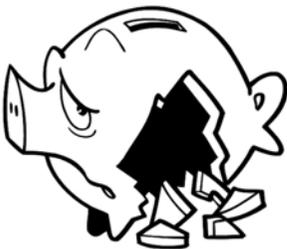
Message from our new Superintendent: Rev Dr Caroline Wickens

Moving house can be quite a challenge. Andrew, my husband, and I lived twelve years in Dudley, and we hadn't turned out the loft, or the garage, for at least half that time. So as we packed up, I became good friends with the people at our local charity shop. It was surprisingly easy to let go of a lot of stuff – not just the pasta machine (making pasta turned out to be a lot more complicated than I expected!), but also the books, the CDs, the children's toys which had played their part and were now waiting to be part of some else's life..

But there were some things I kept. My first baby's first shoes. A photo of my husband when I first met him. The china piggy-bank which my dad gave me when I was two – even though it got broken and repaired with very visible glue. Things of no value, pointless things. 'What on earth are you keeping that old thing for?' was said on several occasions! They're staying because they are important; they sum up relationships, happiness, love.

What if God was having a clear-out in the halls of heaven? What might be kept to sum up your relationship with God, or mine? Would it be the shiny, impressive things which go on public display in our lives for all to see? Paul points us in another direction. He reminds us that we have the treasure of God's love in jars of plain clay, not gorgeous gold (2 Corinthians 4:7). Those clay jars were the plastic carrier bags of the day, cheap and cheerful but not at all special. Why does this treasure come in clay jars? God's love is so glorious that it needs no extra decorations – there should be nothing to distract attention from that greatest gift of all.

And clay jars break easily. The Bible tells many stories of relationships broken and then restored through God's love. From King David to the disciple Peter, we read of failure, denial, betrayal – and then God picks up the pieces and starts all over again, mending, re-stitching, gluing up the cracks. We serve God better when we learn that we don't have to be squeaky-clean or shiny-perfect. God doesn't want us to show off our own achievements. Rather, it is a life broken and mended which reveals God's power and glory at work in us, just as Jesus' risen hands still bear the marks of the nails.



What would remind God most sharply of you? What would be kept? I guess we shall all be surprised to find out – because it will probably be something as random and unexpected as my battered, broken china piggy-bank!



David & Goliath

PICTURES

TO

COLOUR



**Jesus with some of his
small flock!**

A small trivia quiz

1. What does the word 'gospel' mean?
2. What miracle did Jesus perform at the marriage of Cana?
3. What is the name of the first Christian who was stoned to death?
4. Who went with Paul on his first missionary journey?
5. What was Jesus' first miracle?
6. What is John the Baptist's father's name?
7. Where was Jesus crucified?
8. Who was the tax collector who climbed up a tree to see Jesus?

Answers on the back page

We pray for all those who need God's love at this time

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd Sept	10.45am	Worship: John Worthington
	6.30pm	Welcome Service at Whalley Range
5th Sept	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
7th Sept	2.30pm	Ladies Circle
10th Sept	10.45am	Worship: Anne Wilde
13th Sept	7.30pm	Book Club
14th Sept	12.30pm	Monthly Lunch
17th Sept	10.45am	Worship: Rev. Krystyna Kwarciak Holy Communion
21st Sept	2.30pm	Ladies Circle
24th Sept	10.45am	Worship: B Treves Brown

27th Sept 1.45pm Film Club at Didsbury
30th Sept 10.00am Coffee Experience
1st Oct 10.45am Worship: Val Shirley

Inability motivates reliance on divine power. We'll never be adequate until we draw from the Holy Spirit's inexhaustible strength. He does in and through us what God never intended that we do on our own.

CONCORD:

Articles for the next edition of the magazine to be with me please NO LATER than 24th SEPTEMBER. Kindly pop items into the envelope in the fellowship area, phone 07758 011362 or you can email me on rosemaryblayds@hotmail.com, or post to 13 Moor Park Road, East Didsbury, M20 5PF thank you.

Much love as always
Rosie xxx

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Good news | 2. Turning water into wine |
| 3. Stephen | 4. Barnabas |
| 5. Turning water into wine | 6. Zacharias |
| 7. Golgotha | 8. Zacchaeus |

Last Thought

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:
Gracious God, to Thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1935)