

SELLY OAK METHODIST CHURCH

# SUMMER FAYRE

(Gift Day)

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**SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 2019**

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**CAKE STALL ★ CRAFTS ★**

**SOAK THE MINISTER OR FAMILY WORKER ★**

**BRING AND BUY STALL ★**

**REFRESHMENTS ★ ACTIVITIES ★**

**NEARLY NEW BABY AND CHILDRENS STALL ★**

15th June 2019 | 10am - 1pm  
Lunch from 11.30am

★ **FREE ENTRY**

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★ **ALL WELCOME**

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As planned, we are having our Gift Day on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June. It is an opportunity to thank you all for your generosity which enables and sustains the life of the church, through your self-offering in gifts of money and deeds. Last year our income was incredible £134,354 but, in spite of the practical volunteering of numerous individuals as well as the service of the few who are in paid employment this was not sufficient to avoid a substantial deficit on the year. In this missional enterprise, each one of us plays an invaluable role. I also thank God for the fruitful relationship we enjoy with our community and all the users of the church premises, some of whom such as the uniformed units, are taking part in the Gift Day. The Gift Day is therefore a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the varied gifts and challenges we share and wrestle with, in the mission and ministry God has called us to. Given this level of commitment and discipleship I feel encouraged to appeal once again to the generosity of your hearts as we seek to respond to God's calling as the corporate body of Christ.

At SOMC we strive to offer committed meaningful and varied worship, authentic and supportive pastoral care, transformative community outreach in a context that is excitingly diverse with rich local and international flavours. In financial terms, it costs £2,700 per week at present to meet our commitments. Of this £1,800 goes to the Birmingham Circuit as our contribution to ministerial costs and all the running expenses of the Methodist Connexion. The £900 per week left for the running costs of the building would easily be much more had it not been for the dedicated unpaid work of the small property committee.

Currently our income from collections, direct giving and gift aid amounts to about £1,750 per week and a significant amount comes from room hire and donations. As you already know, last August we finished with a deficit of £7,481 for the year. In order to avoid another one this year we need to raise at least £2,000 by other means. Ideally it would be good to build up reserves again after last year's shortfall. If you can contribute to this appeal it will go a long way in securing the ministry of our church community and ensuring that we can be even more visionary in our discipleship. Please use the envelopes provided and indicate if you would like gift aid to be claimed on your donation.

Let me thank you again for your generosity and fellowship. May our Gift Day strengthen our friendships and help us to know each other more as we reflect on our journey of faith in a practical and engaging manner. Best of all, we are all loved. May you all be blessed according to God's outpoured generosity and providence which surpasses all we can ever imagine.

*Rev Dr Vincent Jambawo*