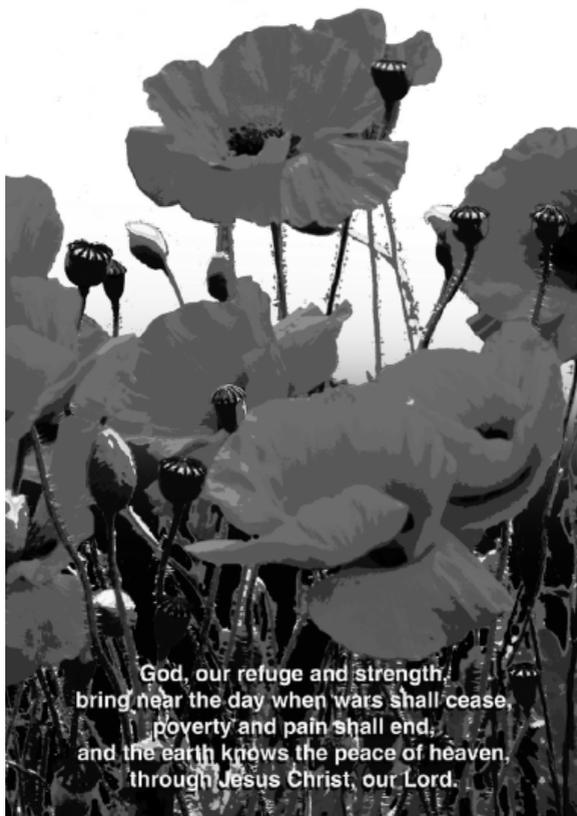


# the Link

**The United Pastorate of  
Leatherhead  
Cobham  
Effingham**

**November 2016**



God, our refuge and strength,  
bring near the day when wars shall cease,  
poverty and pain shall end,  
and the earth know the peace of heaven,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



*The*  
**United  
Reformed  
Church**

**Linking:**

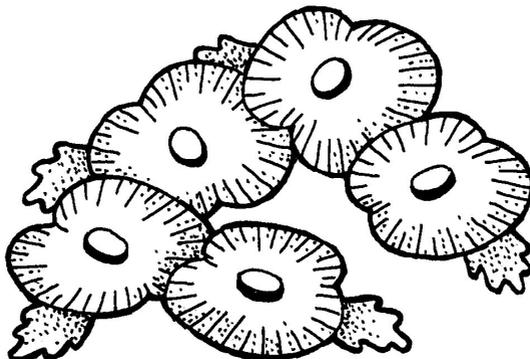
**Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead  
Cobham Methodist Church  
Cobham United Reformed Church  
Effingham Methodist Church  
Leatherhead Methodist Church**

**The Methodist Church**



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**All copy for the December/January issue to the editor by  
15th November**



## *The Ministers Write...*

### ***From Rev. Lynda Russell***

Dear friends,

Some of you may know that a few weeks ago I had the immense privilege of marrying my step-daughter (John's daughter) and her fiancé Chris. They got married in Central Methodist Church in Chippenham, and for all those of you reading this who have occasion to steward at weddings, I have to say that it is vital work! The stewards were absolutely lovely, and treated us all as if we were family, making my job so much easier.

I read this true story when I was looking for illustrations for the sermon: The happy couple were posing for their photos outside the church after the service. They had all the usual groups in the photos: bride and groom; with family; friends; and so on. They went off to their wedding reception, and the photographer went away to work on what he had done. He then came to the evening reception, hoping to sell copies of his photos to the guests.

There was only one problem: behind the bride and groom in every photo was the church noticeboard. It prominently displayed a Bible verse: there, just for the happy couple, were the words of Jesus on the Cross: 'Father, forgive them, they don't know what they're doing.' (Perhaps we should think more carefully about our noticeboards!)

Now Melissa and Chris had been together for 11 years since they met in the first week they started at Uni, so I think they **did** know, as much as anyone can, what they were doing as they got married.

I thought and prayed for a long time about what to say as we reflected on the beautiful readings they'd chosen.

"Love from the centre of who you are" says the Message version of Romans 12. How much do we need this advice in our homes, our churches, our schools, our towns and our society at this time?

*continued on the next page*

Yesterday on the news with immense sadness and disbelief I watched a man who apparently wanted to bar the entrance of all the children from the Calais camp to the UK, and send them back to where they came from.

As Christians, our centre is rooted in Christ, and our love comes from his love for us. It is only by making sure that our centre is grounded in Him that we can love from that foundation, and know that it will be secure. Then that love will spread to others around us. It is critical at this time in our national identity that we as Christians show the love which comes from the centre of who we are. As the implications of Brexit become more apparent, and attitudes to refugees, migrants, or simply those who have lived here all their lives but look 'other' could become more hostile, we may be called to stand up and speak out. "Love from the centre of who you are."

Every blessing,

Lynda



## ***From Rev. Kim Plumpton***

Dear friends,

I was blessed to be a judge once again at the speech competition in London for the Women's Federation for World Peace. There were seven entrants from across the UK. There was of course a prize, as well as an opportunity to attend a conference in Bratislava drawing on peacebuilding.

I was one of three judges, a lecturer from Kings College and a former vice president joined me as we listened to some inspirational speeches. There was a clear winner, a 32 year old called Valentine Nkoyo.

Here is her story which she kindly gave me permission to share:

"I grew up in a small Maasai village in Kenya. My father had two wives. I have eight sisters and five brothers. As a young girl, growing up in such a big family wasn't easy, especially given that my father didn't have a lot of wealth to educate all his children. Girls lost out as educating boys was, and still is, more important than educating girls.

Subsistence farming was the sole source of income for my family. Despite long hours in the farm, infrequent rains and occasional droughts led to loss of livestock and poor farm produce. I vividly remember the many days we went to bed on empty stomachs. These incidences upset me greatly, but also inspired me to work hard in school to change our future.

Being a woman, my mother could not own property. We made do with old clothes with the exception of occasional new second hand purchases or the 'hand me downs' from our rich cousins. I got my first pair of shoes aged fourteen.

Mother encouraged me to study hard as this was the only way out of poverty. On trips to the river, she would say "I want you to work hard in school so that you don't have to do this all your life. Education will help you buy me a water tank so we don't have to walk all day for water". A few years back, my mother cried with joy when I had a water tank installed at home. I remember her saying, "I can see you listen my child and you never forgot what I told you. Look at my feet, they are no longer as strong as they used to be. God bless you my child".

I lost several years of my education as my mother couldn't afford to pay my school fees so I was thrown out of school. During such times, I helped my parents and worked as a labourer in local farms for money. I was constantly coaxed to get married. I remember this old man who used to bring me presents. He argued that I was wasting my time at home seeking school fees, as other girls my age were already married. I told him I could listen to him if he paid my school fees (£10) but he refused. I was castigated for "begging for education". The thought of being married off aged fourteen gave me sleepless nights. I avoided anyone who mentioned marriage to me.

*continued on the next page*

Mother's attempts to fundraise for my fees were met with hostility as it would bring shame to the family. As a teenage girl, I was not allowed to speak directly to my father. I could not question his decision not to sell livestock or land to educate me, while he did it for my brothers. Long days spent as a labourer while other kids went to school infuriated me. I could not understand how being a girl meant I was to be treated differently. I became dejected and felt suicidal. I sought ways to approach my father by writing this poem in Maasai:

### TAKE ME TO SCHOOL FATHER

Take me to school father  
So I may be like Elizabeth  
Who drives the red car  
And who is always happy  
For was she not a girl like me?  
Take me to school father  
So I may not be like Naserian  
Who has now five children  
Strands of wire covered by skin  
Is what they have for bodies  
Skinny, scrawny, skimpy  
With teary eyes they gaze  
Despairingly at their mother  
Who has naught to offer.  
Take me to school father  
For those children haunt me  
Will I end up like Naserian?  
Whose husband whips her daily?  
For is she not his sixth sheep?  
And by the way  
A present from a grateful age mate  
Why was I born a girl?  
To become a symbol of gratitude?  
Take me to school father  
You tell me I will deviate  
And I shame you with bad manners  
Is rejecting an old man bad manner?  
Is declining initiation bad manners?  
Is planning my family bad manners?  
Is dressing smartly bad manners?  
Is being a girl child bad manners?

Take me to school father  
For the symbol of labour I detest!  
The symbol of pleasure I detest!  
The symbol of gratitude I detest!

Valentine's persistence led her father to sell his favourite bull so she could go to school but he died shortly afterwards and she fought to be educated.

Valentine sought scholarships for secondary school, she spent two years seeking funding for university, she graduated with a first class honours in 2011. After working as a programme Coordinator for African programmes for three years, she got a scholarship to take an MBA at Nottingham Trent University in March 2014. Valentine is hoping to start her PhD on Gender and Discrimination in 2017. At this present time she is financing her brothers', nieces' and nephews' education.

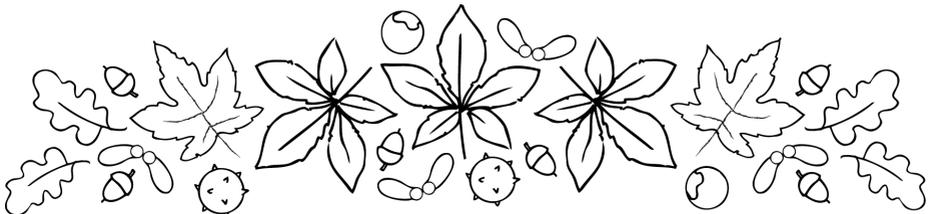
Valentine's story speaks of struggle and perseverance and a belief that God would bring about justice, that her prayers would not go unnoticed. There were moments when she wrestled with God, God seemed to take his time to answer but then Valentine realised it is often in our adversity we find out who we truly are, but also who God is.

Wrestling with God it seems is not something to shy away from, it seems to give rise to a questioning, a determination, a resilience, a knowledge that God will not let us go, that God's justice will prevail.

Something to hold onto in the messiness of this world, a world that needs God's justice and mercy.

Every blessing,

Kim



## **The destruction of Aleppo must stop**

*The Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Church in Wales, the Church of Scotland, Quakers in Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church have released a statement calling upon the Syrian and Russian Governments and other forces to stop their bombardment of Aleppo.*

*The humanitarian crisis in eastern Aleppo has become a tragedy. United Nations Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, has stated that in the two weeks following the collapse of the ceasefire, 376 people have been killed, one third of whom were children, and a further 1266 were wounded. The international humanitarian organisation Medicines Sans Frontieres said recently that there have been 23 recorded attacks on Aleppo's eight hospitals since the end of July. Seeking medical care has become a danger in itself.*

*The statement below has been signed by leaders from the six churches representing more than one million people in the UK.*

We are appalled by the attacks on civilians by the Syrian Government, Russian and other forces. Life is a gift of God. The targeting and killing of civilians can never be passed off merely as a consequence of war. Aerial strikes on homes, hospitals and aid convoys are never acceptable, under any circumstances.

The responsibility for such attacks lies first and foremost with those who have carried them out. But the frequency of such attacks in Syria also underlines a failure on the part of the international community to uphold long-established principles concerning the immunity of civilians in conflict. Member states of the United Nations should seek to hold to account the parties responsible for indiscriminate attacks on men, women, children, hospitals, humanitarian and rescue workers, which could be construed as war crimes.

The world cries out for an end to the death and destruction in Syria that daily adds to the largest flight of refugees since the Second World War. We join with our brothers and sisters of other churches and other faiths in praying for the people of Syria. We claim no simple solution to a complex political reality but offer the simple message of our faith: that every life is valued by God and that the slaughter must end now.

The signatories to the statement are:

- The General Secretary of the Baptist Union – the Revd Lynn Green.
- The President of the Methodist Church – Revd Dr Roger Walton.
- The General Secretary of the URC - the Revd John Proctor.
- The Moderator, Church of Scotland - the Right Revd Dr Russell Bar.
- Recording Clerk for Quakers in Britain - Paul Parker
- The Bishop of Swansea & Brecon – the Right Revd John Davies.

# Remembrance

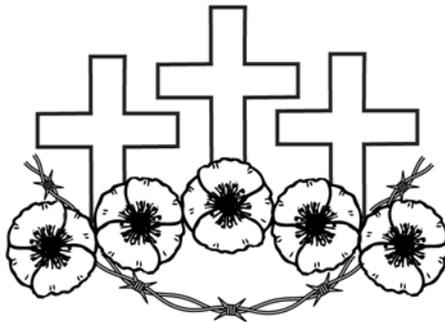
In November we come to remember  
How war tore our country apart,  
From village and town and all around  
Men and boys left home and hearth.

Mothers and wives and sisters all  
Saw their brave young men go away,  
For some it meant the ultimate price  
As they gave their tomorrows for our today.

Another Man left His home above  
To rescue this world from sin,  
It cost Him His life which He freely gave  
So new life could enter in.

In this world there will always be war,  
But the time will surely be  
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
As the waters cover the sea.

*By Megan Carter  
Parish Pump*





# Cobham Methodist Worship Diary



## November

**Sun 6th 10.30am Tina Andrews**

Sat 12th 2.30pm Platinum Service

**Sun 13th 10.30am Remembrance Sunday -  
Rev Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion  
(Joint Service at URC)**

**Sun 20th 10.30am Rev Gavin Hancocks (new Superintendent  
(Joint Service here at CMC)**

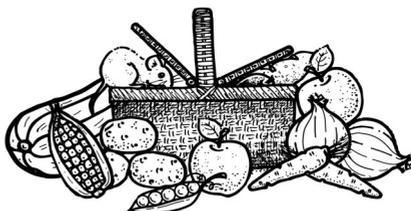
**Sun 27th 10.30am Rhys Frost**

## December

**Sun 4th 10.30am John Oborn**

## ‘Come You Thankful People Come’

‘Raise the Song of Harvest Home’, and we certainly did, at Cobham. We had, I am pleased to report, a full church, as we had invited the Cobham Community Church and T.G.C.M. (The Great Commission Ministry - Filipino Church) to join us in our celebration. We decorated the church in the traditional way, brought with us a traditional Methodist service, with good old Harvest hymns, (and a couple of modern praise songs thrown in for good measure), and a twist or two; the Filipino church added their Pastora, to preach the sermon, an awful lot of enthusiasm, and somewhat more vocal support for the sermon than perhaps we are used to; and the C.C.C. added their singing support, and their only slightly less vocal enthusiasm. And it worked! We had the sort of service that made you feel glad to be serving God; you know that feeling you sometimes get, when after a day of rain, you happen to glance out of the window, and suddenly see a truly glorious sunset,



with the molten gold of the sun suffused with pinks and reds, slowly being displaced by the darkening sky, and you simply praise God for the sheer beauty of it? Well that was the feeling we had after that service, but it didn't end there. I used to think that no-one did a faith lunch like Cobham Methodist Church; now I know better; T.G.C.M. simply feel that meals are an extension of worship to God, and therefore, must: (a) be as plentiful as possible; (b) must have as many varieties of food as possible; (c) must be enjoyed by as many as possible; and (d) must be as joyful as possible.

*R Frost*



## **Next "Time 4 You"**

Saturdays 12th November,  
10th December,  
10.00am - 12 noon

### **Cobham Methodist Church**

Why not stop and rest awhile, recharge your batteries, find the space for you to enjoy a chat and a free cup of coffee.

**"A place and space for You"**

## **Next Messy Church for Cobham, Oxshott and Stoke D'Abernon**



**Date: Thursday  
24th November**

**Time: 3.45pm to 5.45pm**

**Venue: Cobham URC,  
38 Stoke Road,  
KT11 3BD**

**All are welcome**



# Cobham

## United Reformed Church

### Worship Diary

<b>November</b>		
Sun 6th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
	10.30am	Sydney Shore... followed by "Dementia Friends" lunch and session ( <i>see page 16</i> )
Sun 13th	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday: Rev Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion (Joint Service at CURC)
Sun 20th	10.30am	Rev Gavin Hancocks (new Methodist Circuit Superintendent) Joint Service at CMC
Sun 27th	10.30am	Rev Kim Plumpton
<b>December</b>		
Sun 4th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
	10.30am	Stephen Thornton

## A Day of Reflection on Prayer - A Spiritual Retreat Led by Bernard Fidler

**Saturday 24th September 2016 in Cobham Methodist Church**

Seventeen members of the three churches (Cobham and Effingham Methodist and Cobham URC) got together at 10.30am not really knowing what to expect.

The Church Table was beautifully decorated for Harvest Festival so we started with a short service semi-circled in front of the Table to get ourselves into the right frame of mind.

At the other end of the Sanctuary was another semi-circle facing the back where Bernard gave a laptop presentation on to a screen.



*continued on the next page*

# Cobham Events

## November

- Tues 1st 9.45am Church walk  
10.30am Advent Bible Study at the manse (*to 12 noon*)  
8.00pm Elders' Meeting (URC)
- Thurs 3rd 12.30pm Men's Fellowship (Marquis of Granby,  
Portsmouth Road, Esher)
- Sun 6th 3.00pm Play and Chat (*to 6pm*)
- Tues 8th 10.30am Advent Bible Study at the manse (*to 12 noon*)
- Fri 11th 7.00pm Joint Leadership Meeting (at URC)
- Sat 12th 10.00am Time 4 You at CMC
- Tues 15th 10.30am Advent Bible Study at the manse (*to 12 noon*)
- Tues 22nd 10.30am Advent Bible Study at the manse (*to 12 noon*)
- Thurs 24th 3.45pm Messy Church (at URC) (*to 5.45pm*)

## December

- Sat 3rd 10.30am Christmas Messy Morning

*continued from previous page*

He started with the URC Vision 2020 summary and explained we were going to concentrate on the "Spirituality & Prayer" aspect. We would explore prayer.

Bernard is such a gifted guy. Whilst he obviously had his standard presentation he could ad lib and pick up and build-up on any points raised in the discussions. There was also a lot of quick repartee and laughter involved. This was important as there was also a lot of anxiety when it came to workshop items and some of us, especially me, found it difficult to openly talk about how and when we do or don't pray and what happens if and when we do pray.

We started with "Why do we need to pray" and then discussed in small groups our prayer efforts and rated them between 0 worst to 10 best. We concluded, dependent on our personality, some of us are systematic, some are spontaneous and some are "Yoyos" – praying only when we think it might help us! Bernard emphasised no way is the right way – it is whatever is best for us.

*continued on the next page*

In a similar vein we explored “God listens to you”, “Different ways of praying” and “Listening to and discerning from our Prayers”. Always to remember – Does it give glory to Jesus Christ and does it bear fruit?

“Different ways of praying” was very challenging. Bernard gave us lots of different ways with handouts to help us. We then chose whatever we thought might suit us. I chose the Labyrinth which is following a drawn labyrinth into the centre and letting whatever thoughts surfaced. Ditto while in the centre and ditto on the way out. We did this for 45 minutes.

Finally in the afternoon we tried putting it into practice. We all prayed for a short while and noted whatever popped into our minds. Bernard captured all these one-liner thoughts on to a flip chart and then we tried to make sense of the theme of what God was saying to us. It was very difficult. We did it three times. The first two conclusions were rather fuzzy but I think this is what we concluded:

- We wanted a new church with a large congregation.
- If we put our trust in God, all will be well.
- God promises us a good harvest but there is a lot of work to do. God may be getting impatient with us and wants us to get out of the carriage and get on with it. If we do, there will be a good harvest and we will soar like an eagle.

There is no way I can convey fully our experience. When I write about it, it sounds clinical. However, I have learnt that my previous idea of praying – basically asking God for good things to happen is not necessarily the best way of praying. It is briefly speaking to God and then LISTENING. During periods of silent thought – one may even go to sleep; something will pop into our minds. Subsequently what popped into our minds may connect with something that bears fruit.

*Richard Langtry*

*continued next page*

## **Prayers at the Manse:**

**Wednesdays at 9.30am :**

**November:** 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

*continued from the previous page*

## **'A Day of Spirituality'**

When I first heard those words, I admit, that I wondered what on earth that would entail; part of me wondered if we would spend the day sitting cross-legged on the floor, with our first finger and thumb delicately touching, intoning the word 'Om...', or would we actually be doing an in-depth bible study, or hearing a 'fire and brimstone sermon' for the first hour and then spending the rest of the day desperately trying to make amends for our shortcomings. You might be relieved (or desperately disappointed) to learn, that it was none of the above; instead, we began the day by listening and learning different ways to unlock our Spirituality, including different prayer approaches; which we were then invited to explore.

After lunch, we heard two bible readings, from which we were invited to pick out the part that was significant to us. Then we pondered on them, allowing our minds to go blank and see what visions, or words came to mind. Our suggestions were then written up on a flip chart, to see if through them, we might glean an idea of what God was trying to tell us about our church, or our church life, or perhaps our personal life. For our group, no clear concise message was forthcoming, but, for me, I found the day forbidding, instructive, exciting, exhilarating and Spiritual; and I hope that there will be another one, to stretch me further!



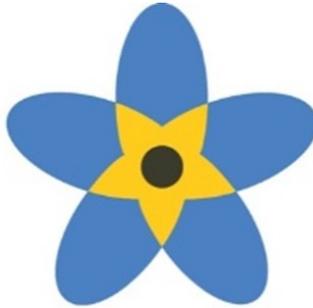
*Rhys Frost*

### **Advent Bible Study at the Manse**

Tuesdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd Nov and Friday 2nd Dec,  
10.30am to 12noon

Looking at "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancy

*(see page 17 for details)*



# Dementia Friends

Debbie from Dementia friends will be sharing with us on 6th November after the church service at Cobham URC.

We will be sharing in lunch and then we will be inviting Debbie to share with us the work of Dementia Friends.

**All are welcome.**

## Next Messy Church for Cobham, Oxshott and Stoke D'Abernon



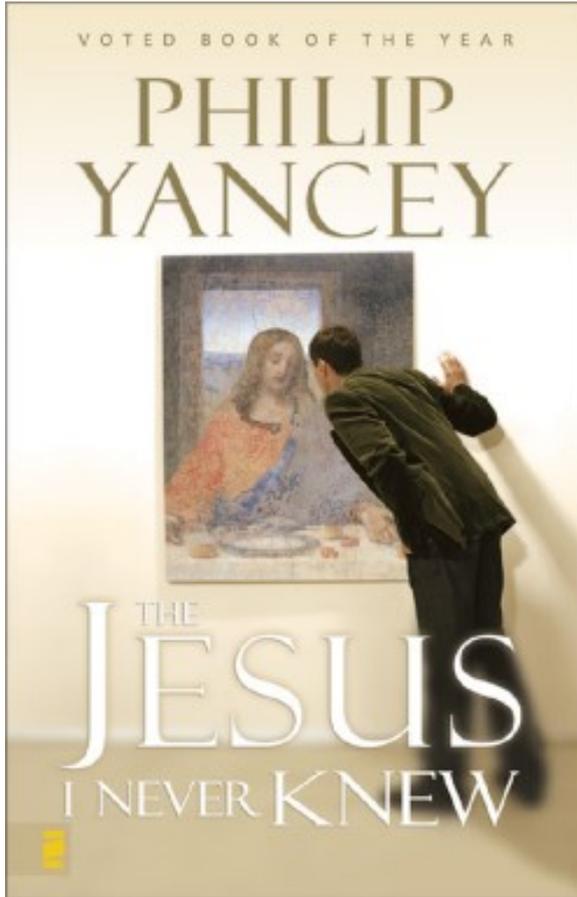
**Date: Thursday 24th November**

**Time: 3.45pm to 5.45pm**

**Venue: Cobham URC,  
38 Stoke Road,  
KT11 3BD**

**All are welcome**

# Bible Study



Our new bible study for this autumn will be:

'The Jesus I never knew',  
by Philip Yancey

**Venue:**  
**The manse**

**Time:**  
**10:30-12noon**

**Dates:**  
**1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, &  
22<sup>nd</sup> November**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Please come along and join us.  
All are welcome.**

If you wish to know more please ring  
Rev Kim Plumpton - 01932 586988



# Effingham

## Methodist Church



### Effingham Diary

**November**

- Sun 6th 10.00am** Rev Kim Plumpton with *Holy Communion*
- Tues 8th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
- Thurs 10th 2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church
- Sun 13th 10.00am** **Remembrance Sunday with Robert Pitt**
- Thurs 17th 12.30pm OASIS Bible Study Lunch with Kim *(to 3pm)*
- Sun 20th 10.00am** **Angie Choat**
- Tues 22nd 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the R. C. Hall
- Wed 23rd 2.00pm Prayer walk starts at St. Lawrence Church
- Thurs 24th 2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church
- Sun 27th 10.00am** **Jay Dunning**

**December**

- Sun 4th 10.00am** Rev Kim Plumpton with *Holy Communion*



**Dates to celebrate this month:**

Wishing a Happy Birthday to **Barbara Rombach** on 18th and **Pat McElhill** on 19th

**Prayer Meetings** are held at **the Chapel** every Friday at 9.30am

Your invitation to:



**MESSY  
CHURCH**



Activities



Songs



Food



Crafts



Games



Stories

**St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane  
Wednesdays 9th November & 7th December -  
3.30 - 5.30pm**



## **Do YOU have room for Mary & Joseph this year?**

Not quite the journey to Bethlehem, but since 2012 our **Posada nativity figures** have been travelling around **Effingham, Little Bookham and Cobham**, visiting schools and occasionally staying overnight in someone's house!

Focus your mind for Advent - **Remember Jesus and Mary were refugees too!** We need people to offer a room for the night, and to write about how it felt to be part of their journey.

**Christmas starts with Christ**

**Ring Angela on 01372-454850**

## Are we there yet?



The Advent Offering service, a connexion-wide event, raises money for the ongoing work of the **Mission in Britain Fund**, which supports mission-orientated church projects through grants for the following categories:

*Mission Action on Poverty and Justice -  
Ministering at Methodist Heritage sites  
and Chaplaincy - Helping churches to serve  
local communities and Sharing the gospel with  
all ages.*

This year's theme is '**Are we there yet?**' looking at the journey of a new Methodist drop-in centre in Swansea, named **Ogof Adullam** after the cave where *King David* took refuge in *1 Samuel 22*. It provides a place of refuge to vulnerable people in society – the homeless, asylum seekers and those shunned due to their addictions and criminal behaviour.

Based at Brunswick Methodist Church, it opens its doors for three evenings a week, when most other agencies are closed. It provides a safe place free of external influences where people can develop safe, secure and loving relationships in a Christian environment. The volunteers go beyond simply running a drop in centre. They liaise with different organisations in Swansea to direct their guests to night shelters, Christian Rehabilitation centres, chaplaincies and partner with local gardeners who offer work and income for ex-offenders.

Will YOU take up an Advent Offering specially for **Mission in Britain** to allow them to continue to support work like this?

The Methodist website has downloadable worship resources including leader's notes, children's resources and candle liturgies.

**Why not 'save a date' for an Advent Offering service?  
Or take up an offering to support *Methodist Mission in Britain*  
between 27th November and 24th December?**

# At the Supermarket



She wandered up and down and round the  
supermarket aisles  
In her crimplene top and skirt that didn't  
match.  
A battered woollen hat hid her grey and  
straggly hair

And her cardigan was mended with a patch.  
She seemed confused and ill at ease, not knowing what to do  
Amidst the bustling shoppers and the din  
And the shoppers gave her surly looks, for her trolley  
blocked the aisle,  
As she peered to read the price on every tin.

They tutted and they glared as she tried to make her choice.  
Tried to deal with pence and grams instead of pounds.  
For her memory was failing, not for yesterday but now  
And she had to make her meagre cash go round.

She placed her paltry purchases in front of the cashier.  
She'd bought just little bits of this and that.  
The bare necessities she'd need to stay alive  
And a little tin of salmon for her cat.

She fumbled for her coins with her bent, arthritic hands.  
Aware that she was old and in the way  
And no one tried to help her, or said a kindly word,  
They never even passed the time of day.

They never saw her tears as she shambled on her way  
In her badly fitting clothes and woolly hat.  
She shuffled home to safety with her single plastic bag  
And a little tin of salmon for her cat.

*This poem by **Mrs Ann Wood**, was quoted in a sermon about **Love** recently and really touched a cord. It's a powerful insight into old age. We all need to know how to help, and be dementia friendly.*



## The Power of Prayer

According to a recent **Tearfund** survey on the Methodist UK website, **Nearly half of UK adults pray - that's 20 million people!** 1 in 3 says "God watches over me"  
1 in 5 believes that prayer changes the world.

**57% of those who pray (11.6 million people) believe that "prayer changes what happens in their life".**

**The top prayer topics among 42% of UK adults:**

Family and friends (68%) Thanking God (41%)

Guidance (32%) Healing (26%) World wide problems (35%)

**But sometimes we need help to pray!**

Embarrassed by a huge wish list for family and friends?

Depressed by War and worldwide events?

**What should we pray about during November?**

**8th: U.S. Presidential election.**

[http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/pray\\_for\\_election\\_day\\_2016](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/pray_for_election_day_2016)

**13th: Remembrance Sunday:** <https://ctbi.org.uk>

**15th: International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church**

Resources available <http://idop.org/web/>

**20th: Women against Violence Sunday**

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/prayer-and-worship/methodist-special-sundays/women-against-violence-sunday>

The **Methodist Prayer handbook** is a useful guide day by day.

So is **Methodist website**, with a calendar of Special Sundays, and Ecumenical Sundays and ideas for Creative Prayer.

Or get an app [justpray.uk](http://justpray.uk)

Perhaps we could use **LINK** as a **PRAYER CHAIN**?

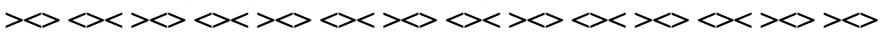


## **Poppies for Remembrance!**

Sadly the **Royal British Legion**, the welfare charity for armed forces veterans and their families, faces a revolt from thousands of its volunteer poppy sellers amid an ongoing row over controversial plans to close down its women’s section! Apparently last year’s proposal to merge the women’s section into the charity’s mainstream national organisation has deeply upset the legion’s women’s section, which has been in existence as a semi-independent part of the charity for 95 years. 30,000 volunteers from these branches play a huge role in running the charity’s annual poppy appeal, which raised £48.5m in 2014-15.

The merger would diminish the distinctive historical role of women in the legion, say critics, while the women’s section would no longer have an automatic place on the board of trustees, and may lose the honour of laying a wreath at the annual **Remembrance Sunday** ceremony at the Cenotaph in London.

Has it been a bit heavy handed? Centralising saves money but the corporate approach to the running of the London-based charity may have left it out of touch with the wishes of many of its ordinary members. **So plenty of need for Prayer here!**



### **HAITI - Urgent help needed to rebuild**

**after Hurricane Matthew** hit the west coast of Haiti with devastating effect. At least 900 dead, thousands displaced, their shanty-town homes just washed away.

UN officials are calling this the country's worst humanitarian crisis since the devastating earthquake of 2010.

**The Methodist Church World Mission Fund** is asking people to donate:<https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/mcfworldmission/haitiappeal>

**Please continue to hold the people of Haiti in prayer at this time.**



This is our **New Superintendent Gavin Hancocks and his wife Angela**, who we met after the special *Welcome Service* at London Road Methodist church on 2nd October.

They have moved from **Torbay Methodist Circuit**, where he has been a minister at the **Central Church, Torquay** which is a Methodist/URC, right in the heart of this popular seaside resort, but with responsibility for **Shipay and Victoria Park Methodist Churches** too.



So we'll be in good hands.



**REVD DR VAL OGDEN** visited Dorking at the end of September, to give a wonderful talk about **FIJI** and raised £270 for **Methodist World Mission Fund**. It was lovely to hear about her adventures and see her looking so happy.

She is serving as Director of **Theological Education by Extension at the Pacific Theological College**. Contact details are below, with a link to her blog and she'd love to hear from you.

She'll be there for another two years, and welcomes news. Apparently passers-by are always welcome! HmMMM!

Pacific Theological College,  
P O Box 388, 78 Vuya Road,  
Veiuto, Suva, Fiji Islands.

[rev.val.ogden@gmail.com](mailto:rev.val.ogden@gmail.com)

Blog: [rev-val-ogden@blogspot.co.uk](http://rev-val-ogden.blogspot.co.uk)

Twitter: [@RevValOgden](https://twitter.com/RevValOgden)



**"Connect"** continues to meet fortnightly for carers and partners with dementia. Additional outings are arranged monthly and a visit for tea was arranged at the top of Box Hill which some 12 people including some of our volunteers enjoyed. An exercise session was part of one of another meeting in October and everyone joined in with the movement to music.

Next dates - 10th November when Paddy will be singing with his guitar and 24th when Sue an artist will join us for an inspiring creative session much enjoyed the last time she joined us - 10.00am to 12noon in St Lawrence Church Hall Browns Lane. Contact Gill on 01372 457987 or Kim on 01932 586988.

## **Tuesday Teas**

Tuesday Teas will be entertained by the recorder group on 8th November, meeting from 2.30pm to 4.00pm in St Alphege Hall, Lower Road, KT24 5LX for tea, cake and chat as well. We'll also be meeting on 22nd November. Come and join us. Contact Gill for more information on 01372 457987

*Gill Walker*

## **Churches Together - Christian Aid - Singing-Along to The Sound of Music**

A very enjoyable evening was held on 14th October with cheese, wine and cake to enjoy as well as The Sound of Music. Some of us sang, others enjoyed just watching as they had never seen the film before. We raised an amazing £435 plus an additional £70 in Gift Aid. Well done everyone.

Huge thanks to all those who helped in whatever way on the evening to make it such a fun and enjoyable time.

*Gill Walker*

# Leatherhead Pages

Information, news, events and happenings in and around  
Leatherhead including news of joint Christ Church/LMC events

All Saints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT



**A SPECIALITY  
COFFEE SHOP AND  
SANDWICH COMPANY**

**Open Mon-Sat, 8am-3pm**

**OPEN TO ALL**

*the very best coffee +  
the very best sandwiches =  
the very best support  
for young people*

## **Sisters' Get-Together Christmas Special**

**Saturday 12th November, 8.30am to 10am**



Sisters get Together is a group for women that has been set up as an initiative of Churches Together in Leatherhead. This meeting will be held at the Parish Church Hall, Leatherhead. Doors will open at 8.30am with **Christmas Crafts with Alex Hearley** starting at 9.00am. Breakfast will be provided.

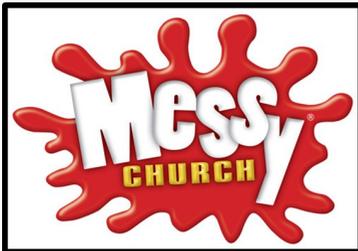
For more information, please contact Jane on 01372 362544.

Please come and support us and bring a friend with you.

# NEW FIRE

Don't forget to plan to come along to the contemporary New Fire service at 6.30pm on the fourth Sunday evening each month at LMC. Stay afterwards for coffee and a chat.

**Next New Fire - 27th November**



## Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:

Thursday 17th November  
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



## Men's Breakfasts

Leatherhead Men's Breakfasts will be at 8.00am on the following Saturdays:-

**26th November** at the Catholic Church Hall

**No Men's Breakfast in December...**

...then on the fourth Saturday each month in the New Year.

All men of any denomination or none are welcome. A suggested donation of £4 would be appreciated to cover costs; any surplus is donated to the speaker's preferred charity.



**MUSIC  
on  
THURSDAYS  
at LMC**



**WEDNESDAYS  
at  
CHRIST  
CHURCH**

[musiconthursdays.org](http://musiconthursdays.org)

### **Music on Thursdays at LMC**

Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road

**P** - please use multi-storey or Church Street car parks

**12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 27th October**

**AMICI Trio** - Gill Herbert, violin,

Hilary Taylor, cello, Lynda Chang, piano

**12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 3rd November**

*from the Royal Academy of Music*

**Bennett String Quartet** - including the return of

*Roma Tic, violin and Victoria Bernath, viola*

**12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 10th November**

Annual appearance of: **Atéa Wind Quintet**

flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon

### **Wednesdays at Christ Church**

Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST (*on-site parking*)

**12.30 lunchtime, Wednesday 16th November**

**Ed Sutton**, Organ Recitalist & Tutor

*Organ concerts continue monthly from 15th March 2017*

### **Music on Thursdays at LMC**

**12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 24th November**

following their morning performing for Trinity School pupils:

An early Christmassy concert by

**Andrews Massey Duo**

Emily Andrews, flute • David Massey, classical guitar

*All these concerts: free entry, with a retiring collection*

*Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society • Regd Charity 1166764*

*Lunchtime concerts continue weekly from 6th April 2017*

## **Harvest Supper**

About 60 people from LMC, Christ Church and Pioneer Engage gathered on Saturday 1st October for a Harvest Supper in Christ Church Hall. The food, which was excellent, was organised at short notice by Margaret Dodds-Ely, helped by members of the Catering Committee. There was also help from Norma Shaw and members of LMC.

After the meal, Mike Essex delivered a piece commemorating the Great Fire of London, and Lindsay Boswell delivered a Joyce Grenfell monologue. There was also a brief quiz on the subject of cathedrals.

*Mike Essex*

*Editor's note: Thanks Mike for this article. Can I also add my thanks to all at Christ Church and others who made this a very enjoyable evening organised at short notice. We all had a great evening. Thanks again everyone. LP*



Conquest Art

## **CONQUEST ART – We need your help.**

Unfortunately our art group at Leatherhead Methodist Church is closed at the moment as we do not have enough volunteers to run it. No artistic ability is necessary to become a volunteer. We would like to continue to meet on a Tuesday afternoon between 2.00 and 4.00pm. If you can help please get in touch with Tina on:

**Tel: 020 3044 2731 Email: Tina@ConquestArt.org**

## **About CONQUEST ART...**

... a charity providing art groups for people with disabilities and long term health issues.

Art can be invaluable in helping people, however severely disabled, to regain confidence in their abilities and to find happiness through self-expression.

People with disabilities such as Parkinson's disease, arthritis or who have had a stroke, often find themselves isolated because of their lack of mobility or ill-health.

Conquest Art groups provide a social activity with a purpose as well as an opportunity for members to express their feelings and gain a sense of achievement.

From pottery to watercolours, Members can choose a technique which suit their own style and level of ability allowing them to work at their own pace.

### **Monthly Service at The Beeches Care Home**

A service is held at The Beeches Care Home in Forty Foot Road at 3.00pm on the third Tuesday every month. If you feel you can assist with running the service, please contact Lynda.

**Next service 15th November**

# Children and Families

Over the past few months we have seen our Sunday morning family attendance grow, with new families joining us at LMC as well as seeing some of our well-known families attending more regularly. Recently, the young people planned and ran a very successful service which seemed well received.

We have a strong relationship in Trinity Primary School. We are still leading assemblies once a month and Hannah is spending half a morning a week practically serving the school to continue strengthening the relationship. We are looking towards running a lunchtime club for key stage 1, after running a very popular girls-group in the last academic year. At the end of last year, we ran two transition lessons with the year 6 classes to help get them thinking about what it will be like going up to secondary school.



Messy Church is continuing to attract new families. We have been and are continuing to look at children in the Bible and how we can be like them. Thank you to all who serve on the Messy Church team for all your continued support.

Revive has relaunched as a midweek club for those aged 7-11. We have run two sessions so far and although attendance is low, it is quickly evolving into a really precious time where both church and non-church children are learning about the parables Jesus told as well as having time for fun and friendship. We pray that this work will grow and reach more children.

During the summer we tried to hold numerous family-friendly events. These were not well attended and part of this is due to a mix-up with advertising. We have learnt from this and now have a better idea of how to advertise within the school as well as knowing there needs to be clearer communication with the congregation.

Hannah is developing her relationship with LYP as well as enabling there to be a midweek event for those in year 7+ to attend by starting to help Martin with the cell group.

As Hannah as now been working for a year and is well settled, we are looking at how to improve on our family outreach, ministry and pastoral support - watch this space!

# **LYP Project Update Autumn 2016**

## **BFree Youth Café**

We opened for the new term and have had fantastic attendance for September. What has been particularly pleasing is the growing number of year 7's who have been coming to BFree, and we are working hard to keep them engaged. We had over 100 different young people in through the door in September.

We ran a residential trip to Juniper Hall 14th/15th/16th October for Year 7s. We were given 75% of the cost of this by Field Studies Council who run Juniper Hall, and we believe this will be a really good relationship building trip for year 7s who have just begun attending BFree.

## **Summer projects**

The summer programme successfully engaged lots of young people and kept the team busy. Highlights included Romania trip, Making Good, Schools out for Summer on the recreation ground, and a BLAZE swimming trip.

## **One to One**

The LYP One to One service passed its observations by Surrey County Council and we're pleased with the feedback we had from Surrey.

## **Faith groups**

Triumph and Cell group are back on for the term and are well attended, including a new group of younger attendees at Triumph from St Marys & St Nics.

Cell group is at the biggest number it has been for recent years and we're looking at whether the group would prefer to split into age groups again

Coffee Shop church is back on Thursday nights for the new term, and is effectively a youth alpha style session for older teenagers, including several who came on the Romania trip.

## **Making Good**

We have established a link with the National Trust ranger at Polesden Lacey and ran a volunteering project there during October half term with our Making Good project.

## **Romania**

We have debriefed with the group after the Romania trip and are hoping to raise funds for a trip in 2017.

## **Girls Group**

Girls Group has started again for the term, every other Wednesday evening, and Kara and Martyina are running the next two together.

## **BLAZE**

Martin has been doing good work with BLAZE for the 11-15 year old boys. He has established a link with the Chairman of Leatherhead Football Club and has taken groups of boys to two recent home matches. They also had the chance to meet new Leatherhead FC Manager, Jimmy Bullard.

BLAZE now runs on alternate Wednesday nights.

## **Staff**

Mikey Dicken started at LYP in September, replacing Oli who is now leading our work in Bookham. Mikey is a long-term LYP volunteer, lives in Leatherhead with his wife Laura, a former Therfield student and has spent the past 10 years working at Esher College with young people with behavioural and special needs.

Martyina Harnden started work on 3rd October, and will be replacing Kara who returned to New Zealand on 28th October for family reasons.

Jude Crome returned to work to manage our One to One team part time on 11th October after taking maternity leave.

### **Current LYP Team:**

**Joe Crome**, General Manager

**Oli Bell**, Senior Youth Worker for Bookham

**Martin Fuller**, Youth Worker

**Mikey Dicken**, Youth Worker

**Martyina Harnden**, Youth Worker

**Jude Crome**, One to One Manager

**Alex Ball**, One to One worker

**Aura Cole**, One to One worker

*continued on the next page*

## **Needs Assessment**

We have completed the report after surveying 187 young people, and have called it 'Your Community Your Voice'. The report launched on 6th October at our Open Evening.

## **Bookham**

We have launched our new Bookham Youth Service which Oli Bell is heading up. We're currently getting to know the area whilst working with local churches and working within Howard of Effingham School.

## **Misc Items**

Thanks to Veolia Trust funding and MVDC funding, we are currently renovating the Allsaints toilets and LYP kitchen. This will provide better access and improved facilities.

Joe spoke at the public launch of the Surrey Hills Trust Fund at Cockshot Farm on Leith Hill on 15th September. We are planning an outdoor adventure residential in 2017 called Into the Wild and will be working closely with the Surrey Hills AONB.

We have been linked with Boots Leatherhead as a potential fund-raising partner, as they are partners with Children in Need and we are the most local children in need grantee.

We will be involved in running the Kings and Queens event in 2017 in partnership with Mole Valley District Council and B@titude. This will be a lunch event in a marquee on Kingston Road Rec, with young people serving elderly guests.

Joe has been invited to attend the next Small Charities Advisory Group for Lloyds Bank Foundation in October, along with 9 other charities across England.

LYP's 2015 video has been entered into the UK Charity Film awards 2016.

Joe has been invited to a Parliamentary reception for small charities in November.

***Joe Crome***



# CTiL Christmas Events

**Calling all knitters!!  
Or would you like to learn?  
(Or can you crochet?)**

This year CTiL are aiming to get as many people as possible in all the churches to knit 1000 (or more) small angels in various colours. They will have printed Christmas tags on them and will be tied on railings in North Leatherhead and the town centre for people to take away with them. We want to bless the people of Leatherhead. Get your pattern by email from the office ([leatherheadmc@gmail.com](mailto:leatherheadmc@gmail.com)) or on Sunday morning or download it from: [www.christmasangel.net](http://www.christmasangel.net)

and GET KNITTING!



**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** – Town Christmas Festival  
(4pm - 4.30pm)  
Churches Carol Singing)

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – Schools Festival Singing  
10am – 2pm

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Local Groups Entertainment  
10am – 2pm

During all these times we will be collecting for our chosen charities of Mary Frances Trust and Combat Stress. Volunteers needed for collections and to handout fliers about Christmas services.

*(\*Please note that we are not running the Kart of Kindness this year because there was nobody available to organise it\*)*

# **Christ Church and LMC Advent Quiet Day: The Waiting Place of God**

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> November - at **Cobham URC**

10.00am Arrivals, coffee etc.

10.30am Start

*Please bring your own lunch; tea & coffee provided*

3.00pm – 3.30pm Finish

Please let me know in advance if you are intending to come.

Thank you,  
Lynda



# LMC/Christ Church Quiet Day at Cobham URC - Saturday 26th November

Twice recently I have been asked "What exactly **is** a Quiet Day? So I thought I would put down some ideas that I have collected over the years at other Quiet Days.

First of all, it is difficult to be exact as all I have attended have been so different. Don't imagine that Quiet Days are silent - they are not. There will be periods of quietness, but a whole day of silence for many can seem threatening, over-powering even, and leave you with a feeling of being inadequate for the challenge.

The success of such a day is not necessarily about the venue, although some have an atmosphere of peacefulness to begin with, but the sensitivity of leadership towards the group's needs and each individual's frame of mind on the day. You all have experience of how your own can vary.

There could be a theme to set the mind working and that is reflected in the beginning worship. I can remember a theme about music, another about butterflies, and yet another about life's journey being a river from source to sea. There is often a time of Bible study, again helping to create a course of action. Afternoons usually offer a variety of options - painting, reading, writing, craftwork or simply a private time of reflection. The choice is yours. It is surprising how deep a discussion can become when, with a few others, the hands are occupied and no eye contact is required.

A Quiet Day is gently guided time for each one present, and each person's thought and needs will be personal. Quiet Days are not for everyone. The first I ever went to at Seaford, I walked out after a short time. It was so intense and completely silent, apart from worship at the beginning. I spent the time enjoying the sunshine on the seafront, listening to the music of the sea on the shingle. For me, that was far more restful and therapeutic than the deep silence that made every heartbeat sound like a hammer in my head!

*Jean Plant*

# Time for Tea



## **COME for TEA and COMPANY**

from 2.30pm to 4.30pm  
on the first Friday every month at

## **LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH**

**Next "Time for Tea" - Friday 4th November**  
(Speaker: Jean Plant on "Brain Strain")

## **EVERYONE WELCOME**

(Suggested donation £1)





# Leatherhead

## Methodist Church

***Please see the Leatherhead Pages  
(pages 27 - 38) for more news***

## Time for Tea

Once a month we meet together in fellowship to enjoy each other's company and those delicious home backed cakes. After cup of tea we share the grace and tuck into the tea. We share any news and usually have a short talk or some entertainment and end with singing round the piano played by Joy. Items we had during the year included Maundy money, stories, tales out of school, travel recollections, a sketch and wartime experiences.

Time for Tea is a Churches Together event and is open to everyone, young and the not so young and provides an opportunity for people who live on their own to meet over a cuppa. On average 22 people come and recently we were able to donate £40 to Lunch Box and Syrian Refugee Relief.

We are very grateful to all our dedicated and hard working helpers and bakers.

*Fred and Jean*

## Pastoral Visitors...

Pastoral Visitors' Prayer meetings are held at 2.30pm on the 4th Tuesday every month at LMC. All pastoral visitors Stewards and Christ Church Elders are welcome to attend.

Next meeting - **Tuesday 22nd November.**

## **West Hill School Community Café...**

...is held at LMC every Friday morning at 10.30am, except during school holidays.

West Hill School in Leatherhead is an outstanding special school for pupils aged from 11 to 16 with learning difficulties and autism. The café is providing learners with opportunities to develop work-related skills as well as social and communications skills. Please come along on Friday mornings to support this very worthwhile enterprise.

## **Prayer Breakfasts**

Prayer breakfasts are held on the third Sunday each month at 9.00am. It's a bring and share (non-cooked) breakfast with a short time of prayer fellowship before the morning service. All very welcome.

## **LMC House Groups**

LMC has three House Groups where Church members or friends can meet together on a regular basis. These groups usually meet in someone's home, and are informal ways to get to know each other better, to share joys, concerns, and prayer requests if desired, and to discuss various subjects, either from the Bible or from other relevant Christian books.



Everyone is very welcome to join a group. Please see Lynda if you are interested.



# Diary



## November

- Thurs 3rd 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 29*)
- Fri 4th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome  
2.30pm Time for Tea (*to 4.30pm*) (*see page 38*)
- Sun 6th 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion**  
**4.30pm Remembering with Thanksgiving Service**
- Thurs 10th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 29*)
- Fri 11th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome
- Sat 12th 8.30am Sisters' Get Together at the Parish Church  
Hall (*to 10.00am - see page 27*)
- Sun 13th 10.30am Remembrance Sunday - United Service**  
**at LMC - Rev. Lynda Russell**  
**6.30pm Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion**
- Tues 15th 3.00pm Service at The Beeches (*see page 30*)
- Wed 16th 12.30pm Organ Concert at Christ Church (*see page 29*)
- Thurs 17th 3.30pm Messy Church (*to 5.30pm*)
- Fri 18th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome
- Sun 20th 9.00am Bring and Share Prayer Breakfast**  
**10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell**
- Tues 22nd 2.30pm Pastoral Prayers meeting
- Thurs 24th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*last one in series see p 29*)
- Fri 25th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome
- Sat 26th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church Hall  
10.00am LMC/Christ Church Quiet Day at Cobham URC
- Sun 27th 10.30am Rob Pitt**  
**6.30pm New Fire**

## December

- Fri 2nd 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome  
2.30pm Time for Tea (*to 4.30pm*)
- Sun 4th 10.30am Toy Service - Rev. Lynda Russell -**  
**Holy Communion**  
**4.00pm Christingle at the Parish Church**

# LMC Family News



*Congratulations to...*

... Les Prescott on being presented with the Chief Scout's 50 Years' Service Award for 50 years' service to Scouting in Worcester Park and the Sutton Scout District.



Les being presented with his Award by Valerie Street, Group Scout Leader of 4th Worcester Park Scout Group.

## *Congratulations also to...*

... Jane Durrant (née Plant) and Paul Cooke who were married at Leatherhead Register Office on Saturday 15th October. Jane was attended by her nieces Emily and Sophie Pelling and Paul was supported by his daughter Lottie, visiting from Australia. A reception was held at Tyrrell's Wood Golf Club. After a short break in Turkey, Jane and Paul have returned to their home in Langley Vale.



## *Good Wishes to...*

... Jane Fraser as she recovers from recent knee surgery

## *Our thoughts and prayers are with...*

... Members and friends being looked after in nursing care or at home, and with all those who care for them day by day.

# **Christ Church**

**(United Reformed) Leatherhead**

***Please see the  
Leatherhead Pages  
(pages 27 - 38)  
for more news***

**Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra  
Concert  
Conductor Mark Fitz-Gerald**

**Saturday 12th November at 7.30pm**

Bach - Brandenburg 1;  
Weber - Clarinet Concerto 1 (Susan Moss);  
Haydn - Clock Symphony;  
Brahms - St. Anthony Variations



# Christ Church Diary



## November

- Thurs 3rd 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 29*)
- Fri 4th 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (*to 4.30pm*)
- Sun 6th 10.30am Holy Communion - Rev. Bruce Stuart  
(Retired URC Minister)**  
**4.30pm Remembering with Thanksgiving  
Service at LMC**
- Thurs 10th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 29*)
- Sat 12th 8.30am Sisters' Get Together at the Parish Church  
Hall (*to 10.00am - see page 27*)  
7.30pm Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra Concert  
(*see previous page for details*)
- Sun 13th 10.30am Joint Remembrance Day Service at LMC**
- Wed 16th 12.30pm Wednesdays at Christ Church - Organ Concert -  
Ed Sutton (*see page 29*)
- Thurs 17th 3.30pm Messy Church at LMC (*to 5.30pm*)
- Sun 20th 10.30am Mrs Vivien Gerhold  
(URC Accredited Lay Preacher)**
- Thurs 24th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 29*)
- Sat 26th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church Hall  
10.00am-3.00pm Joint LMC/Christ Church Quiet Day at  
Cobham URC
- Sun 27th 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell  
6.30pm New Fire Ecumenical Service at LMC**

## December

- Fri 2nd 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (*to 4.30pm*)
- Sun 4th 10.30am Holy Communion - Rev. Iain Stewart  
(Retired URC Minister)**  
**4.00pm Christingle Service at the Parish Church**

# Christ Church Family News



Our sympathy and very best wishes for a speedy recovery to Alison Gillott's father John Bell who fell and broke his hip recently.

Congratulations and all good wishes to Anthony Cairns who celebrates his 80th birthday on the 2nd.

Best wishes to all who are embarking on new careers and university life, including Beth Rowe, granddaughter of Mike and Dinah Essex, who goes to Nottingham to study Sociology.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are bereaved, those who have health concerns, those who reside in Care Homes, and all who are lonely.

*Anne Cairns*

## Christ Church Garden

Some of you will have noticed the gradual disappearance of the roses along the side of the church. Sadly they have been infected with honey fungus which travels from plant to plant. There is no real cure, so we have to fill the space with small shrubs, bulbs and bedding plants in season. Donations of small plants would be welcome.

We are grateful to those who gave the original roses and who cared for them over many years. They were a welcoming sight every summer. We hope the red ones will last another year or two.

*Anne Cairns*

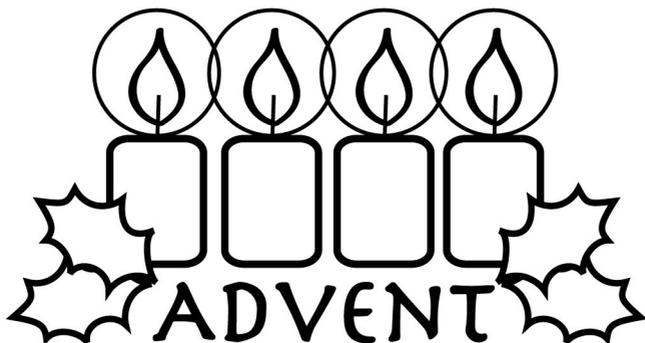


## **Commitment for Life**

Very soon now, you will be receiving from your elder the annual request for a donation to this widely-known and worthy cause. It is, as you know, an organisation that serves a wide range of needs, and which the URC at Church House not only sponsors but administers.

Sadly, each year the number of collection envelopes we require is smaller, so that means that fewer of us are being asked to give a donation. Of course there has been no diminution in the number of causes desperately needing our help, so I would ask you to read with care the leaflet that will come with your letter and respond as generously as you are able.

*Margaret Dodds-Ely*



# Pastorate Details

Details of the Services and Activities at each of the Pastorate Churches can be found on the appropriate website, or by telephoning the contact listed here:

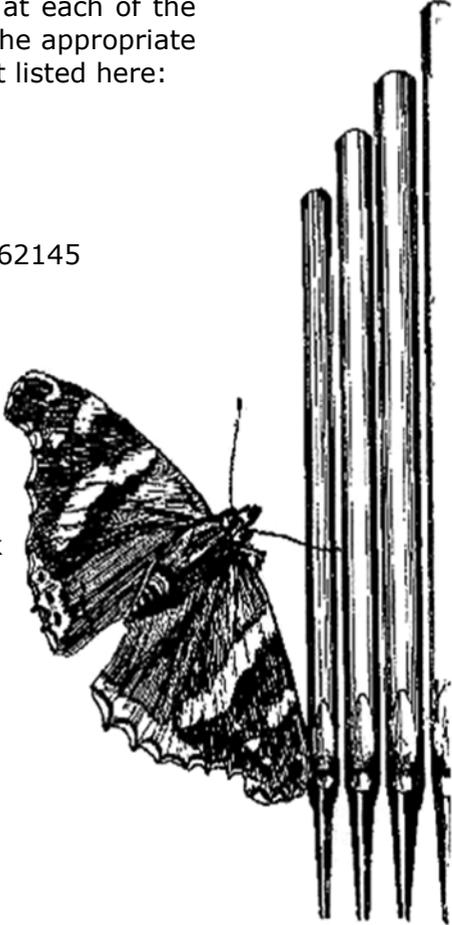
**Leatherhead Methodist Church:**  
Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY  
[www.leatherheadmethodist.org](http://www.leatherheadmethodist.org)  
Contact: Administrator -  
Carol Stoves 01372 377125; Office 362145

**Christ Church (United Reformed):**  
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST  
[www.chch.org.uk](http://www.chch.org.uk)  
Contact: Local Church Leader -  
Mike Essex 01372 273472

**Effingham Methodist Church:**  
Chapel Hill, Effingham, KT24 5NB  
[www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk)  
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Dave Putland 01372 454850

**Cobham United Reformed Church:**  
38 Stoke Road, Cobham, KT11 3BD  
[www.cobhamurc.org.uk](http://www.cobhamurc.org.uk)  
Contact: Church Secretary -  
Mary Langtry 01483 282421

**Cobham Methodist Church:**  
Cedar Road, Cobham, KT11 2AA  
[www.cobhammethodistchurch.com](http://www.cobhammethodistchurch.com)  
Contact: Senior Steward -  
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



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