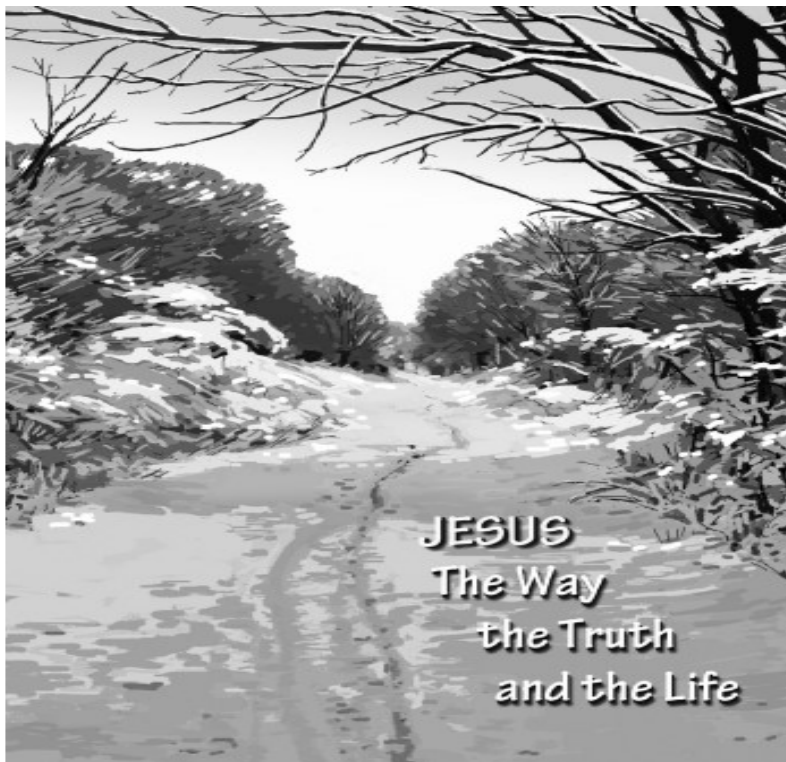


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

February 2020



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Linking:
Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead
Cobham United Church
(Methodist and United Reformed)
Effingham Methodist Church
Leatherhead Methodist Church

The **Methodist** Church



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STOP PRESS

On January 29th at Effingham Methodist Church we shall be welcoming Surrey Police to speak about the various scams around as well as answering our questions about how we can keep ourselves safe and secure, especially when answering phone calls or door-step callers, and online safety.

Come along for a short presentation and a time of Q&A over refreshments.

All are welcome.

Editor: David Cappitt
17 Downsview Close,
Downside, Cobham, KT11 3NS
Tel: 01932 862661
E-mail: pastorate.link@gmail.com

All copy for the March issue to the editor by February 12th



The Ministers Write...

From Rev Jan Hofmeyr

Dear Friends,

The recent tragic events in Iran reminded me of how certain actions can have repercussions way beyond what might have been envisaged. The assassination of the Iranian general had consequences not just for him but for so many others. At the funeral march of the general, 56 people died because of a stampede. And then, because of the heightened tensions and anticipations of further possible acts, a commercial airliner was mistakenly identified as some form of attack and shot down by the Iranian military, killing 176 people.

These tragedies are a reminder of the way in which actions, or failures to act, can have negative consequences way beyond what might have been envisaged. One has only to think of the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and how it became the spark that set in motion what became the great conflagration of the first World War, which, in turn, contributed to the second World War, because of the harsh conditions meted out to Germany at the Treaty of Versailles.

In a similar, albeit much less dramatic way, our words and actions can have repercussions which we would never have thought possible. A derogatory word, spoken to a child can affect that child's self-image for years to come. Passing on a bit of gossip can ruin a person's reputation. A single incident of driving dangerously, or under the influence, can cause a death that will scar a wide circle of people for years to come. Jesus said that anyone who calls another 'a useless fool' will be subject to severe chastening

We need great wisdom in what we do and say, since those things can have serious consequences for others and ourselves. As we continue into 2020 may we depend on the Holy Spirit to help us speak and act with great sensitivity and wisdom. May we have the 2020 vision that enables us to see clearly the possible repercussions of our behaviour before we act or speak.

Fortunately for us, as people of faith, careless words and deeds need not burden us forever. Through Jesus there is the possibility of forgiveness and a wiping clean of the slate. And even though some of the results of our behaviour may not be able to be undone, there need not be a lifelong burden of guilt and regret.

Another piece of good news is that, just as destructive words and actions can have unimagined negative results, so too can small deed and words of kindness have unimagined positive consequences. In the words of a hymn by Charles Wesley, 'See how great a flame aspires, kindled by a spark of grace.' That was true in the life of Jesus, beginning as it did in the smallness of a baby in a manger; it can be true of us as we light 'a spark of grace' in the lives of those around us.

With love in Christ,
Jan

From Rev Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

So how was your Christmas? Seems such a long time ago now, how quickly we move onwards into a new year. Our Christmas was hilarious, balancing between festive joy and disinfectant. With the manse bursting at the seams with 17 people sleeping in the bedrooms as well as the office, utility and dining room, you could say it was cosy. With four grandsons under 4, much of our time was spent in the church hall where I had arranged toys and a dining table. With 2 birthdays thrown into the mix, and our daughter celebrating her 30th, we had organised a fun night of music and karaoke. Unfortunately, there was always somebody absent at the dining table. Why? Our grandson appeared to bring with him a stomach bug surfacing within hours of his arrival. He then passed it to his brother, his dad and his uncle, followed by my sister's family, who took home more than she had bargained for. My poor son left in haste after 4 days of contending with both his children unwell and had a very unpleasant journey home. Needless to say the washing machine wasn't enjoying a festive rest. But you make the best of it; you find ways of enjoying each other's company regardless of circumstance; the time you have together is precious.

We roll with the good days as well as the difficult ones because that is part of what it is to be family. You support one another, you hold one another. You don't always agree with one another but you continue to walk with one another.

As we move towards The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity our focus turns towards God's family. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) bible study and worship resources draw upon Acts 27 and 28:

"The story of Paul being shipwrecked on Malta in Acts 27 & 28 leads us to reflect upon many aspects of our own lives and the lives of our churches. As we approach one another seeking unity, we recognise that we sometimes carry baggage from history, tradition and cultural expectation, which can weigh us down and threaten to overwhelm us. There is a danger that, in the face of experience, we might lose hope which first called us and so give up reaching for the light which Christ offers us." CTBI.

It is easy in life, isn't it, as you go along, to gather things around you until you have a desert island disc moment that asks a question of you, you can only take 2 things with you what might they be? I've often joked I would have a bible in one hand and short-bread (all butter only) in the other, although the second item may well be negotiable if I actually took more than a second to think about it.

Two questions CTBI asks in the first day of bible study:

What are the important things we need to carry with us as we journey together in unity?

What things might we need to let go of as we journey together towards unity? What challenges does it bring?

Great questions, challenging and certainly thought provoking, not just for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, but equally as we move through Lent, if we replace 'unity' with 'Lent.' Lent in some respects is not intended to be a comfortable and cosy process, it should make demands upon us both as individuals and as a corporate body of believers. So what do you need to pick up and what do you need to let go of?

Every blessing Kim





Cobham United Church Worship Diary

February

**Sun 2nd 9.00am Early Bird Service
10.30am Sydney Shore**

Sun 9th 10.30am Rev Sue Conroy: Holy Communion

Sun 16th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton

Sun 23rd 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton

March

**Sun 1st 9.00am Early Bird Service
10.30am Rev Stephen Thornton**

**Prayers at the Manse
Wednesdays at 9.30am**

February: 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th



**World Day of Prayer
Friday 6th March**

Service at Cobham United Church at 10am, followed by a simple lunch. For details of the theme see p19. All (women, men and children) welcome.

Cobham Events

February 2020

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| Tues 4th | 9.45am | Church Walk |
| Thur 6th | 12.30pm | Men's Fellowship: "The Fairmile", Cobham |
| Wed 12th | 8.00pm | Trustees Meeting |
| Fri 14th | 2.30pm | Bereavement Café (to 4.00pm) |
| Thur 20th | 8.00pm | House Fellowship |
| Sat 22nd | 10.00am | Pastorate Conversation on "God in Love Unites Us" at Leatherhead Methodist Church |
| Thur 27th | 3.45pm | Messy Church (to 5.45pm) |
| Fri 28th | 7.00pm | "Cobham Soup" Charity Night (see p8) |
| Sat 29th | 2.00pm | Film "I, Daniel Blake" for Lent course |

Mustard Seed:

Bible study meeting every Thursday,
1.30 - 3.00pm, at the home of
Yoke Lan Palmer.
All are welcome.



Future Events to look out for:

14th March: Quiz Night; 23rd May: Cake Baking and Decorating Contest; 5th July: Summer Barbecue with food and fun and games; Dates to be arranged: Music and dancing with live band; Table top sale; 23rd Jan 2021: Burns Night Celebration.



Thur 27th February 3.45 - 5.45pm

Cobham United Church

Cobham, Oxshott and Stoke D'Abernon Churches Together



Cobham Soup

28th February 7pm

@ Cobham United
Church

For a donation of £5 on the night, you receive a serving of delicious freshly made soup and bread, along with entitlement to vote for the project you like best. Come along and hear pitches from local community projects.

The winner of the vote gets to keep all the money raised on the night. It's a great opportunity to support local projects and to bring the community together. You can find tickets on Eventbrite:

Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cobham-soup-tickets-89420034731>

Or just come along and pay at the door.

Check our website to find out more:

Website: <https://cobhamsoup.org/>

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/CobhamSoup/?view_public_for=103017851240700

Instagram account:

<https://www.instagram.com/cobhamsoup/>

Bereavement *Café*



A place to talk

with people who understand

Cobham United Church
38 Stoke Road
Cobham KT11 3BD

Second Friday of each month
From 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm
Starting 13th September 2019

For more information please contact
01932 586988

In partnership with

Princess Alice
Hospice



pah.org.uk/bereavement 01372 461808

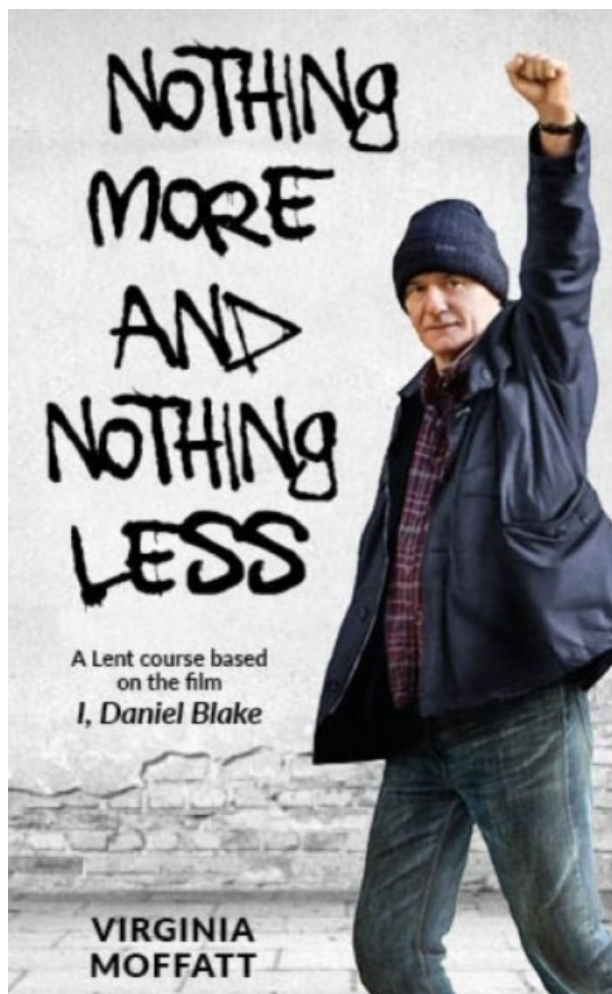
pah.org.uk



Join us @PAHospice



Lent Bible Study Course



A moving award-winning film focusing on the journey one man makes, Daniel Blake, who after suffering a heart attack, has to navigate through the benefits system.

‘Nothing more and Nothing Less.’

Sessions include:

- Systems of oppression
- Staying human
- Compassion in the darkness
- Fighting back or giving in
- The suffering servant

Watching the film on 29th February 2pm @ Church
Sessions: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st March from 11:30-1pm
Cobham United Church

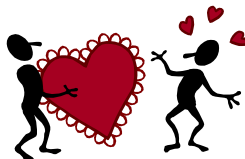
For more information ring: 01932 586988



Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Dates for February:



No birthdays that we know of to celebrate this month, but as it's St Valentine's Day on the 14th, let's remember **all** our loved ones with cards, cakes, flowers and, of course, chocolates.

Please let us know about birthdays and BIG anniversaries!!

Your invitation to:



Activities

Songs

Food

Crafts

Games

Stories

Do come and join us for crafts, food and fun, with a story from the Bible.

In January we talked about following Jesus as sheep follow the shepherd rather than being like goats.



St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesday 12th February 3.30 -5.30pm

For more information contact Gill on 01372 457987

Effingham Methodist Diary



February

Sun 2nd 10.00am Rev Kim Plumpton: Holy Communion
11.30am Church Council (to 12.30)

Fri 7th 12.30pm Fish and chips with dessert in the Hall (please sign up)

Sun 9th 10.00am John Bees

Tues 11th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the RC Hall

Wed 12th 3.30pm Messy Church at St Lawrence Church Hall

Thur 13th 2.15pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Sun 16th 10.00am John Oborn

Thur 20th 12.30pm Oasis lunch with Kim in the Hall

Sat 22nd 10.00am "God in Love Unites Us" meeting at LMC
(to 12 noon)

Sun 23rd 10.00am Waseem Haq

Tues 25th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the RC Hall

Fri 28th 2.00pm Precious Moments service with Kim

March

Sun 1st 10.00am Rev Kim Plumpton: Holy Communion



Date for your diaries: If you're Spring cleaning we'd love to have any bric-a-brac for **Effingham Chapel's** Bring & Buy stall at our **World Mission Coffee Morning on 21st March from 10 to 12 noon**. Money raised will be split between *Stop the Traffic & World Mission*.



Effingham's Cleaning and flower Rota. 2020.

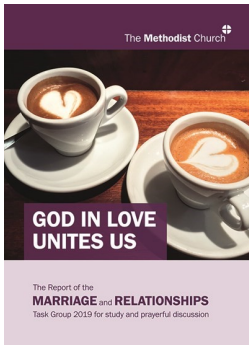
Pat McElhill says a big Thank You to everyone on our rota for all you do to keep the Chapel and hall looking clean and tidy, and full of beautiful flowers. Please just ask if you'd prefer to do flowers only, or like help with cleaning, or if you'd like to join the rota!

Churches Together in Effingham and Little Bookham

During Advent at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Effingham we were fortunate to have Fr Stephen, a former astrophysicist, give three talks on Science and Christianity. These were very well supported and can be viewed on the parish's website (<https://www.effinghamandfetcham.org.uk>). To hear a talk, click on the talk's title:

1. The myth of conflict: Galileo and the Bible
2. A First Cause: The Chicken, the Egg and the Big Bang
3. A Cosmic Designer: Evolution and the Multiverse

God in Love Unites us, the Methodist report on Marriage and Relationships will be discussed at a **Pastorate meeting at LMC on Saturday 22nd February from 10-12noon**



The issues the report explores are those that some Methodists feel very strongly about and which we have been debating for more than a quarter of a century. What does it mean to be human and to be in love? What does the Bible tell me about this? What has the Church said? Society's attitudes and norms have changed drastically in the last few decades. **Please join our discussion.**



'Connect'

A fortnightly group for carers

and partners living with dementia

At St Lawrence Church Hall, Browns Lane, Effingham

Thursdays 10.30 till 12 O'clock

Come for refreshment, friendship, activities and fun.

We meet in St Lawrence Church Hall, Browns Lane, KT24 5LX in Effingham from 10am to 12noon on alternate Thursdays and also arrange monthly outings, often for tea at local garden centres. Refreshments, friendship, chat and a good range of activities are on offer for carers and for those with dementia.

In January we welcomed Jo who gave us some exercise post Christmas, and on another occasion we were entertained by St Lawrence School Theatre Drama Group.

February dates are the 13th and 27th.

For more information on Connect, contact :
Gill on 01372 457987
or Kim on 01932 586988



Tuesday Teas - a social group with tea, chat and fellowship



We meet fortnightly from 2.30pm to 4pm, in St Alphege Hall, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Lower Road, Effingham (and occasional outings).

In December we had our Christmas Lunch, this year in Horsley, at the King William IV pub, which 20 attended. Later in the month we enjoyed another session with Greensand Ridge, the folk duo, who entertained us in the hall with their songs.

We meet in February on Tuesdays 11th and 25th, and fortnightly thereafter in St Alphege Hall.

Come and join us! Occasional outings also arranged.

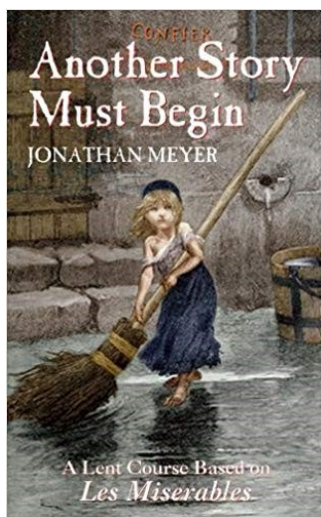
Some car transport can be arranged.

Contact Keith or Gill on 01372 457987 for more information.





This year Effingham's Lent Lunches will be held fortnightly at St. Lawrence Church Hall from 12.30 to 2pm starting on Ash Wednesday ~ 26th February then on 11th & 25th March. Donations for a light lunch will be given to a local charity and we hope to have a speaker organized for each week.



Lent Course at the Chapel

This year Churches Together have chosen a 5 week Lent course "**Another Story Must Begin**", based on Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*. This study brings together the book, film, and play to tell a message of hope, and explore the grace of God. It asks us to reassess what we can do with our lives, both for ourselves and for those around us.

Each session includes suggestions for using the Oscar-winning film and the original novel as inspiration, and provides questions and reflections for group discussion

There are two choices for venues !

Effingham Methodist Church starting on 25th February at 2pm, where it will be led by **Rev Kim and Rev. Mandy MacVean**.

Or ask for details of **Thursday evenings with Rev. Mandy ??**
Starting 27th February 7.30pm (?) venue yet to be confirmed !



Ideas for Prayers in February

Prayer is God's initiative, a gift which enables us to be attentive to the presence of God in our lives and in the world. It is also a means of expressing what we believe about God and can prompt us to act to change the world as we respond to God's love. But sometimes we need help to pray !

Perhaps you, like me, are often embarrassed by a huge wish list for family and friends, or depressed by War and worldwide events ? The **Methodist Prayer handbook** is a useful focus for daily prayer. Or check out the **Methodist UK website** where you'll find ideas for **Creative Prayer**

Perhaps you'd like to join our **prayer-group at the Chapel every Friday at 9.30am** when we use Morning Service from the *Methodist Service book* and praise God for all our blessings and pray for the needs of the World, the Church, our neighbours, friends and family.

Racial Justice Sunday is on 9th February when we have an opportunity for all Christians to join together in thanksgiving for human diversity and to pray for an end to misunderstanding, racism and injustice. Downloadable resources on Methodist website at <http://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/methodist-special-sundays/racial-justice-sunday/>



Methodist
relief and
development

Engage your church and community with All We Can's Lent Study programme **Radically Changing the Story** ~ a booklet offering 40-days of activities for individuals or a 6-week focus for groups. Other materials include films, prayers and a talk, for groups

or for a church service, so perhaps could be used for Racial Justice Sunday too.

<http://www.allwecan.org.uk/keep it simple>

**Effingham Methodist Church
presents**

**A fundraising event
with “VocalEase”**

(Six Guys in Cabaret Style close harmony)



Saturday 14th March at 7pm

**at St Lawrence Hall, Browns Lane,
Effingham KT24 5NL**

Drinks and Raffle

**Tickets £12 each available from:-
Norma@effinghammethodist church.com**

☎ 01372 459354

World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March



2020's theme is **Rise, Take Your Mat and Walk !**

Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year's service and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country for many years.

About 16 million people live in Zimbabwe, and about 50% of them are young. There are 16 official languages, reflecting the tribal history of the region. The majority languages are Shona and Ndebele, and English is a first language for only two per cent of the population.

Women make up 51% of the population, and play a significant role in the socio-economic life of the country. Many rural households are headed by women, since husbands often migrate to towns to find work, and young people leave their villages for neighbouring African countries or elsewhere in the world. Because of a complex interplay of economic, social and historical factors, women and girls often face systematic disadvantage, especially those who are poor, live in rural areas or are from particular social groups. They face barriers to education, early marriage, poor gynaecological and obstetric provision, violence in the home and legal discrimination regarding family law. Various groups are lobbying for gender equality and some laws have been enacted to protect women against gender-based violence. It is nearly always women who look after those with disabilities: physical, mental and emotional.

May the welcoming God enable us to set the table and fill our communities with hope, love, and joy!

Please join our local services on Friday 6th March at :

10.30am at Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

7.30pm at Bookham Baptist Church, Gt. Bookham



MAKE BEAUTIFUL THINGS HAPPEN THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

You have the power to show the love for the places, people, and life you want to protect from climate change. Whether you have a couple of minutes, an afternoon, or all the time in the world, there are lots of ways to take part!

GET CRAFTY

Green hearts will be popping up across the country on Valentine's Day—make your own special heart and join in the fun!

Make a green heart and send it to your newly elected MP in February to tell them what you're doing for a cleaner, greener future - and ask them to do their bit too!

Wear and share your green heart with pride!

SHARE THE LOVE WITH THE WORLD

Green hearts are powerful because they come from you! Show the world how you're taking part by sharing photos of your homemade hearts on social media with the hashtag #ShowTheLove.

To help get your MP in on the action, you can also send them your heart in the mail or a photo of it on Twitter along with a message asking them to commit to #ShowTheLove for the solutions to the climate crisis.

Download a Christian Resource pack

<https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/resource>







Precious Moments

**Short service
with hymns, poetry and
readings
Followed by afternoon tea**

**For those living with and caring
for those with Dementia, as well
as friends in the community**

**Effingham Methodist Church
Held at 2pm on
28th February**

For more information Contact:01372 457987

Leatherhead Pages

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



AllSaints Coffee Shop

Don't forget to visit AllSaints who are open **Mon-Sat 8am-3pm** serving up the best coffee around. You'll be supporting young people in the local community just by treating yourself to a delicious drink making everyone a winner!

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 AllSaints Coffee Shop. Park in Trinity School.

**Next New Fire -
Sunday 23rd February**

Time for Tea



COME for TEA and COMPANY

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

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

Friday 7th February - "Going but Staying" - Joycey

**No "Time for Tea" in March,
as it's WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (see next page)**

EVERYONE WELCOME

(Suggested donation £1)

The Time for Tea team would be very grateful for any offers of help, especially with baking, setting up the room and transport. Please speak to Mary Pittam if you feel you are able to help in any way.



6th March 2020

World Day of Prayer

Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk

Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Rise, take your mat and walk' to join this day of prayer. Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year's service and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years.

Friday 6th March at 2.30pm

Leatherhead Parish Church

All are welcome

Refreshments will be served after the Service

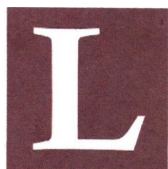
Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:



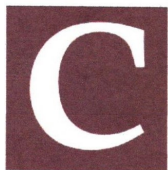
Thursday, 20th
February,
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



Leatherhead Community Association



A very Happy 2020 from everyone at the Leatherhead Community Association and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you to the many events that will take place over the next four months.



Rosanna Hadley has planned visits to Ightham Mote and Henry Moore's studio in Hertfordshire, and Peter Humphreys has worked out the short and longer walks that so many enjoy (with the pub visits).

Tea and Talks on four Fridays, to help you forget the rain outside for a short while, will transport you to the River Nile, to the Titanic, Victorian England and finally an afternoon finding out about 'frilly knickers and tutus', the history of the CanCan and classical ballet.

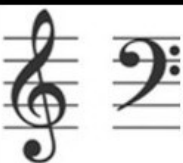
For those who enjoy music, not only has Gwen Hoad arranged four musical afternoons on the third Wednesday of each month, but David Hanson has tickets for a Holst concert in February at the RFH. Liz Meikle has booked six Art/History monthly lectures beginning on 5th February and covering artists from America, Africa, France and Great Britain.

Please remember every Monday there is Table Tennis and Snooker, Social Bridge every Friday and Scrabble every other Friday. There are two book clubs which can keep you busy reading books from the Institute library.

Also, there are many classes to join, Art, Languages or Keep Fit to name only three, and rooms for hire in the Institute maybe to give classes or for a one-off lecture.

The Institute is on the left at the top of Leatherhead High Street and full details are available from the office where Trudy is always happy to help you with any questions between 9am and 12am every weekday morning - lca2@btconnect.com - 01372 360508.

Frances Presley



Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society

Regd Charity 1166764

please visit our new website: *musicinsurrey.co.uk*

**Music on
Thursdays at
LMC**

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

**Thursday
27th February
3pm Piano Concert**

**The return of
Marina Kan**

*This public concert follows
the Society's 2pm AGM,
also to be held at LMC*

*Tea & coffee
will be available
before this concert*

Feb20

**12.30 Thursday
lunchtime
concerts at LMC
continue most*
Thursdays from
April 2nd**

**not 3rd Thursday of the month*

***Wednesdays at
Christ Church***

monthly organ concerts
resume on

**April 15th at
12.30 lunchtime**

The Ark Toddler Group



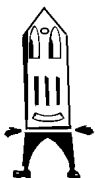
Every Friday
0930-1100
URC Church
Epsom Road
KT22 8ST

Lots of fun,
games and
toys, come
and join us
for a tea or
coffee
whilst your
child plays



For More Information
Contact Joycey on
Joycey.lmcyouth@gmail.com





Leatherhead

Methodist Church

Weekly Prayer Meeting

Prayer meetings are now held every Tuesday morning in the Vestry at LMC. Meetings start at 9.00am and last about 40 minutes. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

LMC House Groups

House Groups: LMC has four House Groups where church members and friends can meet together on a regular basis usually 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.



Monday evenings fortnightly contact **Carol Stoves.**
Tuesday evenings fortnightly contact **John Bees.**
Friday mornings monthly contact **Norma Shaw.**
Friday afternoons, (2nd & 4th Fridays) contact **Angela Hofmeyr.**

Everyone is encouraged to join a house group.

LMC Family News



Our thoughts and prayers...

At the start of a New Year, our thoughts and prayers are with all our members, families and friends. We remember any who mourn, who may feel lonely or are worried by personal concerns. We think too of those who are not in the best of health and the folk who care for them day by day at home, in hospital or in residential or nursing homes.

The Methodist Church

“God in Love Unites Us”

The Methodist Church in Britain is considering redefining marriage to include same-sex partnerships. Discussions are already taking place, and decisions are due to be made at the Methodist Conference 2020.

Together with our Methodist friends from Cobham, Effingham and Dorking, we will be discussing this matter in order to inform Circuit and District of our collective views which will be related back to Conference. Everyone is invited to a meeting at LMC from 10.00am to 12noon on Saturday 22nd February. Jan and Kim will lead the session.

Material is available at LMC for you to read before the meeting.

The National Debt

As of the first quarter of 2018, UK government debt stood at £1.78 trillion. That means that if we were to pay it back at the rate of £1,000 per second, there would still be £30 billion left to pay in the year 2075!

The cost of servicing such a debt is £48 billion, which amounts to £731.26 for every man, woman and child in the UK on the basis of 2016 population figures, which for Band D would be equivalent on average to a 43.76% increase in council tax for people living alone.

Have we gone completely mad? In Romans 13:8 we read: "Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another...". What difference would it have made if we took more notice of what the Bible says?!

Should we be tearing our garments, pulling out our hair and sitting down appalled as Ezra did over the sins of his people in his day (see Ezra 9:3)?

Maybe this shows that we get in a mess if we do things using our own wisdom (or lack thereof) and that we desperately need God's help!

Bob Greenfield

Sunday Lunch on the First Sunday each month

On **Sunday 2nd February**, there will be a bring and share lunch after the service in the Lower Hall. All welcome to join us. On Sunday 1st March, the lunch will again be in the Manse.



Diary



February

**Sun 2nd 10.30am Rev. Christine Millwood -
with Holy Communion
12.30pm Bring & Share lunch in the Lower Hall**

Tues 4th 9.00am Prayers in the Vestry

Fri 7th 2.30pm Time for Tea (*see page 24*)

**Sun 9th 10.30am Waseem Haq
6.30pm Rev. Jan Hofmeyr - Holy Communion**

Tues 11th 9.00am Prayers in the Vestry

Thurs 13th 8.00pm Church Council

Sun 16th 10.30am Rev. Jan Hofmeyr

Tues 18th 9.00am Prayers in the Vestry

Thurs 20th 3.30pm Messy Church (*to 5.30pm*)

Sat 22nd 10.00am "God in Love Unites Us" - Discussion on
the Report of the Methodist Marriage &
Relationships Task Force (*see page 30*)

**Sun 23rd 10.30am Rhys Frost
6.30pm New Fire at All Saints Cafe**

Tues 25th 9.00am Prayers in the Vestry

March

**Sun 1st 10.30am Rev. Jan Hofmeyr - Holy Communion
12.30pm Bring & Share Lunch at the Manse**

Tues 3rd 9.00am Prayers in the Vestry

Fri 6th 2.30pm World Day of Prayer at the
Parish Church (*see page 25*)
(*No Time for Tea this month*)

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

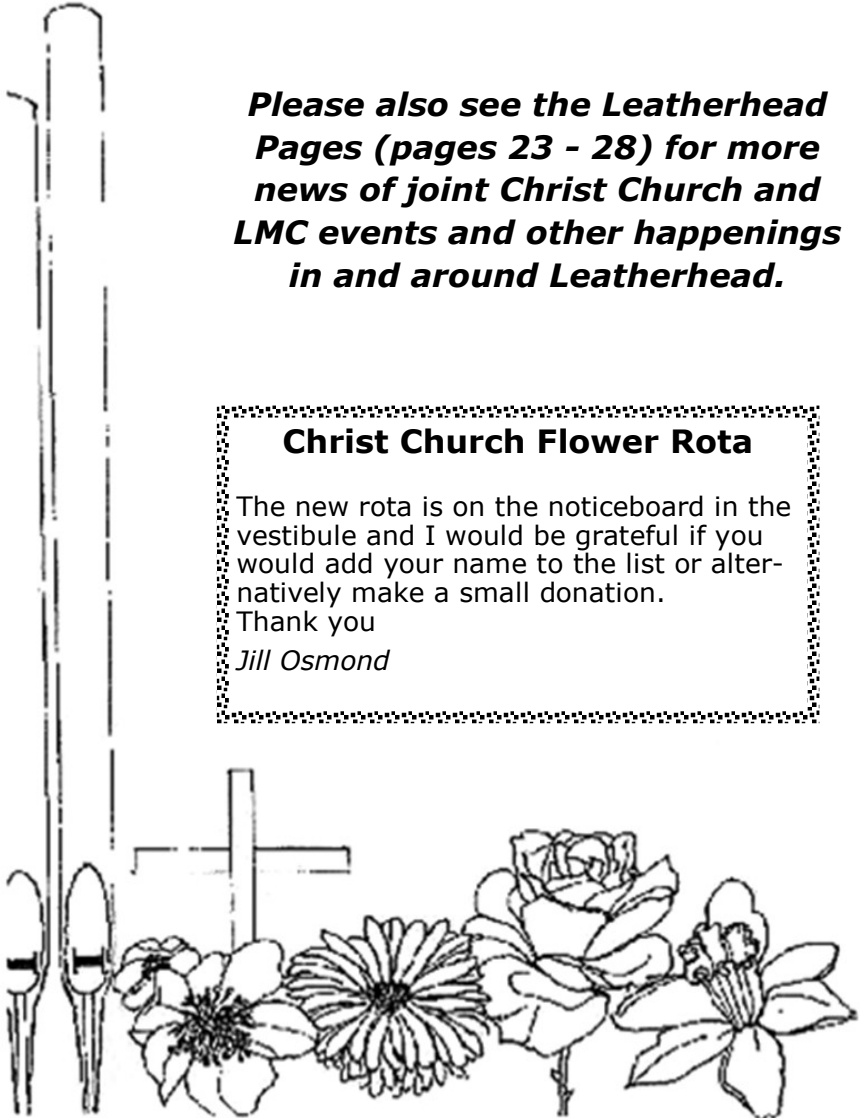
Please also see the Leatherhead Pages (pages 23 - 28) for more news of joint Christ Church and LMC events and other happenings in and around Leatherhead.

Christ Church Flower Rota

The new rota is on the noticeboard in the vestibule and I would be grateful if you would add your name to the list or alternatively make a small donation.

Thank you

Jill Osmond



Christ Church Diary



February

Sun 2nd 10.30am Rev Stephen Thornton

Wed 5th 7.30pm House Group, 3 Orchardleigh

**Sun 9th 10.30am Rev J Hofmeyr with Holy Communion
Church Decision Meeting**

Sun 16th 10.30am Gail Partridge

Wed 19th 7.30pm House Group, 3 Orchardleigh

Sun 23rd 10.30am Rev J Hofmeyr

Wed 26th Ash Wednesday: Lent begins

March

Sun 1st 10.30am Vivien Gerhold

Wed 4th 7.30pm House Group, 3 Orchardleigh

Fri 6th 8.30am Piano tuner in church

Christ Church Family News



We are sad to report the death of Carole Hazell on 23d November after a long illness. She and Ron worshipped at Christ Church for many years. Carole was a gifted flower arranger and made beautiful decorations for the church at Christmas time. We extend our sincere condolences to Ron and the family

We are sorry to learn of the death of Ken Scott on the 8th January at the age of 95. His wife Iris was a church member many years ago but Ken has always maintained his interest and friendship with some church members, especially Bernard and Phyllis Fisher.

We remember these friends in our prayers and all those with health problems, the bereaved, the housebound, friends in care homes and the lonely.

Anne Cairns

MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH

Part 1

Last September I completed 54 years as organist and choirmaster and in January I handed over to Gina Eason, whom I know well from working with her on 17 concerts with my chamber choir, Antiphonia. Last month I was touched to be given a generous book token by the church.

Music at Christ Church has been a most satisfying aspect of my life, and I am thankful for it. People have always encouraged me in my aim for high standards. The new organ in 1970 was a thrilling development, and choosing and practising appropriate music every week (with two services a Sunday for 45 years, then fortnightly for 4 more years) has been deeply rewarding. I have a database of 2,460 pieces played for worship, with timings, seasons, dates and nationalities to help organise my choice to suit the occasion. Favourite organ composers include Tomkins, Buxtehude, J. S. Bach, John Stanley, Mendelssohn, Franck, Widor, Vierne, Karg-Elert, Langlais, Messiaen, Leighton and Mathias.

We have heard over 30 organists give recitals in our church, with 8 recitals a year from 2016-2020. The organ was extended in 1995 to balance the singing of a chancel choir and the congregation in the nave. This also made it better as a recital instrument. It involved moving the chancel pews. Never move pews on your own: one of them fell against my shin and led to interesting visits to the doctor. I have often cooperated with tuners, acquiring the skills to put small faults right, until at 82 I couldn't safely get up the ladder any more.

The church pews were removed in 2005. Apart from a joint Celtic communion in 2010, the flexibility of chairs has hardly ever affected our worship style, but it has enabled multi-use for rehearsals and other events. When choir numbers fell below 12, choir desks were made to my design to stand in a semicircle in the chancel to project the voices. Then in 2011-12 the choir moved to its present position at the side of the nave.

Palm Sunday music (at evening worship until 1993) was always an occasion for extra music, and would include 4 anthems or a cantata. Special memories include:

- 1966 Schütz – Seven Words (with strings)
- 1970 Handel – Messiah Part 2 (with strings and organ)
- 1975 Schütz – St Matthew Passion (soloist: Roger Norrington)
- 1976 Handel – St John Passion
- 1976 Haydn – Seven Words (with strings)
- 1981 Mozart – Requiem (with orchestra and soloists)
- 1982 Bach – Cantata 182
- 1983 Handel – Messiah Part 2 (conductor: Arthur Head;
organ: Anthony Cairns)
- 1984 Mathias – Lift up your heads, and Byrd – 5-part Mass (4 movements)

Evening carol services were held for 43 years, until 2008. Arthur Head played while I conducted or the other way round.

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
Contact: Administrator -
Carol Stoves 01372 377125; Office 362145

Christ Church (United Reformed):

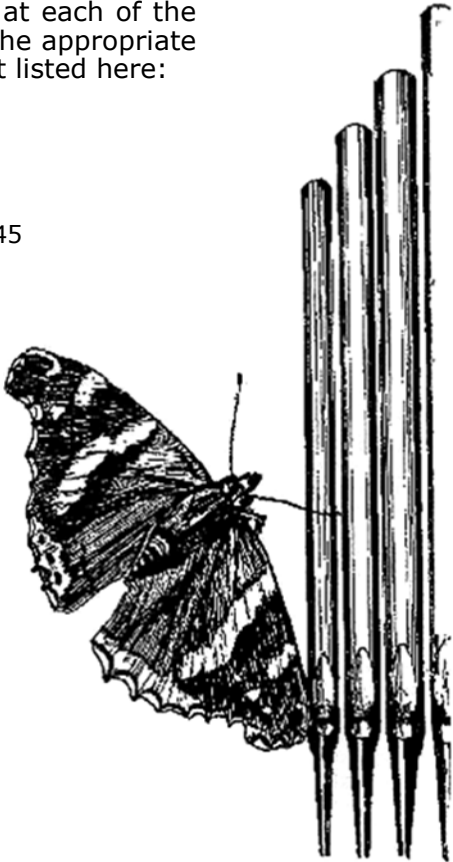
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
www.chch.org.uk
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mike Essex 01372 273472

Effingham Methodist Church:

Chapel Hill, Effingham, KT24 5NB
www.effinghammethodistchurch.co.uk
Contact: Senior Steward -
Dave Putland 01372 454850

Cobham United Church:

38 Stoke Road, Cobham, KT11 3BD
www.cobham-united-church.org.uk
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mary Langtry 01483 282421



United Pastorate Ministers

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Tel: 01372 373154 (home)
01372 362145 (office)
Email: revjannie@gmail.com

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KT11 3BD

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kimp_822@hotmail.com