

the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

June 2016



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

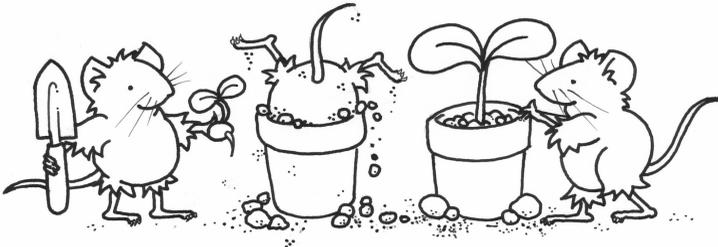
Linking:
Christ Church (United Reformed) Leatherhead
Cobham Methodist Church
Cobham United Reformed Church
Effingham Methodist Church
Leatherhead Methodist Church

The Methodist Church



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All copy for the July/August issue to the editor by
15th June



The Ministers Write...

From Rev Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

Let me introduce you to our first grandson Dylan born on the 12th April. Dylan is of course the most scrumptious grandson in the world and my days off where possible are spent making the journey to Birmingham.

I am of course thrilled to be a grandmother and it's interesting watching your own child dealing with the challenges of motherhood. The constant need for feeding, winding and nappy changing make the day full, demanding and tiring, and yet tending to his needs offers an overwhelming sense of joy. It is the very reason perhaps that we forget the pain of childbirth so quickly. I am reminded that babies are entirely reliant on their parents or the person who is caring for them to provide for all their needs. Their survival is dependent upon the provision of food, warmth and security. Without good care they will not thrive or grow.

As Dylan grows he will become more and more independent. It's interesting that although we deem this as a crucial part of our growth as human beings we are called as disciples of Christ to become more dependent upon God. Abraham, Jacob and Moses all knew that their very substance and success was all about their dependence upon God. They could not fulfil the will of God in their own strength but by being dependent upon his providence. The Israelites also knew that their survival was dependent upon God's provision in the wilderness and in the promised land.



(continued on the next page)

In Proverbs we find in 3:5-8 :

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
6 in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.
7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD and shun evil.
8 This will bring health to your body
and nourishment to your bones.*

It seems that although we grow to become independent people we are also reminded that a dependency upon God is crucial for our spiritual growth. To be dependent upon God is not to relinquish all responsibility, but to recognise that although we are called to play our part, God is our sustainer. We place our trust and reliance in the one whose deep love for humanity desires a relationship. Under God’s guidance we can achieve the impossible, for he will use the heart that entrusts itself to his ways and his will. As we trust God more and more in the everyday we become more dependent upon him, his purposes becomes our ways and that relationship deepens.

In doing so we also learn that we are also called to be mutually dependent and supportive of one another, in other words interdependent. As a grandmother I find there is a greater need to be interdependent, we need each other particularly at significant times in our lives.

However, let’s not forget where our strength comes from *“You are my strength, I sing praise to you; you, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely.”*

Every Blessing

Kim

From Rev Lynda Russell

Are you a tidy person with a place for everything & everything in its place? Or do you prefer a bit of general chaos? It's very easy for things to get in a mess, isn't it, particularly inside a cupboard if the door is always shut! When I worked in a manufacturing company, we changed from keeping tools and things in closed cupboards and drawers to open ones, so that we could always see if everything was in its correct place. Immediately everything was tidier, because everybody could see it all.

A few years ago in a sermon I made a confession that my study wasn't the tidiest room you've ever seen! Sometimes there is even stuff on the floor! Anyway after my 'confession', a friend offered to come round and 'sort it all out'. This offer didn't fill me with enthusiasm, because at the same time she admitted that her family barricaded rooms against her when she was in tidying mode! However, I did feel inspired to clear it up myself!

So the next day I decided to sort out and clear up my study. I began by sorting out a pile of papers and magazines – perhaps a mistake! Of course I was tempted to read some of them, useful as they were, with resources in them I could use – surely why I had kept them in the first place. Perhaps you've experienced the same thing! As you can see I am one of life's 'keepers' rather than 'disposers'.

As always, it was harder than I expected to actually throw things away, but I made a huge effort and slowly the 'chuck away' pile grew higher than the 'keep' pile. However, the more I sorted, the greater the mess became, and then I had to stop because I had other things to do, and I ran out of steam. Although I threw a lot away, it looked worse, because the mess was all around me! As I sat in the middle of it, looking around, it struck me that this is a picture of our personalities and our lives. Some of us like to try to keep them well-

organised and find it very difficult to cope when things are even a bit out of our control, while others of us thrive on chaos and last minute unexpected events. Unfortunately, seldom are our lives neat and well-ordered, they are generally messy and full of things that need to be held in the 'keep' pile, however much we might sometimes wish that we could throw some away.

The good news is that some things can be in the 'chuck away' pile – things such as guilt, regret, self-dislike, shame, fear, and so on. To let go of these things can be transformational for us, giving us a new sense of purpose and identity. To let God into them can make just the difference we have been looking and hoping for.

Every Blessing,

Lynda



To Effingham, Cobham and Leatherhead Friends

Thank you to my friends at church for all the lovely cards, messages and flowers I received when John died. Your support is helping me through this sad time, it's good to have so many kind friends. Thank you Kim for giving me so much time listening, and helping with the funeral service. You are a wonderful support in our time of need.

With love

Pat McElhill

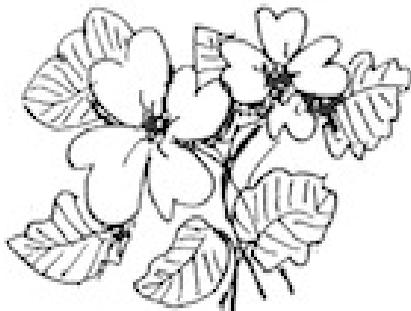


The Editor Writes...

The first thing to say as new editor is a very big THANK YOU to Les. He's done a great job as editor, seeing the Link through the change from a magazine for a 3-church section of the Dorking and Horsham Methodist Circuit to a magazine for the 5-church pastorate with Methodist and URC churches. I am sure you will agree that he has done a great job. It is daunting to take over from him.

Now something about my position. I have agreed to take on the role of editor for 3 years. I would like to find somebody who would be assistant editor for that time, then take over as editor for the next 3 years. Meanwhile a new assistant editor would be appointed and so on. I don't think the assistant editor's role would involve a heavy load - somebody to discuss issues with as they arise, somebody who knows the system (or is willing to learn) and can fill in if the editor is ill or otherwise unavailable, somebody to proof-read the magazine before it goes to the printers. Please let me know if you are interested in discussing this further.

David Cappitt



Cobham Pages

Information, news, events and happenings in and around
Cobham including news of Cobham Churches events

There's a spirit in the air.....

In the March edition of the Link we talked of changes concerning worship in Cobham Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church. As a way of clarifying June for those who are slightly unsure:

Second Sundays will always be together at Cobham United Reformed Church (12th June)

Third Sundays will always be together at Cobham Methodist Church (19th June)

In the spirit of becoming one church where possible we had our first joint leadership meeting. It was immensely encouraging, with a real air of hospitality and a shared vision to work earnestly together. I offer you a brief outline of our conversation :

Elders, stewards and those on coffee duty who are already on a rota, to continue to offer their services if required in whichever church we worship in.

Where possible to have two people from each church to offer communion to make up the four.

Usually we have 2 readings so there will be one reader from each church.

Envelopes given during the offering will be given to their respective churches. Consideration will also be given to the church-specific charities throughout the year i.e. Commitment for Life; All We Can.

Prayer meeting/house fellowship/Men's fellowship/bible study/Early Bird will be joint activities in the future.

Work on offering effective ministry to children specifically at the Methodist church.

Websites to have links to each other's webpages.

Where possible we would try to blend the pages of the Link. magazine to incorporate what we do together.

Realistic objectives will be set at each meeting (every 2 months) to keep us moving.

We will meet with an already-united church to explore the benefits and the challenges of becoming one church.

We will encourage participation by the mission officer as we look at our mission statement.

There is much work yet to be done but the meeting was a very positive step forwards and I must thank the leadership teams for their wisdom and guidance. I feel really encouraged.

Kim

Earth, wind and fire

On 25th May, Cobham Methodist Church celebrated our Church Anniversary. Jay Dunning led our worship, which included making a "Fruits of the Spirit" prayer tree. We made windmills out of coloured paper, and blew up yellow, red and orange balloons. The church was decorated with red flowers and lighted candles. Pentecost had come to Cobham! Pentecost was a great experience for the disciples, and it was a great experience for us, going back to basics and learning how God's plan for us is just beginning.

This was the second week of our uniting in worship and as we talked over lunch we really felt "One in Christ".

Thanks to our friends from CCC for joining with us and Cobham URC for a fantastic day of fellowship.

Rhonda Frost



Cobham Methodist Worship Diary



June

Sun	5th	10.30am	David Cappitt The Annual Church Meeting will follow the service.
Sat	11th	2.30pm	Platinum Service
Sun	12th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion at the URC
Sun	19th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton - United Service
Sun	26th	10.30am	Rhys Frost

July

Sun	3rd	10.30am	TBA
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Next "Time 4 You"



Saturday 9th July,
10.00am - 12 noon
(not 11th June when we shall be at
events elsewhere in the District)

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.

Cobham URC Worship Diary



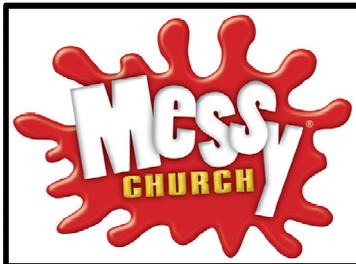
June

Sun	5th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Stephen Thornton
Sun	12th	10.30am	Joint Service Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion
Sun	19th	10.30am	Joint Service at Cobham Methodist Church: Rev. Kim Plumpton
Sun	26th	10.30am	Rev. Kim Plumpton

July

Sun	5th	9.00am	Early Bird Service
		10.30am	Rev Norman Edsell

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



Date: Thursday 23rd June

Time: 3.45pm to 5.45pm

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

All are welcome

Cobham Events

Events are for URC and CMC unless otherwise indicated

June

Thurs	2nd	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship <i>(at The Old Plough, Stoke D'Abernon)</i>
Sun	5th	12 noon 3.00pm	Annual Church Meeting (CMC) Play & Chat <i>(to 6.00pm)</i>
Tues	7th	9.45am 8.00pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting (URC)
Wed	8th	11.30 am	Church Council (CMC)
Tues	21st	8.00pm	House Fellowship at the manse (CMC)
Thurs	23rd	3.45pm	Messy Church <i>(to 5.45pm)</i>
Fri	24th	3.00pm	T @ 3

**Prayers at the manse, 9.30am on Wednesdays,
June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th**

Men's Fellowship

On the first Thursday every month there is a Men's Fellowship informal pub meal. Usually we have lunch at 12:30 p.m. but we try to have one or two at 6:30 p.m. for those that are working in the day.

At the moment there are about ten men that attend from time to time – currently almost all from Cobham URC. Attendance varies between three and six. Three is very rare, but it is a good opportunity to get to know a lot more about fellow Christians. Come and enjoy the fellowship.

Richard Langtry

Church Walks

All are very welcome to join us for our monthly church walks, on the first Tuesday of the month, leaving Cobham URC car park shortly after 9.45 am. We walk for about 3 miles and then have a pub lunch. The walk is suitable for anyone of average fitness. We would be very happy to have new walkers join us. Very occasionally we have to change to the following Tuesday, but details will be on the church website, or check by phoning 01932 864094.

Anthea Willis

Early Bird Service at Cobham URC

On the first Sunday every month there is an Early Bird Service in the piano corner of the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. It usually comprises two or three hymns, a short talk, possibly a reading and a little prayer. All finished by 9:20 when we move on to a cosy breakfast of fruit juice, toast, croissants, coffee/tea in the Harding Rooms.

The Service was originally designed for those who would be unable to attend the 10:30 service, but it has developed into a tremendous fun and fellowship activity with a very meaningful Service. There is also a lot of chat and attendees' contribution to the Service!

All are welcome. We would love to see you there. You will enjoy it.

Richard Langtry



**Tea at Three:
Friday 24th June**

Jean Magill

After a long period of ill-health, particularly in the last six months, Jean Magill passed away peacefully on Croft Ward at Epsom Hospital.

Jean was a member of Cobham URC for many years and contributed fully to the life of the church. In recent years we had celebrated Des and Jean's diamond wedding anniversary, and we shall remember the joy that brought us all. There are of course many memories to hold on to and we shall do so fondly.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Jean's husband Des and daughters Elizabeth and Carolyn as well as the rest of the family.

The funeral will be at Cobham URC on Monday 6th June at 2.30pm, followed by the committal at 4.15pm.

From Rev Michael Meech

Michael writes that he has had so many letters of sympathy from Cobham and from the circuit that he is unable to reply to all of them individually. Please accept the following:

Rev Michael Meech, Sarah and Andrew Meech and Judith and Alan Green would like to thank the members of the Church and the wider community for their prayers, letters and messages of sympathy at the time of his wife Wendy's death. Wendy loved the church, was active in it all her life, and appreciated the love she was shown.





Effingham

Methodist Church



Dates to celebrate this month:

Happy Birthday to

Mary Verrinder on the 27th

Remember we need your help to update our records of birthdays and important anniversaries

Tuesday Teas

Tuesday Teas - a social group with occasional outings - meets fortnightly at St Alphege Church Hall - 7th and 21st June, 2.30pm to 4.00pm, then fortnightly thereafter.

Contact Gill for more information on Tuesday Teas - 01372 457987.

Saturday Morning Live



Join us for our monthly Café Church with coffee, croissants & food for thought at St. Lawrence church hall from **10-11am** on **Saturday 4th June** when our theme will be **Child Safety Week** with Ange & Dave Putland

The next meeting is on 2nd July .
There's no meeting in August.

Your invitation to:



**St. Lawrence Church
Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesday 8th
June: 3.30pm -
5.30pm**



**A fortnightly group for carers and partners
living with dementia**



'Connect'

At St Lawrence Church Hall, Browns Lane, Effingham KT24 5LX
alternate Thursdays 10am till 12noon

March 3rd, 17th & 31st
April 14th & 28th
May 12th & 26th
June 9th & 23rd

**Come for refreshments,
friendship, chat
and activities**

For more information contact
Kim Plumpton on 01932 586988

Gill Walker on 01372 457987
GillianMWalker@gmail.com

Sponsored by East Court Fund

Effingham Methodist Diary



June

Sat 4th 10.00am Café Church at St. Lawrence Church Hall
(to 11.00am)

Sun 5th 10.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion

Tues 7th 2.30pm Tuesday Teas in the R. C. Hall

Thur 9th 10.30am Connect Dementia Group meet in St.L's hall
2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church

Sun 12th 10.00am Waseem Haq
3.00pm Queen's 90th Ecumenical Service
at St. Lawrence's with tea

Thur 16th 12.30pm Oasis Bible Lunch Group in the hall

Sun 19th 10.00am John Oborn

Tues 21st 2.30pm Tuesday Teas in the R. C. Hall

Thur 23rd 2.00pm Christian Meditation in the church

Sun 26th 10.00am Rev. Robert Davey

July

Sat 2nd 10.00am Café Church at St. Lawrence Church Hall
(to 11.00am)

Sun 3rd 10.00 am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion

Prayer Meetings...

...are held at **the Chapel** every Friday at 9.30am.



Who's for Tea – A great idea!

The St Lawrence School in Effingham invited local older people to a special Tea Party celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday on Thursday May 12th. The Head of School Mrs Vanessa Wallden welcomed everyone to the school. It was a gloriously sunny day after a wet one – so very lucky! We all started in the hall with the children singing some lovely songs they had learnt specially for the occasion and then we all sang 'God save our Gracious Queen'. We were invited outside onto part of the playground where tables and chairs were laid out for everyone to sit down for a lovely tea. The children were very excited and proudly showed us the bunting and crowns they had drawn and painted decorating the surrounding fence. A very happy time was had by everyone.

Gill Walker

Happy 90th Birthday Your Majesty

Effingham celebrates with a
Birthday Celebration Service,
at St Lawrence Church, Effingham
Sunday 12th June @ 3 pm

Followed by cream teas
in the Silver Jubilee Community Gardens

Why not wear something red, white and/or blue

The church will be decorated with local children's art work.

Dorking and Horsham Circuit

NEWSLETTER

**June
July & August
2016**

Dear Friends,

During our spring synod a good proportion of the time was spent in groups discussing marriage and relationships. I'd like to share some of my thoughts about this discussion, including aspects of the topic which hadn't before occurred to me.

Two principles, which are often at odds with each other, are relevant here. One is the need for the church to move with the times and to find ways to adapt and apply the Christian faith to the prevailing culture. The other is the need for the church to safeguard and stand by what is good and right and true, even if it puts us at odds with the prevailing culture.

Both principles are important. For example, marriage as a partnership between two equal parties is a very modern concept. Within living memory the different roles of husband (breadwinner) and wife (housewife and mother) were ingrained in our culture. And the Biblical writers assumed that such a difference of roles was normal and uncontroversial. ("Wives, obey your husbands" wrote Paul.) I'm sure that supporting the modern idea of equality between men and women is the right thing to do.

A different example would be the way that casual sex is portrayed on television as part of a normal healthy lifestyle. I am not sufficiently involved in youth culture these days to know if the TV reflects reality. I hope not. It's certainly not something that the church should be going along with. Sex is a beautiful gift of God, but intended to be an intimate expression of a loving and committed relationship. There is nothing casual about it.

A major factor which contributes to our views on this subject is our understanding of Biblical authority. How much of it should we treat as the inspired word of God, meant to teach and equip us? (My answer would be: all of it.) How much of it was written in a specific context, meant for people living in a specific culture, and incorporating all kinds of assumptions based on the perspective of the author? (My answer would again be: all of it.)

(Continued on the back page)

Our Circuit Neighbours

The Guildford and Walton/Woking Circuits expect to merge in September to become the **Wey Valley Circuit**. We offer them our good wishes and prayers for this venture.

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

LEATHERHEAD

Prominent in LMC's regular and planned agenda is Outreach, which is so important in giving life to the "life" of our church. Some events are arranged in co-operation with other churches in the town.

"A Holiday at Home" is a new event already in an advanced planning stage and is intended to reach out to lonely people in the locality. There seems to be some merit in listing other activities where LMC members are working out their faith and opening up our church in service to others.

Music on Thursdays: a programme of lunchtime concerts with an expanding attendance.

Time for Tea: a lavish tea with company and speakers for a wide mix of members and friends.

Messy Church: offers a different church experience for about 50 young families in the area.

Lunch Box: support for an organisation which provides meals and friendship to homeless.

West Hill School Community Café: an enterprise giving skills to children with learning difficulties.

Beeches Care home: a monthly service is offered by our minister and volunteers.

'Revive': a midweek club for youngsters in school years 5 to 8 run by the Family and Children's worker, Hannah Mulcock. Food, Faith, Fun.

Men's Breakfast, Sisters' Get-Together and more could expand the list: all organised and staffed by people offering themselves and God's love in service to others.

Ron Shaw

EFFINGHAM

Café Church, Messy Church, Tuesday Teas and "Connect", our dementia support group, are going from strength to strength thanks to a noble band of volunteers. These meetings provide an opportunity for the local churches to reach out to our village and local community, involving young and old in a wide range of activities. We also meet for a prayer walk or a prayer lunch every few months to share problems, local and international issues. Our C of E friends have been without a minister for nearly a year, so we were all delighted when **Revd Mandy McVean** was appointed just in time for Easter. She is keen to strengthen our ecumenical links, and has already involved all the churches in planning a service and tea party for the **Queen's 90th birthday celebrations** on June 12th.

Mandy's also keen on history so we hope to be able to persuade more of Effingham to get involved in **Heritage Open Days Weekend**. The Chapel will be open as usual on 9th, 10th and 11th September, with an exhibition about local history, our Methodist roots, and local Effingham heroes Lord Howard of Armada fame, and Sir Barnes Wallis, inventor, aircraft designer, but perhaps most famous for the bouncing bomb. We're also giving talks on *Baryonyx*, the Surrey Dinosaur, and there's a fossil dig and a chance to handle meteorites.

The Chapel is due a quinquennial inspection later this year, so a survey of the settlement cracks in the hall wall has just been completed. We'll also be pollarding trees and removing a large bush which is encroaching on the road, and asking for quotes from local builders for a new flint wall and fence for the Chapel Hill boundary.

As Circuit Archivist I'd like to archive any records before our Superintendent leaves the Circuit in July/August. Please check your records and notify me, so that the appropriate paperwork can be authorised and records or artefacts taken to *Surrey History Centre* in Woking .

Ange Putland

LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM

London Road is entering a period of change and uncertainty, but one fixed point is Paul's last service here on 31st July. We are planning a fun, informal evening on 16th July from 6.30 pm in Wesley Hall to say our thanks and farewells to both Paul and Sue, and we hope others in the Circuit will join us (email numbers to carolyn.kingfamily@gmail.com, so that we have enough food!).

Although the fact that we haven't managed to secure a replacement for Paul in the stationing process presents us with a number of challenges, at the many meetings I attend there is a real sense that God is calling each one of us to challenge ourselves: what gifts and skills can I offer? Already volunteers are coming forward with ideas and suggestions. The discussions have led us to realise that we already possess many of the skills we need, and we can move forward, prayerfully and purposefully.

One of the areas of our Church life needs our particular prayers: the suspension of our Junior Church has left a 'hole' in our morning worship that we are all aware of.

Waseem, our family worker, together with the Children and Young People's Ministry team is embracing this challenge, and we hope that new initiatives will bear fruit.

Please pray for our congregation as we go forward: for Ethan Reeves, son of Michael and Vic, who will be baptised in June; for all our young people at school and university taking exams; and for Vanessa Pitt and Alex, who will be married at our Church on 30th July.

Carolyn King

ST ANDREW'S, HORSHAM

We have been in our refurbished premises for just over a year and have seen God working in many ways. Two new groups have started: a weekly Friendship group and a fortnightly Craft & Chatter group which have proved to be very popular. The Craft & Chatter group worked together to produce novelty Easter items for our Spring Sale which brought together stall holders from both the congregation and the local community to raise money for our building fund. We have welcomed new hirers to our premises, including a choir, an 'Eat Well Spend Less' course & dance classes, which add to the variety of groups using our premises. Our community café is opening in May which will serve the local community, offering drinks, cakes, fellowship & friendship. We are looking forward to this next stage in our mission and continue to seek God's will for us in our local community.

Jenny Francies-Meagher & Susan Halliday

COBHAM

'Let us build a house where love can grow'... May started us off on a new and exciting journey. Cobham Methodist and CURC will be worshipping together on the second and third Sundays every month, and some extra services in between too!

While we are excited, there is also a little apprehension about this new and wonderful step into the unknown. We all feel that this is the way forward as God's plan for us, and with his help we will go forward together in love. Please keep the congregations and Kim in your prayers.

Rhonda Frost

DORKING

We remain grateful for the dedication of our Managers and Chaplain, even though Juliet has chosen to move on in September. We have the necessary consents for the refurbishment of the gents' toilets, and hope that work can start soon. The Centre will be sharing with other churches another exciting *Holiday at Home* in August. Do visit us any time you find yourselves in Dorking.

(continued from front page)

The task of the church today is to read what was written long ago in a particular context and understand what it says to us about life in today's context. Sometimes this is very easy. When Jesus told his disciples during the Last Supper, "Love one another as I have loved you," we can take those words spoken to 12 particular people on a specific evening and hear Jesus commanding members of today's church to care for one another with the same devotion and self-sacrifice Jesus showed. Other times it is not so easy to understand. When the council at Jerusalem instructed the new Gentile converts to "abstain from food sacrificed to idols," what are we to make of that? We have to draw out the principle behind it. Are we simply being encouraged to take care over what we eat – buying only "Fairtrade" goods for example?

Bear in mind also that even in the original context, not all laws were intended to be universal. Some (such as "sell all your possessions and give to the poor") were intended for one person alone. Some (such as "do this whenever you drink, to remember me" or "the bishop must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife") for the community of Christians. Some (such as "be fruitful and increase in number") for the whole human race.

I have deliberately avoided tackling the controversial issue of gay marriage here for two reasons. One is that our thoughts on gay marriage need to be based on a proper understanding of the relationship between Biblical authority and modern culture (which I hope I have stimulated thoughts about). The other is that I believe that the scope of the Methodist church review of marriage and relationships should encompass a wide range of topics, including the place of sex in relationships, the meaning and relevance of marriage in today's society, what it means to be male or female or transgender, our attitudes to divorce and remarriage and the culture of 'serial monogamy'. Our approach as a church to gay marriage can only make sense as part of this wide-ranging review.

To finish on a different note – as this will be my last contribution to the circuit newsletter, I'd like to say how much I have enjoyed my seven years in the Dorking and Horsham circuit. I have appreciated my hard-working and supportive colleagues, both lay and ordained. And I am grateful for all the fascinating people I have met across the circuit.

As the circuit embarks on a new journey, which at the time of writing is not even clear, my prayers will go with you. God bless you all. *Paul*

*From Revd Malcolm Rothwell,
a previous Superintendent*

My latest book is entitled "**Running the Race, finding God in the London Marathon**". It is very short, but the exercises and points to ponder will take a little longer. It can be bought in bookshops or Amazon (also the Kindle version) – and from me. £5.99. Why not treat yourself? – and buy a present for someone!
(revmalcolm@ntlworld.com)

A date to book:

Friday September 30 evening.
Revd Val Ogden will be back from Fiji on furlough. She will share her experiences at Dorking Christian Centre, and all are welcome. She will also be present at the coffee morning the following day.

THINK PRAY VOTE

www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/issues/eu-referendum/
#thinkprayvote

Think, Pray, Vote:
EU referendum
resources for churches



EU Referendum Prayer

www.jointpublicissues.org.uk

Loving God,
In the referendum that lies before us,
in the challenge of seeking an answer,
in our differences of opinion,
in our need to understand,
may you guide us in our decisions,
make us gracious in our disagreement,
and may we join you to work for the
building of your kingdom
rather than our own.
Amen



You are invited to a BBQ in aid of Action for Children & Methodist Homes for the Aged on Saturday 16th July in Dennis & Gracie Wickham's Garden at The Red House, in Lower Road, Effingham

Christian topics in the News !

Did you know that you can get an email from the Bible Society with a roundup of topical stories in the newspapers each week ? Food for thought ?

Here's this week's selection

Pope willing to set up study into possibility of women deacons.

Pope Francis says he is prepared to commission a study into whether women can enter the Catholic clergy at the rank of deacon — one below a priest. He was making the remarks in a closed-door meeting in Rome with senior members of women's religious orders.

Vicars urged to rein in the jokes and rambling anecdotes in sermons. A week before the Christian Resources Exhibition International in London, research has found that churchgoers would far rather clergy stick to serious topics and leave the jokes to the comedians ! A survey by Christian Research found that they ranked weighty explanations of the Bible as 27 times as important in a sermon as humour; and 'practical application' 42 times more highly than personal anecdote. The survey comes in advance of the first *Sermon of the Year* competition at CRE. (Hmmmmm !!!)

A former Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner is going to appeal a ruling which found her guilty of serious misconduct after she asked to pray with the family of a murder victim.

Charities say advertising industry biased against Christians, as buses carry 'praise Allah' adverts ~ Christian charities are claiming the advertising industry is biased against them, as buses across England are set to carry adverts praising Allah this Ramadan. The Christian Institute and Christian Concern, as well as the former MP Ann Widdecombe, have said the decision is unfair after the three major cinema chains refused to play a Church of England advert for the Lord's Prayer in December 2015.

biblesociety.org.uk

AP

Comment

I understand that if you look in an Arabic translation of the Bible, or talk to Arabic-speaking Christians, the word they use for God is Allah, and it has been used in this way by Christians since before Islam existed. Surely if "Praise God" is being put on buses, we should be joyfully joining in, not complaining, whatever the language.

DC

HOORAY for David !!!!

**Many Thanks to David Cappitt
for taking on the onerous task of
editing LINK for the next 3 years.**

**Cue for lots of APPLAUSE please..... And lots of
stuff for him to edit !! Let's help him make LINK
an even more useful tool for all our churches in the
Pastorate !**

AP

Leatherhead Pages

Information, news, events and happenings in and around

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*



**MUSIC
on
THURSDAYS
at LMC**



**WEDNESDAYS
at
CHRIST
CHURCH**

musiconthursdays.org

Music on Thursdays at LMC

Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road,
please use multi-storey or Church Street car parks

12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 2nd June

Brigitte Furze, violin with Lynda Chang, piano

12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 9th June

following their morning at Trinity School:

*The Story of Brass, with Mardi Brass Ensemble
from animal horns and sticks to modern instruments*

Wednesdays at Christ Church

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

12.30 lunchtime, Wednesday 15th June

John Eagles, Organ Recitalist & Teacher

Music on Thursdays at LMC

12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 23rd June

From Royal Academy of Music: Piano 4 Hands

Lena Napradean & Nathan Ben-Yehuda

12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 30th June

The return of gifted viola player

Timothy Ridout, playing Bach & Vieuxtemps

12.30 lunchtime, Thursday 7th July

A concert of trumpet & piano

by students of the Royal Academy of Music

*All these concerts: free entry, with a retiring collection
Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society HMRC Charity Ref EW02213*



Conquest Art Comes to Leatherhead

Conquest Art is a unique Charity, inspiring people with disabilities and long term health issues to discover their creative energy and build self-confidence through art. Working at their own pace in supportive groups, our Members find both relaxation and fresh stimulus, along with the opportunity to make new friends.



We will be opening up a new Group on Tuesday, 7th June 2016 at Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 8AY.

From 2:00 to 4:00pm.

Absolutely no art experience is necessary, just come along and join the fun.

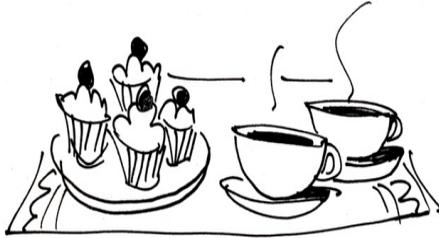
For further information on becoming a Member or Volunteer of Conquest Art please see our website www.conquestart.org or contact Tina on 020 3044 2731 / email Tina@ConquestArt.org

Lent Groups Shared Meal

I still have dishes which were left at the supper, including a glass bowl which had a salad in it and two oatmeal coloured plastic dishes, soup bowl size. If you own these please contact me.

Linda Hauxwell 07733 262574

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 1st July

EVERYONE WELCOME

(Suggested donation £1)

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 - 26th June



Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:

Thursday 16th June

3.30pm to
5.30pm at:



Men's Breakfasts



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

25th June at the Catholic Church Hall

23rd July at Christ Church Hall...

...then on the fourth Saturday each month
(but no meeting in August).

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.

Leatherhead Community Association

At last our newsletter has the magic word 'Summer' on the front and at the time of writing the sun has been shining from a cloudless sky all day and the freezing winds from the North have stopped. Two coach visits have been arranged with Summer in mind, on Tuesday 21st June the LCA is going to the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum at Singleton near Chichester and on Monday 22nd August there is a visit to the Savill Garden at Windsor followed by a river cruise from Runnymede boat house - and this includes a cream tea! Looking ahead, a possible visit to Highgrove is planned for September, and a central London guided walk in October.

Peter Humphreys has planned a full programme of walks ranging from 'short' ones of about 3-4 miles usually on the first Wednesday of each month, 'longer' ones of about 4-6 miles on the second Wednesday of the month, and 1 hour 'strolls' on the third Wednesday from April to October. The strolls are for the not-so-agile and are planned with particular seasonal colours or plants in mind, eg bluebells. Also, Peter always allows time for a stop for a snack either in the middle or at the end! It is not necessary to be a member of the LCA to join a walk and Peter is always happy to answer any queries by phone - 01372 378347

Membership of the LCA is only £5 a year and this entitles you, at a very small admission cost, to join any of the activities in the Institute such as sitting and listening at the music afternoons once a month, playing scrabble every other Friday, social bridge twice a month, or table tennis and snooker every Monday.

You are very welcome to visit the Leatherhead Institute, pick up a Newsletter, and there is nearly always a cup of coffee or tea available. The library is open every morning where you can borrow books as well as DVD's. Sarah is in the office every morning from 9.30 - 12.30, and she will give full information about joining a walk or a visit The phone number is 01372 360508 or the email is **LCA2@btconnect.com**.



J S Bach

Jesu, meine Freude

and other inspiring sacred works

with

Rachel Threlfall (Cello)

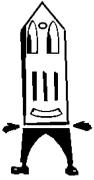
Gina Eason (Keyboard)

Conductor: Ian Assersohn

Saturday, 25 June 7.30pm

St John's School Old Chapel
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8SP

Tickets: Adults £14, Under 16s free. Available at the door
Tickets@leatherhead-choral.net



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

***Please see the Leatherhead Pages
(pages 26–31) for more news***

West Hill School Community Café...

...is held at LMC every Tuesday 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 Tuesday 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



June

Thur 2nd 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 26*)

Fri 3rd 2.30pm Time for Tea (*to 4.30pm*)

**Sun 5th 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion
(Methodist Homes Sunday)**

This service will be followed by a General Church Meeting

Tues 7th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome

Thur 9th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 26*)

**Sun 12th 10.30am Rob Pitt
6.30pm Rev. Lynda Russell with Holy Communion**

Tues 14th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome

Wed 15th 12.30pm Organ Concert at Christ Church (*see page 26*)

Thur 16th 3.30pm Messy Church (*to 5.30pm*)

**Sun 19th 9.00am Bring and Share Prayer Breakfast
10.30am Jay Dunning**

Tues 21st 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome
3.00pm Service at The Beeches (*see page 35*)

Thur 23rd 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 26*)

Sat 25th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Hall (*see p 29*)

**Sun 26th 10.30am Rev. John Hellyer (Chair of District) -
Joint Service at LMC
6.30pm New Fire**

Tues 28th 10.30am West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome
7.30pm Church Council

Thur 30th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 26*)

July

Fri 1st 2.30pm Time for Tea (*to 4.30pm*)

**Sun 3rd 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion
(tbc)**

Ascension

The High Priest on earth
Returns to sit at his Father's right hand.
Bewildered humans, mere mortals,
Are bereft.
'Witnesses' he said before he left.
That's so hard to understand.
'Wait' he said
'I promise Power to come down
To you'
You must then preach repentance
And forgiveness of sins
To all nations.
My life has been a preparation,
A preparation for your freedom,
A promise of reality
To clear the pathway
Of hearts and minds
To make the world,
On my behalf,
A better place for all people.
Be heard, your voice a vital tool,
And listen.

Jean Plant

LMC Family News



Our thoughts and prayers are with...

...Fred Meynen who has broken his ankle and is hobbling with his 'moon boot' while it heals. Fred's older brother has died in Holland and our prayers are with Fred and his family here and in Holland.

Also with...

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

Methodist Homes Sunday at LMC 2016...

...will be on 5th June and Lynda will lead the morning service. This year's fundraising theme is *Creating Communities that Care* reflecting the core purpose of MHA's involvement in Residential Homes, 'Live at Home' schemes and campaigning on behalf of older people. Fundraising provides chaplaincy services, music therapy and support and activities for those living at home - the "extras" that make a huge difference in the daily lives of older people.

Gift envelopes for your donations will be on the chairs on the previous Sunday and can be returned into the collection bags. Those members of our church family who have MHA boxes at home may hand them to Freda Walker for emptying in early June.

LMC has always been generous in its support of Methodist Homes. Hopefully our Church family will ensure that this year will be no exception.

Thank you.



Freda Walker

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 27th September** (*none in the summer*).

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.

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

***Please see the
Leatherhead Pages
(pages 26 - 31)
for more news***



June

Fri 3rd 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (to 4.30pm)

Sun 5th 10.30am Heather Ward

Fri 10th—Sun 12th Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

Sun 12th 10.30am Rev Lynda Russell - Holy Communion

Wed 15th 12.30pm Organ Recital - John Eagles

Thur 16th 3.30pm Messy Church at LMC (to 5.30)

Fri 17th—Sun 19th *Dancing in the Aisles*— Music and Flower Festival at the Parish Church

Sun 19th 10.30am Rev Bruce Stuart

Sat 25th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at the Catholic Church

**Sun 26th 10.30am Joint Service at LMC -
Rev John Hellyer**

July

Fri 1st 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (to 4.30pm)

Sun 3rd 10.30am Rev Robert Blows

From Anne Ray

I would like to take this opportunity to thank friends, and members of all churches, for their kindness and support to Derek and I over the past few years. It was a great help, and meant a lot to us.

Christ Church Family News



Sadly we announce the deaths of three of our well-loved members in recent weeks.

Ivan Haslam developed a skin infection and went into hospital after a fall. His condition deteriorated and he died peacefully in Epsom Hospital. A member since 1984, Ivan's service to the church was generous and unassuming, looking after the grounds for many years. He was unstinting in his care and support for his fellow members and his many friends. The funeral was at Randall's Park on 16th May. We send our sincere condolences to his family, remembering in particular his niece Sheila Grainger.

Eric Lloyd Jones passed away at the age of 91 on 3rd May, having become increasingly frail in the last few years after the death of his wife Mollie. Eric joined Christ Church in 1971, served as an elder, gave very valuable service as Fabric Steward and was editor of the newsletter for several years. The funeral took place on 27th May. We extend our deep sympathy to Gillian and Alan and their families.

Jean McDowall suffered a stroke last November and died peacefully in Epsom Hospital on 3rd May. Christ Church was full for the thanksgiving service on 13th May. A member since 1965, Jean contributed to life at Christ Church in many different roles, including some years as an Elder and as a teacher in Children's Church. She was a great family person and shared her interests in music and travel with her many friends. We send our heartfelt sympathy to Neil, Alison, Ishbel and their families in their loss.

We give thanks for these three faithful Christians in their service to our church and community over many years. They will be greatly missed by us all.

Bob Booker is moving to 2 Emmeline Lodge, Kingston Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 7FU on 30th June. We wish him a trouble-free move and much happiness in his new home.

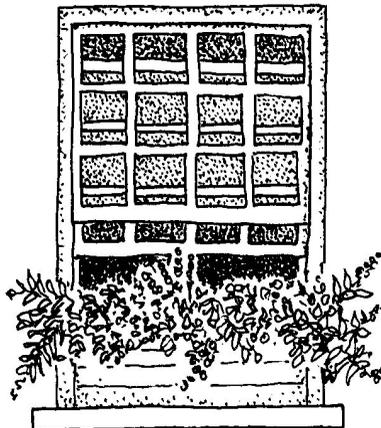
We are delighted that Margaret Hughes' second operation on her eye was successful and that she can now see. We wish her well for the future.

We are sorry that José Henderson was admitted to Epsom Hospital recently with an infection. Our thoughts and prayers are with José and John.

We remember in our prayers these friends and all those needing our support.

Anne Cairns

We thank Les Prescott warmly for all his hard work and skill in producing the Link over the past six years. It is much appreciated at Christ Church.



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: Local Church Leader -
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 Reformed Church:

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

Cobham Methodist Church:

Cedar Road, Cobham, KT11 2AA
www.cobhammethodistchurch.com
Contact: Senior Steward -
Rhonda Frost 01932 423100



United Pastorate Ministers

Rev. Lynda Russell

10 Church Road
Leatherhead, KT22 8AY

Tel: 01372 372743 (home)
01372 362145 (office)

E-mail:

Rev. Kim Plumpton

38 Stoke Road
Cobham, KT11 3BD

Tel: 01932 586988

E-mail: