

the Link

The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham

March 2018



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 April issue to the editor by March 14th



The Ministers Write...

From Rev Lynda Russell

Dear Friends

By the time you read this letter we will be at least part of the way through Lent. If you have chosen to give something up for the season of Lent you will already be feeling either perhaps virtuous or slightly upset with yourself, depending on your personal will power! As a few years ago, I am giving up sugar – in an attempt to eat healthier (not to mention losing weight!), and to give some thought to listening to God.

During the season of Lent we are encouraged to put aside even a few minutes from our busy lifestyles to reflect on the deeper questions of life, which we might never otherwise get the opportunity to do.

This weekend at LMC we are hosting “The Big Mix weekend” – a residential (at Church) weekend for our children and young people, with a visiting group from the Dorcan Church in Swindon: 30 or so young people here to have fun together, share together and hopefully learn about Jesus. The theme is “Listening to God”, and they will learn through all the activities that God speaks to us all – including them. To hear God’s voice in the midst of whatever we are doing is something which we can learn. It is a spiritual ‘exercise’ which can be practised and developed by stilling ourselves and ceasing to always ‘talk’ to God. We hope that these children and young people will begin (or continue) lives which are grounded in Jesus, able to recognise his voice amongst all the pressures placed upon them. The earlier we can learn this, the better for our walk with him.

Continued overleaf

Last week I was on a Silent Retreat (and yes, I did manage to be silent!), where we listened for the quiet promptings of the Spirit, by (amongst other ways) devotional reading of the Bible. Sometimes it's called Lectio Divina, and is very different from studying the Bible. Instead it opens the Word up to allow us to listen. If you would like to try this, then ask me to explain...

Wishing you all a contemplative and listening Lent!

Every Blessing

Lynda



From Rev Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

As the reality of Colin's heart attack begins to sink in (thank you to all those who sent their good wishes), all sorts of conversations about what happens next have begun. If Colin is to be the fittest and healthiest he can be he must change the habits he has got into over many years. Sometimes change is thrust upon us and sometimes we are given glimpses by those wiser than us that change is needed. For Colin we must do things differently, change is inevitable.

Our physical health is very important to us but something that is often overlooked is the condition of our spiritual health. To be spiritually fit we need to exercise ourselves, Paul says in Timothy "*Exercise yourself towards godliness.*" Paul also says "*Take time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit. Bodily fitness has a certain value, but spiritual fitness is essential, both for this present life and for the life to come.*"

Lent is traditionally a time when we are given an opportunity to reassess our spiritual health. A time to stop, to set aside some time to contemplate, to rethink, to understand who we are within ourselves and in light of our relationship with God.

Our journey in Lent begins in the wilderness, this is not a place where God is absent but it is a place where we discover our strengths and our weaknesses. It is often in these places that we find out who we are and what we lean on to get us through those challenging moments. For we see in Christ and his experience in the wilderness that Jesus was not persuaded by Satan but he was able to lean on his understanding and relationship with the Father to enable him to stand firm in the midst of difficulty.

Charles Spurgeon once said that *'Faith and repentance are inseparable.'* To grow in faith we must first recognise our need for God and in doing so accept that our lives will constantly need to be reshaped and our priorities challenged; that our lives will need to be reordered in ways that express what it is to live in the grace of God. It is only in revealing our weakness that we can find our strength in God. When the scales are removed from our eyes, we can see more clearly who we might become in Christ.

Lent invites us to look deeply within and turn to face God in all our frailty but in the glorious knowledge that after a time of soul searching we are one step closer to the Kingdom of God.

With every blessing

Kim



Women's World Day of Prayer
Friday 2nd March

This year's service "**All God's creation is very good !**" has been prepared by
Christian women of Suriname.

The service for Cobham, Oxshott and Stoke D'Abernon will be held at
St. Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon at 10.30am.



Cobham Methodist Worship Diary



March

Sun	4th	10.30am	John Bees
Sat	10th	2.30pm	Platinum Service
Sun	11th	10.30am	Rev Kim Plumpton - Joint Service at URC with Holy Communion
Sun	18th	10.30am	Rev Kim Plumpton (Joint Service)
Sun	25th	10.30am	Palm Sunday: David Cappitt
Thur	29th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday worship at URC
Fri	30th	10.00am	Good Friday Service at URC
		10.00am	Silent Vigil round the Cross in the centre of Cobham (to 12 noon)

April

Sun	1st	10.30am	United Easter Communion Service: Rev Kim Plumpton
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Cobham

United Reformed Church

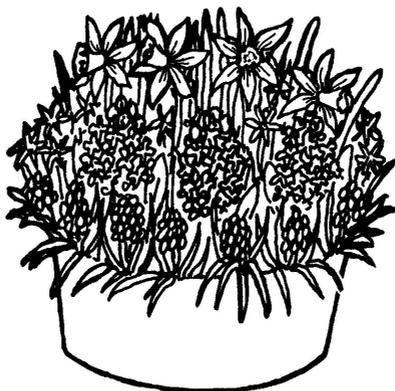
Worship Diary

March

- Sun 4th 9.00am Early Bird Service
10.30am Stephen Thornton
- Sun 11th 10.30am Mothering Sunday
Rev Kim Plumpton: Joint Service with
Holy Communion
- Sun 18th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton: Joint Service at CMC
- Sun 25th 10.30am Palm Sunday; Rev Kim Plumpton
- Thur 29th 7.30pm Joint Maundy Thursday Service
- Fri 30th 10.00am Joint Good Friday Service
10.00am Silent Vigil round the Cross in the centre
of Cobham (to 12 noon)

April

- Sun 1st 9.00am Early Bird Service
10.30am Easter Day; Rev Kim Plumpton: Joint
Service at CMC with Holy Communion



Cobham Events

March

Thur	1st	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship at The Anchor, 161, Lower Road, Bookham, KT23 4AH
Fri	2nd	10.30am	Women's World Day of Prayer at St Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon (see p5)
Sun	4th	12 noon	Special Church Council Meeting (CMC)
Tues	6th	9.45am 8.00pm	Church Walk Elders' Meeting (URC)
Sat	10th	10.30am	Synod Together at East Croydon (to 4.30pm)
Thur	22nd	3.45pm	Messy Church at URC (to 5.45)
Fri	23rd	7.30pm	Joint Leadership Team Meeting at CMC
Sat	24th	10.00am	Safeguarding training day (to 2.30m) (see p11)

Prayers at the Manse Wednesdays at 9.30am

March: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

Ecumenical Lent Groups

Please check Church Notice Boards for dates, time and locations (see p9).

House Groups

House Groups will be taking a break to enable all to attend Ecumenical Lent Groups. The next House Group meeting will be at 7.30pm on April 19th, and subsequent third Thursdays, continuing the study of Mark's gospel.

For further details contact Brian Manners.



in Cobham, Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon

Ecumenical discussion groups Lent 2018.

Better Together? All about relationships – in the church and within family and society

Christianity is not just a private matter. Yes, it is about our own interior life and our personal relationship with God – but it is much, much more. It is concerned with how we treat and relate to one another both inside and outside the church; it is about how we function as families and societies; it is about how broken relationships can be mended and what to do when they can't.

An ecumenical course for discussion groups in five sessions will start during the week commencing 19th February 2018. Please sign up on the sheets in the church. For further details please contact Paul Fisher 07979 755391 (evenings preferred) or email: paul.m.fisher@hotmail.co.uk



**Cobham URC Church, 4th Thursday each month
Next Messy Church: 22nd March, 3.45 to 5.45pm**

Unfortunately it has become necessary to postpone the concert which was to have been on February 24th. It will now take place on April 14th, and will be bigger and better than ever.

A mixture of music

Performances

Show Tunes



Raffle

Refreshments

Photography display

A fun night!

Cobham URC Church

14th April 2018

7:30pm

A Plumpton/Seager production



Safeguarding Training



The session will be led by
the Children and Youth
Development Officer
Tom Hackett.

A session on safeguarding:
Venue: **Cobham United Reformed
Church**
Time: **10am-2:30pm**
Date: **Saturday 24th March 2018**

If you would like to join
the session please email
Kim:
kimp_822@hotmail.com
or call: 01932 586988

Please bring
your own
lunch. Tea
and coffee
will be pro-
vided.



Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Dates to celebrate in March:



We wish a very Happy Birthday to 7 of our ladies:
Elizabeth Blankson, Pat Steer, Janet Garnham,
Dorothy Grieves, Rhona Elliott, Elaine Moran and
Angela Putland.

Please let us know about birthdays and BIG anniversaries!!

Tuesday Teas

The Tuesday Teas group seems to be growing, which is lovely, with several new people enjoying tea and cake and endless conversation, and laughter too.

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

Next meeting dates: March 13th, with a trip straight to The Grange for a cream tea; and March 27th with an invited guest Paddy singing with his guitar, and some choruses to join in with as well.

Some car transport can be arranged.

Contact Keith or Gill on
01372 457987
for more information.



EASTER OFFERING
2018

Seek Peace and
Pursue It
(Psalm 34:14),
World Mission Fund
www.methodist.org.

Effingham Methodist Diary



March

Thur	1st	1.30pm	"Chocolat" Lent group in the Chapel (see p15)
Fri	2nd	10.30am	Women's World Day of Prayer: Fetcham
		7.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer: Eastwick
Sun	4th	10.00am	Rev Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion
Thur	8th	1.30pm	"Chocolat" Lent group in the Chapel (see p15)
Sat	10th	10.00am	World Mission coffee morning (to 12 noon)
Sun	11th	10.00am	Christine Lawley
Tues	13th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea members' meeting at The Grange
Wed	14th	12.30pm	Lent Lunch in St Lawrence Hall
		3.30pm	Messy Church @ St Lawrence's Hall (to 5.30)
Thur	15th	1.30pm	"Chocolat" Lent group in the Chapel (see p15)
Sun	18th	10.00am	Jay Dunning
Sun	25th	10.00am	Waseem Haq
Tues	27th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in RC Hall
Thur	29th	7.30am	Maundy Thursday Hot Cross Buns (to 10.30am)
Fri	30th	5.00pm	Good Friday Walk of Witness from All Saints, followed by
		6.00pm	"At the Foot of the Cross" service with Kim
Sat	31st	3.00pm	Living Easter pageant starting at "Sir Douglas Haig" pub

April

Sun 1st 9.00am Easter Communion Service with Rev Kim Plumpton

Prayer Meetings are held in the Chapel every Friday at

Spring Cleaning? Bring your bric-a-brac for the Bring and Buy stall at the **World Mission** coffee morning on Saturday 10th March (10 - 12).

There will also be a cake sale.

Money raised will be divided between **World Mission** and **Wycliffe Bibles**.



Women's World Day of Prayer
Friday 2nd March

This year's service "All God's creation is very good!" has been prepared by **Christian women of Suriname.**

Our local services will be held at
10.30am @ St. Mary's Parish Church, Fetcham
7.30pm @ Eastwick Road Church (URC), Gt. Bookham

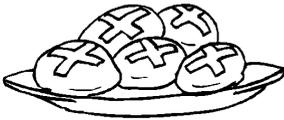


LENT in Effingham

Effingham's fortnightly **Lent Lunches** will be held from **12.30 to 2pm in St. Lawrence Church Hall on 28th February and 14th March.** This year's charity is **Riding for the Disabled.**

Churches Together Lent course "Christ and the Chocolaterie" continues in the Chapel on Thursdays from 1.30 to 3.30pm on 1st, 8th, and 15th March. (Wednesday evenings available too). Then there's a simply irresistible **Chocolate Feast** on 4th April! **Mmmmm!**

On **Maunday Thursday Churches Together** are giving away hot -cross buns. Kim & Mandy will be at Effingham Junction station to catch early bird commuters, then at local shops!
Helpers needed please !!!



On **Good Friday** there is a **Devotional Walk at 5pm** from **All Saints, Little Bookham to Effingham** followed at **6pm** by a **service at the Methodist Chapel.**



Living Easter is an ambitious Christian pageant which will start from the Haig pub on **Easter Saturday 31st March at 3pm** with scenes in our churches and at KGV. Please talk to Dave or Ange if interested in being a safety marshal or even acting!



**Don't forget it's Mother's
Day on Sunday 11th
March**



St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesday 14th March 3.30 -5.30pm
No Messy Church in April

Last month's messy church focused on the family and all who care for us, remembering that we are all part of God's family too. Our March session will of course be about the Easter story, with a theme looking at second chances and how we forgive others. Come and join us!

"Connect" a group for carers and partners with dementia

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. Refreshments, friendship, chat and a good range of activities are on offer for all.

We were fortunate to have Hedley Kay, known to many locals, singing well-known songs with his guitar. His delightful Irish lilt added to the conversation and the introductions to his songs.

Next meeting dates (fortnightly) are March 15th with Sheila for more exercises to keep us trim, and March 29th, which is Maundy Thursday.

For more info. contact Gill on 01372 457987
email GillianMWalker@gmail.com



or Kim on 01932 586988

You don't have to live in Effingham to come and join us

Easter Prayer

When everything was dark
and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,
your love broke through.

Your love was too strong,
too wide,
too deep
for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love
dance and spread
and burst forth
with resurrection light.

Gracious God,
We praise you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others.
Amen.

This prayer has been written by the Revd Michaela Youngson.

President-elect of Methodist Conference 2018/19



Did YOU know there is a Healing Ministry at Methodist Central Hall ?

The Lectionary is full of miracles at this time of the year, but it sometimes seems that the Church has forgotten the need to continue Christ's work.

So I was surprised to find that **Methodist Central Hall** in Westminster has a **Minister responsible for Healing Ministry**, who leads a team providing healing services, drop-in sessions, a Parkinson's support group, an online training course and an annual conference. He says "At the heart of our healing ministry is our conviction that God wants to channel healing grace to all who seek healing and wholeness in their lives.

Prayer is offered for healing in body, mind and spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit".

Annual Healing Conference with speaker, John Ryeland, Director of the Christian Healing Mission in Hammersmith will lead a day of stimulating teaching, vibrant worship and a prayerful time of healing ministry. Tickets £5 to £7

Book online before 31st March at a discounted price of £5.

(Refunds up to **7 days** before event)

Sat, May 12, 2018 from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Methodist Central Hall Westminster 2018

HEALING CONFERENCE

"If you only knew...
....what's available to you"

Dorking and Horsham Circuit

NEWSLETTER

March
April and May
2018

Dear Friends,

As we look forward to this Easter season I can't help but be drawn to Jesus' words in John 12:24-25, "Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal." (Msg)

I love the slant Eugene Petersen puts on this passage. It begs the question 'What is this life we hold in our hands?' that's a tricky question to answer! For most of us I think we see it in terms of 'my life' – you know Frank Sinatra's 'My Way' or Bon Jovi's 'It's My Life' or any of the multiple self-help programs that tell us over and over again that we are masters of our own destinies. Well, I guess we are, but what destiny might that be?

Eugene Petersen helps us see what Jesus is trying to get us to realise – you can be a grain of wheat, if you like, but that's probably all you're going to be. Or, you can recognise that this life you claim so boldly, and cling to so tightly for your own, is in fact a precious gift from God – God's life – and if we give it over to God it has the power to grow in ways we can't begin to imagine possible. I love the phrases '...reproduces itself many times over.' And '...if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal.'

So, as you journey through Lent and onwards to the Passion, Death and Resurrection and beyond towards Pentecost, ask God for that grace that will enable you, together with Jesus, to make this investment anew and wait for the harvest to follow.

Yours in the Gospel,

Gavin

EFFINGHAM

Well, our little Chapel's foundations have been shaken in more ways than one recently. Firstly by the death of **Philip Bearden**, our treasurer for over 20 years, and a former Circuit Secretary. Then the builders next-door excavated a party wall, overseen by our surveyor. Now the new-build house is beginning to take shape behind the Chapel, with foil-covered walls gleaming in the wintry sunlight, and a skeleton roof etched against dark clouds. The building site is very muddy, but Spring has sprung in the Chapel garden, with snowdrops and a few primroses against the church wall.

Churches together in Effingham & Little Bookham are organising another *Messy Easter* with chocolate Easter eggs and the story of Jesus for every child. This year's Lent Lunches will be in aid of the local branch of **Riding for the Disabled**, and there's also a six week ecumenical Lent course, based on the film *Chocolat*, which we'll be hosting at the Chapel.

On **Maundy Thursday**, **Kim** and **Mandy**, the **Rector**, and lots of helpers will be distributing hot-cross buns at the local shops and railway station, with napkins to tell people about the real meaning of Easter. On **Good Friday** there's a *Devotional Walk* via each of our churches, ending with a service at the Chapel. On Holy Saturday it's dressing-gowns and tea-cloths for a **Living Easter** pageant event, with more free eggs for kids! Then, after the service with Kim on Sunday, we'll decorate the Cross in the Garden with flowers.

At the Chapel on 10th March there's a **World Missions** coffee morning with plants, cakes and a bring and buy stall. Then we'll celebrate **St. George's Day** on 23rd April with lunch or tea and a chorus of "There'll always be an England" !

Ange and David Putland

DORKING

The Centre hosted the usual Christmas Day lunch for those who might be on their own, and the Resources and Finance committee maintains its oversight over all the activity in and care of the premises, and our Chaplain maintains her active ministry. Revd Conrad Hicks led an inspiring service for the Church Anniversary. A new service has been initiated once a month on a Sunday afternoon, and it aims to attract families who might be able to attend when all the other Sunday family activities are out of the way. CTD will be holding its customary Friday lunches in Lent to support Christian Aid, and one of these will be in the Centre. Visitors to the Church will have been surprised at one point to find the pews filled with donated clothing, which will find its way to aid the desperately needy in Syria. At noon on the first Saturday of the month the tradition of a variety of concerts has been maintained, with lunch afterwards a possibility in the Centre. Martin Ellis is returning for the concert on May 5.

Leadership Team

SOUTHWATER

Recently we have been delighted to welcome visiting preachers from the Pioneer Hub of which SCMC are part. Mario Arevalo from New Life Baptist Hove spoke of his early football career and evangelist mission to Mexico where early pioneer Methodist miners settled from Cornwall and Jeannine Rodriguez-Everard spoke of sharing the Father's love beyond church walls and spoke prophetic words and blessings over the church. We look forward to hearing Andy Au's testimony and encouragement at the end of February. The LT will be attending the annual Pioneer conference in March where they will have the opportunity to meet up with friends old and new and be inspired in their leadership of the church.

We will be following our usual pattern of Easter services/activities:

Good Friday afternoon will be a family walk around the village, followed by a short reflection; and Easter Sunday will be a shared breakfast/brunch followed by a Communion service. We hope to share our faith with the village sometime over the weekend, but watch this space as we haven't yet decided what this will be!

Tina Andrews

LEATHERHEAD

A new activity initiated by our Family and Children's worker is the Ark weekly toddlers group which commenced in January. Monthly Sunday lunch is also a new initiative aimed at relationship building and sharing of faith. The Sunday morning Praise Band is growing with up to six persons involved.

Ron Shaw

PARTRIDGE GREEN

Our ecumenical Lent lunches will commence on Thursday 15th February in our hall and for each Thursday during Lent from 12-30pm till 1.45pm. Monies raised will go to The Chestnut Tree Children's Hospice in Arundel, which cares for many young children and their families throughout West Sussex.

We continue with Bible Study groups on alternate Tuesday afternoons, and on the other Tuesday afternoons our "Open Door" meetings continue to be well attended, with an excellent variety of speakers on offer, or an activity afternoon for our members, with homemade cakes continuing to be a feature of the afternoon!

On Good Friday, we plan to enjoy some of our beautiful Sussex countryside, with our usual afternoon walk, starting at 2.30pm, followed by refreshments on our return, and a short service at 4.30pm. Do join us if you can!

We will be having two Messy church mornings over the next few months, and look forward to welcoming many young families to join us for crafts, activities, singing worship and lunch. The dates we have planned are Friday 13th April, and Wednesday 30th May. We extend our grateful thanks to our London Road friends who continue to support us in our activities for the children.

A very happy Easter to all our friends throughout the circuit.

Alison James

ST ANDREW'S

St Andrews enjoyed a good time in our community over Christmas, with a family Christingle Service, and a Family Celebration event with the more usual Carol Service.

With Southwater, we continue to seek a Family and Community worker to support our churches' outreach. It is a difficult job to fill owing to the mix of skills and experience being sought, and the job is shortly to be readvertised.

After many years service, Daphne Giacomelli has stepped down from playing in our services. We would like to thank her for all her years of loyalty to St Andrews music, and wish her and her fingers a well earned rest!! Meanwhile we are grateful to those who have stepped in to help, as we look to ensure music remains a significant part of our worship.

We recently hosted and enjoyed a fun Barn Dance, and have a full mix of events planned for 2018 with a mix across spiritual and fun, and both focused on our church, and inviting the wider Circuit and community. These include a Sponsored Walk/Run/Cycle from Roffey to Southwater for the funds of our two churches on Easter Monday, and a Treasure hunt on June 16th, as well as Pentecost Soul Space Worship on 20th May. We will look to advertise in good time around the Circuit.

Ian Johnson

LONDON ROAD, HORSHAM

We continue with our involvement in the Horsham Churches' Night Shelter and our co-ordinator Carolyn has been pleased to report that two of our guests have recently been housed. She also states that the Shelter is a great example of cooperation between the churches and that the volunteers are extraordinary!

We have continued to send donations of food to the local foodbank and our contributions for the period October to December equates to 487 meals which would feed a family of four for over a month.

During Lent our church community will be exploring five of the seven strategic aspirations that London Road adopted in 2015, focussing on one aspiration each week. The Sunday service will start our thinking and then we will meet in small groups during the week to explore the subject further. It is hoped that we will discover how these aspirations affect our own discipleship, our mutual fellowship and what it means for the life and work of our church.

Helen Currington

COBHAM

We are now having a few "lasts". We had the last Christmas Day Service at Cedar Road – good to have a full church again, and then the last Covenant Service. Sadly, Kim was too ill to take it, so Roy Bones, a retired URC minister who lives in Cobham, took over, and everybody pitched in. A comment after the service: "We really feel like one united congregation now". We now have a draft constitution and a draft sharing agreement, and a list from the Methodist Property HQ in Manchester of things to be done. The next step is a decision about what needs doing to the property on Stoke Road to make it fit for a lively, exciting, growing United Church.

David Cappitt

Leatherhead Pages

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

AllSaints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT



A SPECIALITY COFFEE SHOP AND SANDWICH COMPANY

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



Leatherhead's Lunchtime (mostly)

Concerts

musiconthursdays.org

Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society Regd Charity 1166764

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

• Thursday 1st March

2pm AGM in the Lower Hall at LMC

3pm public concert in the Church

Oliver Till, piano

Graduate of the Royal Academy of Music

Bach: Partita in C minor • Grieg: Holberg Suite

Wednesdays at Christ Church

Epsom Rd, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST

plenty of on-site park available

• Wednesday 14 March • 12.30 lunchtime

Guest organist: Graham Thorpe

Organ Scholar, Brompton Oratory, Kensington

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

• Thursday 22nd March • 12.30 lunchtime

Emily Andrews, flute

Anna Hashimoto, clarinet

Daniel King Smith, piano

music by Rameau • Schumann

Telemann • Saint-Saëns

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

• Thursday 29th March • 12.30 lunchtime
string player(s)

from the Royal Academy of Music

12.30 lunchtime concerts continue to the end of November.
These concerts are free to enter, with a retiring collection
to cover costs. Programme may change.



Starts
12th
January
2018

Every Friday in term time

9:30am-11:00am

**Christ Church UR
Epsom Road, KT22 8ST**

**Toddler, babies and their carers are invited for play, craft,
songs, story and refreshments**

Group with a Christian theme

**For more info please email:
Hannahleatherheadfcw@gmail.com**

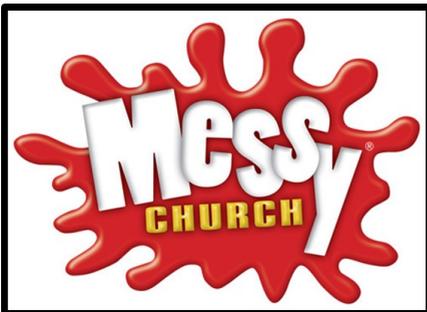
LINC





NEW FIRE will be at AllSaints this month. Everything you love about New Fire plus great coffee! The coffee shop will be open from 6.00pm. Please park at Trinity School.

**Next New Fire - Sunday 25th March at
AllSaints, 6.30pm**



**Next Messy Church
for Leatherhead:**

Thursday 15th March
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



Time for Tea



COME for TEA and COMPANY

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

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

No "Time for Tea" in March as it coincides
with the Women's World Day of Prayer

Next "Time for Tea" - Friday 6th April

EVERYONE WELCOME



The Swan Hand Bell Ringers

On the first Friday of the month the Leatherhead Methodist Church hosts an afternoon "Time for Tea" of fellowship and those delicious sandwiches, homemade cakes, scones and endless cups of tea. We welcome the young and not so young from all the Churches and with no church and provide transport for people who need it. Usually we have a theme of some sort, sharing personal stories, memories, topics of interest, poems and musical items.

On Friday 2nd February we were delighted to welcome the Swan Hand Bell Ringers of Leatherhead who entertained us with the art and craft of hand bell ringing. Their leader Beverley Metah introduced us to the origin of hand bell ringing which predates the bells in church towers, the bells being made of bronze of varying weights and sizes to produce the notes spanning two octaves. The ringer has two bells which are rung using a wrist action with the clapper designed to move in one plane only. The ringers began with "In A Country Garden", followed by a number of pieces which allowed us to sing or hum along with them.

The highlight of the afternoon was when we were invited to join them and ring a bell. We were paired off with a ringer and handed a bell. The music showed us when to ring our bell and we had our experienced partner to prompt us if we lagged behind! We were impressed with the ringers who were very professionally turned out with their own music stands, white gloves and smart blue shirts with their own logo.

It was a lovely and memorable afternoon and we ended by sharing the Grace with one another.

Fred Meynen





WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 2nd March at 2.30 pm

PLEASE JOIN US AT
Leatherhead Parish Church Hall
Church Road

ALL VERY WELCOME

Followed by refreshments and Fairtrade stall

The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Suriname with
the theme of "All God's Creation is Very Good!"

The service is not just for women - everyone is welcome.

Easter in Leatherhead

Good Friday 30th March. Walk of Reflection. Meet at Christ Church at 10.00am. The Walk of Reflection will then proceed through the town centre to the Anglican Parish Church Hall.

Easter Day 1st April. Joint LMC/Christ Church Easter Day Service with Holy Communion at LMC, led by Rev. Lynda Russell



Leatherhead

Methodist Church

Pastoral Prayers...

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.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 27th March at 2.30pm.**

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 contact the church office if you are interested.



LMC Family News

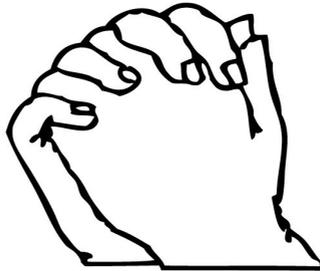


We extend a warm welcome to...

... Elaine Tompkins who has been worshipping with us recently, having moved into Holly Court.

Our thoughts and prayers ...

... continue to be with all our members, relatives and friends, particularly those who are unwell at home, in hospital or nursing care, those in residential care and all those who look after them each day. We especially remember Harry and Peggy Robinson, James and Jean Ross, Mary Thorp and Edward Warren.



Prayer Breakfasts

Prayer breakfasts are held on the third Sunday each month at 9.30am. It's a bring and share (non-cooked) breakfast with a short time of prayer fellowship before the morning service. All very welcome.

Next Prayer Breakfast is on 18th March.



Diary



March

Thur 1st 3.00pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
 Fri 2nd 2.30pm Women's World Day of Prayer - Parish Church Hall (*see page 28*) (*No "Time for Tea"*)

Sun 4th 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion
 First Sunday Family Lunch after the service
 Thur 8th 5.30pm Revive Youth Club

Sun 11th 10.30am United Service at LMC: Waseem Haq
 ("*Holy Habits - Eating Together*")
6.30pm Jay Dunning

Wed 14th 12.30pm Organ Recital at Christ Church (*see page 23*)
 Thur 15th 3.30pm Messy Church (*to 5.30pm*)

Sun 18th 9.30am Prayer Breakfast
10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell (*Holy Habits - Making More Disciples*)

Thur 22nd 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
 5.30pm Revive Youth Club
 Sat 24th 8.00am Men's Breakfast Fellowship - Parish Church hall

Sun 25th 10.30am Palm Sunday - John Oborn
6.30pm New Fire at AllSaints Café
 (*coffee from 6pm - park at Trinity School*)

Tues 27th 2.30pm Pastoral Visitors' Prayer Meeting
 Thur 29th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
 Fri 30th 10.00am Good Friday Walk of Reflection from Christ Church to the Parish Church.

April

Sun 1st 10.30am Easter - Joint Communion Service with Christ Church at LMC - Rev. Lynda Russell

Thur 5th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
 Fri 6th 2.30pm Time for Tea

Book Review

Laurie Williams reviewed two books about the Herods mentioned in the New Testament. Last month, we published his review of the first of the books "The Life and Times of Herod the Great" by Stewart Perowne. Here is his review of the second of the books "The Later Herods". Please therefore see last month's Link for the introduction.

THE LATER HERODS

by Stewart Perowne (1958).

In the introduction to his second book Stewart Perowne says that there have been few epochs in which true harmony has been achieved between the claims of the state and those of God. It was the Jewish discovery that God is the one God and an omnipotent God that brought the dilemma into being.

Under the Maccabees the Jews kept their independent statehood until the Romans came. It was the political skill of Herod the Great that enabled them to keep their civil government free from Roman interference. However, Herod's children failed to maintain the political and religious balance. Many Jews abandoned their religion for nationalism which the Romans crushed in the war of AD 66-73. Judaism survived and, more than this, Christianity was born.

This book takes up the history of the Herod family at the point where the first book ends though the author makes it clear that it is an entirely separate book. The first half of the book relates the history of the next three generations of the Herods and their relationship with their Roman overlords. The second half tells the story of the Jewish war of AD 66-73 and includes a detailed account of the siege and fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. By this time only Agrippa II, the last of the Herods, was still alive.

The list of the Herods at the beginning of the review of the first book gives the salient points concerning the successors of Herod the Great. I'll enlarge on them as necessary in what follows.

Herod's immediate successor, in Judea and Samaria only, was his youngest son Archelaus, who was 18 at the time. He reigned for ten years and was then deposed by Caesar Augustus because of his mismanagement.

Augustus decided that Rome would rule Judea directly through procurators. This decision led to the events surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus and His trial by the procurator Pontius Pilate, rather than by the Jews only.

Herod Antipas ruled in Galilee and it was he who arrested John the Baptist who had criticised Antipas for marrying his brother's wife. The book tells us that John could have escaped his fate just by remaining on one side of the River Jordan. In fact he wanted to baptise in Galilee which was on the other side of the river and then Antipas arrested him.

Perowne's account of the Jewish War is brilliant and informative and even exciting. He makes use of the writings of the Jewish historian Josephus in telling the story and there is no better choice. Josephus himself was present at the time as explained in the book. There is much valuable information about the people involved on the Roman side and the Jewish rebels who defended Jerusalem, ultimately unsuccessfully.

The book is an invaluable source of information about the Bible lands during the years when Christianity was being established. Anybody who wants to know the history of this time will benefit from reading it.

Laurie Williams

The book is not in print. However, there are a number of second hand options available online

Book Review





FIRST SUNDAY FAMILY LUNCH!

Leatherhead Methodist Church



Bring and share lunch straight after
the first 10:30am Service of the
month!

All are welcome!

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:

hannahleatherheadfcw@gmail.com



REVIVE YOUTH CLUB



Come join us for fun and games, craft and activities,
singing and dancing, Bible stories and teaching,
tuck shop and new friends!

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

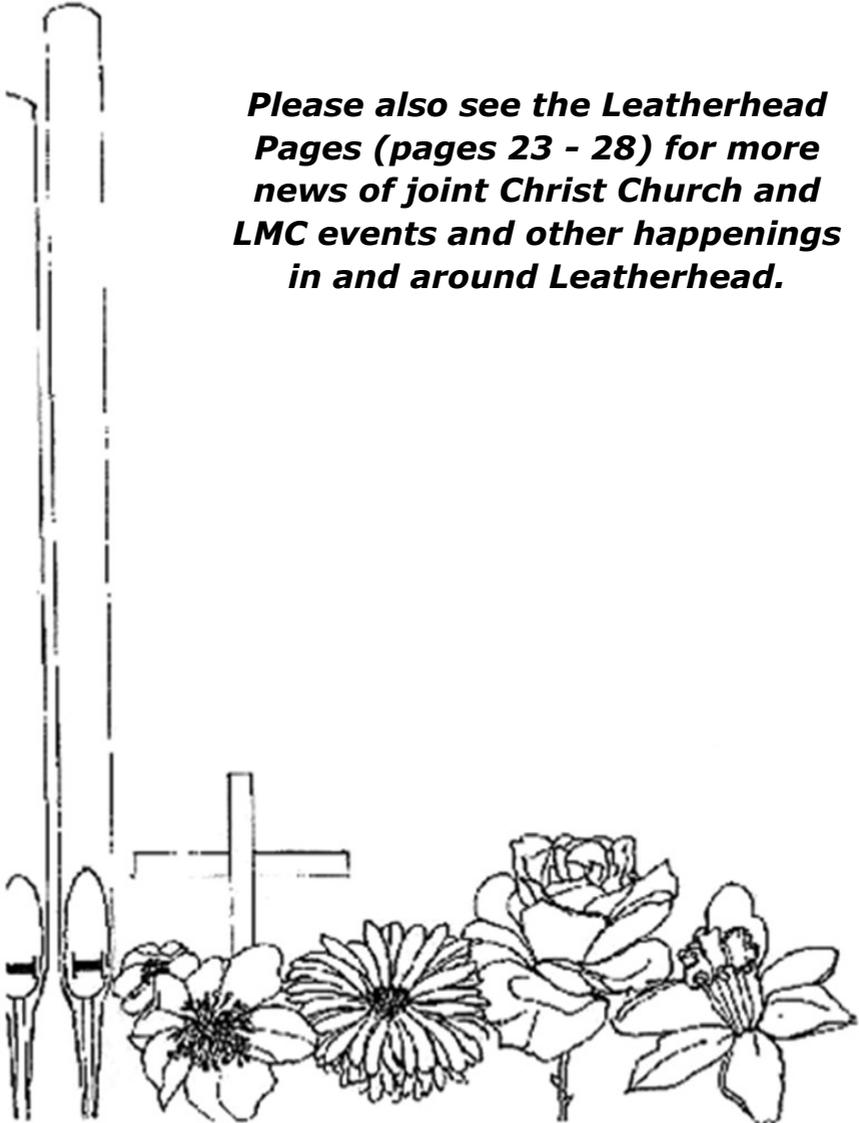
Leatherhead Methodist Church
2nd and 4th Thursday
6pm-7:30pm
Ages 7-11
Cost £1

Email hannahleatherheadfcw@gmail.com

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 Diary



March

Thur 1st 2.00pm LMC: L'head Concert and Arts Society AGM
 3.00pm LMC: Recital (see p23)
 Fri 2nd 2.30pm Parish Church: Women's World Day of Prayer
 (see p28)

Sun 4th 10.30am Mrs Thelma Roberts

Wed 7th 7.30pm House Group at 38 West Farm Avenue
 Thur 8th 5.30pm LMC: Revive Youth Club (ages 7 - 11)

Sun 11th 10.30am Joint Service at LMC: Waseem Haq

Mon 12th 9.00am Trinity/Guildhall music exams begin
 Wed 14th 12.30pm Organ recital: Graham Thorpe
 Thur 15th 3.30pm LMC: Messy Church

Sun 18th 10.30am Mrs Anna Crawford

Thur 22nd 12.30pm LMC: Recital (see p23)
 5.30pm LMC: Revive Youth Club (ages 7 - 11)
 Sat 24th 8.00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast:
 Mango Bean Café

**Sun 25th 10.30pm Palm Sunday: Holy Communion:
 Rev Darlene McCarley**

Thur 29th 12.30pm LMC: Concert (see p23)
 Fri 30th 10.00am Good Friday Walk of Reflection, from Christ
 Church to the Parish Church.

April

**Sun 1st 10.30am Easter: Joint Service at LMC:
 Holy Communion: Rev Lynda Russell**

Wed 4th 7.30pm House Group at 38 West Farm Avenue
 Thur 5th 12.30pm LMC: Concert (see p23)
 Fri 6th 2.30pm LMC: Time for Tea

Christ Church Family News



Mike Chamberlain is now making good progress and hopes to be home very soon. We send him and Jeanette our very best wishes.

Steve Neal is recovering well and is out of hospital and back at home. We send him our good wishes, and also to Freda who has been very unwell with flu.

Jill Osmond is hopeful of having her surgery very soon, and we wish her every success and a safe return to good health.

We keep these friends in our thoughts and prayers, and all those of our community who are bereaved, our friends in care homes, those with health concerns or suffering any kind of stress and the lonely.

Anne Cairns

Flowers at Christ Church

For some time now Dinah Essex has organised the flower rota and the distribution after the services. She now feels that the time has come to step down and we as a congregation would like to thank her for the time she has spent arranging the flowers so beautifully for us, not to mention harvest, Christmas and occasional weddings. We really do appreciate your hard work Dinah. Thank you very much. You will be missed. The rota for 2018 is now in action in the vestibule and any additional arrangers are very welcome. A colourful display of flowers is a very welcoming sight. Our present list of arrangers is shrinking, so please add your name to the list if you feel you can help.



Jill Osmond

Lent

Is this a Fast, to keep
The larder lean?
And clean
From fat of veals and sheep?

Is it to quit the dish
Of flesh, yet still
To fill
The platter high with fish?

Is it to fast an hour,
Or ragged go,
Or show
A down-cast look and sour?

No: 'tis a Fast to dole
Thy sheaf of wheat
And meat
Unto the hungry soul.

It is to fast from strife
And old debate,
And hate;
To circumcise thy life.

To show a heart grief-rent;
To starve thy sin,
Not bin;
And that's to keep thy Lent.

By Robert Herrick (17th century poet and cleric)

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: Steward -
David Cappitt 01932 862661



United Pastorate Ministers

Rev. Lynda Russell

10 Church Road
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KT22 8AY

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

E-mail:
lynda.russell@methodist.org.uk

Rev. Kim Plumpton

38 Stoke Road
Cobham
KT11 3BD

Tel: 01932 586988

E-mail:
kimp_822@hotmail.com