

the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

November 2015



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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DOUBLE ISSUE NEXT MONTH
All copy for the December/January issue to the editor by
15th November



The Ministers Write...

From Rev. Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

I opened an e-mail last week from a friend asking if I could help answer 10 questions for her grandson to consider at secondary school. The answers needed to be returned by that afternoon and knowing I was going to be out all day, I was left with very little time to do so. At first glance it didn't look too difficult, but how wrong I was. I was asked to be brief too. So as you read my answers bear in mind they were done so in quick succession:

Is God a he/she or it? *God is neither male nor female but God acts as father and mother to us all. In the Bible God is generally referred to as male because it would not be acceptable to refer to him as any other in the patriarchal society of the day, but we find the Spirit as feminine (in some places), the Spirit being a dimension of God's character.*

Is God separate from the World or is there a bit of God in everything? *We believe that God created the world and therefore God can be seen in and through creation. God is not separate from it.*

Where is God? On another planet? *If we believe that God can be seen through Jesus and the Holy Spirit (sent to help us, so it works around us and within us) then God is always present with us too.*

Does God communicate with us ? *God can communicate through the smallest of things. It can be through a hug when we need it most, it can be from a conversation with another when you need guidance. Some can have dreams, some can be given words of prophesy, some can hear God in their prayers (an inner voice), some can feel God speaking to them through the created world (on a mountaintop, in a meadow).*

Can we know God? If so how? *We can know God especially through the person of Jesus. If we believe he is the 'son of God' then he reveals God to us, and his example in the Bible reveals to us an inclusive and loving God. A God who turns our understanding upside down at times. When Jesus died we were sent the Holy Spirit, our enabler and we hope that we see God within us too.*

Is God good? If so why does God allow bad things to happen? *Bad things do happen in the world and this is the hardest question to answer. We understand that we are all free to choose which direction to go in, we are not robots, we are given free will. This means that some of the choices we make are not good ones. We fight one another, we harm one another, there is great suffering, there is war.*

continued on the next page

There is famine yet we are led to believe there is enough food in the world to feed all, but the way it is distributed is unfair. Some things are done out of greed and not out of care. There is poverty, while others live in luxury, what does that say? Some die young, our bodies don't always function as you would expect. Natural disasters raise all sorts of different questions because they are not something we can control. Yes, we can build our cities away from volcanoes, we can build away from the coast or not on fault lines and as we understand the natural world more we may develop life in a different way, but it's devastating and brings us all to a deep sadness when tragedy strikes. Our world breathes and is shaped by physics and science in a way I do not understand but I believe a scientist might say that it conforms to the law of physics by the way it manages these natural events. We might ask why God did not make a more perfect world? There is something about balance here which I am not technically minded enough to answer.

Why has God made me? Is God interested in me? *I like to think about parenthood when answering this question. I married my husband and because we had so much love for one another we wanted to share that love. I believe God had so much love that he wanted to share that with others. We have five children and they are all different but we love them each as individuals, and each has different needs. I love them with an unconditional love and therefore everything that is important to them is important to me. I believe God loves us with an unconditional love and is interested in everything about us.*

Does God have likes and dislikes? *Again if we look at the person of Jesus we can find endless things that God dislikes and likes. Predominantly God dislikes all things that hinder you becoming the best person you can be. God likes it when we show love to him and to one another.*

What sort of personality does God have? *My understanding is that the very core of God's character is love and all things stem from this and can be seen through this lens.*

Does God have a future for us after we die? *God has a future for us beyond this world and some may debate what that is. In Christianity we like to call it heaven.*

After reading these questions, how would you answer them knowing they require an answer? Things are often so much easier to answer when we have time to consider things carefully. How would you describe the indescribable? How succinct can we be with a living breathing faith? Even when we have answered them we're often left with even more questions.

With every blessing,

Kim

From Rev. Lynda Russell

Dear Friends,

Do you have a mobile phone? Apparently there are a total of 89.9 million mobile phone subscriptions in the UK, for a population of 60 million, including all women, men and children! This means there are 1.5 mobile phones per person in the UK, and 93% of the adult population has a mobile phone – I'm not quite sure how to make all those figures fit together, other than to assume that out of that 93%, many of them must have more than one phone, as well as numbers of children having phones as well. It seems to be important to be in constant communication.

Some while ago my previous phone was getting old and started acting strangely. While sitting at my desk one day I heard a voice. I nearly fell off my chair - who was speaking to me? Was it God? Sadly it was only my voicemail, which my phone, on the desk, had dialled all by itself. It proceeded later in the day to dial my home number, and then my parents! I'm not sure how it selected these random numbers to dial! Of course it was time to change the phone!!

Anyway this made me think about how we actually DO hear from God. I don't think it's by phone! It's unlikely that we will hear an actual voice speaking out loud, and I didn't really think it was God speaking! However, God can and does speak to us in many different ways, if we are open and alert to hear, and if we are expecting Him to communicate with us. There are so many examples in the Bible where women and men heard God's voice as they listened for it, or even as they went about their daily business. I recently spoke about Elijah, a prophet in the Old Testament, who, in his distress and fear, heard exactly what he needed from God: words of reassurance and a way forward.

Sometimes God speaks to us through other people, through their words or actions, their kindness or concern. I have had many instances of this, when God has spoken through others, even though perhaps they were unaware of it. Sometimes God speaks to us through beauty – nature, art and so on, which tell us of His greatness and majesty and provision day by day. God speaks to us as we read the Bible – as we read about Jesus and His love for us from before the beginning of time; and then sometimes God communicates with us straight to our hearts, so that we just know

continued on the next page

He loves us, even though we might not be able to explain it very well.

In a Church I used to go to, we spent at least five minutes in silence at the Sunday worship service, each of us listening for the still small voice of the Holy Spirit, and for what God had to say to us that day. Then we shared what we had heard.

So this month, I would love us to listen out for the 'voice' of God. Ask God to speak to you, and trust that He will do so. It takes practice, but learn to listen. Then take time to share what the Holy Spirit is saying to you with someone else.

Every Blessing,

Lynda

Accreditation Service - Sunday 1st November at 6.00pm

An accreditation Service for Angie Choat and Juliet Fuller will take place at Southwater Community Methodist Church, at Southwater Junior Academy, Worthing Road, Southwater RH13 9JH

"We will remember them"

The years of remembering go by,
Accumulating name after name
As wars and conflicts continue
In a world, deaf to the lessons of history.
But through the negativity of November
A different remembering brings hope and meaning.
Words of the world's creator,
Words to make sense of chaos
And bring order and peace in the end.

"In this world you will have trouble,
But take heart!
I have overcome the world."

Words of Jesus.
We will remember them.

*By Daphne Kitching
From 'Parish Pump'*





Cobham

Methodist Church

Cobham Methodist Diary



November

Sun 1st 10.30am Beth Little

Thurs 5th 7.30pm Bible Study
8.00pm House Fellowship at the Manse

Fri 6th 12.30pm Bible Study

**Sun 8th 10.30am Rev. Paul Cockburn -
Remembrance Sunday**

Thurs 12th 7.30pm Bible Study

Fri 13th 12.30pm Bible Study

Sat 14th 10.00am Time 4 You (*until 12 noon*)
2.30pm Platinum Service

Sun 15th 10.30am Rev. Frank Smith - Holy Communion

Thurs 19th 7.30pm Bible Study

Fri 20th 12.30pm Bible Study

Sun 22nd 10.30am Robert Pitt

Thurs 26th 3.45pm Messy Church at the URC (*to 5.45pm*)

**Sun 29th 10.30am Joint Service at Cobham URC with
Rev. Stephen Thornton**

December

Thurs 3rd 8.00pm House Fellowship at the Manse

Sun 6th 10.30am David Cappitt

A letter from the Ephesians

At least, a letter from Ephesus and neighbouring places. The tour was called "Highlights of Turkey" and began in Istanbul, with a visit to Aya Sofya, which was once one of the largest Churches in Christendom, built in the 6th century, converted to a mosque in the 16th century, and to a museum in the 20th century. We also visited the Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque, Grand Bazaar, Roman cistern and a fish restaurant beside the Bosphorus – a lot to fit in to a day and a half.

The next day we had a long drive to the Gallipoli Peninsula to look at ANZAC Bay and a variety of cemeteries and memorials. Most of the graves were of Australians and New Zealanders, with some British and Canadians, and, I was surprised to see, some Indians. We tend to forget that they fought in, and died in, the First World War.

By ferry across the Dardanelles, and, next morning, on to Troy. Strictly, that is Troy I – IX, since 9 cities have been excavated, one on top of another. The Trojan War is believed to have involved Troy VI. So there was a lot to see there (including a replica wooden horse) before we moved on to Pergamum (see Rev 2:12). Whether John's description as the "place where Satan is enthroned" has anything to do with the fact that it was a major medical centre, and medicine and magic tended to be interlinked, I don't know. The major sites are high on a hilltop, so it was good that a cable-car has recently been installed.

From Pergamum we went on further south, bypassing Izmir (in biblical times Smyrna – Rev 2:8), to spend the night in Selcuk, before spending half a day at neighbouring Ephesus. This is the most spectacular of all the ancient sites with its streets and houses, temples, theatre and library – and, just across the road from the library, a brothel! It was also crowded with tourists (if this is the off season, what must the high season be like?), but that's how Ephesus was in ancient times too. It's awesome to think that St Paul walked down this very road.

On to Pamukkale, with the white travertines or terraces, where the water flowing down the hillside leaves calcium deposits, and Hierapolis where a cleft in the ground letting out noxious volcanic fumes was believed to be the entrance to hell.

All in all, it was a great celebration of human creativity, but behind it lay the dark clouds of human destruction, from the Trojan War to Gallipoli to (on the day we left) the bombs detonated in the middle of a peace parade in Ankara. Pray for Turkey.

David Cappitt

Cobham Page

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

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



Date: Thurs 26th November

Time: 3:45pm - 5:45pm

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

All are welcome



Next "Time 4 You"

Saturday 14th November,
10.00am - 12 noon

Cobham Methodist Church

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

"A place and space for You."



Cobham

United Reformed Church

Cobham URC Worship Diary



| November | | | |
|-----------------|------|---------|---|
| Sun | 1st | 9.00am | Early Bird Service |
| | | 10.30am | Sydney Shore |
| Sun | 8th | 10.30am | Rev. Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion |
| Sun | 15th | 10.30am | Thelma Roberts |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.30am | John Stewart |
| Sun | 29th | 10.30am | Joint Service with Cobham Methodist at Cobham URC - Rev. Stephen Thornton |
| December | | | |
| Sun | 6th | 10.30am | Andrew Gibb |

First Aid Course

On the next page, you will see some of us may already possess a current certificate but many do not and whenever we are gathered or when we branch out into things like Messy Church we really need to make sure that we are covered with basic First Aid. This is a course I can recommend. I took it myself only a few months ago.

The cost of the course will be £5 payable on the day which will cover a certificate. You will also be given the option to buy a first aid booklet for a further £5, but this is optional.

It would be helpful as we get nearer to the time if you could let me know who might attend.

Kim

First Aid Course details -

see note from Kim at the bottom of the previous page.

Certificated by First Aid Training Services

Emergency First Aid @ Work Course



7th November 2015
at
Cobham URC
from
9.30am to 4.00pm

Course Programme

AM Session What is First-Aid? ~ Risk Assessment / First-Aid Kits
Keeping Records / Emergency Action / Recovery Position
Adult Resuscitation & differences for Baby & Child

Lunch

PM Session Choking / Asthma / Severe Allergic reaction
Dealing with Accidents & Major Illnesses
Shock & control of Bleeding / Faint/Head Injuries
Epilepsy / Diabetic emergency / Burns, Scalds / Fractures

First Aid Training Services will issue a First Aid Certificate valid for three years to students attending all day



~ FIRST AID SAVES LIVES ~

Cobham URC Events

November

| | | | |
|-------|------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Sun | 1st | 3.00pm | Play & Chat <i>(to 6.00pm)</i> |
| Tues | 3rd | 9.45am | Church Walk |
| | | 8.00pm | Elders' Meeting |
| Thurs | 5th | 12.30pm | Men's Fellowship |
| | | 7.30pm | Bible Study at Helen Pattison's |
| Fri | 6th | 12.30pm | Bible Study at the Church |
| Thurs | 12th | 7.30pm | Bible Study at Helen Pattison's |
| Fri | 13th | 12.30pm | Bible Study at the Church |
| Thurs | 19th | 7.30pm | Bible Study at Helen Pattison's |
| Fri | 20th | 12.30pm | Bible Study at the Church |
| Thurs | 26th | 3.45pm | Messy Church <i>(to 5.45pm)</i> |
| Fri | 27th | 3.00pm | T @ 3 |

December

| | | | |
|-----|-----|--------|--------------------------------|
| Sun | 6th | 3.00pm | Play & Chat <i>(to 6.00pm)</i> |
|-----|-----|--------|--------------------------------|



Prayers at the Cobham URC Manse:

at 9.30am on Wednesdays:

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November



**Tea at Three:
Friday 27th November**



Effingham

Methodist Church



Dates to celebrate this month:

Happy Birthday to Barbara Rombach on 18th and Pat McElhill on 19th (...think it's a big O).

Please let us know about birthdays or BIG anniversaries!

Dates for your diary: Advent talks by Leslie Pitcher, who is an art historian, at the RC Hall at 7.30pm on **9th and 16th December.**

Also, **CONNECT** - a group for carers and partners living with dementia - meets fortnightly at St. Lawrence Church Hall from 10.30 till 12 noon on **12th and 26th November**.....it's going from strength to strength, and obviously meets a need in our community.

Prayer Meetings...

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

Saturday Morning Live: Effingham's Café Church

Meets on the first Saturday every month from 10.00am to 11.00am at St. Lawrence Church Hall.

7th November - Dementia Friendly talk by Mary Sherringham.

5th December - Christmas starts with Christ?

Please join us for coffee, croissants and discussion.

Plenty of Food for Thought!





Do YOU have room for Mary & Joseph this year?

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

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

Ring Angela on 01372 454850

Effingham Methodist Diary



November

Sun 1st 10.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion

Sat 7th 10.00am Café Church at St. Lawrence's Hall
(to 11.00am - see page 13)

Sun 8th 10.00am Remembrance Sunday with Jay Dunning

Tues 10th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Wed 11th 3.30pm Messy Church - St. Lawrence Church Hall

Thurs 12th 8.00pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Sun 15th 10.00am Prisons Week with Beth Little

Tues 17th 12 noon Prayer Walk starts at St. Lawrence Church

Thurs 19th 12.30pm OASIS Bible Study Lunch with Kim

Sun 22nd 10.00am Rev. Darlene McCarley

Tues 24th 2.30pm Tuesday Tea in the Catholic Church Hall

Thurs 26th 8.00pm Christian Meditation in the Church

Sun 29th 10.00am Ecumenical Service at St Lawrence

December

Sat 5th 10.00am Café Church at St. Lawrence Church Hall

Sun 6th 10.00am Rev. Kim Plumpton - Holy Communion



Your invitation to:



Messy Church

Activities Songs Food
Crafts Games Stories

**St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesdays 11th November &
9th December -
3.30pm to 5.30pm**

Prisons Week 15th-21st November 2015

Prisons Week Prayer:

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.
 We pray for those in prison.
 Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.
 Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends,
 Prison staff and all who care.
 Heal those who have been wounded by the activities
 of others, especially the victims of crime.
 Help us to forgive one another.
 To act justly,
 love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in His strength
 and in His Spirit, now and every day. Amen.



Advent talks in Effingham

Leslie Pitcher (B.A. Cambs), art historian and U3A lecturer has two talks about **the Art of Christmas** at **Our Lady of Sorrows RC Church Hall** at 7.30pm on 9th and 16th December.

Hope is coming this Advent

A free advent resource, 'Keeping Hope Alive', is now available on the Methodist Church website. Focusing on the significant works of the Methodist Church's Mission in Britain Fund, the free resources include real-life stories, leader's notes, a service outline and suggested prayers.

The Mission in Britain Fund supports a wide spectrum of mission:

- Mission alongside the Poor
- Chaplaincy
- Sharing the gospel with all ages
- Ministering opportunities at Methodist Heritage sites
- Using Church properties to serve local communities

The Revd. Steven Wild, President of the Methodist Conference, said "The excellent 'Keeping Hope Alive' resource is a great opportunity to see just a snippet of the good works done across Britain by the Methodist Church. Putting on an Advent Offering service is one way in which you can help support others and get involved."



If you would like to put on an Advent Offering service in your Church, you can find out more information and register your event at www.methodist.org.uk/advent.



Tuesday Teas

Below is a photo from Tuesday Teas entertainment by the Phoenix Singers on 13th October. They sang some wonderful old songs from the shows woven together with a story line. As usual when they perform they brought the scenery with them - the garden of a country house with a lady painter in the foreground who turned out to be the Lady of the house. An enjoyable afternoon was had by all, followed by tea and cakes. Thank you Phoenix Singers.

Gill Walker





White or Red? Which poppy will you wear?

It's difficult isn't it? Does the ceremony at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday and war memorials throughout the UK seem to glorify war ?

It's not just soldiers who die, so are all the casualties of war remembered ?

Recently a WWII veteran was sacked from his role at a Remembrance Day parade after reading his own poem promoting pacifism at last year's event, even though he has read the traditional poem for the fallen at the memorial service for a staggering 25 years. But last year he read his own, and then said 'Isn't war stupid?' The 92 year old is still confused about why he was sacked. "I'm rather disappointed! I'm a pacifist, and pacifism isn't supposed to upset people". (Hmm! Not the experience of conscientious objectors in either World War!)

A spokesperson for the local **British Legion** said 'many, many people were offended' by this poem, and the parade is the 'wrong time and place' for such words.

Does questioning War trivialize those who died? Somehow debase their memory?

Last year's Centenary of WWI highlighted the supposed futility of war. Yet I resented the implication that it was a European Civil War, because my grandfather and two great-uncles died in the mud of the Somme, and left letters showing their firm belief that it was a "just war" for freedom.

In May we celebrated the 70th Anniversary of VE Day, perhaps slightly uncomfortably so as not to offend our EU partners! Yet what would have happened if the Nazis had not been defeated? My RAF sergeant dad always wore his red poppy with pride.

Now war has created a tide of refugees in the Middle East. More air-strikes, more civilians killed, yet ISIS is so evil it must be defeated. Let's pray for a stronger UN to talk PEACE. Meanwhile I'll be wearing a red poppy on Remembrance Sunday.

Angela Putland

Leatherhead Pages

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



Thanks, Vicar.
Actually 'PENNY'
was meant more
as a figure of
speech.



A SPECIALITY COFFEE SHOP AND SANDWICH COMPANY

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

All Saints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT

Happy Birthday Messy Church!



Leatherhead's Messy Church celebrated its 5th birthday at the October session, with a party theme based on the Wedding at Cana. About 60 children and adults joined the team for a session that involved Jane turning water into "wine" (with the help of a very sneaky packet of grape juice concentrate) and plenty

of crafts and games. We decorated miniature birthday cakes, designed our own wine glasses, wedding favours and button holes and made clay water jars. In the prayer tent, we tasted different types of chocolate, decided which was most delicious... and remembered that when Jesus gave the wedding guests wine, it was the best they ever tasted!

We were excited to welcome both Hannah and Ester to Messy Church for the first time. Ester is Leatherhead Parish Church's new Children and Families' Worker and will be working closely with Hannah on ecumenical projects. They helped us blow out our birthday cake candles, alongside Maisie and Jolie, who were just toddlers when they joined us for the very first session back in 2010.

Please pray for our Messy Church and especially for the planning team, including Ester and Hannah, as we plan for the future of this important ecumenical outreach to families in Leatherhead.



Jane Smith



**Advent Sunday:
29th November**

**MUSIC
ON
THURSDAYS
at LMC**



**WEDNESDAYS
at
CHRIST
CHURCH**

12.30 lunchtime concerts

weekly until November 2015

featuring students of the Royal Academy of Music ®
former students of London's music colleges, talented local musicians

Supported by



Thursday 29th October at LMC

Tim Ridout, viola ®

Ke Ma, piano ®

music by Belgian composer
Henri Vieuxtemps

Thursday 5th November at LMC

The welcome return of

Viv McLean, piano

Thursday 12th November at LMC

SEASON FINALE

Atéa Wind Quintet

Alena Lugovkina - Flute

Anna Hashimoto - Clarinet

Ashley Myall - Bassoon

Chris Beagles - Horn

Philip Haworth - Oboe

play Franz Danzi's G minor Quintet
and

Aires Tropicales suite

by Paquito d'Rivera

*Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society
Annual General Meeting, at LMC*

2pm Thursday 25th February 2016

followed at 3pm by

*AGM Concert - a further chance to
listen to Marios Panteliadis, piano*

Wednesdays at Christ Church

NINE monthly organ concerts

starting Wednesday 16th March 2016

*Music on Thursdays at LMC
lunchtime concerts return on
28th April 2016*

*And watch out for our special
French concert to celebrate the
Quatorze juillet 2016 !*

musiconthursdays.org

We reserve the right to amend this programme

Concert Admission Free, with a retiring collection to cover costs

Leatherhead Methodist Church
Church Road
Leatherhead KT22 8AY



Christ Church United Reformed
Epsom Road
Leatherhead KT22 8ST

Supported by Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society ♦ HMRC Charities RefEW02213

Time for Tea



COME for TEA and COMPANY

From 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Friday 6th November

Theme this month: My Favourite Seaside Place

The next one will be on 4th December, and then every first Friday in the month at

LEATHERHEAD METHODIST CHURCH

EVERYONE WELCOME

(Suggested donation £1)



Family & Children's Work

“Piglet was so excited at the idea of being Useful that he forgot to be frightened any more, and when Rabbit went on to say that Kangas were only Fierce during the winter months, being at other times of an Affectionate Disposition, he could hardly sit still, he was so eager to begin being useful at once.”

A.A. Milne, *Winnie-the-Pooh*

Hi! I'm Hannah - the new family and children's worker at LMC and Christ Church, and at the moment I feel like Piglet. Coming to a brand new place, knowing nobody and starting a whole new chapter in my life was a bit of a daunting thought but the excitement of being useful far exceeded any feelings of worry and fear.

I have spent my last year in Swindon doing a gap year with Scripture Union. Having graduated from the University of Bristol the year before with a degree in Cellular and Molecular Medicine, working with children and youth within a Church context was quite a change of direction! Through my year with Scripture Union I was blessed with so many opportunities from working in schools, running outreach events, discipling young people (and learning a lot from them too!), studying with Moorlands Bible College and even being able to go on an international mission trip to South Africa. It was probably around the March of last year when it really hit me that this was it, this was what God wanted me to do and thankfully, it was something that I was really enjoying doing!

Family and children's work in a Church isn't the easiest work to come by but I knew as soon as I stepped into LMC for the first time, this was where I wanted to be and where God could use me. Since arriving at the beginning of October you have all made me feel so welcome and settled and I am very grateful for that. I am so excited to learn more about you all and work with you but I am also looking forward to seeing the work that God is already doing here and playing my part in helping His kingdom grow. I am so eager to begin being useful at once!

Hannah Mulcock

Leatherhead Choral Society

CHORAL AMERICANA

WITH THE MARTINEAU BRASS QUINETY



MUSICAL DIRECTOR - IAN ASSERSOHN

Saturday, 21 November 7:30PM

The Menuhin Hall, Cobham Road
Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey, KT11 3QQ



Tickets:
Adults £14 Under 16s £8

Available online:
www.yehudimenuhinschool.co.uk
or tel: 08700 842020

Box office opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-12.30, Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 12.00-18.00

The
Menuhin
Hall



Next Messy Church for Leatherhead:

Thursday 19th November
3.30pm to 5.30pm at:



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 service: Sunday 22nd November



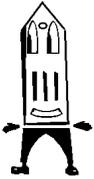
Men's Breakfasts

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

28th November in the URC Hall, Epsom Road, on the subject of "Leatherhead Youth Project (LYP) progress".

No Men's Breakfast in December.

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

Methodist Church

***Please see the Leatherhead Pages
(pages 20 to 26) 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.



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.





"Give me a Song"

The Downsmen, the local Barbershop Chorus who rehearse at LMC each Wednesday evening, are presenting an evening of song at Leatherhead Theatre at 7.30pm on **Saturday 21st November**.

Topping the bill are "Reckless" - UK's record breaking Barbershop Quartet, together with Catherine Jones a leading young soprano, Soundbytes - the locally-based mixed voice choir, and The Downsmen.

Tickets £14, under 16's £12, available from:

- Peter Hammond - 0208 642 3734
- Leatherhead Theatre Box Office - 01372 365141

Bernard Crome

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.

Trinity School

Trinity School are looking for readers to go into school for an hour a week to read with children who don't get much reading at home. The contact at Trinity is either Barbara Shepherd or Anna Gattey. Trinity's number is 01372 813615. Email either: **bshepherd@leatherheadtrinity.surrey.sch.uk** or **agattey@leatherheadtrinity.surrey.sch.uk**

Thanks,

Carol Stoves

Fellowship

Fellowship within the Church family is more than just worship week by week on Sundays. The dictionary describes 'fellowship' as participation, sharing, a community of interest. For us, it is all that and more. We do share, we do participate and we are a community of interest. It's good to meet together for discussion at House Groups, to share meals, to laugh and sing and to celebrate, to support each other and the needy.

The last few days in September and the first few days of October, the fellowship at LMC went into overdrive! It started and finished with two special services. First was the joint Harvest Festival Service at Christ Church, our annual chance set aside every year, to give special praise and thanks for all we receive from God. It was a Parade Service too, but that was a disappointment with so few of the uniformed organisations attending. So our fellowship with them is to remember them in our prayers. It was a joyous service, a mixture of well known Harvest hymns, a Harvest samba praising cabbages and greens, broccoli and beans, and a Harvest chant accompanied by clapping. Lynda based her teaching on the Parable of the rich man from Luke 12. Anthony played us out with some fine music on the organ. He deserved the applause he got.

The next few days we prepared in whatever way had been asked of us, for the latter part of the week. Thursday was a wonderful celebration tea-party at Rose Hill, Dorking for Jean's 90th birthday. Twenty family and friends met together, with Jean in her wheelchair, to chat together, to eat cake, sing Happy Birthday and help to blow out the candles. Jean's body may be disabled, but her mind is far from that and it was lovely for us all to share her cheeriness and be part of the love surrounding her.

Friday was our monthly Time for Tea, a quite different mix of twenty or so people enjoying afternoon tea of cakes and chat. It is a 'gentle' get together as befits the general age of the group. Three people spoke of places they have enjoyed, the mixture of attractions at the Natural History Museum, the wonder of the Taj Mahal, and beautiful Hereford Cathedral and the Mappa Mundi exhibition there. And Joy, as always entertained at the piano. There is a little bit of 'bygone days' about the Fellowship at Time for Tea.

Saturday evening saw 85 from the three covenanting Churches in the Christ Church hall for a Harvest Supper. Norma and her team of

continued on the next page

helpers had done so much to make the meal a success, not forgetting the 'table humpers' who set it out. There was much chat, and puzzled frowns over the table quizzes. They really confused one who thought a 'happy bird' could be a laughing jackass! The evening ended with a light hearted entertainment and a sing-along karaoke style with David. It's not often you hear 'Thank you for the Music' belted out with such enthusiasm, nor finish by singing a rather irreverent song about Susannah Wesley and her two sons! Who cares, it was great fun, fellowship at its most hilarious.

Sunday was more sober, but still a celebration, not only communion but a 'thank-you' time for the fellowship and mission of our Pastoral Leaders. These men and women quietly support and give often unrecognised mental and physical aid to those in their care, and spot problems that may need to be brought to the notice of the minister. Our thanks to them all.

Now we breathe easy for a while and enjoy a quieter time of fellowship, always there, every Sunday, a chance meeting in Sainsbury's or a phone call.

Jean Plant



World Mental Health Day

Saturday 10th October was World Mental Health Day, and in recognition of this, Fred Meynen suggested that we might like to share a story which appeared in the Dorking Quaker's Newsletter copied from the Quaker's National magazine "The Friend".

Hilary Botwright suffered from anorexia and wrote the following poem at the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre in Birmingham during a conference on mental health issues. Hilary died peacefully in her sleep not long after the conference.

What Makes me Human?

I lie in bed and caress my ribs, the smooth ebony as hard as piano keys.
Questions overwhelm. Why?

I am two people. I am a thousand people. I am a pathetic broken soul,
battered by the pain of the world;

Fighting a furious civil war with myself where there is no victor.

Yet I am also the girl who finds beauty in a fragile sapling.

I am the girl who experiences a delicious thrill as the sun silently glides
into the sky.

I am the girl awed by two geese who penetrate the morning air as if they
own it and we are yet to find out.

I am the girl fascinated by the 6.42 train to King's Cross - dreams, hopes
and fears shuttling along in the half light of dawn.

I am the girl who sees every plate of food looming as poison.

How? How do I marry together all that astonishes and scares me?

How can I know some of the depth of human suffering and yet still be
entranced by the gentle moon as she tenderly moves through her cycle?

How can I be delighted by the intricacies of a spider's web, the morning
dew clinging resolutely to every fibre - yet also know of torture, loss, grief
and despair.

How can I strive to nourish every soul but my own?

This me.

Perhaps this is all of us.

Aren't we all simply walking dichotomies of beauty and pain, suffering and
joy, dreams and disappointments,

Holding on and knowing when it is time to let go?

Our place in this world is as transient and fleeting as the clocks on a
dandelion and as we stumble, soar and crawl through this wild, mundane
and intoxicating world, perhaps it is this then, that makes me human.

Hilary Botwright, April 2015

LMC Family News



Congratulations and thanks to...

... Jean Jones who celebrated her 90th birthday on 1st October. Several Church members were able to join Jean in her celebrations on the day at Dorking.

Thanks also to...

... Norma Shaw and her team for organising the very enjoyable Harvest Supper at Christ Church.

Holiday at Home 2016

"Holiday at Home" is an event to provide interesting activities and friendship for older people, people who may be unable to get away for a traditional holiday.

Our thinking is that the event should take place next August at LMC. It needs thought, prayer and planning but most of it needs somebody to take a leadership responsibility. Are you that person? If so, please contact Lynda.

Holiday at Home for Older People





Diary



November

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Sun | 1st | 10.30am | Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion |
| Tues | 3rd | 10.30am | West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome |
| Thurs | 5th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 22</i>) |
| Fri | 6th | 2.30pm | Time for Tea (<i>to 4.30pm</i>) |
| Sun | 8th | 10.30am 6.30pm | At Christ Church - Rev. Lynda Russell Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion |
| Tues | 10th | 10.30am | West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome |
| Thurs | 12th | 12.30pm | Music on Thursdays (<i>see page 22</i>) - <i>Season Finale</i> |
| Sun | 15th | 9.00am 10.30am | Bring and Share Prayer Breakfast Rev. Lynda Russell |
| Tues | 17th | 10.30am 7.30pm | West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome Church Council |
| Thurs | 19th | 3.30pm | Messy Church (<i>to 5.30pm</i>) |
| Sun | 22nd | 10.30am 6.30pm | James Wild New Fire |
| Tues | 24th | 10.30am 2.30pm | West Hill School Café at LMC all welcome Pastoral Visitors' Prayer meeting |
| Sat | 28th | 8.00am | Men's Breakfast at Christ Church hall (<i>see page 26</i>) |
| Sun | 29th | 10.30am | Bob Boyce |

December

| | | | |
|------------|------------|----------------|--|
| Tues | 1st | 10.30am | West Hill School Café at LMC - all welcome |
| Fri | 4th | 2.30pm | Time for Tea (<i>to 4.30pm</i>) |
| Sun | 6th | 10.30am | Rev. Lynda Russell - Holy Communion |

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.

Pastoral Prayers



Prayer meetings are held at 2.30pm on the 4th Tuesday every month at LMC. All pastoral visitors and Christ Church Elders are welcome to attend. Next prayer meeting - **Tuesday 24th November**

Book Review

Dementia: Pathways to Hope - Spiritual insights and practical hope for carers

By Louise Morse, Lion Hudson, £7.99

Louise Morse offers practical help and sound spiritual and psychological insights to carers of those living with dementia. From hundreds of interviews and hands-on experience, Louise Morse offers counsel on what dementia is, and is not; how to make your home a safe place; how to understand and handle challenging behaviour; slowing the onset of dementia; how Churches can help; when specialist care is needed; and illuminating stories of what has helped others.

Secular models of support don't adequately reflect Christian values of compassion, love and service. Our current medical services are letting people down, there is no cure on the horizon, and the pharmaceutical companies are reducing their investment. Too little advice is available, yet at least two-thirds of dementia sufferers are cared for in their own homes.

This compassionate and timely resource will be critical to those coping with dementia in a family member or friend and those who fear they may develop it.

Parish Pump

Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

***Please see the
Leatherhead Pages
(pages 20 to 26)
for more news***

Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra

**Autumn Concert at Christ Church
on Saturday 31st October at 7.30pm -
Anthony Cairns (organ)**

See page 39 for details



1st Leatherhead Scout Group

Joint Sponsors Group

There was a meeting of the Joint Sponsors Group on 14th October at which Rev. Lynda Russell, Jacqui Ball, David Chouls, Mike Tester, (all from the Scout Group), Hannah Mulcock (our new Family & Children's Worker) and Mike Essex (Chairman) were present.

Hannah was welcomed and introduced to the meeting.

The Scout Group then reported that all sections appeared to be thriving with enthusiastic leaders and were close to capacity. There were approximately 100 young people involved. Badge work was active and several bronze, silver and gold awards gained. There was an active Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. As in most voluntary organisations, there was concern about succession. Several sections operated a parent rota, which were successful. A recent family camp drew 90 people. Two inter-group trophies had been won.

Fixing dates for Parade Services for 2016 was difficult due to a number of factors including existing commitments and the position of Easter. It was eventually agreed to try Sunday 21st February at Christ Church, subject to the agreement of both Churches, and the Harvest Festival, date to be confirmed, to be held at LMC. A request was made for early notice if readers were required at any service.

The date of the next meeting would be Wednesday 19th October 2016.

Mike Essex



Christ Church Diary



November

- Sun 1st 10.30pm Rev. Bruce Stuart**
- Thurs 5th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 22*)
- Fri 6th 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (*to 4.30pm*)
- Sun 8th 10.30am Joint Service at Christ Church with
Holy Communion - Rev. Lynda Russell
6.30pm Rev. Lynda Russell -
Holy Communion at LMC**
- Wed 11th 2.00pm Elders' Meeting
- Thurs 12th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays at LMC (*see page 22*)
Season Finale
- Sun 15th 10.30am Dr. Graham Campling**
- Thurs 19th 3.30pm Messy Church at LMC (*to 5.30pm*)
- Sun 22nd 10.30am Rev. Lynda Russell
12 noon Church Meeting - Elders' Election
6.30pm New Fire at LMC**
- Tues 24th 2.30pm Pastoral Prayer Meeting at LMC
- Sat 28th 8.00am Men's Breakfast at ChCh (*see page 26*)
- Sun 29th 10.30am Rev. Kim Plumpton**

December

- Fri 4th 2.30pm Time for Tea at LMC (*to 4.30pm*)
- Sun 6th 10.30am Rev. Robert Blows - Holy Communion**



Christ Church Family News



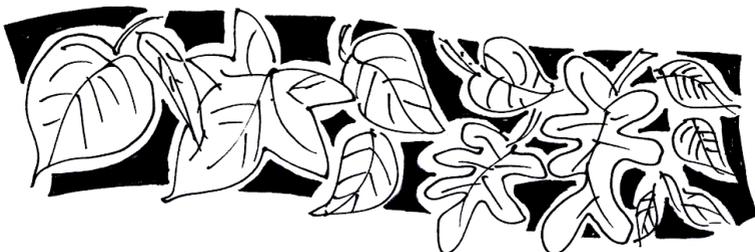
We are glad to report that **Joyce Cuss** is feeling better, and back at home after a few days in hospital. She would welcome visitors. We send very best wishes for a full recovery.

Good news of two **Essex grandchildren**: Congratulations and good wishes to Millie, Caroline's daughter, who is commencing a year's study at the Sorbonne in Paris and George, Richard's son, who has graduated with a 2.1 in English and Creative Writing at Chichester.

Hilary Porter is continuing her treatment in Epsom Hospital for replacement of her bad hip. We send her our very best wishes for a pain free future.

We remember in our prayers these friends, the lonely and the carers in our community and all those with health concerns.

Anne Cairns



Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra Autumn Concert

Saturday 31st October 7:30pm
at
Christ Church (United Reformed)

Tickets: £14; concessions (under 18 and students) £9

Phone for tickets: 01372 276949

Other Sources:

Bartons Bookshop, 2 Bridge Street, Leatherhead;
Bumbles, 90 The Street, Ashted

Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra

- **Anthony Cairns** (organ)
- **Mark Fitz-Gerald** (conductor)
- **Water Music Suite** - George Frideric Handel, arranged by Sir Herbert Hamilton Harty
- **Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani in G minor** - Francis Poulenc
- **Symphony in C** - Georges Bizet

The Surrey Philharmonic Orchestra is one of the leading non-professional orchestras in the South East of England.

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

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10 Church Road
Leatherhead
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