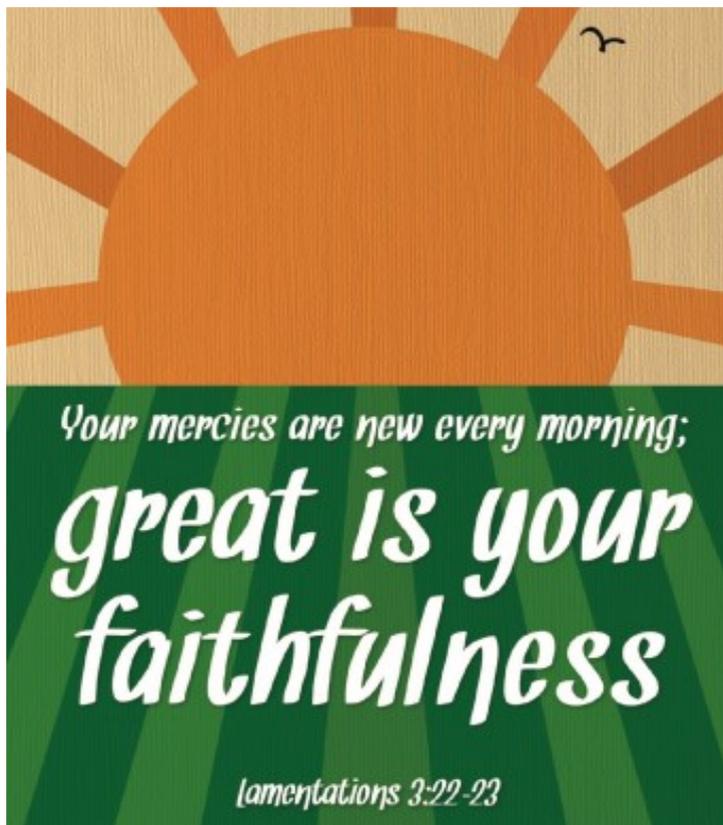


the Link

**The United Pastorate of
Leatherhead
Cobham
Effingham**

October 2018



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

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

The **Methodist** Church



CONTENTS:

Ministers' Letters	3 - 6
Cobham United Church	7 - 9
Effingham Methodist Church	10 - 19
Leatherhead Pages	20 - 25
Leatherhead Methodist Church	26 - 31
Christ Church (United Reformed)	32 - 34
What is Christian Revival?	35
Pastorate Details	36



Sunday 28th Oct

**An extra hour in bed -
if you remember to put
the clocks back to GMT**

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All copy for the November issue to the editor by October 15th



The Minister Writes...

From Rev Kim Plumpton

Dear Friends,

I start to write this letter during my time at a gathering of ministers in Hertford. We've come together to explore 'God's Grand Design.' As per usual those who know me well will know how unprepared I usually am especially when setting off for such things. I had caught a glimpse of the title, knew where it was, and set off.

Whilst driving of course I pondered upon what we might be discussing, but couldn't help wandering in the direction of that wonderful television programme, Grand Designs. It is of course presented by Kevin McCloud who follows ordinary people who want to design and build their own home.

Regardless of whether you like the finished product or not you cannot help but admire the extraordinary lengths people will go to, to achieve the 'perfect' home. It is of course hugely time consuming, costly, not just financially but emotionally too, often involving mistakes along the way that sometimes they must live with. But etched in every piece of the building is the knowledge that they have worked hard to achieve the house of their dreams.

Of course what we were exploring as ministers was not our dreams for the Church but God's grand design for the church, 21st century lessons from the church at Ephesus. We explored Paul's encounter with the church and his response to being church in a volatile community. So I offer you a very small account of the conversation we shared over three days.

In Ephesians Paul talks about being set apart and holy, to serve and glorify God in everything they did together. Like most new foundlings in the faith, tensions arose in the church as to what a faith in Christ might look like, so Paul encourages the church.

Paul explores what it means to be valued in Christ, developing a community of grace, not about what we do but about what Christ wishes to achieve through us. Paul challenged the community to consider how big their view of God was, knowing that once they

Continued next page

had this knowledge they would also be aware of who they were in Christ. It is all grounded in the reality of God's love, the fullness of God's love dwelling in one another, *"to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God"* and in the knowledge that God is able to do immeasurably more by his power in us, we need not limit God, developing God's wisdom, seeking God's vision for the church.

Paul's vision for the church is one of organic unity with Christ as head of the church. It is a place where we are given the authority to go in his name, *'as the Father sent me so I send you.'* Paul invites prayer and unity, he explores developing our relationship with Christ with the desire that the believers would grow. We were asked an interesting question, how have you grown in 2018? Paul urges the believers, even begs the believers, to mature, *"Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching,"* Paul encourages the believers to be proactive and intentional about growth.

It is also clear that Paul encourages an appreciation of one another, so that they may build up one another in love and he doesn't shy away from the fact that division will occur as it does in any community. Paul encourages them to face such times with grace and love. *"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamour and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."*

A church, Paul suggests, excels when its members are devoted to Christ, dedicated to one another, demonstrating the Kingdom and declaring the gospel.

It's interesting that if we lose sight of our first love, being devoted to Christ, no matter what our wonderful deeds might be, then we discover as the Ephesians did that the church will fail in its mission to the world. As John suggests in Revelation 2:4 *'You have forsaken the love you had at first.'* In the midst of everything they lost their fire for Jesus and yet Jesus is the very cement that holds everything together in God's grand design for his church.

So there you have it, a little glimpse through a window into my few days away. I hope that in some way you may find it helpful.

Every blessing, Kim



From Rev Jan Hofmeyr

Dear Friends,

My letter last month was addressed to 'Dear Friends-to-be', having been written before our arrival. I (together with Angela), can now confidently use the word 'friends' of the many people who have already welcomed us so positively and warmly. We have been overwhelmed by the love and friendliness.

Thank you to all who attended our welcome service, especially those who came from the other churches in the Pastorate. We were also impressed by the number of people visiting from other denominations and agencies in the area. It was so special to have our family members from Wimbledon and Kingston with us. Being close to children and grandchildren is such a blessing for us.

We are loving the manse and have settled in very comfortably. Having some furniture and personal items from South Africa has added to the feeling that this is really 'home'. We are enjoying the garden (as are the grandchildren) and I have been able to do some gardening on my Monday 'day off'. We are also starting to explore the beautiful surroundings in the area.

Angela is enjoying herself greatly. She has already got involved with some church activities. This, together with the time with family and friends (old and new) have made for a full and enriching time. She also revels in the beauty of the countryside – maybe because of her English blood (!), inherited from her parents who originated from Wallasey in Cheshire.

The impression of some people overseas is that the Church in the UK is in a bad way. Although there are certainly some causes for concern, the life in many churches here has been very gratifying for us to see. God is at work in the UK and, because it is God's Church, it will never be defeated. We can trust God to take care of His Church.

But having said that, God also calls us to join with Him as partners in the work of the Kingdom. I have already heard here the lament (which is also true of our experience in South Africa) that 'The same people do all the work around here'. Paul says in his letters that we as the Church are a body. And if parts of the body are not fulfilling their function the health of the entire body suffers.

Continued next page

Yesterday (18 September), David Stoves received the wonderful news that his kidneys had recovered to the degree that he no longer needs the dialysis he was having every few days. In the Church we have no 'dialysis' or other machines to compensate for a part of the Body that is not functioning properly. It simply means that the Church limps along, far less healthy and effective than it could be.

I want to encourage you to consider, in a time of quiet before the Lord, to what extent you are using the gifts, resources and skills which God has entrusted to you. The use of these needn't be limited to the church, since the Kingdom and our work in it is broader than the Church. But use them we must, for we are accountable in the end to the Lord for our employment of those gifts or the lack thereof.

Studdert Kennedy, a priest and poet in the early part of the last century, wrote these words, as they might be expressed by a London Cockney about the Final Judgment:

"There ain't no thrones and there ain't no books,
It's 'Im you gotta see, it's 'Im just 'Im
Such is the judge of blokes like you and me.
And I say my friend, I'd rather stand
In the flames of a burnin' 'ell
Than stand and look into His face
And 'ear 'Is voice say 'Well?'"

With love in Christ,

Rev Jan Hofmeyr





Cobham United Church Worship Diary

October

**Sun 7th 9.00am Early Bird Service
10.30am Rev Stephen Thornton**

Sun 14th 10.30am Rev Jan Hofmeyr with Holy Communion

**Sun 21st 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton
6.30pm "Loved and Lost" Service—Rev Kim Plumpton**

Sun 28th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton

November

**Sun 7th 9.00am Early Bird Service
10.30am Thelma Roberts**

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

October: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Cobham Events

October

Tues 2nd	9.45am	Church Walk
	8.00pm	Trustees Meeting
Thur 4th	12.30pm	Men's fellowship: "Sir Douglas Haig", Effingham
Thur 11th	1.30pm	Mustard Seed
Thur 18th	7.30pm	House Fellowship
Thur 25th	1.30pm	Mustard Seed
	3.45pm	Messy Church (to 5.45pm)



Messy Church

Thursday 25th October, 3.45pm - 5.45pm
Cobham United Church





**A service in memory of those we have loved
and lost**

Sunday 21st October at 6:30pm

Cobham United Church

**Please join us for a service where we will re-
member the many who over the years have
touched us with their warmth and love.**

All are welcome



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Effingham

Methodist Church

Birthday Dates to celebrate in September:



Wishing a Happy Birthday to **Jean McMillan** on the 8th and **Margaret Warner** on the 27th.

Please let us know about birthdays and BIG anniversaries!!

Tuesday Teas

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: October 9th and 23rd.

Some car transport can be arranged.

Contact Keith or Gill on 01372 457987 for more information.



St. Lawrence Church Hall in Brown's Lane
Wednesday 10th October ~ 3.30 – 5.30pm

For more info contact Gill on 01372 457987

Effingham Methodist Diary



October

Tues 2nd	10.00am	Church Council Meeting (to 12 noon)
Wed 3rd	2.00pm	Precious Moments service and afternoon tea
Fri 5th	7.15pm	Christian Aid Sing-along (<i>see p15</i>)
Sat 6th	10.00am	Gift Day and Coffee Morning (to 12 noon)
Sun 7th	10.00am	Rev Darlene McCarley: Harvest Festival and Chapel Anniversary
Tues 9th	2.30pm	Tuesday Tea in the RC Hall
Wed 10th	3.30pm	Messy Church (to 5.30) in St Lawrence Church Hall
Thur 11th	2.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sun 14th	10.00am	David Cappitt
Thur 18th	12.30pm	Oasis Bible Lunch with Kim in the hall
Sun 21st	10.00am	Rev Jan Hofmeyr
Tues 23rd	2.30pm	Tuesday Teas in the R.C. Hall
Thur 25th	2.00pm	Christian Meditation in the church
Sun 28th	10.00am	Beth Little

November

Sun 4th 10.00am Rev Kim Plumpton with Holy Communion

Prayer Meetings are held in the Chapel every Friday at



**We celebrate our
164th Chapel Anniversary with
Gift Day & Coffee Morning on
Saturday 6th October
and Harvest Festival service led by Rev.
Darlene McCarley on
Sunday 7th October at 10am followed by
Faith Lunch
Collection for All We Can**

Au Revoir to Mary Brooks

At the end of August we held a special tea party for Mary, as she has been trying to leave us for many moons in order to move near to her son Mark and family in Saffron Walden. This has meant being patient whilst trying to sell her lovely house and garden to the right buyer - not an easy task these days. However, although completion has not been reached as I write this, it clearly looms much closer now, and we know that Mary will soon be off. We shall miss her sunny personality and willingness to be involved and to help with all church meetings and events; although a Mary, also a Martha! Thank you for everything Mary, particularly for your help with Tuesday Teas. We wish you every happiness in your new home, and know you will soon be as busy as ever - when you have decided which of the five churches there to join! Our picture shows Mary and the farewell tea party in Gill's garden - wonderful weather too. God bless and every happiness. Saffron Walden is lucky to have you.

Gill Walker





"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.

Some members and volunteers recently enjoyed tea at the Medicine Garden, Cobham. Tea at the top of Box Hill is next on the agenda.

Next meeting dates (fortnightly) are October 11th, when Sue Graves will be singing for us, and 25th (see below).

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

The Magic Table or Tovertafel: an invitation

Our Connect meeting on October 25th will include a demonstration of The Magic Table or Tovertafel (see <https://tovertafel.co.uk>). What is it? Playful interactive light games that entice children, adults and older people to get moving and have fun together. It was originally designed for people with dementia, but now has wider applications for older people and adults with learning disabilities. Kim and I saw this demonstrated at a conference we attended - it's amazing, so we have invited a demo at Connect on October 25th. HOWEVER we'd also like to invite other interested people to see it, so do please come for 10.30am. Please let Gill know for catering if you'd like to join us.
Contact Gill on 01372 457987 or Kim on 01632 586988.



Precious Moments

Short services

with hymns, poetry and readings

Followed by afternoon tea

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

Effingham Methodist Church

2pm on

3rd October

28th November

11th December

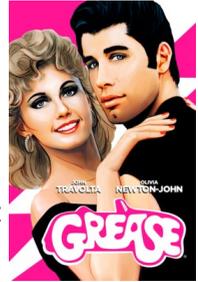
For more information Contact:
Gill Walker 01372 457987 or 01932 586988

Christian Aid Sing-along ?

Please come and join us for a **sing-along musical evening** in **Our Lady of Sorrows** hall on **5th October** at **7.15pm**.

Sorry but we can't tell you which film yet !

But it could be Grease, Gigi, High Society, Jesus Christ Superstar, Joseph, Cabaret or Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. Spoilt for choice! Some old favourites, like *Fiddler on the Roof* are sadly too long for a normal evening, as a marathon of nearly 3 hours ! How many songs will you remember ? Let's raise the roof and a few quid for **Christian Aid**.



The **Christian Resources Exhibition** returns to Sandown Park 16th to 18th October from 10-5pm or 4,30pm on last day
<http://creonline.co.uk/> tickets 50% cheaper online





Prayers in October.

Listed below are the **Special Sundays** on the Methodist Church's website and **Ecumenical Sundays** on Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

Check for resources and links to partner organizations.

Homeless Sunday on 7th October is a chance for Churches and Christian groups from across the country join together to pray, reflect and plan practical action on homelessness, but also for a united Christian voice to offer solidarity and be a prophetic voice for change. Fact sheets and [theological reflection](#) available at **Housing Justice** website.

<https://www.housingjustice.org.uk/Event/homeless-sunday-2018>

Bible Sunday is on 28th October

Free resources to download from the Bible Society including sermon notes, youth material and children's activities. Can't do this date? The resources can be used anytime, so pick a week that suits your church. <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/bible-sunday>

One World Week - 21-28 October 2018

OWW is celebrating its 40th Anniversary! The theme this year is "**The World is Changing – How about us?**" Events will be exploring what changes we can make to move towards a world in which we can all thrive within the life-supporting systems of our common home. Download leaflet <https://www.oneworldweek.org/>

Can I also suggest that you check out **Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW)** which works in over 20 countries across Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, defending everyone's right to freedom of religion or belief. Three quarters of the world's population live in countries with severe restrictions on their religious freedom – in fact, it's one of the most widely-violated human rights in the world. Sign up to weekly prayer email or read the online diary. <https://www.csw.org.uk/prayer.htm>

PRISONS WEEK ~ 14TH -20TH OCTOBER



For over forty years **Prisons Week** has prepared prayer literature for the Christian community to use as they pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and victims, their families, their communities, those working and volunteering in prisons and the criminal justice system. This year's theme is "**Boldly Go**".

'Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.' Heb 4 v16

**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.

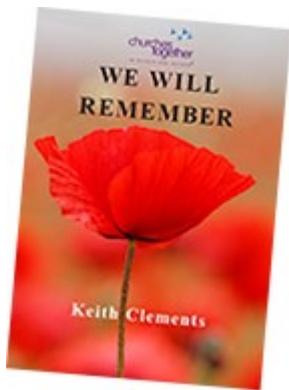
Please pray each day during Prisons Week but also ask yourself whether there is one thing that you as an individual, or as a church, can do to help any of the people that you are praying for. Download leaflet from website



We will Remember !

11 November 2018 marks 100 years since the end of World War I. A number of churches and Christian organisations have partnered in providing resources in the run-up to the event and for the Sunday itself. They are available on the **Remembrance 100 website**.

Churches Together also have resources available to download or order, including an order of service, Powerpoint presentations and free ebook versions of *Beyond Our Tears: Resources for Times of Remembrance*



Download free ebook **We Will Remember**, which looks at how the churches in Britain responded to the First World War. <https://ctbi.org.uk/remembrance-sunday/>

EVERY ONE REMEMBERED

The Royal British Legion, in partnership with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, has developed *Every One Remembered*, a project to individually commemorate over 1 million Commonwealth Service men and women who were killed during the First World War.

Choose to commemorate someone you know - a relative or person on your local war memorial -
www.everyoneremembered.org



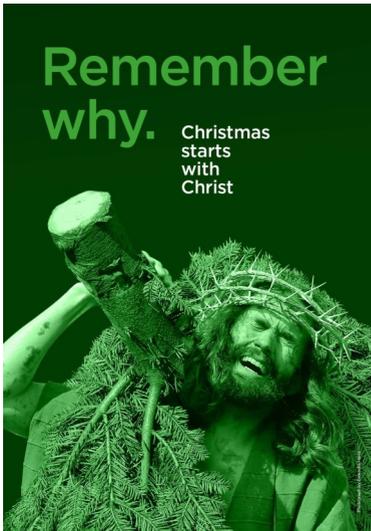
Micky Mouse makes Christmas !



I was rather surprised to learn in a tv ad in August (before Ange and I had actually had our Summer holiday) that **Micky Mouse makes Christmas !**

Surely parents don't need more "pester power" pressure with the new school term having just started !

Anyway, shouldn't Christmas be more than just a sales gimmick ?



Jesus is who, what and why we celebrate.....isn't he?

But the shocking fact is that more than 50% of people say that the birth of Jesus is 'irrelevant' to their Christmas. Recent research reveals that **40% of people** do not even realise that Jesus was a real person who actually lived. People need to be helped to put the whole story together by connecting the cute and cuddly baby Jesus, born at Christmas, to the scourged and bloodied Christ crucified and resurrected at Easter. The two festivals need to be reconnected in the public consciousness, with Jesus Christ central to

both. For without Christmas there can be no Easter; and without Easter there is no point in Christmas. Which is why this poster, '**The Passion of Christmas**', features a stark, even shocking, image of the scourged Christ carrying not a cross but a Christmas tree, with the simple message: '**Remember why**'.

See **Christmas starts** website for poster, videos and more info
<http://www.christmasstarts.com/>

Leatherhead Pages

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



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*

AllSaints, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7BT

Men's Breakfasts



The next Leatherhead Men's Breakfast will be
at 8.00am on the following Saturday:-

Saturday 24th November - Parish Church Hall.

*Doug Waters will speak on his experiences on a visit to
New Zealand earlier this year.*

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



LEATHERHEAD
PARISH CHURCH



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

All-age church events and services 2018

Bright and Light Party

Wednesday 31st October, 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Christ Church

Christingle Service

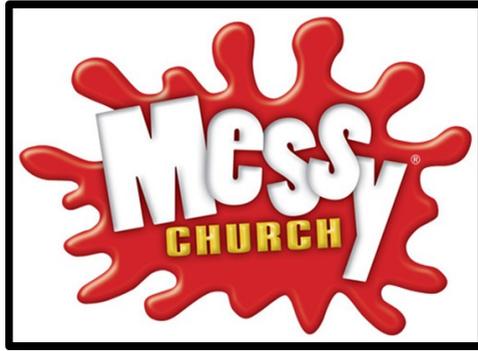
Sunday 9th December, 4.00pm
Leatherhead Parish Church

Family Carol Service

Sunday 16th December, 10.30am
Leatherhead Parish Church

Crib Service

Monday 24th December, 4.00pm
Leatherhead Parish Church



Messy Events 2018-2019

All from 3.30pm to 5.30pm at LMC



"Messy Christmas"
Thursday 20th December
2018

"Messy Lent"
Thursday 21st March 2019



"Messy Summer"
Thursday 18th July 2019





musiconthursdays.org

Leatherhead Concert & Arts Society Regd Charity 1166764

Leatherhead's Lunchtime Concerts

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

- **Thursday 4th October • 12.30 lunchtime**

Sacha Gibbs-McPhee, clarinet
with accompanist

courtesy of the Royal Academy of Music

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

- **Thursday 11th October • 12.30 lunchtime**

Samuel Lom, bass-baritone
with accompanist

including new songs by Fleur de Bray

These concerts are free to enter, with a retiring collection to cover costs. *Programme may change.*

Wednesdays at Christ Church

Epsom Rd, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
plenty of on-site parking available

- **Wednesday 17th Oct • 12.30 lunchtime**

Guest organist: Gillian Lloyd

Recitalist, and organist of Guildford URC

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

- **Thursday 25th October • 12.30 lunchtime**

Emily Newman, bassoon + accompanist
courtesy of the Royal Academy of Music

Music on Thursdays at LMC

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

- **Thursday 1st Nov • 12.30 lunchtime**

a choir from the

University of Chichester

with accompanist



Prayer Breakfasts

Prayer breakfasts are held on the third Sunday each month at 9.15am. 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 21st October.

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 5th October

EVERYONE WELCOME

(suggested donation £1)



The Ark Toddler Group



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

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



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





Leatherhead

Methodist Church

Pastoral Prayers...

Pastoral Visitors' Prayer meetings are usually held at 2.30pm on the 4th Tuesday every month in the Vestry at LMC, and all pastoral visitors, stewards and Christ Church elders are welcome to attend these prayer meetings.

The next meeting, scheduled for Tuesday 23rd October, will be the half-yearly Pastoral Visitors' Meeting. *(The next prayer meeting will be on Tuesday 27th November)*

LMC House Groups

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



Monday evening: contact **Carol Stoves**

Friday morning: contact **Norma Shaw**

Friday afternoon: contact **Sue Friend**

Everyone is encouraged to join a house group

LMC Family News



Congratulations...

... and prayerful thanks to John Bees as he marks 60 years of service to the Methodist Church as a local preacher,

... and to Eileen and Ed Lambert who, in September, celebrated 68 years of marriage,

... and to Jane and Neil Fraser who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in September.

We pray for...

... those for whom this time of the year brings change, offering new challenges and opportunities. In particular we think of staff and students in schools and colleges and at Leatherhead we look forward to the ministry of Jan and Angela Hofmeyr and Nic Joyce.

We also pray for...

...Ian Howarth at the end of his first cycle of chemotherapy, and needing to avoid groups of people as his immune system is affected. He will therefore be unable to be with us for our 125th Anniversary and he sends his apologies and love to us all at LMC.

We remember...

...all our members, relatives and friends. We think of those we do not see so often now especially any who are unwell at home or in hospital, in residential or nursing care and those who look after them each day. In particular, we remember Harry & Peggy Robinson, James & Jean Ross, Edward Warren and Jeanne Alexandre.



Diary



October

Thur 4th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
Fri 5th 2.30pm Time for Tea
Sat 6th 7.00pm Harvest Supper & Barn Dance - Parish Hall

**Sun 7th 10.30am Joint Harvest Festival at Christ Church -
Rev. Jan Hofmeyr**

Thur 11th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
8.00pm Church Council

**Sun 14th 10.30am Christine Lawley
6.30pm Rev. Jan Hofmeyr with Holy Communion**

Wed 17th 12.30pm Organ Recital at Christ Church (*see page 23*)
Sat 20th 7.30pm 125th Anniversary Social Event

**Sun 21st 9.15am Prayer Breakfast
10.30am 125th Church Anniversary Service with
Holy Communion - Rev. Ian Field**

Tues 23rd 2.30pm Half-yearly Pastoral Visitors' Meeting in the
Vestry

Thur 25th 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)

**Sun 28th 10.30am Rev. Jan Hofmeyr
6.30pm New Fire at AllSaints**

Wed 31st 4.00pm Bright & Light Party (to 8pm) (*see page 23*)

November

Thur 1st 12.30pm Music on Thursdays (*see page 23*)
Fri 2nd 2.30pm Time for Tea

Sun 4th 10.30am Rev. Jan Hofmeyr with Holy Communion

Book Review



THE FACTS ON HALLOWEEN by John Ankerberg and John Weldon

The celebration of Halloween is relatively new in this country and found its way here from America. It has now become very popular and is a commercial success in much the same way as Christmas. Just as the commercialisation of Christmas has overshadowed its real meaning, the full implications and character of Halloween are lost amid the fun and games. Nevertheless Christmas remains a Christian celebration; so what of Halloween which has pagan origins? In the Preface to this short but informative book the authors ask: do the pagan and occult associations of Halloween disqualify it spiritually or ethically as an activity that Christians can participate in?

The book is in three helpful sections. These are 1. Halloween: Ancient, Medieval and Modern; 2. A Christian and Biblical Analysis of Halloween and 3. Halloween, Haunted Houses, Poltergeists and Witchcraft.

Section 1 contains an historical account of the origins of Halloween. It also tells how it relates to pagan beliefs, to the Catholic Church, the dead and purgatory and modern occult practices.

Historically Halloween was the day before All Saints Day, once called All Hallows Day, on the 1st of November and the 31st of October was known as All Hallows Eve (hence Halloween). There is general agreement that Halloween took the place of a special day celebrated by the ancient Druids. The Druids were the priests of the Celtic peoples who worshipped the Sun God and engaged in human sacrifice and occult arts. They occupied northern France and the British Isles. Their beliefs and practices declined after the Roman conquest but some Celtic customs lived on.

Another Celtic god, Samhain, (Lord of the Dead) was worshipped on the day of the Winter Festival, which is now the 31st of October, when ghosts and evil spirits were supposed to roam about.

On this night frustrated ghosts were believed to play tricks on humans and the people donned grotesque masks and danced around bonfires. Druidic practices were much concerned with communicating with the dead. The Catholic Church still teaches that believers may pray for the souls being tormented in purgatory and ease their suffering but it is pointed out that the concept of purgatory is neither biblical nor Christian. The book explains in detail how the present-day Halloween customs and practices developed as time went by.

Section 2 of the book asks the question: can Halloween be an entirely innocent practice? The authors then present a case for abstinence from participation in Halloween. They point out that, though we may take part in it innocently, the various practices and the underlying associations for which they were intended are still retained. There is a detailed discussion about these matters based on a Christian and biblical analysis of Halloween. There are many Bible references and quotations to help the reader and much relevant advice.

Haunted houses, poltergeists and witchcraft and how they relate to Halloween are the subject of Section 3 of the book. The theories relating to good and bad witches are explored and it is emphasised that the view that witchcraft is not anti-Christian but something good and positive is contradicted by the facts. Reference is made to Deuteronomy 18:10-12 which states that anyone who engages in witchcraft is detestable to the Lord. Phenomena such as ghosts and poltergeists are fully discussed and the authors acknowledge that there are actual occurrences, especially of poltergeists. However, they make it clear that, far from being manifestations of the dead, they are in fact evil spirits which the Bible identifies as demons.

The authors conclude that Halloween, poltergeists, witchcraft and spiritualism are all closely connected and that however innocent Halloween may be at one level, at another its innocence is lost altogether. Because of the modern revival of witchcraft and other forms of neo-paganism profound changes are taking place in the religious climate of the West.

This is why the Christian community should be more committed to prayer, sanctification and evangelism.

I recommend this book. I do so as a Christian and one who understands that evil exists in the world as much as it ever did. Why encourage it?

Laurie Williams.

'The Facts on Halloween' is one of a series of books intended to inform and guide Christians. The series includes the Mormon Church, Jehovah's Witnesses and the New Age Movement. They are all by Ankerberg and Weldon and are published by Harvest House Publishers. The cost is around £5 each.



Christmas Angels and Stars

Once again this year, it is planned that Leatherhead and Leatherhead North are to be bombarded with knitted angels and stars with a label saying "Happy Christmas from Churches Together in Leatherhead". People from the Leatherhead churches are again being asked to give their time and join the brigade of knitters.

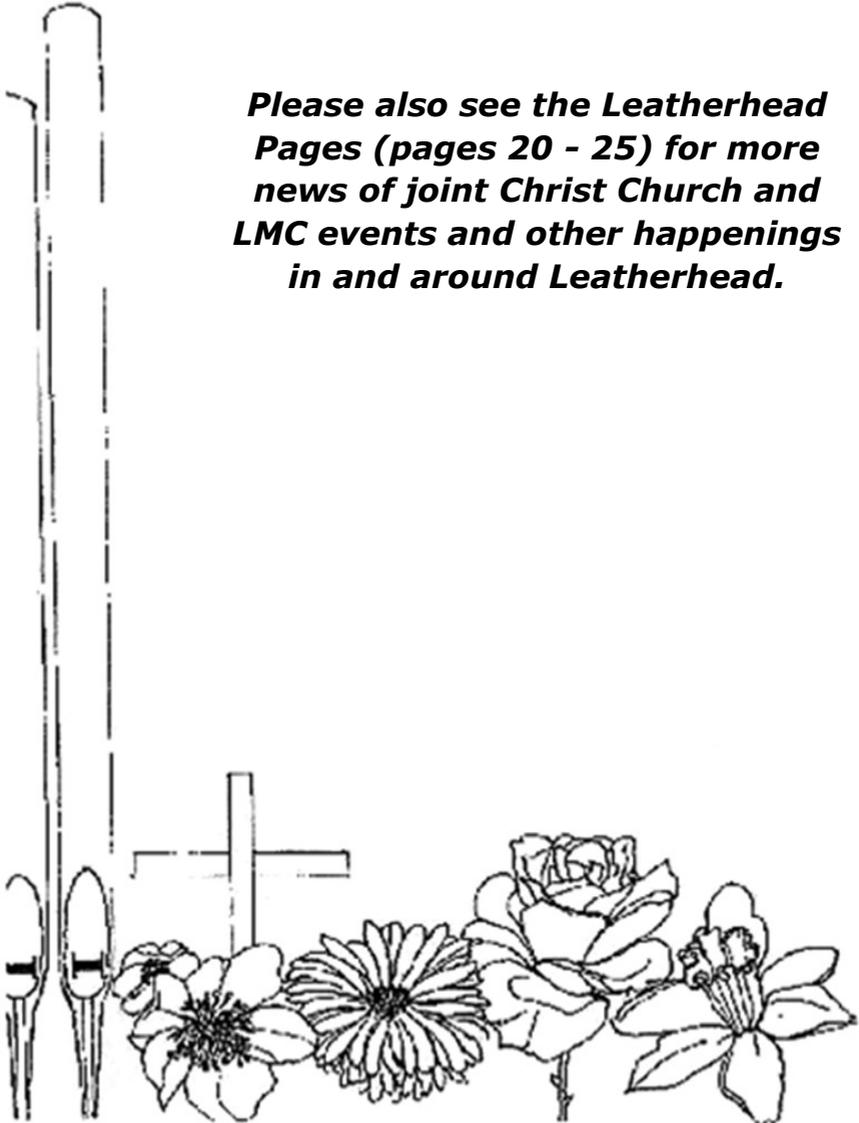
If you'd like more information, please speak to Norma Shaw. If you would like a pattern sent by email, please email Norma - address in the church directory.



Christ Church

(United Reformed) Leatherhead

***Please also see the Leatherhead
Pages (pages 20 - 25) for more
news of joint Christ Church and
LMC events and other happenings
in and around Leatherhead.***



Christ Church Diary



October

Thur 4th 12.30pm LMC: concert (*see p 23*)

Fri 5th 2.30pm LMC: Time for Tea
7.30pm Choir practice

Sat 6th 10.30am NEWSPAL meeting in the church
6.30pm Parish Hall: Harvest Supper and Barn Dance

Sun 7th 10.30am Joint Harvest Festival: Rev Jan Hofmeyr

Thur 11th 12.30pm LMC: recital (*see p 23*)
5.30pm Revive Youth Club (ages 7-11)

Sun 14th 10.30am Rev Kim Plumpton

Wed 17th 12.30pm Organ Recital: Gillian Lloyd

Sun 21st 10.30am Heather Ward: Holy Communion

Thur 25th 12.30pm LMC: Recital (*see p 23*)

Sun 28th 10.30am John Bees

**6.00pm All Saints: New Fire contemporary
worship**

November

Thur 1st 12.30pm LMC: Concert (*see p 23*)

Fri 2nd 2.30pm LMC: Time for Tea

Sun 4th 10.30am Rev Bruce Stuart: Holy Communion

Christ Church Family News



Steve Neal's wife Freda is very unwell and is being treated in St Helier Hospital. We send her and Steve our very best wishes and pray that Freda makes good progress.

A number of our members have health concerns and are undergoing tests and treatment. We remember them all in our prayers. We pray for those in care homes or living at home with carers, the bereaved and the lonely.

Anne Cairns



*Joyful
and
Triumphant*

Surrey Area of NAFAS
presents
A Christmas Exhibition
of Floral Art

SATURDAY
17 NOVEMBER 2018
10.00am – 5.00pm

EPSOM DOWNS RACECOURSE
OAKS HALL
KT18 5LQ

Tickets £5
Early Bird £3

Refreshments available.
Further information:
01483 282899

surreynafas.org.uk



What is Christian Revival?

Revival refers to a spiritual reawakening from a state of dormancy or stagnation in the life of a believer. It encompasses the resurfacing of a love for God, an appreciation of God's holiness, a passion for His Word and His church, a convicting awareness of personal and corporate sin, a spirit of humility, and a desire for repentance and growth in righteousness. Revival invigorates and sometimes deepens a believer's faith, opening his or her eyes to the truth in a fresh, new way. It generally involves the connotation of a fresh start with a clean slate, marking a new beginning of a life lived in obedience to God. Revival breaks the charm and power of the world, which blinds the eyes of men, and generates both the will and power to live in the world but not of the world.

In the USA, the first revival produced an upsurge of devotion among Protestants in the 1730s and 1740s. It resulted from authoritative preaching that deeply moved the church members with a convicting awareness of personal guilt and the awesome nature of salvation through Christ. Breaking away from dry ritual and rote ceremony, it made Christianity intensely personal to the average person, as it should be, by creating a deep emotional need for relationship with Christ.

Revival, in many respects, replicates the believer's experience when he or she is saved. It is initiated by a prompting of the Holy Spirit, creating an awareness of something missing or wrong in the believer's life that can only be righted by God. In turn, the Christian must respond from the heart, acknowledging need. Then, in a powerful way, the Holy Spirit draws back the veil over the truth, allowing the believers to fully see themselves in comparison to God's majesty and holiness. Obviously, this brings great humility, but also great awe of God and His truly amazing grace ([Isaiah 6:5](#)). Unlike the original conversion experience that brings about a new relationship to God, however, revival represents a restoration of fellowship with God.

God, through His Holy Spirit, calls us to revival in a number of situations. The letters to the seven churches reveal some circumstances that may need revival. In the letter to Ephesus, the church is praised, but they had forsaken their first love ([Rev. 2:4-5](#)). The rest of this article may be found online at <https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-revival.html>.

Bob Greenfield

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):

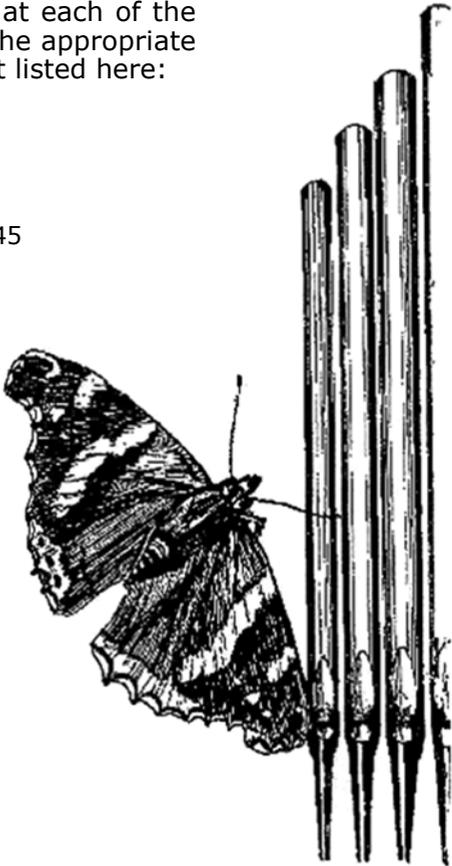
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8ST
www.chch.org.uk
Contact: Local Church Leader -
Mike Essex 01372 273472

Effingham Methodist Church:

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

Cobham United Church:

38 Stoke Road, Cobham, KT11 3BD
www.cobhamurc.org.uk
www.cobhammethodistchurch.com
Contact: Church Secretary -
Mary Langtry 01483 282421
Or: Steward -
David Cappitt 01932 862661



<u>United Pastorate Ministers</u>	
<u>Rev Jan Hofmeyr</u> 10 Church Road Leatherhead KT22 8AY Tel: 01372 373154 (home) 01372 362145 (office) Email: revjannie@gmail.com	<u>Rev. Kim Plumpton</u> 38 Stoke Road Cobham KT11 3BD Tel: 01932 586988 E-mail: kimp_822@hotmail.com