

The Wey Forward

Issue 14 December 2019 - February 2020

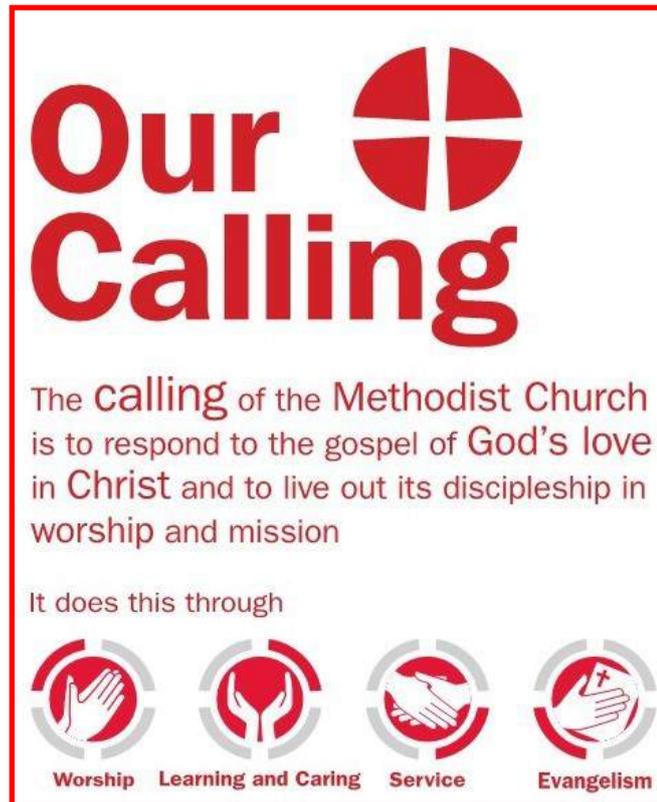


The Wey Valley Methodist Circuit

The Wey Valley Methodist Circuit came into being on 1st September 2016. It was formed by the joining of 13 churches in the Guildford and Woking & Walton-on-Thames circuits. Each church has its own distinctive personality and gifts, and continues to look forward to mutual sharing and support and to responding together to the gospel of God's love in the community and the wider world. (For those not familiar with the term, a "circuit" is an administrative group of Methodist Churches in the same geographical area).

Our churches can be found in :

- * Addlestone
- * Byfleet
- * Cranleigh
- * Godalming
- * Guildford
- * Knaphill
- * Merrow
- * Sheerwater
- * Stoughton
- * Walton-on-Thames
- * West Horsley
- * Weybridge
- * Woking



If you are a visitor or newcomer to the area, or living here and seeking a church for the first time, please use our website - www.veyvalleycircuit.org.uk to find a church that meets your spiritual and pastoral needs. We have included links to the websites of all of our churches in the circuit but you can also contact the Circuit Office for more information. The office is open each weekday morning from 9am to 1pm and Sue Howson, the Circuit Administrator, can be contacted on circuitoffice@veyvalleycircuit.org.uk or 07808 046451.

This quarterly newsletter aims to showcase what is going on around the Circuit, provide relevant information for the forthcoming quarter and offer some thought provoking articles.

Sue Howson

Editor

A Message From Our Superintendent

Dear Friends,

I have been thinking about what the key is to a happy life. We know that life will always have its challenges, but some people never seem to let things get them down, whereas some of us ruminate on the negatives and forget the positives. I recently enjoyed a performance of Shakespeare's "Scottish play" at Chichester. Reading the programme, I was intrigued by an article on *hubris and nemesis*. Macbeth was certainly a victim to hubris – that over reaching pride which especially affects despots. He also fell foul of nemesis, that unseen hand of fate which, like the sword of Damocles, reminds tyrants of their precarious hold on power. The twentieth century is replete with examples of rulers who sought to impose their own will, but whose towering statues came crashing down. Clearly, exaggerated pride may give temporary satisfaction but the longer term prospects for happiness are not encouraging. Pride cometh before a fall.

Apparently, some toddlers go through a stage of being slightly despotic and going into a rage when their will is thwarted or misunderstood. It has been called "the terrible twos". With growing maturity there comes increased capacity to understand the perspective of others. Max Lucado in his recently published book, "How Happiness Happens", looks at the New Testament verses containing the words "*one another*" (see below for references). His premise is that happiness arises from the kindness, respect and understanding we show to others as Christians.

Much thought has been given to how we as Methodists can continue to show respect to those who hold contradictory convictions. What future generations will look back on and draw their own conclusions from is how we discuss: "*God in Love Unites Us - The Report of the MARRIAGE and RELATIONSHIPS Task Group 2019 for study and prayerful discussion*". We are asked to consult our churches regarding this report prior to our Spring Circuit Meeting. Whilst no votes are to be taken other than at Synod and Methodist Conference, it would be helpful if each church could send a narrative account of their consultation. These will be reported to Circuit Meeting and sent with any additional comments to Synod. Representatives to Conference will thus be informed of the views of the circuits, before voting according to their best judgement.

Copies of the report and study guide will be distributed with The Wey Forward. The proposed changes to our standing orders are clearly outlined in the report and are required reading for church members who wish to express an opinion on this. My prayer is that we approach this consultation so that we positively model a way of "*living with contradictory convictions*" in a world in which too often people debate personalities rather than issues. Whatever our views, may we never behave as if getting our own way is the path to happiness, and may we never forget that happiness comes from affording respect to others.

Finally, may I wish you God's richest blessing as we celebrate Christmas and renew our Covenant in the New Year.

God bless you,

Rev Keith C. Beckingham
Superintendent Minister

The "One Another" verses for you to look up:

1 Thess. 5:11; Eph. 4:2; Phil. 2:4; Rom 16:16; James 5:16;
Gal. 5:13; Rom. 15:7; Col. 3:16; Eph. 4:32; 1 John 3:11



News from around the Circuit

Addlestone

Our efforts continue in order to meet our Mission objectives. Our latest Café Style evening service did not go quite as planned but the service went ahead and we had a near normal attendance as seen in the photo below. **Our next service will be on January 19 and a further one in April is planned.** We hope Lyn McKay will be taking one of our 2020 services.



The Bear Hugs nursery put on their end of term concert in July and the parents and friends in the audience were delighted at the effort and enthusiasm displayed. **We wait in anticipation for their Nativity Play in December.**



Our Mission Group continues to review and update our achievements and objectives. Our occasional evening services and our Saturday coffee mornings continue but are not yet fully meeting their objectives. More thought is being given to helping the local community, supporting the local foodbank and running the occasional coffee morning to support local health charities. We continue our support and communication with Grace, the 9 year old girl in Ecuador. **Our Charity Christmas Fair on 23 November will again involve several charities.**

Work continues to bring the property up to a high standard to comply with the fire risk assessment recommendations and the more recent Quinquennial Inspection. The physical work is now completed to fully comply with the Fire Regulations. The church windows are restored on one side of the church and we are hopeful the remainder will be completed by the end of the year.

Fred Rowe

Byfleet

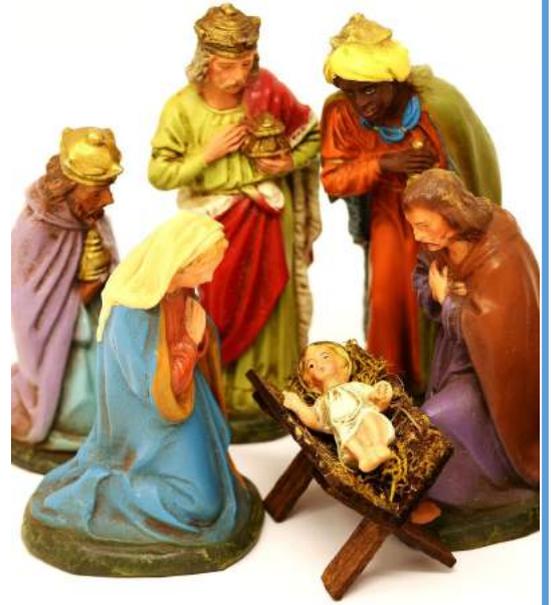
We are proud to be able to play our part in the life of Byfleet Village by sharing in the Village Fayre and Byfleet Christmas Market at which we are able to spread the true meaning of Christmas.

Our regular Sunday lunches and monthly coffee mornings continue to provide a welcome opportunity, in particular for those on their own, to get out of their homes and meet friends.

The National Heritage weekend in September brought in new and very interesting visitors to explore our beautiful building, and we trust that our ever-expanding Advent exhibition of nativity sets from around the world will once again highlight the skills of so many different communities as well as delighting visitors to Byfleet. Do come and visit us on 30 November/1 December between 9.00am and 5.00pm and whilst there, share in some refreshment (see advert for more details),

And a reminder! If you have a Nativity set that you would be willing to lend for the weekend, please do get in touch - 01932 343489 margaret.watts10@ntlworld.com - we will be happy to arrange for your items to be collected and returned to you.

Margaret Watts



ADVENT WEEKEND

**Saturday 30 November
Sunday 1 December**

**Church open all weekend 9.00 am – 5.00 pm
International Display of Nativity Sets
Organ Recitals, Refreshments**

SATURDAY

**9.00 am – 12.30 pm Christmas Coffee Morning
12.30 pm - 4.30 pm Lunches and Teas**

SUNDAY

**10.30 am Morning Worship inc.
Holy Communion for Advent
2.30 pm – 4.00 pm Afternoon Tea
4.30 pm Advent Songs of Praise**

A warm welcome to all!

Byfleet Methodist Church, Rectory Lane, KT14 7LL

Enquiries to: margaret.watts10@ntlworld.com; 01932 343489

BYFLEET METHODIST CHURCH

Bringing Christ to the Community



**The Methodist Church
Rectory Lane, Byfleet, KT14 7LL**

**WELCOMES YOU
TO OUR REGULAR**

Coffee Morning



30TH NOVEMBER

11TH JANUARY

8TH FEBRUARY

14TH MARCH

9.00 am - 12 noon

Enquiries: Margaret Watts 01932 343489 margaret.watts10@ntlworld.com

Website: www.byfleetmethodist.org.uk

Cranleigh

Since my last article, we in Cranleigh have had a rather busier time than usual! These busy times began on September 15 when we hosted a Circuit Service for the first time in many years. We were very pleased to do this as it was a special service for local preachers and included the celebration of 25 years as a local preacher for Rosemary Lee, who is well-known to us and is particularly remembered this year for the Mothering Sunday service she conducted at Elmbridge Village during our 'evacuation'. This Circuit Service was conducted by our minister and Circuit Superintendent Keith, assisted by retiring Local Preachers' Secretary Lyn Mckay. Local preacher trainer, Rev Allan Taylor, preached an inspiring sermon.

Only a fortnight later, on September 29, we were privileged to welcome Loughborough Male Voice Choir who performed the excellent concert they had been giving at various locations on the south coast – free of charge to us! The conductor, Chris Hill, a life-long Methodist, wanted to help a church in need of funds in our Circuit, as they broke their journey back to their home in Leicestershire. The audience was boosted by the choir's own supporters from Loughborough and by many friends from other local churches and from the village. A big thank you to our friends from the Circuit who kindly came to our church to support us in this venture. (My own thanks to our church members who helped with practical matters of organisation and with provision of refreshments – a marathon task!) To date, funds raised by retiring collection total over £500. It seems people were still donating after the event as they appreciated the wonderful standard and variety of the choir's performance.

Then – the Harvest weekend: The Supper (a 'Bring and Share' plus quiz) on Saturday October 5, enjoyed by the relatively few attenders, and the services on the following day. Both morning and evening services on the 6 October were conducted by Keith, the evening one being a Churches Together celebration, with a Songs of Praise format and a united choir. All local clergy participated and the organist was the Director of Music at St Nicolas Parish Church. Traditional harvest hymns were mostly chosen by participants from the four churches, though some were new to us!



And now for Christmas! Jane Briggs has already been sending out invitations for the Community Tea which we are once more able to host in our own premises on December 21. Our own choir, with guests, plan to perform our usual concert and encourage the audience to participate(!). We hope too that our recorders and perhaps other instruments may contribute as usual. Our traditional concert at Elmbridge will this year be on December 17 at 3pm. We hope to include audience participation in both these concerts – and of course our instrumentalists.

Meanwhile, usual weekly or fortnightly events continue: a small Fellowship Group hosted by Eric and Audrey Stoakes meets at Elmbridge on alternate Mondays; Friendly Voices every Tuesday afternoon meets at church for those for whom English is a foreign language (started originally for refugees, but now includes holiday makers, foreign local employees and others needing conversation practice), the fortnightly Wednesday (evening) group, weekly choir practice on Friday evenings, Saturday coffee mornings (please come and see us! 10.30am - 12noon). Plans for more fellowship/fun gatherings are in the pipeline!

Glenda Sewell

Alternative Worship

All are welcome to our alternative evening services taking place:

Date	Church	Service
1 December	Weybridge	Café Church led by Sydney Samuel Lake (6.30pm)
15 December	Walton	Carol Service led by Sydney Samuel Lake (6.30pm)
22 December	Godalming	Carol Service led by Norman Edsall (6.00pm)
22 December	Woking	Carol Service led by Hugh Bowerman (5.00pm)
19 January	Addlestone	ATS (6.30pm)
23 February	Walton	Pudding & Praise (with Breeze) led by Claire Hargreaves (6.00pm)
Alt weekends	Woking	Foundry Worship (please confirm times/dates with Trinity, Woking)

Art Serve's Tenth Anniversary Festival

This year's Art Serve's conference was held at Swanwick in October. Four of us from the Circuit attended the festival. There were fourteen different activities offered this year:

Divine drumming
Speaking and presenting
Dramatising scripture
Worshipping God in the outdoors
Dance for worship and celebration
Prophetic art with collage
Squaring like Smethan
Words of Life [using letterpress]
Rediscovering Charles Wesley
Creating worship displays,
Finding your voice for singing
Art as a focus for worship
Writing a new hymn,
Making a Cross

The highlight for me was the professional drama presentation by "Riding Lights" on Saturday evening. Having attended the groups on speaking and presenting and dramatising the Bible with these professionals, it was great to see their skill and humour in action.

Each year I try to step out of my comfort zone and I am pleased with the wooden Cross I made this year. The morning prayers and worship afternoon were uplifting and there was opportunity for individual prayer too.

A warm welcome is given to all. Do come and join us at High Leigh in Hoddeston next year, 9 - 11 October 2020.

Lyn McKay

Letter From Rev Paul Hulme

My Dear Friends,

I have been deeply touched by the many messages of good will I have received from so many people throughout the circuit, since I officially retired from active ministry, after serving for the past fifty-one years. Also, I was particularly appreciative of your generous and totally unexpected gift in the name of the circuit.

I am now happily settled into my Methodist Ministers Housing Association bungalow, with the most delightful garden, in a leafy suburb of Croydon. So I am still living in the county of Surrey, which is a pleasant thought.

The past seven years have been eventful and utterly worthwhile, serving in the old Guildford Circuit, and more recently in the Wey Valley Circuit. It has been a privilege to share in so many services and events throughout the circuit and to get to know people. It has also been immensely impressive to serve alongside so many talented and dedicated people, both ministerial and lay.

Like hundreds of other circuits at the moment, we face daunting challenges undreamed of fifty one years ago, when our national membership statistics were infinitely higher than they are now, as were, of course, our congregations, at both morning and evening services.

We cannot ignore the drastic changes that face us in the next two decades, but if Mr Wesley was right, in his final words on his death bed: "The best of all is God is with us"; then we have reason to live in hope.

With affection, admiration and gratitude,

Yours in friendship,

Paul Hulme

Can you help?

Matrix are urgently looking for a volunteer to support their Board by taking minutes at Trustee meetings and sending them out afterwards. They meet four times a year (approx. 20 hours total), currently a Thursday evening from 5.30 /6 pm.

Matrix is a Christian charity providing a lifeline for vulnerable young people across Guildford Borough. Established for nearly 20 years, they are dedicated to working **with young people**, helping them to improve their lives, and **for young people**, catalysing change by nurturing, inspiring, connecting and empowering them.

Ideally the volunteer would need some experience in taking notes from meetings. A laptop for meetings will be provided.

Please email mistybower@matrixtrust.com if you or someone you know may be interested, or call 01483 574900 for a chat.

Godalming United Church

During the summer break the musical Rowlings (our equivalent of the von Trapps, and all keen members of Godalming Band) accompanied the National Methodist Youth Band - motto Fun, Faith and Fellowship - on an expedition to Moldova, the tiny landlocked country between Romania and Ukraine. The band was invited by Love and Care for Moldova – a Horsham-based charity whose trustees include Hilary Strawson (Cranleigh Methodist Church). In Moldova they worked closely with La Via, a centre for vulnerable children. The band was accommodated at the Holy Trinity Centre in Chisinau, the capital. During their 10 day tour they performed in 6 concerts and 3 services around the country. Quiet times were spent studying “courage” as a Biblical theme.



In October we dispatched our 59th container full of supplies – mainly furniture for re-use – to schools in The Gambia. We’ve already started on the next container – thanks to the generosity of the older girls at St Hilary’s School who collected school stationary supplies as their Harvest gifts. Our charitable link with West Africa goes back 35 years, and includes sponsoring young people through secondary & higher education as well as ongoing support for an ophthalmic unit.

On October 12 our Harvest Supper - fish & chips and a quiz – was heartily enjoyed by over 50 of the church family, and followed next morning by the annual Harvest Festival, conducted by our friend Rev Clive Chase, chaplain of Charterhouse School. Harvest offerings of non-perishable foodstuffs are being distributed by the Salvation Army in Guildford.

Nights are drawing in, and preparations are already in hand for our winter pantomime – The Wizard of Oz. Again it has been specially written by local lad Josh Dixon, with parts accommodating our various groups, ranging in age from 5 to “mature”, making up a cast of approximately 50. Plenty of scope for everyone!

Upcoming events

Looking ahead you are invited to join us for:

Sun Nov 10	No morning service as we will be participating in the civic service at the War Memorial and Parish Church
Sat Dec 7	3 - 5pm Messy Church – fun for all the family – “Christmas is coming”
Sun Dec 8	10.30am Toy Service: donation of toys, gifts – including the Ladies’ Fellowship shoeboxes of goodies - for the less fortunate in our community (distributed by The Cellar Café)
Sat Dec 14	7pm Godalming Band Christmas Concert
Sun Dec 15	6pm Carol Service by Candlelight
Dec 25	10am Christmas Morning Worship – bring along a present to show
Sun Dec 29	No service at Godalming United Church – Circuit services at Byfleet, Merrow & Walton
Sat Feb 1	3 - 5pm Messy Church – fun for all the family
Feb 8 - 9	Wizard of Oz pantomime– 4 performances (01483 421433)

Nancy Wilks



Circuit Mission Supper

The Circuit Mission supper for 2020 will take place on 29 February 2020 at 6.30pm. Our friends at Trinity Methodist Church Woking are once again hosting this event, for which we thank them.

Tickets are £8 and will be available at the beginning of January 2020.

Our speaker this year is Mr Sam Monaghan. Many of you will have met Sam as he accompanies his wife, Rev Julia Monaghan, around the circuit when she leads worship.

Sam is the CEO of Methodist Homes and will talk to us about the work of the homes and their plans for the future.

A retiring collection for Methodist Homes will be taken.

*Linda Weedon
on behalf of the
Circuit Mission
Group*



Circuit Prayer Diary

The Prayer Diary is produced on a quarterly basis by Rev Claire Hargreaves and is available on the Circuit website where it can be accessed in several ways:-

- It has its own bespoke calendar so you can see all of the prayers for the coming months. From the Home page click on Calendar and in the drop down boxes choose Circuit Prayer Diary and the month you are interested in
- If you just click on Calendar it automatically shows all events from around the Circuit and the Prayer Diary will be included
- Each day the Prayer for that day is displayed on the Home Page under Coming Events (on the right-hand side of the screen on a PC; scroll down a little on a smart phone)
- The pdf is available under Publications, Circuit Prayer Diary (third one down)
- The pdf also appears each quarter in the News section of the website

The Prayer Diary is also circulated to churches in Word and pdf format for inclusion in newsletters or for printing off.

If you have any queries please do let me know.

Sue Howson

Guildford St Mary's

Improving a medieval building is proving an 'interesting' experience in so many ways. Any major building project comes with challenges but they also come with messages and lessons. When the excavations encounter skeletons buried some 900 years ago it reinforces our awe at the heritage we have inherited - worship and Christian witness on this site for so many centuries. When excavations around the columns show they have stood for centuries without the sorts of foundation one would expect these days, it's reassuring that the builders can quickly encircle them with concrete collars. And throughout the need for good communication.

At the heart of our ministry at St Mary's, and an enormous privilege, are the opportunities to engage with people, many of whom have little or no contact with any church. One might think that people would be put off by an entrance doubling up as a builders' yard, with the building shrouded by hoardings and scaffolding - in fact it provides another opportunity for engagement as passers-by are intrigued to know what is going on and display a remarkable readiness to weave their way through the builders' yard to reach our temporary main entrance. Indeed some, even from overseas, want to know when they can come back to see the finished works. Some questioned whether we should even bother to open for Heritage Weekend in September - the fact that over 300 people visited speaks for itself!

Even in the dark of night visitors come to share the spiritual experience of St Mary's at our monthly Night Vision (do drop in sometime) - usually the last Friday of the month from 8 pm to 11.30 pm but in December we plan to be open from 6 pm to 9 pm on Thursday 19 December to coincide with Christmas Late Night Shopping.

Some of you have shared the journey along our Easter Pathway; this Christmas we'll be unveiling another Pathway offering striking visual prompts to explore the events and significance of Christmas. You could perhaps drop in on New Year's Eve when we'll be open during the day.

At the time of writing we can see the welcome area and kitchen taking shape and our loyal congregation eagerly await the completion of the first phase with its improved facilities, most of all the recommissioning of heating. I suspect that people's seating preferences may change rapidly when underfloor heating is available in part of the church.

Writing recently our Rector quoted 'Take off your shoes - you stand on holy ground', referred to St Mary's as evident to all as sacred space and emphasised the need to make it accessible to all. Once the works are complete, those who do take off their shoes will find a warm floor for the first time in the building's 1000 years' history. Maybe then our hardy souls will be able to resort to just one pair of socks or normal tights !

Perhaps inevitably with such a project, the timeline has slipped and we're trying to gauge how it might affect our usual Advent activities so we'll publicise those on the Circuit website closer to the time. By the time of the next issue of Wey Forward, I hope we'll be able to share some pictures and welcome you to see the first stage of the new improved St Mary's, living up to the words of the hymn 'All are welcome in this place.'

Nigel Champion-Smith

Free Training and Support

Across our churches we have dedicated and willing volunteers who undertake all sorts of tasks; each one essential to enable our churches to offer worship Sunday by Sunday. However, the world in which we are asking our folk to do this requires us to demonstrate that they have been appropriately resourced - through training and support - to do the work.

The Circuit has purchased some on-line training from a company called iHasco so that people can enhance their skills and make sure that they are aware of best working practices and, in some cases, health and safety regulations.

The courses are generally quite short and they do not need to be completed all in one go. The tests at the end shouldn't be seen as anything daunting but as a way of measuring understanding of the course material. As well as being informative they are **FUN** and **FREE** to sign up for.

You can choose to complete any or all of the courses below—whichever would be helpful to you personally.

- Accident reporting
- Electrical safety
- Fire awareness
- Health and safety basics
- Ladder safety
- Working at height
- Manual handling
- Noise awareness
- Slips, trips and falls
- Cyber security awareness
- Display screen equipment
- Lone working in the workplace
- Bomb threats and suspicious packages
- Food allergy awareness
- Food safety and hygiene – levels 1 and 2



Please note because we have to follow the Methodist guidelines the following courses are not to be taken – Data protection, GDPR Essentials and GDPR for Managers.

If you are interested, contact me with your email address and the name of the course/s you would like to do. If you're not sure I'm happy to chat through any queries or concerns you may have.

Sue Howson (circuitoffice@weyvalleycircuit.org.uk or 07808 046451)

Knaphill

Clothes4U, the Knaphill Methodist Church clothes bank, is approaching its 2nd anniversary and both visitor and volunteer numbers continue to grow. The September opening brought a queue of visitors waiting for Clothes4U to open, suggesting the posters displayed by many organisations in Surrey are working well. A new poster is circulated by email once a quarter showing the next three months' opening dates, and various schools, charities, local government facilities, churches, etc kindly print them out & display them.

The organisation of clothes bank open afternoons has changed, making better use of the church's space, giving visitors more room to choose their clothes, and allowing more time and space for volunteers to sort donated clothes and put them onto hangers. Another benefit seems to be that it encourages people to stay on and socialise over a cup of tea - a lot of Syrian visitors took the opportunity to do this in September. Everyone who visits is encouraged to have a drink and a piece of cake before they go.

Of course, the more visitors we have, the more clothes we give out, and the more we need to replenish our stock. This means we need to constantly renew our requests for donations, while bearing in mind the changing seasons. The best way for donors to supply clothes is to email clothes@knaphill-methodistchurch.com to find out when the church will be open, so that they don't have a wasted journey. One of the volunteers will reply to them and arrange a time. We particularly need Muslim women's traditional clothing for Woking's Syrian refugees. Woking is now home to many Syrian refugees, and a growing number of them visit the clothes bank. If anyone can help us out with donations, please do get in touch.

Clothes4U is always looking to add to its list of helpful organisations who can display posters and/or issue vouchers to people who need some clothes. Some of the volunteers have therefore agreed to start contacting additional charities, nurseries, churches, etc to ask if they would agree to be involved. Those volunteers will also be a useful point of contact for all organisations who work with us. We would like to provide some signposting to other services which visitors may find useful and research is starting - firstly to identify what services would be useful to know about, and then how best to provide the information. Examples of services we know about are the CAB's Energy Best Deal, (which offers help in understanding how to approach the energy market), food banks, and charities which can help with managing debt. There must be many useful services out there, although there will need to be some form of Arabic interpretation - so there is plenty to keep us busy.

**Clothes 4U Saturday sessions held at Knaphill Methodist Church – 2pm until 4pm
21 December 2019, 18th January 2020 and 15th February 2020**



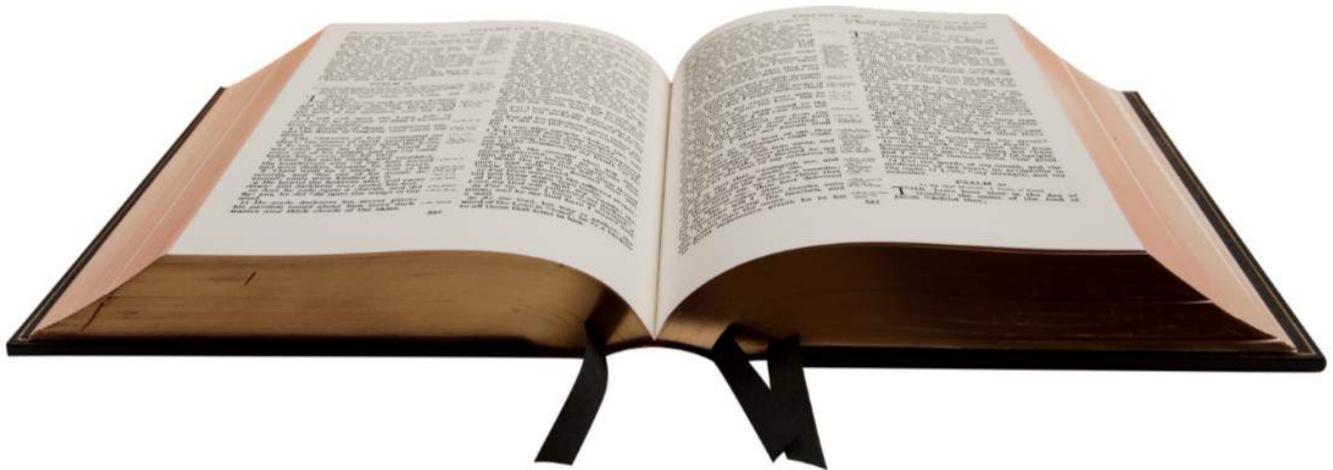
Our Sunday morning coffee tin donations are being put towards the purchase, and installation, of an AED, an Automated External Defibrillator. This life-saving device is used for the emergency treatment of cardiac arrest, and can be used by non-trained passers by. It seems fitting that, as we are located at the heart of the village, and at the heart of our faith is a man who defeated death, we can provide a means by which at least a physical life could be saved. We do not charge for our refreshments, so if you have a heart, please give generously.

For more information, or if you would like to make a donation, please email admin@knaphill-methodistchurch.com. Thank you.

Yvette Wright



Sunday 29th December 2019



Just three services across the Circuit

**Byfleet Methodist Church
Refectory Lane, Byfleet, KT14 7LL**

**Merrow Methodist Church
Bushy Hill Drive, Guildford, GU1 2SH**

**Walton-on-Thames Methodist Church
Terrace Road, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2SR**

Charity
Christmas Fair

Saturday 23rd November
10am - 2pm

at Addlestone Methodist Church,
Station Road

Gift Stalls, etc, by
various local charities

Come and get your Christmas Presents

Tombola




Knaphill Methodist Church's 

**CHRISTMAS
BAZAAR**

SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER
10AM TO 2PM
MANY STALLS
REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLE
**FREE
ADMISSION**




 **WEYBRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH**
Heath Road, Weybridge, KT13 8TB

CAFE CHURCH

1st DECEMBER 2019
6.15pm for 6.30pm

‘The Christmas Miracle’

Led by Rev Sydney Samuel Lake



“O! come let us adore Him”
— John F. Wade

May the miracle of the first Christmas
fill your heart with joy. Merry Christmas!

A joyful start to Christmas

Carol Praise

Saturday Dec 7th
7.00 - 9.00 pm
**Horsley Methodist
Church**
(KT24 6DD next to W. Horsley Village Hall)

**Come and sing your favourite carols
with a break
for refreshments and mince pies**

Phone requests to 01438 282474

Merrow

Writing the articles for each issue of The Wey Forward certainly focuses the mind on the change of seasons. In September we were looking forward to gathering crops for our Harvest Festival and now we are deep into planning for Christmas!

Thanks to all the hard work of all those involved our Harvest Festival was a great success. As planned, the Church was gloriously decorated with flowers, greenery and fruit and vegetables grown by members of the congregation and our Sunday Morning worship was followed by a harvest lunch enjoyed by over fifty who tucked in to all the food provided by willing helpers. The congregation was also invited to bring food parcels to the service and these were distributed the following week. One of the very grateful recipients was the Mulberry House Hostel, a supported housing service in Guildford managed by the Salvation Army Housing Association, for young single women aged 18-35. The harvest gifts enabled them to fill up their store cupboards and give the young women interesting ingredients to use as they learn cooking skills. Other food parcels went to the Number 5 project - the emergency night hostel for the homeless who have 16 hungry people to feed every day.

Continuing the Harvest theme, our ecumenical Community Lunch Group has welcomed three new guests this term and we now host about eighteen to twenty guests each Tuesday. 8 October was a very special occasion when we welcomed Year 6 pupils from our local Bushy Hill School. The children arrived with a harvest box for each guest and shared a letter with them. The children had excellent communication skills and ensured everyone had a lot of fun. Those present said they all felt at least ten years younger at the end of the visit and are greatly looking forward to welcoming the pupils back to sing carols in December.



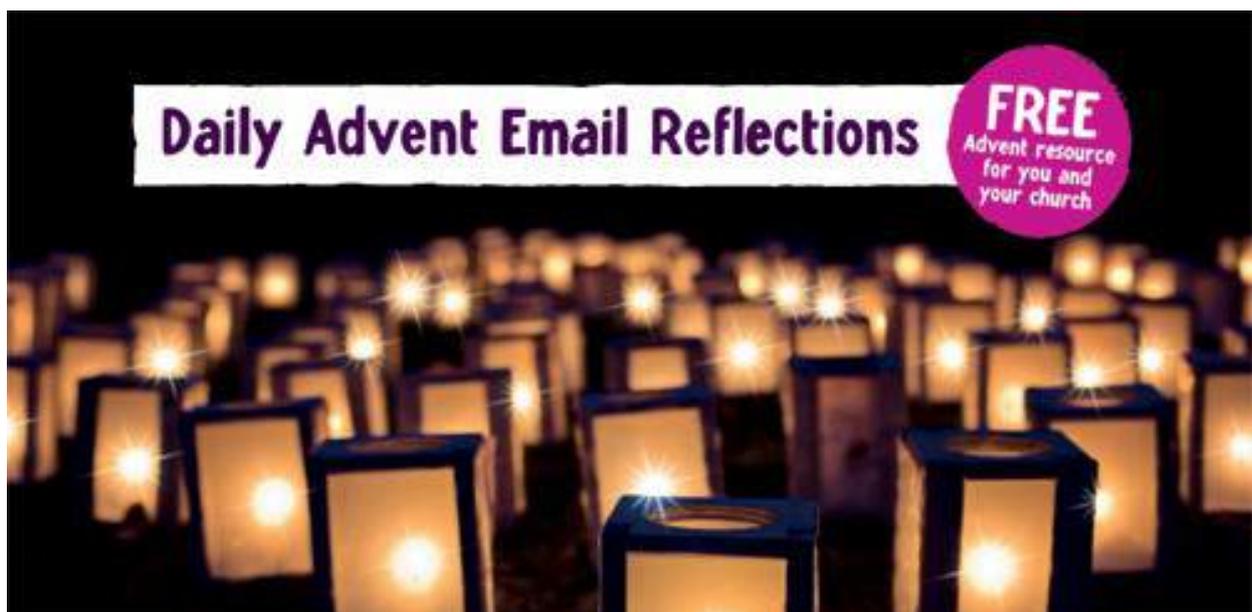
Guests enjoying our
Community Lunch



We have recently finalised our Accounts for the year ending 31 August. One of the stand out highlights is that our gifts to charities increased to £8184 from £6320 the previous year. This in part reflected a busier programme of our monthly Thursday morning Coffee Mornings which will continue into this autumn and winter. On 12 December we will be supporting Methodist Homes, 9 January Leprosy Mission, and 13 February Traidcraft Exchange. Please do come along and join us and enjoy great fellowship and some of the best cakes in Guildford!

We are very grateful to the Circuit who pay for each church to receive a fully scripted service for use when worship is designated as a Local Arrangement. Sunday 27 October saw our first use of this resource compiled and produced by “twelvebaskets” using the resources available on www.theworshipcloud.com. In planning the service we sent the details to five or six people and asked if they would like to take part. We were really encouraged by their enthusiastic response and were soon able to allocate all the relevant parts of the service and we would certainly recommend this valuable resource to other churches if they have not yet used them.

Moving on to Christmas and the New Year we are again holding an Advent Carol Service at 6.30 pm on Sunday 1 December and we would love you to join us. This year during Advent we will be using the resources provided by Embrace the Middle East including their Daily Advent Email Reflections which are available **Free** at <https://www.embraceme.org/sign-daily-advent-email-reflections>



We will again be hosting Bushy Hill School's Carol Service for pupils and proud parents and grandparents on Tuesday 17 December and on Saturday 14 December there will be the annual Carols on the Green outside Bushy Hill Community Centre where all the local churches get together with local residents to celebrate Christmas with traditional carols followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

Talking about mince pies, if anyone can join us at Mellow for worship at 10.30 am on 29 December there will be plenty available to enjoy with tea and coffee after the service!

Hugh Bradley

The BFG

The Circuit Study Group has rebranded itself as the BFG (Biblia Fidei/ Books of Faith Group)

In the past the group has worked its way through such books as 'Not in God's Name', 'Singing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land' and 'Methodist Theology' as well as the 'Worship and Preaching' course.

At present the BFG has 12 regular members...women and men...from a number of different churches and meets every three or four weeks. During the summer months the group has visited Chichester Cathedral and the Blue Idol Quaker Meeting House in West Sussex.

New members are always most welcome. Information re dates and times of meetings are available from myself.

Rev Allan Taylor

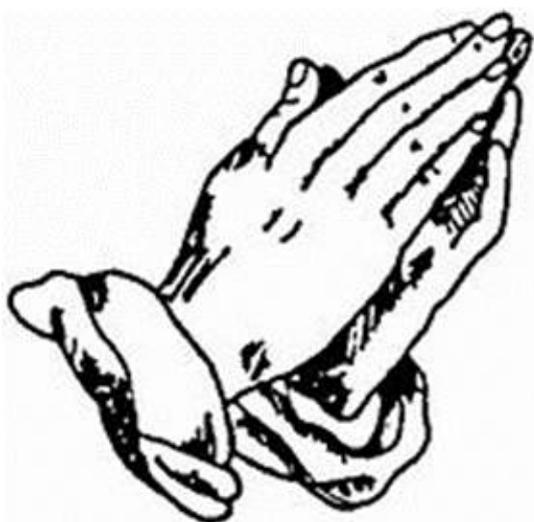
Thank-you

I wanted to express my thanks for all the prayers, cards, and messages I received when I was in hospital, recently. I had messages from all around the circuit and very much appreciated them all.

Many thanks,

Rev David Faulkner

Circuit Prayer Vigil



The Circuit Mission Group will once again be organising a 24 hour prayer vigil. This will take place over the weekend of 18/19 January 2020, which marks the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity so the dates seem very apposite.

As ever, your church prayer co-ordinator will receive a timetable of prayer slots nearer the time and a prayer 'aide memoire' will be circulated to run alongside the Circuit Prayer diary.

Please put these dates on your diary.

The Circuit Mission group send you all best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Circuit Mission Group

Come and join us anytime
between 12.15pm and 1.15pm
for
Soup and Bread



Thursday 23 January
Thursday 27 February
Thursday 26 March

Merrow Methodist Church, Bushy Hill Drive, Guildford, GU1 2SH



**Coffee
&
Cake
at
St Mary's**

10.30 am - 12 noon

Thursday 28 November:

Thursday 23 January:

Take a break from your shopping
& meet up with friends

Everyone welcome



Messy Church logo © The Bible Reading Fellowship 2019
www.messychurch.org.uk

GODALMING UNITED CHURCH
Bridge Road GU7 3DU

Saturdays 3pm - 5pm
Dec 7th, Feb 1st, April 5th

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

*Crafts, games, worship time, party tea
based on Bible themes*

Just come and turn up



You're invited to:



Free event for all ages!

Messy Christingle

Come and make a Messy Christingle

And hunt for angels in the church

From 3pm to 5pm

on Tuesday December 24th

We will also be very messy on

Saturday January 25th

And Saturday February 29th

At Walton Methodist Church, Terrace Road, KT12 2SR
Do phone and let us know that you are coming

01932 429184

US Cents Go Home to Loomis

Since August 1996 Guildford Cathedral has been running a scheme whereby the foreign currency it collects from visitors' donations is flown back to its home country in the luggage of friends and well-wishers travelling on holiday or business. To date nearly £20,000 has been raised. A while ago it was my turn, transporting 2 kilos of dollars to the USA. This is how it went.

My wife and I were visiting our daughter in western Canada. She lives in a small town just north of the border; so Washington State USA, lies just the other side. We made the crossing at Night Hawk – one of the smallest border posts along the whole frontier. Then south along the shore of Palmer Lake. In spring and summer the lake lies resplendent in its deep valley between the abruptly rising mountains of the East Cascades. The light glistens and gleams in the deep silence and the whole panorama of reflected mountains is one of majestic solitude. But catch Palmer on an off day and the splendour turns to desolation and a certain menace. The mountain ridges are hidden in lowering clouds and driving rain.

September that year we were lucky. We drove slowly in fine weather along the shoreline the twenty kilometres to the small settlement of Loomis. There's a church, with a diner opposite – a small, one-stop supermarket cum café. For such a small place, it's quite busy.

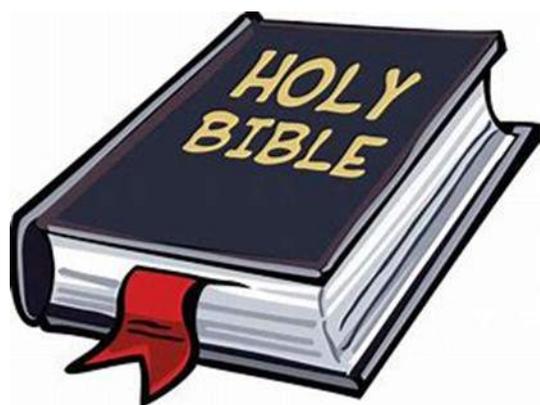


“What can I do for you folks?” asks the lady counter-assistant. “Could you do us a favour and change some wrapped coin?” I produce the cardboard tubes of one cent, five cent and ten cent pieces shipped from Guildford, in all twenty-four dollars. “You brought that load of metal from *England*? What’s it for?” I try to bring into the remote heart of rural Washington the needs and aspirations of our Surrey cathedral. I touch briefly on the recent scheme to remove asbestos in the plaster, the need for funds, the restoration of the organ. But she’s doing lunches, so she interrupts. “I’ll ask”. She disappears behind a counter display and asks her husband, who is busy producing burgers and sandwiches. He calls back: “Is it American?” “Yes”, I say. He responds: “Take it”.

So the tubes of coin crossed the counter of the Loomis diner, and I was holding twenty-four dollar bills in my hand. After lunch we retraced our steps back into Canada and four weeks later, back in Guildford, the sterling equivalent was entered into the Cathedral’s accounts.

John Mitchell

The Big Read



At the official start date of this edition of *The Way Forward* (1 December 2019), those of you taking part in this project to read the Bible from cover to cover will be preparing to start Job chapter 21.

I hope that some of you are still with this exercise. I am being kept on the straight and narrow by Vanessa, my 'secular' friend, who never fails to check that I am up to date. Yes, I am still 'cheating' by *listening* to my chapter but by the time that you read this I will have spent a week actually *reading* my chapters!! This is because Vanessa and I are off on holiday for a week together in November. It will be different reading the daily chapter with a real person rather than just thinking of those people who might be reading with me.

Please remember that Rev Asif Das has kindly said that if anyone has any challenges with anything they read he will be willing to try and answer any questions. Email Asif or give him a call asifdas@hotmail.com or 01483 575432.

Linda Weedon



CHRISTMAS



Afternoon Tea & Carols

Sunday 8th December 3pm - 5pm



at Knaphill Methodist Church

After last year's successful Christmas Tea party, the organisers are delighted to be able to announce that they will be holding this event again on 8th December. There will be a chance to sing favourite carols, have a go at quizzes and enjoy a festive tea. The event will be free, however tickets will be issued. This will ensure there is an accurate idea of numbers for catering purposes and enough space in the hall. For more information please email admin@knaphill-methodist-church.com

Walton - on - Thames

At Walton we have had a good summer. The house group this summer has hosted meetings by the members. Each week we studied one person from the bible, Esther, Ruth, Mary Magdalene, Job and Abraham. They led to interesting discussions and were enjoyed by all.

Our prayer group, meets every Saturday morning at 8am, and becomes ecumenical on the third Saturday, when we welcome people from all the churches in Walton. We are pleased to be hosting the Korean prayer evening on 6 December. It is wonderful to have such a large group of people to come and pray for the town of Walton.

We continue to do a walk and talk on the third Wednesday of the month. Anything from twelve to twenty people travel together to an attractive part of Surrey and go for a walk followed by a lunch. These will continue through the winter.

In November, we will be having a coffee morning when we will be signing Christmas cards to send to the neighbouring businesses.

On 17 November all are invited to Pudding and Praise. Puddings at 6pm and praise at 6.30pm.

We will also have a Pudding and Praise service on 23 February 2020

At the end of November at Messy Church we will be starting Advent by making the Advent Candle.

We will be singing carols at Walton station on Monday 9 December and singing more carols at our candle lit carol service on Sunday 15 December at 6.30pm.

On Christmas Eve we will be having a Messy Christingle.

We are making plans for 2020 to make it a year of good vision.

The Stewards at Walton

God's Vision
for the church

Jeannette's Joke

One night a lady came home from her weekly prayer meeting, to find she was being robbed, so she shouted out, "Acts 2:38: 'Repent and be baptized and your sins will be forgiven.'"

The robber quickly gave up and the lady rang the police. While handcuffing the criminal, the policeman said, "Gee mate, you gave up pretty easily. How come you gave up so quickly?"

The robber said, "She said she had an axe and two 38's!"

Jeannette Curtis

Trinity's Stained Glass Window



Many readers will be familiar with our stained glass window at Trinity. We are shortly to have some repairs carried out to it and having become involved with that I have researched, with the help of others, its history.

The window was commissioned by the architect for the church, Edward D Mills & Partners. It was designed by Miss Gillian Rees Thomas who worked with Mills on a number of other Methodist church projects. Her work is recorded in the Victoria and Albert Museum where there is a picture of the window and a short note describing her as the finest Methodist stained glass craftswoman. It notes that, as in Woking, "Methodist stained glass is now generally more abstract than representational".

The brochure issued at the time of the opening of the Church in 1965 explains that the design is based on John Wesley's words "I look upon all the world as my parish". It states: "*The cross represents the teaching of Christ spreading out towards the four corners of the earth; the cross flows into the chalice, signifying the fulfilment of man's desire for the blessing of God; the central symbol incorporates the loving eye of God and the sun, the Light of the World.*" Miss Thomas died in 2010.

Edward Mills was a committed Methodist. His father and grandfather were involved in construction and he started his career as an architect in 1930, aged 15. At Regent Street Polytechnic, he switched his allegiance from Lutyens to Le Corbusier, and began a collaboration with E. Maxwell Fry, who was himself in the process of discovering modern architecture. His practice was involved mainly with industrial and public buildings including a number of Methodist churches - and the Anglican Cathedral at Mbale in Uganda, which bears a striking resemblance to Trinity.



Lee Slatter



Circuit Mission Supper

Saturday 29th February 2020

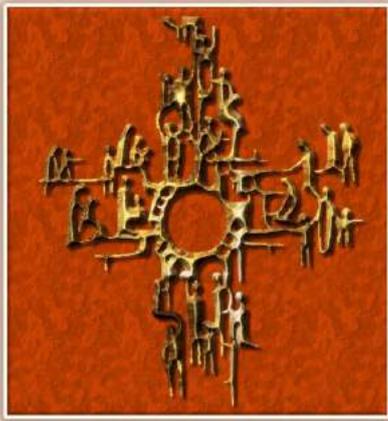
6.30pm

Trinity Methodist Church, Woking
Tickets £8



The circuit will welcome
Mr Sam Monaghan, CEO of MHA
who will talk about the on going work of
Methodist Homes

Practical Aspects of Spirituality



St. Mary's
Quarry Street
Guildford
09.20 – 12.30
Saturday
7 December

The Quiet Day Team from St Saviour's
on
'Waiting Expectantly'

This stand alone Saturday morning session is open to all who want to take their spiritual life deeper.

If you would like to attend please email Richard Fox at richard@purposefullives.com



night vision
... 'looking at life through a different lens'

St Mary's
Quarry St, Guildford GU1 3TY

drop in between

20.30 and 23.30

for

**calm, reflection
& refreshments**

❖ **Friday 29 November**

❖ **Friday 31 January**

❖ **Friday 28 February**



Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself.

~~Author Unknown~~

Tales of a Travelling Preacher

In the fifth, and penultimate, of a series Graham Warr looks back on his life

I was planned to preach at HMP Send on 2 November 1997, Christine and I had a rare weekend break and as the service was at 6.15pm we planned a day out. We left early for our trip to Bicester and intended to leave in good time to get to Send. We had a lovely morning and an enjoyable lunch and then we noticed that it was getting cold and misty. We cut our visit short and started our journey back. As we drove over the Chiltern Hills and into the Thames Valley a fog began to build up and by the time we got off the M25 it was a real 'pea-souper'. We crawled in ever increasing darkness towards the prison. Our arrival was truly Dickensian as we arrived outside the huge locked gates which came looming out of the fog. Christine waited until I had rung the bell and was admitted. I waved to her as the gate was locked behind me. She was not allowed to accompany me and had arranged to visit a friend.

I still have the Order of Service and the sermon notes – today they don't seem appropriate -but at the end of the service most of the prisoners thanked me and gave the impression they enjoyed the worship. They certainly sang lustily!

As preachers and followers of Jesus we rarely see the results of our labours but one young man spoke to me at the end of the service. He was there for drug related offences and accepted that he had deserved his sentence, but he wanted to get his 'A' levels and go to university. His aim was to get a Social Work qualification and help other young people to avoid the path he had taken. I prayed with him and suggested he talk to the Prison Education Officer.

I was planned again on the 26 April 1998. The weather was very Spring like and I had planned a service based on the Good Shepherd. On the Saturday night the Minister at Walton-on-Thames, who was the Free Church Chaplain, rang me to 'let me know' that the Home Office had decided earlier in the week to close the prison and re-open it as a women's prison. Some of the prisoner had already been transferred. He warned me that some of the men were very unhappy and there could be a larger and perhaps resentful congregation. It was too late to change anything, but how great is our God, in the circumstances what better theme could there be than the one I had planned, The Good Shepherd.

I did make a couple of alterations which would not affect the organist. I added two unaccompanied solos –

'Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you' and an old Salvation Army standard,
*'Unto thee will I cry,
Shepherd hear my prayer,
Poor and needy am I,
Shepherd hear my prayer,
Deep is calling unto deep,
Rugged are the heights and steep,
Guide my steps, and keep,
Shepherd, hear, oh hear my prayer.'*

We sang: *'To God be the glory, great things he has done'*, *'The King of Love my Shepherd is'*, *'Blessed Assurance'*, *'Jesus is mine'*, and *'Guide me, O thou great Jehovah'*.

I had a list of those who were moving the next day and we prayed for them by name.

The theme of the sermon became 'New Opportunities' and was based on Psalm 23:6

'I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life and I will live with you forever.'

At the end of the service the response from the men was one of thanks and gratitude. It was very humbling, for I knew I was going home to my wife and children but they had no idea where they were going tomorrow.

The young man, from last time, came to tell me that he was retaking his 'A' levels and had received a conditional offer of a university place. I don't know what happened to him, but I often think of him and pray that he is still with the Good Shepherd. That night I felt and saw God's love at work and the compassion of the Lord Jesus and power of the Holy Spirit in the congregation and myself too.

I preached twice more at HMP Send when it was re-opened as a women's prison. Sadly, the chapel was being renovated and was not in use. The congregation was small, and the services were in a corner of the Library. Many of the other prisoners were in another section and it was very difficult. I heard and felt some antagonism and abuse to me as a representative male. I felt for them because of what men had done to many of them. They were probably the most difficult services I have ever led. Nevertheless, God enabled me to share his gospel of love.

In 2000 HMP Send did not appear on the plan again.

For the last eighteen years the ageing and shrinking congregations have become even more apparent. As a preacher the message has subtly changed. I always keep a Children's item available but often don't use it. Sometimes there may be one or two little ones and I do take a story and often one of my puppets just in case.

Recently I have been asked to preach at the Chinese Congregation that worships at Woking Trinity on Sunday afternoons. I had no idea what to expect the first time I preached. Simon, one of the leaders, led me by the hand, and with the exchange of many emails between us I prepared a sermon for him to translate before the service.

I was very nervous but the service went very well. Our great God had prepared me for this experience because as a Heritage Steward at Wesley's Chapel I had conducted groups from Korea and South America who used a translator and I understood how it worked. I was conscious that a fifteen-minute sermon in English, with a translator takes roughly thirty minutes.

The congregation seemed very happy and it was a wonderful experience. When I asked Simon how it worked for him, he smiled, and said, "It was very good, but a bit short, we usually have a longer sermon in Chinese without any translation. It is not often a preacher is told the sermon was a bit short.

I have been preaching there a couple of times a year since and I enjoy the challenge, the wonderful welcome, the sincerity of the congregation, the joy in their worship but especially that little cup of green tea, slipped into my hand after the sermon. So, refreshing!



The new Circuit has brought more travelling and the opportunities to explore new ways of worship and I am back as a bit more of a travelling preacher. However, the Gospel has not changed but how it is presented has and I have been challenged to present it in different ways for different congregations.

To be continued.....

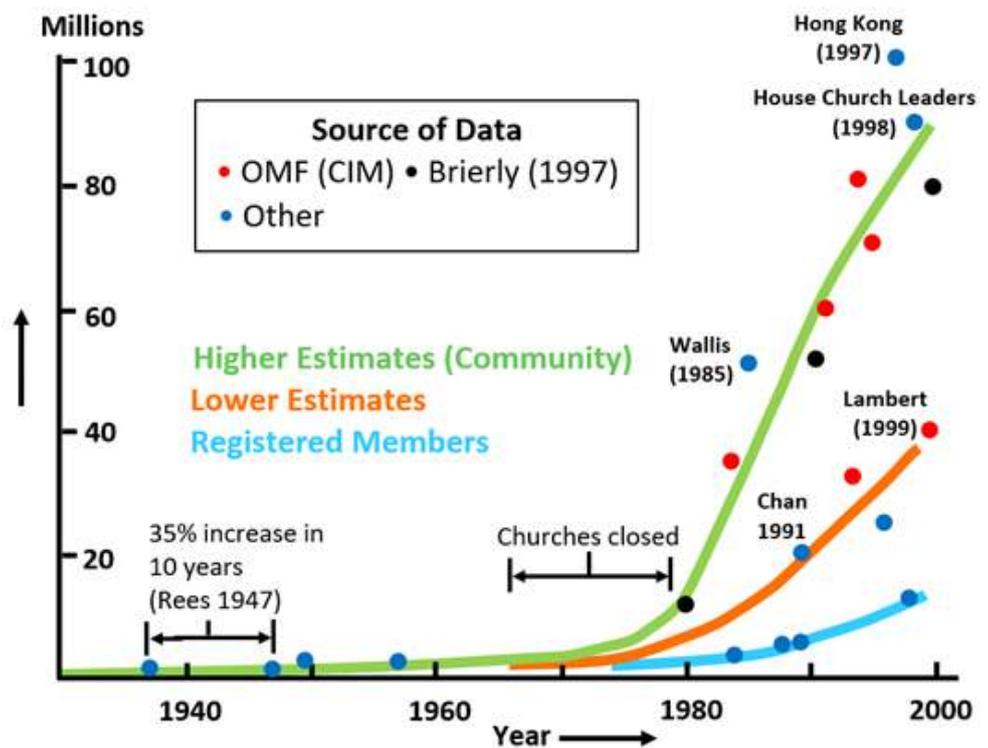
Graham Warr

House Groups and the Growth of Christianity in China

At Walton we have found that the series of Bible studies written for small groups by Hilary Brand are particularly popular. We have used those based on the films "The King's Speech", "Chocolat", "Les Miserables" and "The Theory of Everything". House groups were an important part of early Methodism and for the last 50 years have played a significant role in the growth of Christianity in China. Remarkably, the most rapid growth coincided with the Communist government challenging the belief in God by letting the "Red guards" shut all Christian churches during the "Cultural revolution" of 1966-1976. Christians then met only in small groups, mostly in houses which must have been conducive to building up and sharing their faith together with their joys and sorrows.

The money collected for refreshments after morning services at Walton goes to selected charities. For example, in October it went to The Bible Society and in December it will go to Action For Children. In the latest edition of the Bible Society magazine "Word in Action", there is an article about the church in China. They estimate that there are now "well over 100 million Christians" in China, which agrees well with the graph on this page which I completed some 20 years ago, based on 23 estimates from a variety of sources. A fleet of 48 vans now distributes Bibles from the Amity Printing Company in Nanjing, to more than 60,000 churches throughout China. Over the past 20 years some of us in Walton have contributed to the Bible Society's programme to purchase paper to print Bibles in Nanjing. About 4 million Bibles in Chinese now come off their press every year to help satisfy the longing to know more about Jesus.

The communists combined all Protestant denominations into one church but found it impossible to combine them with Roman Catholics. Around 1930 there were about 8,000 Protestant missionaries in China, including my father. At that time, members of Methodist churches, led by missionaries from the UK, USA and Canada, comprised about 18 out of every 100 Chinese Christians. We can rejoice that Methodists have played such a big role in the massive growth of the church there. After 1970 the unregistered churches started to grow very quickly, some being led by people with a Methodist background.



Now about one in every 10 people in China is a Christian. It is difficult to estimate the precise number as churches have their own methods of counting adherents. Some quote members, others those who attend, and some quote the much larger church community. Much of the above information was obtained from the missionary library of the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies. We can rejoice that the Christian church continues to grow in many areas, especially in parts of South America, Africa and Asia.

Colin Wright

West Horsley

We were very pleased that Claire Hargreaves was able to take our Harvest Festival service in September and bring us up to date with her work with All We Can. Also, it was good to have Jane Briggs (O'Leary) for our celebration of the work of MHA.

There seemed to be a multitude of people at the Village Fete in September, despite the heat. Our stall received a lot of interest, particularly from children keen to demolish the tower of tin cans! It's good to be seen as part of the village activities.

Our recent occasional lunch was well attended by local residents and, together with our weekly coffee morning, is part of our outreach into the community.

We look forward to welcoming friends from the Circuit to our evening of Advent Carol Praise on Saturday 7 December at 7.00pm. This is a great opportunity to step back from the bustle of Christmas preparations and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. You'll be most welcome. If you'd like to choose a hymn or carol in advance, please contact Celia on 01483 282267.

Margaret Faulkner

NIGHT VISION

Thursday
19
December

*between
18.00 – 21.00*

Music
Reflections
Refreshments



UNWIND FROM SHOPPING
...prepare yourself for Christmas

ST. MARY'S
QUARRY ST
GUILDFORD

Weybridge

Life at Weybridge continues on a pace with small changes which we hope will be of use to the community around us.

In September the Clothes and Bedding Bank at Weybridge arranged to give vouchers to the Byfleet food bank for them to distribute to any of their visitors who might be in need. This resulted in the busiest week ever seen at this event; The Weybridge ladies were delighted to help some very needy families. This co-operation with the Byfleet food bank has moved the team to talk to the local Parish church in Weybridge (who started a foodbank in the summer) to see if we can persuade them to have vouchers also.

In October we celebrated 119 years of the church building in Weybridge, prior to the opening of the building Methodists in Weybridge worshipped in various homes. Our service was led by Rev Sydney Samuel Lake and was followed by the obligatory Birthday Cake!

In December the church will once again run the 'Reverse Advent' initiative which will boost stocks for the Foodbank over Christmas.

For the first time this year Weybridge will hold a 'Posada'. Although our numbers are small we hope to have enough volunteers to host the holy family through Advent. Thanks to our dear friend Daphne Platt at Addlestone we have the family, complete with donkey for travel, so we are all geared up.

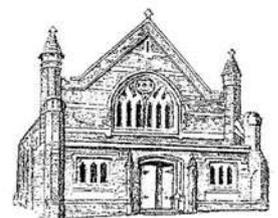


On 1 December Weybridge is holding a Café Church at 6.30pm entitled 'The Christmas Miracle'. Everyone is invited to join us from 6.15pm for seasonal refreshments followed by an informal time of worship lead by Rev Sydney Samuel Lake.

The church has welcomed a new, very busy, children's weekly activity onto our premises and we are considering ways to tap into them. We are looking at a Christmas event to which all users of our premises can be invited.

All at Weybridge wish our fellow Christians around the circuit a very Happy Christmas and blessed and peaceful New Year.

Linda Weedon



A note to contributors

It is our practice to publish each edition of The Wey Forward, in its pdf format, on the Circuit website. The Wey Forward is an important source of information about the life of the Circuit and what is going on in each of the churches across it. We want to share it with others.

However, we recognise that some contributors may be uncomfortable with a mention on the internet. We will be happy to omit names and any other personal details in any future issue if requested to do so. Please advise at the time of submitting the copy.

A Message from the Editor

I hope you have found the latest edition of 'The Wey Forward' both interesting and useful. Thank-you to everyone who contributed to the articles. As always, it has been a real pleasure to receive and read each item as I put the newsletter together.

If you would find a large print version of the magazine useful then please let me know and I can arrange that for you.

We would like the focus of the magazine to be a forward looking one. So as you plan your events, bear in mind that the rest of the circuit would love to know about them.

**The deadline for Issue 15 of The Wey Forward
is midnight 19 January 2020**

Submissions to the newsletter are accepted at any time but we can only guarantee a submission **will be considered** for a particular issue if it is received by the corresponding deadline listed below. Pop them in your diaries now.

Issue 16 5 April 2020

Issue 17 5 July 2020

Issue 18 27 September 2020

**Please send your items (and photos) to
weyforward@weyvalleycircuit.org.uk**

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sue Howson

Diary Dates

Date	Time	Event	Venue
December 2019			
Every Weds	12.30pm - 2.30pm	Foodbank	Byfleet
Every Weds *	9.30am - 11.00am	Chit Chat for foreign residents *in term time only	St Mary's, Guildford
1 December	9.00am - 4.30pm	International display of nativity sets, coffees, lunches, teas	Byfleet
1 December	6.15pm	The Christian Miracle - Café Church	Weybridge
5 December	12.15pm for 12.30pm	Advent Reflections with bread and soup lunch	St Mary's, Guildford
6 December	tbc	Korean Prayer Evening	Walton
7 December	3.30pm	Christmas Concert with W Byfleet Community Choir, inc tea	Byfleet
7 December	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Carol Praise Evening	West Horsley
7 December	9.20am - 12.30pm	Practical Aspects of Spirituality	St Mary's, Guildford
7 December	3.00pm - 5.00pm	Messy Church - "Christmas is coming"	Godalming
8 December	3.00pm - 5.00pm	Afternoon tea and carols (free but entry by ticket)	Knaphill
9 December	tbc	Singing carols at Walton station	Walton
12 December	10.30am - 12 noon	Coffee morning supporting Methodist Homes	Merrow
12 December	12.15pm for 12.30pm	Advent Reflections with bread and soup lunch	St Mary's, Guildford
14 December	4.00pm	Carols on the Green, Bushy Hill Green	Merrow
14 December	7.00pm	Godalming Band Christmas Concert	Godalming
15 December	3.30pm	Carols by Candlelight	Byfleet
19 December	6.00pm - 9.00pm	Night Vision	St Mary's, Guildford
21 December	11.30am - 1.30pm	Bedding and Clothing Bank	Weybridge
21 December	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Clothes4U	Knaphill
22 December	6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight	Knaphill
24 December	3.00pm - 5.00pm	Messy Christingle	Walton
29 December	10.00/10.30am	Just 3 services across the circuit	Byfleet, Merrow and Walton
January 2020			
9 January	10.30am - 12.30pm	Coffee morning in aid of The Leprosy Mission	Merrow
11 January	9.00am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning	Byfleet
18 January	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Clothes4U	Knaphill
18 January	11.30am - 1.30pm	Bedding and Clothing Bank	Weybridge
19 January	6.30pm	Café style service	Addlestone
19 January	Midnight	Deadline for copy for Issue 15 of The Wey Forward	
23 January	12.15pm - 1.30pm	Soup and Bread Lunch	Merrow
23 January	10.30am - 12 noon	Coffee and Cake	St Mary's, Guildford
25 January	10am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning (for Missions)	Knaphill
31 January	8.30pm - 11.30pm	Night Vision	St Mary's, Guildford
February 2020 (and beyond)			
1 February	3.00pm - 5pm	Messy Church	Godalming
8 February	9.00am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning	Byfleet
8 - 9 Feb	tbc	Wizard of Oz pantomime—4 performances (01483 421433)	Godalming
13 February	10.30am - 12 noon	Coffee morning in aid of Traidcraft Exchange	Merrow
15 February	11.30am - 1.30pm	Bedding and Clothing Bank	Weybridge
15 February	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Clothes4U	Knaphill
22 February	10am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning	Knaphill
23 February	6.30pm	Pudding and Praise with Breeze	Walton
27 February	12.15pm - 1.30pm	Soup and Bread Lunch	Merrow
28 February	8.30pm - 11.30pm	Night Vision	St Mary's, Guildford
29 February	6.30pm	Circuit Mission Supper with Sam Monaghan, CEO of MHA	Woking
14 March	9.00am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning hosted by the Brownies and Rainbows	Byfleet
26 March	12.15pm - 1.30pm	Soup and Bread Lunch	Merrow
5 April	3.00pm - 5.00pm	Messy Church	Godalming