



Weybridge Methodist Church

Newsletter November 2022



Poppies at the Tower of London November 2014

Church in Ypres, November 2018

We will remember them!

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and love.



Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends

Like some of you, I have now lived during the life and times of 3 monarchs, 18 premierships and 29 chancellors of the exchequer! Some of you will be able to beat that tally. I suppose that I really started taking an interest in politics from the late 60s onwards. I have never subscribed to the view that religion and politics don't mix, simply because both of them are about how we choose to live our lives. Methodists and Methodist preachers have always had a healthy interest in politics with a small 'p' and many with party politics also. I well remember that the small Methodist church I grew up in produced not only a town councillor but the town mayor...as well as five Local Preachers and three ministers.

John Wesley himself was much concerned, as you know, with the poor and the marginalised during the 18th century. Many of the early trade unionists, including the Tolpuddle Martyrs, were members of the Methodist Church. Today, the Methodist Parliamentary Fellowship holds an annual Parliamentary Covenant service in the chapel at the Palace of Westminster. In recent years Methodists have pursued their social justice work alongside the United Reformed Church, the Baptist Union and the Church of Scotland.

It comes as no surprise therefore that our most recent hymn book, *Singing the Faith*, contains a number of hymns relating to social justice, the resolution of conflict and the pursuit of peace. Perhaps you might like to have a look at the Justice and Peace section in StF beginning with hymn no. 693 written by Graham Kendrick... 'Beauty for brokenness'. The hymn has a chorus ending with the words 'come change our love from a spark to a flame'. This reminds us that John Wesley considered himself to be 'a brand plucked from the burning' because as a child he was rescued from his father's burning rectory. It also reminds us of

Wesley's Aldersgate experience when he 'felt his heart strangely warmed'.

I would also refer you to hymn no. 705... 'It is God who holds the nations in the hollow of his hand'. This hymn was written by the late Fred Pratt Green, who was a Methodist minister, and the second verse seems particularly apt at this critical time in our nation's history:

'It is God whose purpose summons us
to use the present hour;
who recalls us to our senses
when a nation's life turns sour;
in the discipline of freedom
we shall know God's saving power'.

May God bless you and keep you, and those whom you love.

Allan

Rev. J. Allan Taylor

Church Mission

On Saturday 15th October the circuit organised a Mission Day which was led by Tom Lewis, a (young) Mission chaplain who lives and works on a (proposed) huge new housing development in Ashford, Kent. He has been 'planted' to build a church in an area which is due to have 6,000 new homes – there are only a small percentage currently built. He lives and works in the community, his children attend the local school so he is part of a new community, most of whom are well away from the area in which they grew up.

Tom reminded us of the four main functions of our church:

Discipleship

Fellowship

Mission

Worship

And the hardest of them is Mission. Jesus commanded his disciples to go and spread the word and he invites us to do so also.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Tom reminded us that God doesn't have a mission for his church in the world, rather he has a church for his mission in the world!

We are adjured not to ask if our dreams for mission are crazy, rather we are asked if they are crazy enough!

Tom gave us an analogy: if a ship makes an error of one degree in its navigation it will end up 100 miles from where it needs to be. If we do one small thing for Church Mission then we will be repaid one hundred fold – although maybe not immediately. We may never know the results of our actions but God will ensure that they happen.

What can we do?

To start with we can all invite a friend or neighbour to join us in worship, maybe initially for a special service.

With the current state of the world where war continues to affect many areas, not just Russia and Ukraine, why not invite a family member, neighbour or friend to join us on Remembrance Sunday, 13th November, to pray for world peace as well as remembering those, both military and civilian, who gave their lives in the pursuit of peace and harmony.

Our worship for Remembrance Sunday will be led by our Superintendent Minister, Rev Dr Paul Glass.

After that why not consider inviting someone to the Carol service in 18th December? They could also stay for lunch.

We can't go on as we are; we need to find practical ways to remind the world that God is alive and working for our world.

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## Worship and activities in November 2022

|                           |                                                            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 06 <sup>th</sup> November | 10.30 am Mr Andrew Gibb                                    |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> November | 10.55am Funeral of Mrs Nancy Fuller                        |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> November | 10 – 12 our coffee morning at Addlestone Methodist church. |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> November | 10.30 am Rev Dr Paul Glass                                 |



Remembrance Sunday

|                                        |                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17 <sup>th</sup> November              | our turn to assist at the Old Folks Club                                                        |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Communion | 10.30am Rev Sydney Samuel Lake with                                                             |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> November              | 10.30 am Rev Adam Payne – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent<br>The Posada commences its journey. |

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Refreshments will be served after the services.

Thank you to all those who help with refreshments.

Thank you to those who regularly set up the tables & chairs for refreshments.

Thank you to Dave Ingoldby for replacing the key safe in the Kitchen, sorting out the heating timer clocks and replacing the noisy return on the door to the glazed link. Also for taking some rubbish away.

We need volunteers to take items to the tip: an old kettle, an old heater, the broken Urn and some pieces of hardboard.



As in pre-Covid years, the Civic Service of Remembrance will take place at 3pm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at St James' Church, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre.

Prior to the Church service there will be the annual laying of wreaths at the war memorial at 2.30pm. If you plan to attend this session could let St James administrator know that we can try to ensure the safety of everyone present please? No-one actually runs this part of the proceedings (it just happens), however EBC and Surrey Police need a point of communication which has fallen to St James'.



Prayers for all those in need, especially:



For Janice and family as they mourn the passing of our dear friend Nancy.

For Paula as she waits for her rescheduled surgery.

For Carol who is still waiting for a date for her surgery.

For all those whose health is uncertain, remembering in particular Anna.



November birthday wishes go to

Claire

Paula

& Pat

Not forgetting Teresa & Zachary





is delighted to host our first joint event



# THREE CHOIRS

## GOSPEL CONCERT



Come join us for a dynamic evening of music led by 3 top local Gospel choirs

### FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

7.30PM Tickets £10

GODALMING UNITED CHURCH, Bridge Road, Godalming, GU7 3DU

Tickets available from Record Corner, or on the door

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT [WWW.GCGC.ORG.UK](http://WWW.GCGC.ORG.UK)





## POSADA

On Advent Sunday – 27 November- the Holy Family commence their journey towards Christmas day. We will ask the preacher for that Sunday, Rev Adam Payne, to bless them as they begin their journey. Readings and Prayers are available to help the ‘hosts’ reflect in this

time of hospitality.

The tradition of having the figures of Mary, Joseph and a donkey travelling from home to home during Advent is becoming more and more popular in our country. The tradition originated in Mexico where it is called a posada. Posada means Inn.

We will once more be looking to church members to give them hospitality for a few days before passing them on to the next a home. A signup sheet will be available.

The family will re-join us on Christmas day when we are very fortunate that our good friend Mrs Rosemary Lee will lead our Christmas morning worship.



## REVERSE ADVENT

Following a few years break due to Covid we will once again be supporting the ‘Reverse Advent’ programme to help the increased requirements at the Foodbanks during the Christmas season

The idea we each place an item in a box every day during Advent. The boxes will be brought to church on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December – our Carol Service- when they will be blessed before being taken to the Foodbank on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December in time for the

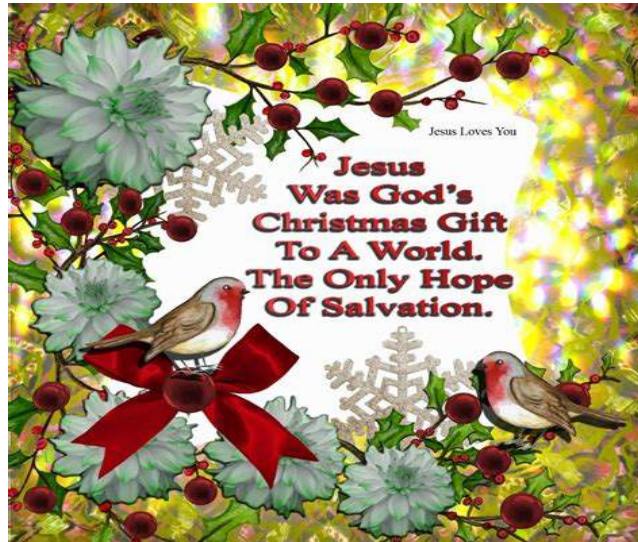


final Christmas push. Remember that in addition to items of food,



toiletries, nappies, washing powder, sanitary wear are all vital items.  
(*please no baked beans, pasta or soup*)

Please give generously to those for whom Christmas may not be such a joyous occasion.



For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,  
Matthew chapter 25, verse 35



**A joyful start to Christmas**

***Carol Praise***



**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec**

**7.00 - 9.00 pm**

**Horsley Methodist  
Church**

(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**

# Threads through Creation

By Jacqui Parkinson



Panel 5 – the Universe



Panel 7 – God created Man & Woman

Caryl and Linda took themselves off to Guildford Cathedral to see the 'Threads through Creation' exhibition. This exhibition comprises 12 huge (at least 10 foot each) textile panels inspired by the first pages of the bible and involving eight million stitches. These photos don't do justice to the magnitude or awesomeness of the panels. We were in awe of the work involved but also of the inspiration which led to this work, which took three years to complete.

There is a small booklet about the exhibition which will be available to view but this also doesn't do justice to the work.

If you fancy a day out in 2023 the panels are on display as follows:

7th January to 19th March – BATH ABBEY

22nd March to 30th April – PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL

3rd May to 11th June – St ALBANS CATHEDRAL

14th June to 23rd July – ELY CATHEDRAL

26th July to 3rd September – ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL

6th September to 15th October – PORTSMOUTH

18th October to late November – WELLS CATHEDRAL