

Dear friends,

I was recently at a conference for school governors which are part of a group of school academies. A short opening address was given by the chair of the group. Early in his talk, he spoke on how in the Middle Ages, education for children was provided by the Church, especially by abbeys and religious orders. He mentioned the Rule of St Benedict.

This is a book of rules written in about 530 AD to guide monks on how to live together in community under the leadership of an abbot. St Benedict himself founded several religious communities in modern-day Italy.

I was struck by how the role of the Church and religious life was highlighted in this conference of a secular organisation. It's a reminder that our Christian heritage has deep roots in our culture which goes back nearly two millennia. Although if we simply use the number of those attending Sunday worship as a measure, most churches are experiencing decline, the wider Church which we are part of, has been around for a very long time. The Church's work has had a major impact upon education, healthcare and the civic life of our nation over the centuries. It's easy to forget what has been described as 'the Gospel footprint'. Sometimes we come across it unexpectedly and it can surprise us.

From food banks and interfaith work to chaplaincy and art exhibitions and much more, I am struck by how we as Methodist churches and other Christian traditions are contributing to the flourishing of our community. Who knows – they might mention us at the next school governors' conference.

Shaun Sanders



Resources/Good News

Lent and Easter Church Resources

The following link includes bible study videos, worship resources, weekly themes and the option to sign up to receive Lent and Holy Week reflections by email.

[Lent and Easter Church Resources - The Methodist Church](#)

[Spring Clean Your Life | Lent Advert 2026](#)

RHS Orchid Show at Wisley

Friday 13th to Sunday 15th March, 10.00am to 4.00pm

Visit RHS Wisley, where growers from across the country will exhibit their finest orchids in breathtaking displays and offer expert advice. You'll find everything you need to nurture a passion for growing these spectacular plants [RHS Orchid Show | RHS Garden Wisley / RHS](#)



MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING



AND SALE



**BOOKS, DVDs,
JIGSAWS, CAKES,
BRIC-A-BRAC & MORE**

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

4th Saturday every month (except December)

10am to Noon

STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



3rd February

10th February

17th February

24th February

3rd March

10th March

17th March

24th March

31st March

2026



Enjoy Coffee & a Chat, Coffee & a Game, or Coffee & a Book

The choice is yours!

Everyone welcome – bring a friend!

FROM DARKNESS



... TO LIGHT

Explore stunning works from internationally renowned artists such as **Graham Sutherland, Elisabeth Frink, Patrick Heron and Maggi Hambling**

**St Mary's Quarry Street
Guildford GU1 3UP**

9 March to 5 April 2026

Public opening hours will be
11.00 – 15.00 (or later)
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays
and daily from 30 March – 4 April

Further details from www.htsmguildford.org/mmac-2026

Events open to all:

Wednesday 11 March <i>* Ticketed event</i>	19.00	A Journey through the Passion: Prof. Ben Quash in conversation with Rev. Karen Case-Green
Thursday 12 March	12.30	A Lunchtime Lent Reflection: Rev. Sarah Hutton introduces three water-themed images
Saturday 14 March	09.30 to 11.30	Practical Aspects of Spirituality: Dark ... Light ... the Spirit in paint: Rev. Dr. Paul Glass
Thursday 19 March	12.30	A Lunchtime Lent Reflection: Rev. Karen Case-Green introduces Lee-Elliott's Crucified tree-form – the Agony
Friday 20 March <i>* Ticketed event</i>	19.30	From Darkness ... to Light: Reflections in music and poetry, with poet Alwyn Marriage and 'cellist Annelies Terry <i>Exhibition viewing from 18.00</i>
Wednesday 25 March <i>* Ticketed event</i>	19.00	A Door to the Holy: Contemporary Art & Faith A talk by Laura Moffatt
Thursday 26 March	12.30	A Lunchtime Lent Reflection: Rev. Brian Roberts introduces Cazalet's Fool of God and Brokenshire's Pentecost
Sunday 29 March	18.00	Shadows of the Cross - a Palm Sunday Reflection including music from <i>In Nomine</i> Choir
30 March – 5 April		Programme of events for Holy Week to be published on the website

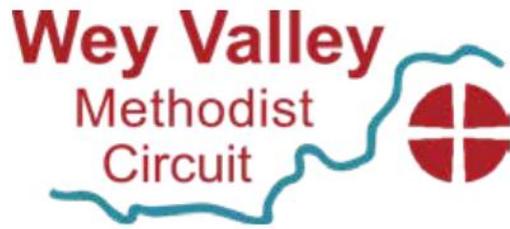
** Ticketed events: £10 each see Eventbrite for MMAC Guildford*

More details at www.htsmguildford.org/mmac-2026
For further enquiries: MMAC2026@htsmguildford.org.uk



Mark Cazalet: Fool of God. Lee-Elliott: Crucified tree-form – the Agony. Richard Bavitt: The Empty Tomb.

Images from the Methodist Modern Art Collection © TMCP, used with permission. www.methodist.org.uk/artcollection



Circuit Mission Supper

Saturday 14th March 2026

6pm for 6:30pm

At Trinity Methodist Church, Woking

Fish and Chips (battered sausage
/vegan options available)

Cost £10 – tickets available from
the Church Stewards

Bring your own crockery and cutlery



Speaker: Grace Pratt Morris-Chapman

Grace is a former mission partner, who has worked alongside her husband Daniel, in Cameroon, Italy and Uganda. Grace and her family have now settled in the Northampton Circuit.

Grace will be sharing about her experience as a mission partner and the subject of the talk will be 'Unusual Kindness'.

FREE FUN AND GAMES THIS MONTH



ADDLESTONE METHODIST CHURCH

71 Station Road (next to Subway)

10.30am-12pm (Doors Open 10am)

Sat 7th Feb – Free Bingo in Coffee Lounge, Tea, Coffee and Cake

Sat 14th Feb – Sing-a-long in church to popular hymns and songs,
Tea, Coffee and Cake

Sat 21st Feb – Free Games morning in Lounge, Scrabble is game of the month,
Tea, Coffee and Cake

Sat 28th Feb – Time to Sing, Discuss and Pray, Tea, Coffee and Cake

**Play.
Laugh.
Connect.**



**Churches Together in Byfleet
Ecumenical Lent Group**

At

**St Michael's Church,
Sheerwater**

**7pm refreshments
for a 715pm start**

Superstar

The course booklet is written by DAVID WILBOURNE who studied Natural Sciences and Theology at Cambridge. David has been a vicar and published six books. Having worked with three Archbishops of York, he went on to serve as Assistant Bishop of Llandaff.

"It's 1970 – Edward Heath becomes PM, Apollo 13 limps back to earth, and Jesus Christ Superstar takes the West End by storm, asking daring questions that gave colour to my former monochrome faith and fired my vocation. Half a century on, its message remains just as relevant, and we explore themes from its iconic lyrics in the 5 sessions of this course".

Session 1 - 25th February: Who is Jesus?

Session 2 - 4th March: Miracles

Session 3 - 11th March: The Psalms

Session 4 - 18th March: The Church

Session 5 - 25th March: Cross Purposes

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS!?!

*Do you have a conversation in your church
that goes something like this?*

PERSON 1: "We've got a (or two, or three!) Local Arrangement(s)
on the Plan this quarter. What are we going to do?"

PERSON 2: "Oh no! I don't know! Do you think we could get away
with another 'Songs of Praise' service? Or can we find someone
else to do it for us?"



Well... DON'T PANIC! Help is at hand!

We've finally got round to planning a session to help you with
some ideas, resources and encouragement.

(Apologies for the delay, someone was a bit poorly!)

Who it's for? Stewards, Worship Leaders;
anyone in the Congregation that it's interested really!

Where? TRINITY, WOKING

When? Sat 30th May, 2.30-4.30pm

**SAVE THE DATE - MORE INFORMATION TO
FOLLOW NEARER THE TIME!**

Please join in with the

Walk of Witness

Good Friday • 3 April 2026 • 10:30



**Enter into the spirit of Good Friday, with many Christians from local churches.
We hear the story of Jesus's journey from Gethsemane to Golgotha.**

**We will start outside McDonalds/Friary at 10.30am and then walk up the
High Street towards Holy Trinity.**

**Once the cross has been tied to the railings at the top of the High Street,
outside Holy Trinity Church, you are invited to tape a prayer to the cross,
when you are next in the centre of Guildford,
as a sign laying down your burden at Jesus's feet.**

Pastoral Support

Advocacy

Accommodation

SUSTAINING HOPE IN 2026

Interpreting

Foodbanks

Drop-In Centres



Place of Sanctuary

Are you involved, or interested, in supporting
Refugees, Migrants & Displaced Persons?

Befriending

English practice

The Methodist South-East District 'Sustaining Hope' spring gathering for 2026

Cafes

will include

Form-filling

- time to network

- Rev Nigel Cowgill, Global Communities Officer: '*Being a Global Community*'
- Mary Barrett, Immigration Detention Visitor: '*Support, friendship, advocacy*'

Date: Saturday, 25th April, 10.00am - 1.30pm
(Refreshments from 9.45am)

Resettlement
Schemes

Venue: Redhill Methodist Church, RH1 1BP

Clothing Banks

Redhill Station is 5 minutes' walk away
NCP car park on Gloucester Road opposite the church

Liaising with other Agencies

To register, for more information, or for the
livestreaming link, please email
Rev Hazel Forecast at

hazel.forecast@methodist.org.uk

Mother-tongue worship

Something else...