

Dear friends,

Have you ever lain awake at night, anxious about something, unable to get back to sleep because of some unfinished task, or finding it impossible to stop thinking about some deep concern in your life, or the life of a loved one? I have. It is a joke I share with Margaret, that her glass is always half empty, while mine is always half full. The truth, however, is that I can be obsessed by thoughts which occupy too much of my mind (and soul), especially at that waking moment in the middle of the night. It could be guilt, of course: I was once investigated for possibly having caused a road accident: that cost me hours of sleep. That burden was lifted, thank goodness, when I received the letter telling me that no further action would be taken. Looking back over my pastoral ministry, there have been moments when I have been insensitive or said something I straight away wished I hadn't. These memories can still come back to haunt me, many years later. This is apart from the various traumatic events that have left indelible imprints on one's subconscious mind. It could be fear, too, especially as we meditate on the world we live in, wars and climate change, crime, disease, or simply wondering how to afford the next meal (or council tax payment).

George MacDonald (Scottish poet and minister) had something to say about this: 'The care that is filling your mind at this moment or...waiting till you lay the book aside to leap upon you – that need which is no need – is a demon sucking at the spring of your life... Is it something you have to do this very moment? Then you are allowing it to usurp something that is required of you this moment... Trust in the living God.' It reminds me of the phrase 'the sacrament of the present moment'. Jesus said, 'Lo, I am with you, even to the end of the world.' It is a word we need to hear in those moments of anxiety or obsession: moments when God is so easily crowded out.

There is a wonderful symbolism in the story of Jesus walking on the lake. The disciples were afraid in their storm-battered boat, far from land, and even more terrified by the sight of Jesus walking towards them; until he said, 'Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid.' The phrase which speaks most to my heart comes a little later, though. Peter tried to walk towards Jesus, 'but when he noticed the strong wind he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying... "Why did you doubt?"

'Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him.' I do have ways of trying to calm my busy mind when fears and cares overtake me at night: deep breathing, or following a long car journey in my mind, or saying the alphabet backwards. Any one of these might help me fall back to sleep; but nothing beats the Lord's prayer for true peace: and knowing that I only have to call, for a gentle but strong hand to reach out to grasp mine.

God to enfold you,
Christ to uphold you,
Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;

So may God grace you,
Heal and embrace you,
Lead you through darkness
Into the light.

(John Bell; Singing the Faith 648)

Blessings,

Peter

Resources/Good News

Surrey Interfaith Forum

The Hate Crime and Community Cohesion Partnership, which sits under the Community Safety and Prevention Board, is seeking the views of Surrey residents on community safety, feelings of belonging, and the issues that matter most in their local area. The findings will help shape future community safety and cohesion priorities across Surrey.

Please find below link to the Surrey Community Safety and Cohesion Survey 2026.

[Surrey Community Safety and Cohesion Survey 2026 | Healthy Surrey](#)

The survey is now open, running until 21 September 2026, and is seeking the views of Surrey residents on community safety, feelings of belonging, and the issues that matter most in their local area. The findings will help shape future community safety and cohesion priorities across Surrey.

The more responses they receive, the better they can ensure that the partnership's work reflects the needs, concerns, and experiences of Surrey's communities.

You can find out more about the partnership and its work here: [Hate crime | Healthy Surrey](#)



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

Heritage Open Days 18 – 20 September 2026

**Friday & Sunday 12.00 – 16.00
Saturday 10.00 – 16.00**

including

‘OUR TIME 2’

***exhibition of art
from prisoners at HMP Send***

Refreshments available

including Heritage Café on Saturday run by the Brownies and Guides



**Stay for FREE tea,
coffee & a chat**

Clothes4U

**Pre loved clothes with TLC
from**

Knaphill Methodist Church

Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2DR



Saturday 19 September 2026 2 - 4pm

To claim your FREE clothes, collect a voucher from 30+ places in Surrey.

Email us to find out where they are: clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk



**All are
welcome to
join us for tea,
coffee, cake &
a chat in a
friendly
environment**



**Whether
you're
looking for
clothes for
yourself,
friends, or
family**



**We have
lovely,
pre-loved
clothes for
everyone to
take away &
enjoy wearing**



**We look forward
to meeting you
& your family**



**If you would
like to donate
clothes,
please
contact us on
the email
below**



**If you would
like to
volunteer, we
would warmly
welcome your
help**

www.knaphill-methodist-church.com/clothes4U

clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com



Woking People of Faith

Woking People of Faith present



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE EVENT



Saturday 26 September 2026



12pm–1pm



Mercia Walk, Woking



Woking Mayor, Cllr Rob Leach, to present prizes to Woking schoolchildren for peace-themed poetry and posters.



Children's work on display



Local faith leaders to read from the **Peace Document**



One minute's silence in memory of those who have passed due to war



Music from local musicians



Beautiful **FREE** henna painting

ALL WELCOME

PEACE • PEOPLE • A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



Alzheimer's
Society



Cream Tea Charity Fundraiser

We are holding a 2nd Cream Tea Charity Fundraiser this year this time for Alzheimer's Society. Book now for a 45 minute time slot and receive a delightful cream tea with a tea or coffee all in the aid of this charity. Train rides will be running as normal.

Sunday 27th September 2026 2-5pm

£10 per person (pay on the day)

 **MIZENS RAILWAY TEA ROOM**



*Scan Here
To Book*





Merrow
Methodist Church

Coffee Morning



JOIN US
for
coffee/tea,
homemade cakes,
and
a chat

Thursday 15 October 2026
10.30 am – 12 noon
Merrow Methodist Church

biblesociety.org.uk | Registered charity 232759 | Photo: Engin Akyurt PIXABAY



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STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



4th August

11th August

18th August

25th August

1st September

8th September

15th September

22nd September

29th September

2026



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

The choice is yours!

Everyone welcome – bring a friend!

COFFEE AND CAKE

AT ST. MARY'S

QUARRY ST. GUILDFORD GU1 3UP

**SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER
2026**



Thursday 27 August

- - -

Thursday 24 September

- - -

Thursday 22 October

10.30 – 12.00

- each month features a different charity

Everyone welcome



St. Mary's Church

Quarry St GU1 3UP

visit

OUR TIME 2

**- an exhibition of art
created by**

women prisoners from HMP Send

Opening:

Thursday 1 October 11 am – 5 pm

Friday 2 October 11am – 5 pm

Saturday 3 October 11 am – 5 pm

Sunday 4 October 12 noon – 5 pm

Thursday **1st October, 7.00-8.30pm at St John's, Waterloo** - hear the testimony and call to action of a Palestinian farmer and peace activist from *Tent of Nations* in the West Bank. Supported by *Embrace the Middle East* and the CEO of *All We Can*. Tickets can be booked at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-struggle-for-land-justice-and-peace-in-the-west-bank-tickets-1998351370744>

Saturday **3rd October 10.00am-1.30pm - *Sustaining Hope* gathering at Redhill Methodist Church** with presentations from two people on the front-line of supporting asylum-seekers and people recognised as refugees in the south of our District. In view of the current increased intimidation of communities and people of goodwill, do take this opportunity to learn more and share your support. Details are on the poster or from hazel.forecast@methodist.org.uk.

Pastoral Support

Advocacy

Accommodation

SUSTAINING HOPE IN 2026

Interpreting

Foodbanks

Drop-In Centres

Place of Sanctuary

Befriending

English practice

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

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

Cafes

will include

- time to network

- Deacon Vicky Welsh: 'Unexpected voices within a small town'

- Rossana Leal: Becoming 'Refugee Buddies'

Resettlement Schemes

Date: Saturday, 3rd October, 10.00am - 1.30pm
(Refreshments from 9.45am)

Venue: Redhill Methodist Church, RH1 1BP
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

Form-filling

Clothing Banks

Mother-tongue worship

Something else...



Weybridge Sings

**Treble Clef and
Weybridge Male Voice Choirs
in Concert**



treble clef choir
WEYBRIDGE



Registered
Charity
No: 1038624



**Friday 9th October at 7.30pm
Christ the Prince of Peace
Portmore Way, Weybridge. KT13 8JD**

**Adults £15 U12's go Free
Pay Bar for Refreshments.**

Retiring collection
in aid of

Princess Alice
Hospice

**Tickets from Choir Members, or
www.ticketsource.co.uk/weybridgemvc**





Woking People of Faith

FAITH TO FAITH FORGIVENESS

AN INTERFAITH CONVERSATION



EVENT DETAILS

DATE

Thursday 15
October 2026

TIME

7.30 pm

DURATION

60–90 mins
maximum



VENUE

Friends Meeting House, 41 Park Road
Woking GU22 7DB

What to expect

A focused evening of listening, reflection and exchange.

01

Faith perspectives

Five minutes from each speaker on forgiveness in their faith.

02

Small groups

Time to discuss, ask questions and share reflections together.

03

Shared session

Concluding with common features and distinctions between faiths.



Light refreshments provided

Please arrive in time for a prompt 7.30 pm start.



Parking available

On site and on nearby side roads.

JUST TURN UP!

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS AND NO FAITH WELCOME



Woking People of Faith

The WPOF Environmental Working Party invite you to

HELP THE HEATHER

**JOIN US TO HELP THE HEATHER
SURVIVE ON HORSELL COMMON!**



Saturday 17th October 2026



10 am - 12 pm



Horsell Common

(meet at Heather Farm at 9.45 am)

Bring Boots and Gloves!

All welcome!

For more information email John West:

westjohn630@gmail.com

POP-UP PLAY CAFÉ

Wednesday 29 October 9.30 – 11.30

... call in at
ST. MARY'S
Quarry St
Guildford GU1 3UP

- space to play
- time to relax
- coffee and cake

All ages welcome



SAVE THE DATES

Join us for our 2026 series of

Advent Reflections

followed by a bread & soup lunch

**Thursdays – 26 November
and 3, 10 December**

12.15 for 12.30

Carols at Lunchtime: 17 December

St. Mary's Quarry St Guildford GU1 3UP

Tea/Coffee and Cake

Pay as You Feel

every Saturday, 10.00 - 12.00pm



Addlestone Methodist Church

(Next to Subway on Station Road)

Free Prize Bingo &
Games Mornings

on 1st and 3rd Saturdays
of month!



We always need donations and volunteers to
keep serving the Addlestone community. Please help us!

Play  
Chat. Connect



Saturday 21st November 2026
2pm

At Walton Methodist Church Hall
A maximum of 6 people per team
Refreshments being served at half time.

Email:

waltonmethodistchurchsecretary@virginmedia.com
to book your place!

tearfund.org/quiz

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tearfund