

Wednesday 21st October 2026

Grace and Peace,

It wouldn't be wise to say something so bold and outrageous that it could split the whole Circuit in two this early on in my ministry here... but I am going to have to do it. Brace yourselves... here goes...

...I love Liverpool. There, I've said it. I love the city, the music, the culture, the accent, the places I used to go to when I was a kid, the places I am more likely to go to now. I love the well-known streets, the back streets, the galleries, museums, coffee shops, I even love the slightly cheesy touristy places too. And yes, I love Liverpool Football Club too.

The last time I was in the city I had a real shock. Walking near the Albert Dock, I came across this bench. As I got



closer and saw a bundle of clothes on a bench, I remember the sadness rising in me, as I noticed that this person was motionless on the bench and – in February no less – was barefoot. I had to get really very close indeed before I realised that this figure on the bench was actually not flesh and blood but made of bronze.

I was even closer when I saw the detail on the feet, and all of a sudden, the penny dropped. Have a look at this image on the right. The nameless, homeless, bundle of a figure on a bench like so many people across this world... is Jesus Christ.



Early in October many churches have marked Homelessness Sunday – remembering too that if we see Jesus in those around us it will transform how we perceive and act in relation to some of the most vulnerable in our midst. “I was

naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” (Matthew 25:36)

A town-centre church I used to look after sometimes had a man sleeping rough in the entrance. The first time I met him I offered to get him a coffee and sandwich – which he refused. After a fairly short conversation he asked me if he could pray for me...and shocked as I was, I agreed. (A good lesson for a new minister who might have been thinking he was the sole purveyor of prayer on those premises!)

Jesus is in our midst in and always will be: sometimes in the predictable and familiar, and sometimes in ways which surprise. Sometimes in people we know, or who are similar to us, and sometimes (beautifully) through those who are different. Thanks be to God that Jesus really is in our midst... and always will be.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Rev Paul' in a cursive style.

Rev. Paul Tabraham

Resources/Good News

EVENT: Seeking the Next Right Thing: Reducing Carbon Emissions in the South East District

ONLINE: Thursday, 22nd October, 7-9pm

How do we *actually* reduce the carbon footprint of our churches and their grounds given the constraints on budgets, time and energy? Join us for an evening of stories from real people from real churches, plus space to think about why God cares about this important work.

Hosted by the Methodist Church's Learning Network.

Click here to register:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/ArlUGaD4T--0aqz525Udg>

President and Vice-President Visit Aberfan 60 Years After Disaster

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference paid an emotional visit to the village of Aberfan as part of commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the horrific disaster which killed 116 children and 28 adults.

[President and Vice-President Visit Aberfan 60 Years After Disaster - The Methodist Church](#)

The Start of Greenwich Mean Time!

The clocks will go back one hour at **2:00 am on Sunday, 25 October 2026**, marking the end of British Summer Time (BST) and the return to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

The mornings will become lighter, while the evenings will get darker earlier.



Saturday 24 October at Knaphill Methodist Church



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



6th October

13th October

20th October

27th October

3rd November

10th November

17th November

24th November

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

matrix A Christian charity
providing a lifeline
for vulnerable young people
across Guildford

THURSDAY
22
OCTOBER
10.30 – 12.00

Everyone welcome

POP-UP PLAY CAFÉ

Wednesday 28 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



**Saturday 14 November
6 – 8 pm**

Trinity Methodist Church

Brewery Road

Woking GU21 4LH

**Bring a dish of food to share (savoury or sweet),
and your plate and cutlery and a mug/tumbler.**

All are welcome! Teams of 6 on the night.

FUNDRAISING FOR TEARFUND

tearfund.org

Tearfund, 100 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8QE

☎ 020 3906 3906 ✉ info@tearfund.org 📱 @tearfund

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Photo: Malumbe Simwak/Tearfund



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**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

tearfund

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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☎ +44 (0)20 3906 3906 ✉ info@tearfund.org 📱 @Tearfund

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