

 **The Methodist Church in Weybridge**

Newsletter—August 2016

www.veybridgmethodistchurch.org.uk



www.wokingwaltonmethodistcircuit.org.uk

7 July 2016

The **Methodist Church** 

The 2016 Annual Conference of the Methodist Church passed a resolution containing the following text:

The United Kingdom, as a result of the referendum on 23 June 2016, has voted to leave the European Union. In this time of very significant change and uncertainty there is a need for leadership which seeks the common good and encourages people to work together, to respect one another and to uphold the dignity of all.

The Methodist Conference believes that the British Isles are enriched by diversity and celebrates the contribution made by those who have come from other parts of the world.

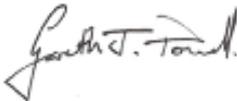
The Christian tradition calls for respect, tolerance, love of neighbour and hospitality to the stranger. All bear the responsibility of speaking and acting for healing, reconciliation, and mutual respect.

The Methodist Conference abhors and deeply regrets those actions and words which incite hatred and lead to the victimisation of groups within society and notes with concern that such actions and words have been normalised in recent public discourse. Believing that racism is a denial of the gospel and that to stay silent when others are abused is to collude with those who seek to promote hatred and division, the Methodist Conference calls:

- on the Methodist people to challenge racism and discrimination
- for a political debate which neither demonises any nor leaves the vulnerable (the foreigner, the immigrant and refugee) in danger of victimisation.
- on political leaders to work together for the good of the whole community putting the needs of the nation before party politics.
- on all those in positions of power and authority to hear the voices of those who have been marginalised and alienated and to respond to them in ways which offer real hope for the future.

I recognise that you have many demands upon your time, but please do ensure that this important statement is shared as widely as possible.

With gratitude for our continued partnership in the gospel,



Gareth J Powell
Secretary of the Conference

The statement is also shared on our website www.methodist.org.uk/nationallife where it can be turned into an email which will be automatically sent to your local Member of Parliament. The Conference also encourages the Methodist people to send this letter to their MP.

The Conference also encouraged the Methodist people to join the campaign to wear an empty safety pin as a badge symbolising solidarity against racism (please see www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-36661097 for details).

Dear Friends,

'There is a season and a time for everything', says the writer of Ecclesiastes.

In the world of nature, autumn time is one of letting go. It is time to shed the old leaves. It's time to shed some weight and burden and go into a period of quiet, rest, peace and recuperation. Then in spring time, as we all know, to awake with a renewed beauty, freshness and colour. Without a period of hibernation this would not be possible

We in the church also need a time of slowing down, re-focussing and then re-emerging fresh. The month of August, provides us with a good opportunity every year to take stock of our lives especially the spiritual aspect. It is a short but very timely gap to examine our spiritual health and well being before venturing into a very busy new Church / Connexional Year. It is a time to rest, reflect, re-charge and enjoy the summer sun.

A few years ago a church minister formulated four tests for determining the presence of a healthy faith. Taken together these tests, mentioned below, can guide us to a healthier walk with God.

- Does my faith liberate my spirit? Does it call me to examine my life and my relationship with God in such a way that I feel released from guilt and pain once I have experienced God's grace and love?
- Does my faith breed compassion, love and forgiveness for others? Does it make me more open, trusting and caring? Sick religion and faith build barriers of distrust, cynicism, paranoia and judgement. Healthy faith is healing and unifying.
- Does my faith help me to understand why people act, feel or believe as they do? Unhealthy faith condemns what it does not understand. Healthy faith says, 'Why do they act as they do and how can my faith speak to and meet their needs?'
- Does my faith compel me to share my life, my gifts and talents and my love for Christ? Is my faith so joyous and life-giving that I wish for others to experience it?

Here is a challenge for all of us to take this test before the arrival of new Connexional Year and the birth of the Wey Valley Circuit.

August also brings the end of my time as the presbyter with pastoral charge cover at Weybridge Methodist Church. I would, therefore, like to thank you for your love and support during my time with you. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and this short period has enriched my life immensely.

May God continue to bless you as you travel on at Weybridge. Keep close to the Lord; seek his ways, his wisdom and guidance.

With every blessing in Christ,

Asif Das

The Circuit service of celebration for the Wey Valley Circuit will be held at Trinity Methodist church, Woking on Sunday 11 September at 6.30pm It will be preceded by a cream tea. All circuit churches are asked to supply two batches of scones (plain or fruit). We are therefore looking for volunteers to bake!

We are also asked to confirm how many will be attending to assist the hardworking ladies of Trinity to plan. Please let one of the stewards know if you plan to attend, no later than 4 September.

All churches are asked to take something which represents the town in which the church is situated to this service. Out thanks go to Carol & Claire who are taking up this challenge on our behalf.

Thank You

Thank you to Carol for creating this magnificent display on behalf of our church at the recent flower festival at Knaphill Methodist Church to celebrate their 150th Anniversary.



Pru and Martin wish to thank everyone for their support on the occasion of Zachary's Christening. Your prayers and gifts are much appreciated.



Congratulations

To Stan and Mary as they recently celebrated 62 years of Marriage.

Happy Birthday

To:

Tiffany

Martin

Samuel who turns 4 this month



Our Vision

Develop Faith

Encourage Each Other

Proclaim the Gospel of Christ

To worship God

Help our neighbours

SUNDAY 31 JULY NO MORNING SERVICE DUE TO RIDE LONDON

Sunday 31 July Pudding & Praise service at 6.30pm at Walton Methodist Church

Sunday 7 August Morning worship led by Mr Hugh Bowernnan Steward : Linda
Music: Jose

Saturday 13 August 10—12 Fund Raising Coffee Morning at Addlestone Methodist Church, in aid of the Kitchen fund.

Sunday 14 August Morning worship led by Mr Ken Mills Steward :Stan
Music Jose

15—20 August New Kitchen being fitted

Sunday 21 August Holy Communion led by Rev Peter Hills Steward: Pru
Music: i-pad

Monday 22 August Circuit Invitations Committee meeting at Merrow Methodist Church 7.45 pm

Sunday 28 August Morning worship led by Mr Rabson Ziso Steward: Stan
Music Jose

Saturday 3 September, 10—12 Fund Raising Coffee Morning at Addlestone Methodist Church, in aid of the Kitchen fund. The kitchen might be in but we still need to finish paying for it

NOTE CHANGE OF WEEK

Sunday 11 September Circuit service to celebrate the Wey Valley Circuit and to welcome Rev Paul Chesworth Trinity Methodist Church , Woking.
5.00pm Tea *Please ask for transport if you need it.*
6.30pm Service

Tuesday 13 September Circuit Meeting 7.45 pm at Merrow Methodist Church

Sunday 18 September Harvest Festival and Holy Communion led by Rev David Faulkner This will be David's first service as our appointed presbyter.

Harvest Festival and Lunch Gifts of groceries will go to the Foodbank, fresh produce to THP

Dates for Barnabas—To be determined and advised

Walton Methodist Church, Terrace Road, KT12 2SR
Warmly invites you to

Pudding & Praise Sunday 31 July 2016



- ◆ 6.00 pm for puddings, tea and coffee
- ◆ 6.30 pm for informal evening worship

This café style service provides an opportunity to worship God in a friendly, informal setting.

SINGING
THE FAITH

Singing the Faith has arrived at Weybridge!. Rev Asif Das dedicated the new hymn books during his last service as our minister on 17 July 2016. This brings Weybridge in line with the other 12 churches in the Wey Valley Circuit.

We look forward to singing all the old favourites and learning some new hymns in the coming months.

Remember that Lili hosts a time of prayer each Sunday morning from 9.30 until 10.00. All are welcome to join her as she offers prayers for the Church, Circuit, local community and our world.

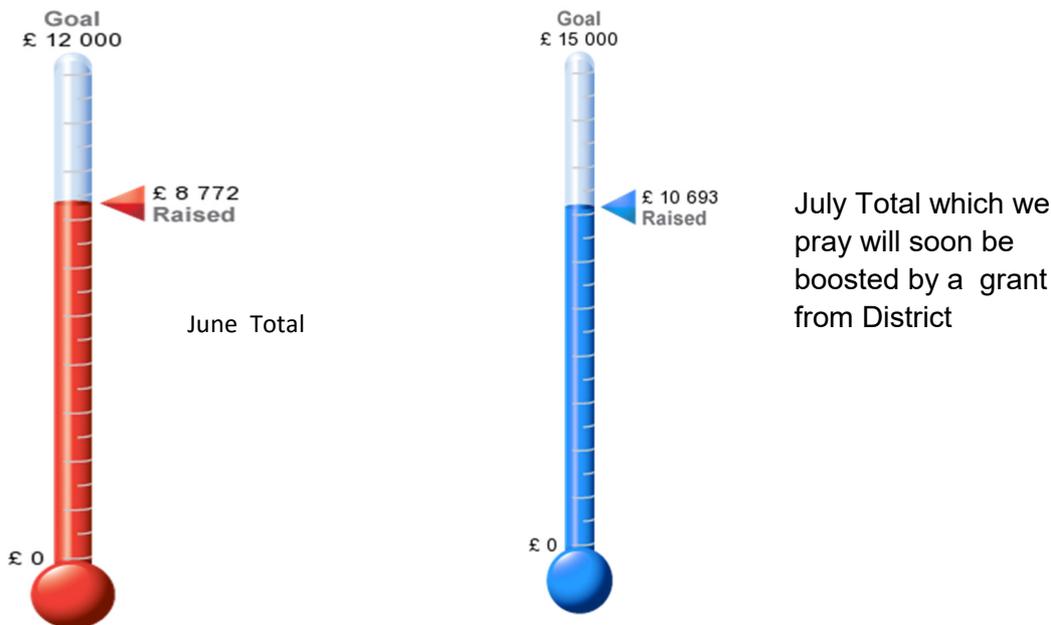
August total

Church Project for 2016

Exciting news. The new kitchen is being fitted in August!!! We have raised just about one third of the amount required for the basic work and secured a £5,000 grant from the Circuit. We have also applied for matched funding from the District and whilst this is not guaranteed, we go forward in faith. The work will be carried out in mid August. We continue to raise funds as there will undoubtedly be unforeseen costs!

We are grateful to have received a generous donation specifically to fund matching china for the church once the kitchen is ready to receive it.

We will celebrate this new facility at Harvest when we will host a church family lunch for all. Please include this initiative in your prayers.



HELP

We still have a vacancy for a steward and communion steward (although Brenda has indicated that she will assist with Communion whenever possible) Providing that we get some volunteers neither role is very onerous.

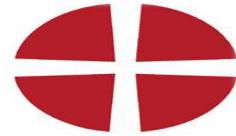
A new steward would be asked to take duty one Sunday a Month (i.e. 12 Sundays per year maximum and possibly less as Stan is still willing to help in an emergency). All the pre-preparation of contacting the minister is done by our worship contact so it is merely a matter of arranging readers and looking after the preacher on a Sunday morning.

A communion steward would be committing to 6 Sundays a year—or less if we get two volunteers. Apart from what you see the steward doing in the service assisting the presbyter, the only other work involved is setting up and clearing the Elements and Table and washing the glasses.

Please consider carefully how you can help and contact the minister or one of the stewards as a matter of urgency.

Rev David Faulkner assumes responsibility for Weybridge from September and it would be good to have the team in place ready to help Dave in his ministry here at Weybridge.

Wey Valley
Circuit



Circuit Service

Sunday 11 September 2016

6.30pm (preceded by tea)



Preachers: Rev John Hellyer &
Rev Conrad Hicks