

# Weybridge Methodist Church

Newsletter August 2018



**All are welcome here!**

## The Black Telephone

When I was a young boy, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighbourhood. I remember the polished, old case fastened to the wall. The shiny receiver hung on the side of the box. I was too little to reach the telephone, but used to listen with fascination when my mother talked to it.

Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was "Information Please" and there was nothing she did not know. 'Information Please' could supply anyone's number and the correct time.

My personal experience with the genie-in-a-bottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbour. Amusing myself at the tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer; the pain was terrible, but there seemed no point in crying because there was no one home to give sympathy. I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger, finally arriving at the stairway. The telephone! Quickly, I ran for the footstool in the parlor and dragged it to the landing. Climbing up, I unhooked the receiver in the parlor and held it to my ear.

"Information, please," I said into the mouthpiece just above my head. A click or two and a small clear voice spoke into my ear. "Information." "I hurt my finger" I wailed into the phone, the tears came readily enough now that I had an audience.

"Isn't your mother home?" came the question. "Nobody's home but me," I blubbered. "Are you bleeding?" the voice asked. "No," I replied. "I hit my finger with the hammer and it hurts." "Can you open the icebox?" she asked. I said I could.

"Then chip off a little bit of ice and hold it to your finger," said the voice. After that, I called "Information Please" for everything. I asked her for help with my geography, and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math.

She told me my pet chipmunk that I had caught in the park just the day before, would eat fruit and nuts.

Then, there was the time Petey, our pet canary, died. I called, "Information Please," and told her the sad story. She listened, and then said things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was not consoled. I asked her, "Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?"

She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, "Wayne, always remember that there are other worlds to sing in."

Somehow I felt better.

Another day I was on the telephone, "Information Please."

"Information," said in the now familiar voice.

"How do I spell fix?" I asked.

All this took place in a small town in the Pacific Northwest.

When I was nine years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much.

"Information Please" belonged in that old wooden box back home and I somehow never thought of trying the shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall. As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me.

Often, in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy. A few years later, on my way west to college, my plane put down in Seattle. I had about a half-hour or so between planes. I spent 15 minutes or so on the phone with my sister, who lived there now. Then without thinking what I was doing, I dialed my hometown operator and said, "Information Please."

Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well.

"Information."

I hadn't planned this, but I heard myself saying,

"Could you please tell me how to spell fix?"

There was a long pause. Then came the soft spoken answer, "I guess your finger must have healed by now."

I laughed, "So it's really you," I said. "I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time."

"I wonder," she said, "if you know how much your calls meant to me. I never had any children and I used to look forward to your calls."

I told her how often I had thought of her over the years and I asked if I could call her again when I came back to visit my sister.

"Please do," she said. "Just ask for Sally."

Three months later I was back in Seattle. A different voice answered, "Information." I asked for Sally. "Are you a friend?" she said. "Yes, a very old friend," I answered. "I'm sorry to have to tell you this," she said.

"Sally had been working part time the last few years because she was sick. She died five weeks ago." Before I could hang up, she said, "Wait a minute, did you say your name was Wayne?"

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"Yes "I replied. "Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called. Let me read it to you." he note said, "Tell him there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean." I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant.

**Never underestimate the impression you may make on others.  
Whose life have you touched today? Lifting you on eagle's wings.  
May you find the joy and peace you long for. Life is a journey . .  
NOT a guided tour.**



Please pray for:

- Paula, Robert and family as they mourn the passing of Paula's mother.
- Rev Keith & Hilary Beckingham as they settle in to the Guildford manse and become familiar with the area.
- Rev Sydney Samuel, Hawa, Sydney and Grace as they settle into the Walton Manse and become familiar with the area.
- Rev David Faulkner as he moves to focus on Byfleet and Knaphill and also to provide mentoring and support to Rev Sydney Samuel
- Brenda & Keith

### **Prayer Time:**

**For details of the Barnabas Group meetings please contact Stan or Jose.**

Lili meets for prayer at 9.45am on a Sunday morning before the service. Join her for this time of communion with God.

The 'mobile' prayer group is open to all. Please add prayer needs as they occur to you. If you wish to be added to this group, contact one of the stewards



## **BIRTHDAYS**

For August

We send Birthday wishes to Tiffany, Martin and Samuel who turns 6.

## **Thank You**

To all who responded to the call for extra help for the Foodbank. Please see their thanks below.....

Hi,

I just wanted to drop you a few lines to say a very big **Thank You** for your very generous and kind donation to the Walton & Hersham Foodbank.

Today you donated a fantastic 90.7kgs of food which is very gratefully received.

We have found that this year, demand for foodbank support has grown substantially and we have been experiencing low food stocks. Thanks to your generosity and that of the local community, we think we now have enough to cover us for the Summer holidays and hopefully until Harvest time.

I also mentioned to the ladies who brought the food in, that we have just started having discussions about opening a foodbank session in Weybridge, hopefully at St James church and we will be reaching out to local Weybridge people as we will be needing a team of volunteers to enable this to happen.

I will be in touch as and when our plans for this move forward.

Thank you again,

Nina Malyon, Foodbank manager.

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# Sunday Services

05 August 10.30am	Morning Worship	Mrs Jane O'Leary <i>Steward : Pru</i> <i>Music: Jose</i> <i>Refreshments: Paula</i>
12 August 10.30 am	Morning Worship	Rev Peter Hills <i>Steward : Linda</i> <i>Music: i-pad</i> <i>Refreshments: Lili</i>
19 August 10.30 am	Morning Worship Including Holy Communion	Rev David Faulkner <i>Steward : Jose</i> <i>Music: Adrian</i> <i>Communion Steward: Paula</i> <i>Refreshments: Linda</i>
26 August 10.30am	Morning Worship	Mr Ken Evans <i>Steward : Linda</i> <i>Music: Jose</i> <i>Refreshments: Carol</i>



## Dates for the diary

Wednesday 08 August 12.30	Weybridge URC	Munch with Mozart
Saturday 11 August 10 - 12	Addlestone Methodist Church	Our Coffee morning
Saturday 14 July 10 -12	Addlestone Methodist Church	Our Coffee morning
Saturday 25 August 11.30 – 1.30	Church Hall	<b>BEDDING &amp; CLOTHES BANK - TBC</b>

Reverend C. Hargreaves  
Warren Farm House  
Warren Road  
Guildford  
Surrey GU1 2HF  
Tel 01483 536638  
Email [aerolo@aol.com](mailto:aerolo@aol.com)

18<sup>th</sup> July 2018

The Wey Valley Circuit

Dear friends, churches and members of Wey Valley Circuit

Thank you so much for the Book of Messages and Cards and the hugely generous cheque you have given me on leaving Circuit ministry. I am touched by your kind and supportive words and overwhelmed by your gift.

I would like you to know that I have passed on your gift to All We Can for its Syria Refugee Appeal. This donation will make a real difference to the lives of those in such need, so once again, a heartfelt thank you. I will be continuing my interest in refugee and inter faith work in my new role as District Refugee and Inter faith adviser. I will continue to be stationed in the Wey Valley Circuit and will be updating you regularly on the refugee situation in Jordan and globally.

God bless you.

Claire Hargreaves



## **Welcome Service**

for

**Rev Keith Beckingham**  
our new Superintendent Minister

and

**Rev Sydney Samuel Lake**  
Probationer Minister

# **WELCOME**

Light refreshments will be served before the service at 5pm

**Sunday 2nd September 2018 6.30pm**

**Walton-on-Thames Methodist Church**  
**Terrace Road, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2SR**

# First Aid - Suicide Prevention Training (Safe Talk)

For a number of years now Offington Park has run a  
Mental Health Awareness week  
which has grown from strength to strength.  
As part of this Grass Roots will be offering  
First Aid - Suicide prevention Training. (Safe Talk)

**Time:** 10am – 1.30pm

**Date:** Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Venue:** Offington Park Methodist Church,  
South Park Road,  
Worthing,  
BN14 7TN.

The cost of attending the day will be £35  
and will include a light lunch.

Please email: [office@offingtonpark.org.uk](mailto:office@offingtonpark.org.uk)

**The Methodist Church in Weybridge**

# Café Church

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 6.15 for 6.30pm**

**With Rev Keith Beckingham**

**“Getting to know you”**



**THEREFORE ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND  
BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP, JUST AS YOU ARE  
DOING.**

**Join us for coffee, tea and cake and a time of fellowship  
with God and with each other**

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Help create a Huge Stir and be part of the  
**World's Biggest Coffee Morning**

for

**Macmillan Cancer Support**

**Friday 28th September 2018**

10.00am to 12 noon

**Walton Methodist Church Hall**

Terrace Road, Walton-on-Thames

Cakes—Bring & Buy Stall

Please bring your friends

Further details from

Marion Wadley 01932 844742 / Ruth Evans 01932 229301

Do come and support this event. Every penny raised will help people with cancer to get the practical and emotional support they need.



The new church (Connexional) year begins on 1 September 2018. It will be a year of change for our church as we welcome a new presbyter and a year of change for our circuit as we welcome a new Superintendent.

## **His Unfailing Presence**

Author Unknown

Another year I enter  
its history unknown;  
Oh, how my feet would tremble  
to tread its paths alone!  
But I have heard a whisper  
I know I shall be blest;  
"My presence shall go with thee,  
and I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?  
I may not, must not know; will it be love and rapture,  
or loneliness and woe?  
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;  
I surely shall be blest;  
"My presence shall go with thee,  
and I will give thee rest."