

FAREHAM eFOCUS



Fareham Methodist Church
eFocus December 2023
Registered Charity No 1127814

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Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

Services for the Month
December 2023

10 th Dec.	Revd. David Muskett 2 nd of Advent.
17 th Dec.	Revd. Pauline Crispin. 3 rd of Advent. All Age. Christingle Service. 6:00pm. Revd. Pauline Crispin. Carols by candlelight.
24 th Dec.	Mrs Tracy Cooper. 4 th of Advent. 11:15pm. Revd. Pauline Crispin. Midnight Service.
25 th Dec.	Christmas Service at the United Reformed Church.
31 st Dec.	Local Arrangement 1 st at Christmas.
7 th Jan.	Revd. Bill Stillwell. 1 st in Ordinary Time.

Tea and Coffee Rota
for December 2023

10 th Dec.	Lynda Young and Elizabeth Wilcock.
17 th Dec.	Lynda Haydon-Jones and Rae Shepherd.
24 th Dec.	Margaret Boyd and Jenny Chalmers.
31 st Dec.	Sally Bland and Margaret Temple.
7 th Jan.	Marilyn Woodrow and Lin Woodhams.

Meet and Greet Rota for December 2023

10 th Dec.	Simon Potter.
17 th Dec.	Walter Metcalf.
24 th Dec.	Julie Kettle.

Flower Rota

10 th Dec.	Una Peters
17 th Dec	
24 th Dec	Ian Bagshaw
31 st Dec	Linda Foster

MESSAGES FROM OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you so much for the beautiful church flowers, still looking good a week later. Appreciation to both the giver and deliverer who gave up their time to bring me much delight.

Marion Bright

Thank you for the beautiful flowers delivered to me on Barry's anniversary, by Bob Temple, who also stayed for a chat.

Lynda Young

VESTRY JOTTINGS

We are almost at the end of 2023 and what a year it has been! Lots of good things happening.

The Sunday lunch and Friday lunch continue to be very popular. Thanks to Jill and Lynda and their teams.

Other success stories are, Mini Market, Thursday morning coffee centre, Messy Church and Fourth Friday games.

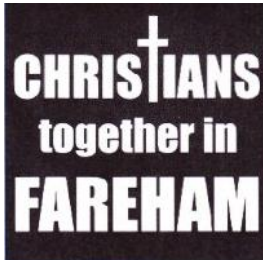
We said goodbye to Rev Claire and welcomed Rev Pauline.

We have lots to look forward to this coming month as we prepare ourselves for the season of goodwill.

On behalf of the stewards may I wish everyone a happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Brenda
On behalf of the Stewards





Lent Groups

We are looking for Hosts and Group Leaders for our Lent Groups in 2024.

They can be morning, afternoon or evening, Monday to Friday for the 5 weeks starting February 19th.

We will be using the York Course 'God Has No Favourites' by Dr Carmody Grey.

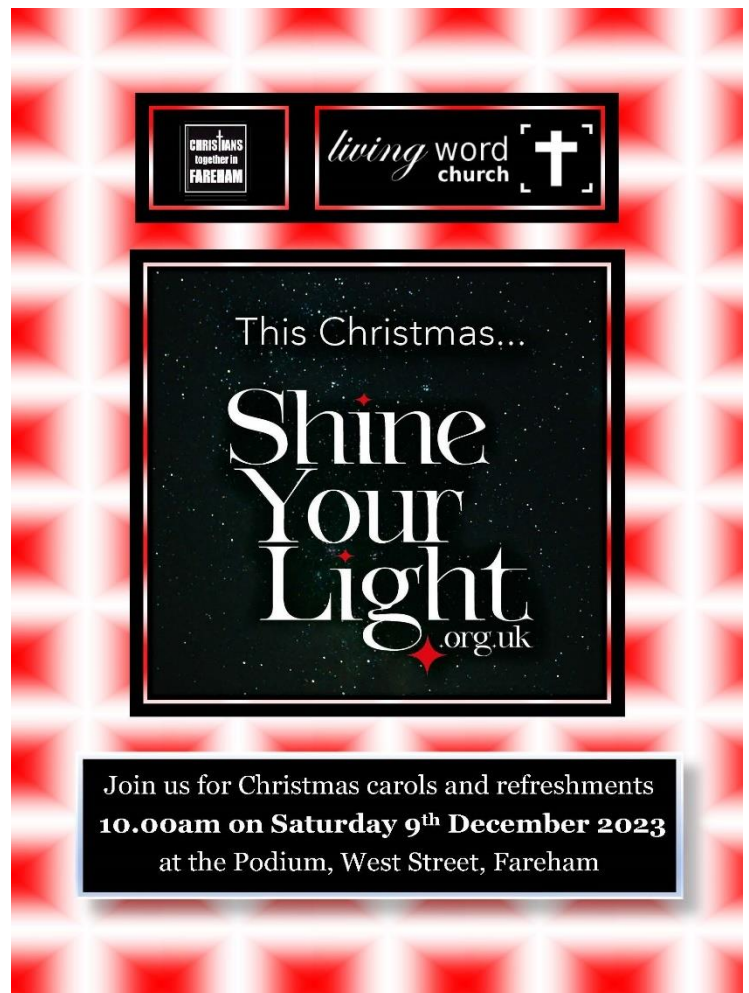
If you are able to help please contact Liz

elizdunning@ntlworld.com

07879 685556

By 16th December.

Thank you.



Do you want to help to change the narrative this Christmas through an Extraordinary Gift?



A Booklet of what you could purchase to help communities throughout the countries in which All We Can works – not just for Christmas, but for years to come, will be in the Welcome Area. Alternatively go online to the All We Can website.

Dear Friends,

As Christians we know, or at least should know, that we are ultimately waiting for God to fulfil his wonderful plan of salvation.

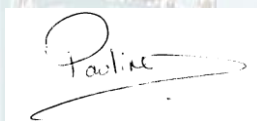
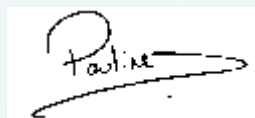
So, if we know for what and for whom it is we are waiting shouldn't our wait be a whole lot easier? Shouldn't we at least be able to develop some elementary waiting skills? The problem is, we can't be sure how long our wait will be and in our impatient human state, we find that tough. We may even occasionally wonder if God has 'lost the plot,' or maybe he is facing 'unavoidable delays', or worst still we may start to think that he has forgotten us altogether.

One of the few things I felt confident about when I was at school was 'art' and this talent has been passed on to my daughter, Sarah. She has found that part of an artist's training involves studying the 'masters,' the great artists of the past, looking at their techniques, their skills, their unique styles and trying to catch their vision. This is not so that the students of today can simply copy what they see, but so that they can understand the creative process. One of the things we are encouraged to do as Christians is to look back at prophets, disciples, and Christians of the past and consider the techniques exactly, because like all students we need to develop our own style and to take risks, to see what does or doesn't work.

As with all artists, sometimes we mess up and need to start again. Sometimes we may produce something which we are happy at the time, but sometime later, when we revisit it, we may feel that what we have achieved in the past, needs to be redone in a completely different style, because in the meantime we have developed new skills and approaches. Any artist of 'worth' is continually developing new techniques and trying new ways of doing things. Sometimes however hard they work on a new idea, they end up throwing it in the bin, at other times they are pleased with the results and have a great sense of accomplishment. We as Christians need to be willing to develop, to try new things, to take risks. Sometimes our ideas end up in the bin, at other times we end up with a piece on which we can continue to work. None of our pieces will be complete in this life, a person who thinks that is sadly mistaken, we need to be always revisiting our works and considering how we can make them better, worthy of our heavenly Master.

In this forth coming New Year of 2024, what new work or new approaches do you need to consider? What new risks do you need to take, for God's Kingdom?

Every Blessing,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Pauline", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Pauline", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

4th December – 7th January

4 Monday 09:30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar	5 Tuesday 9:45 – 11:45 Parent and Toddler Group	6 Wednesday	7 Thursday 9:30 Thursday Coffee Centre 10:30 Prayer Circle 19:30 Singing group Rehearsal	8 Friday	9 Saturday	10 Sunday 10:30 Junior Fun Church Morning worship - Revd. David Muskett
11 09:30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar	12 9:45 – 11:45 Parent and Toddler Group 14:00 Tuesday Ladies Club 15:00 Singing Group at Whiteoaks	13 15:30 Messy Church	14 9:30 Thursday Coffee Centre 10:30 Bible Study Meeting 19:30 Singing group Rehearsal	15	16	17 10:30 Morning Service. All Age Christingle Service led by Revd. Pauline Crispin. Sunday Lunch 6:00 Carols by Candlelight
18 09:30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar	19	20	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 10:30 Junior Fun Church Morning Worship - led by Mrs Tracy Cooper. 23:15 Midnight Service led - Revd. Pauline Crispin
25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 Service at United Reformed Church.	26	27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 10:30 Café style worship. Favourite carols.
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4 9:30 Thursday Coffee Centre 10:30 Prayer Circle	5	6	7 10:30 Junior Fun Church Morning Worship led by Revd. Bill Stillwell. Holy Communion.

SUNDAY LUNCH 17th DECEMBER at 12.15 p.m. approx.

This is open to all members of the congregation, family, and friends. There is no set charge for the meal we just ask for donations for **charity**. If you would like to make a pudding of your choice and bring it along that would be appreciated – thank you.

The Menu

Starter: Soup or Fish Pâté

Main Course: Turkey and Gammon, Sausages, Roast Potatoes, Vegetables.

Puddings: Variety

If you can help before the meal in the kitchen and serving that will be good. We really need people to stay after the meal please until about 2.30 to help Colin with the dishwasher. We would really appreciate your help.

There will be a list in the welcome area for you to sign. Please come along and enjoy a lunch!

Thank you. Jill Groom Phone: 07999558524



Terry, one of our church members, now fronting Volunteer First marketing material. Well done, Terry.

CHRISTMAS WISHES

Wishing all a merry
Christmas and a happy,
peaceful New Year.
Colin & Edith
Our donation will go to
Action for Children.

Trevor and Julie would like
to wish everyone at
church a very Happy
Christmas and a
healthy New Year. We will
be sending a donation to
the Salvation Army

*As most of you know I don't
send local Christmas cards
nor to people whom I see, or
could see, regularly.
Instead I send a donation to a
charity of my choice; yet to
be decided upon this year.
I wish all at church a very
happy Christmas and a
happy and healthy New Year.*

Ian B

With our very best wishes
to everyone for Christmas
and the new year!
We have given a donation
to Action for Children in
lieu of sending cards.
Kevin and Linda Foster

Meg and Nigel
wish all their
church family and
friends a very
Happy
Christmas. We
will not be sending
cards but making
a donation to
charity instead.

Blessings to all my church
family for Christmas and New
Year. Instead of cards, this
year I have donated to the
Royal British Legion and the
Macular Society.
Brenda B

Jean and Gerald Everitt
wish everyone in the
Church's family a
happy, healthy, and
peaceful Christmas.

Tony Jackson wishes a
Happy Christmas and a
peaceful New Year to all
his friends - and that
means EVERYBODY.

Christmas Greetings

Bobby and Patrick wish everyone a
healthy, peaceful, and joyous
Christmas season and a
truly happy and healthy New Year. We
are making a donation to Andover Mind
(for Dementia) instead of sending
Christmas cards this year.



HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

If you can't get to the library due to ill-health, disability, or caring responsibilities the library can come to you.

We can arrange for you to have your library books delivered to your home on a regular basis.

We offer books in standard and large print and also have a wide range of audio books in different formats. If you would like to borrow a particular title from Hampshire's stock, we can get it for you.

This service is free.

How it works

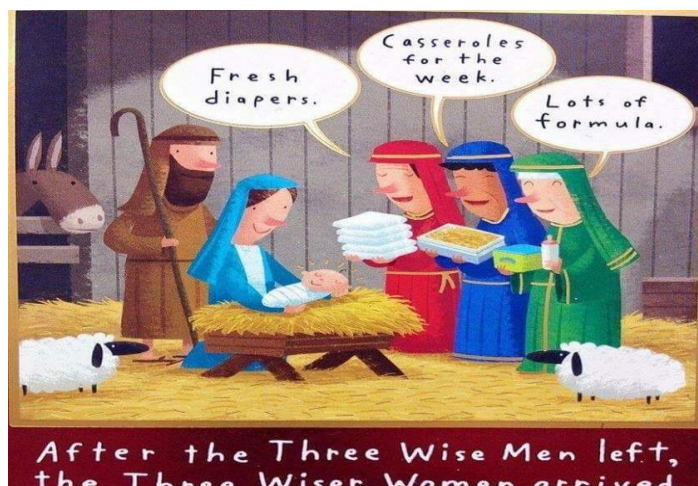
After you have completed the enquiry form, we will contact you by phone or email to assess your eligibility.

We deliver the service through our team of volunteers.

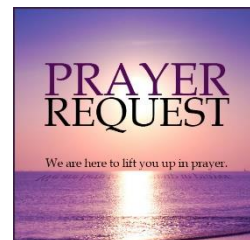
We will match you with someone and make them aware of what you like to read. They will visit you and exchange the items you have borrowed usually at least once every 4 weeks.

The link is - [Home library Service/Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](http://Home%20library%20Service/Hampshire%20County%20Council%20(hants.gov.uk))

If you would like to sign up for this and are unable to access the website to do so – contact Lin Woodhams.



The Prayer Tree



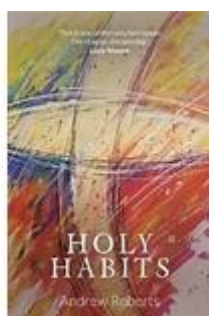
The Prayer Tree is now in the Welcome Area. Anyone who would like the Prayer Circle to pray for them, or others, please write your request on the leaf and hang it on the tree. These will be collected each month when the group meets.

THURSDAY PRAYER CIRCLE DATES

The Thursday prayer group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.

All are welcome to join us, for five minutes or for as long as you wish. We will pray with or for you or you may prefer to just listen and pray silently. Our prayers will include any from the prayer tree left during the month.

7 th December	Julie Kettle
4 th January	Bob Temple
1 st February	Julie Kettle
7 th March	Rev Pauline Crispin
4 th April	Jill Race
2 nd May	Bob Temple
6 th June	Julie Kettle
4 th July	Rev Pauline Crispin



THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY MEETING

The Bible study meeting has now started on a Thursday morning at 10:00 am. We are studying: - *'Prayer'*, looking at different aspects of Prayer within the *'Holy Habits'* series.

We shall meet on the following dates:

14 th Dec.	Praying when we get it wrong.
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If you'd like to get more information, please ask Julie or Audrey.
We're looking forward to seeing you.

NOVEMBER MESSY CHURCH - TRUST IN GOD

We had loads of fun. Making a comfort cushion to cuddle – this went down very well indeed. Sticking together a rainbow – God keeps his promises. Decorating cakes to look like sheep – enjoying tasting the icing/marshmallows as they created. Playing with a water game. Great worship.



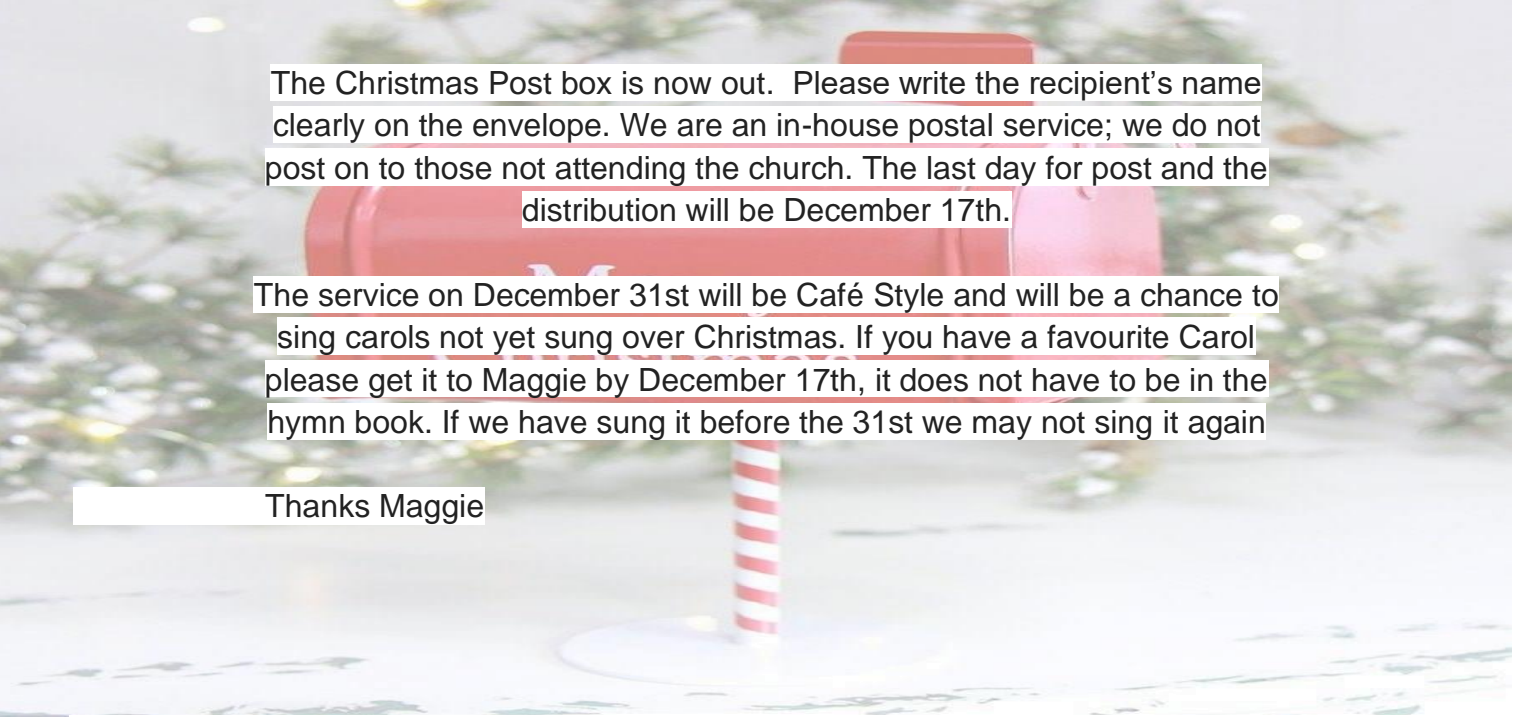


Christmas Celebrations!



*"The shepherds found Mary and Joseph,
and baby Jesus lying in a manger."*

Games and Activities – Worship – Meal
Wednesday 13th December 2023



The Christmas Post box is now out. Please write the recipient's name clearly on the envelope. We are an in-house postal service; we do not post on to those not attending the church. The last day for post and the distribution will be December 17th.

The service on December 31st will be Café Style and will be a chance to sing carols not yet sung over Christmas. If you have a favourite Carol please get it to Maggie by December 17th, it does not have to be in the hymn book. If we have sung it before the 31st we may not sing it again

Thanks Maggie

Dear friends,

A missionary family has been forced to return to the UK at short notice and is looking for temporary accommodation within the Fareham area until the summer. Mum, dad and three children (15 and under).

Can anyone help with, or point to, affordable (or free!) housing for them?

Thank you in advance!

Rev. Tapani Simojoki

Pastor
Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Fareham
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PO16 8UD
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Part Time Employment Opportunity

Fareham Methodist Church Kings Road, Fareham, is looking for someone to work four hours a week from January 2024 setting up and clearing away Chairs and Tables for Sunday worship and Monday Mini-Market.

This is a paid position @ £10.42p per hour paid monthly in arrears (review April 2024)

Occasional additional hours may also be available setting up for special service during the week, and other small maintenance works.

The person selected needs to be physically fit, as the work involves lifting and moving furniture. They also need to be flexible in their approach and availability, as the working requirement is dependent upon premises use, and individual requirements of the Church and Community Groups.

A Criminal Record check (DBS) and references are required. A small amount of training will also need to be completed.

For more information please email; methodisthallhire@gmail.com with your contact details and a short explanation as to why you think you are suitable for this role.

Editor's Notes

Hi. Christmas is on its way. I wish to thank everyone who helped me with the knitting of the Nativity scene for the Welcome Area windows. I will continue to have a knit and chat on Thursdays at the Coffee Centre. There is no project for the church at the moment, but some members of the group are making hats for premature babies in hospital.

A huge thank you for all the many articles I have received over the last year, please keep them coming.

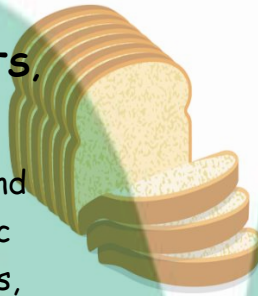
Happy Christmas and a healthy happy New Year.

Deadline for January efocus 2024 will be 31st December.

ALL BRANDS ACCEPTED

BREAD, BAGELS, CRUMPETS, WRAPS

Any brand of plastic bags and closure tags. Bakery plastic packaging (e.g., Plastic trays, zipper bags, plastic packs etc.)



CHEESE PACKAGING

Any brand of flexible plastic cheese packaging, nets, and pouches. Any brand of sliced cheese in protective plastic film. Individual plastic cheese wrappers.



WRITING PENS ETC.,

Ballpoint, gel, and fountain pens. Pencils, refills, cartridges. Highlighters, correction bottles, tape, pens. Felt tips, whiteboard, permanent makers.



CONFECTIONERY

Plastic chocolate and sweets pouches and bags. Individual chocolate bar wrappers. Plastic chocolate block wrappers, multipack outer plastic packaging.



AIR, HOME AND LAUNDRY CARE

Plastic air freshener containers, cartridge car air fresheners. Flexible washing capsules & pods packaging. Flexible wipe packaging and tinted rigid plastic tubs used for home cleaning. Tinted fabric conditions bottles and caps. Lenor tumble dryer sheets.



ORAL CARE

Toothpaste tubes, caps. Plastic toothbrush outer packaging. Plastic toothbrushes, Toothbrush heads. Floss containers and outer packaging. Electric and battery toothbrush heads, toothpaste cartons.



HAND WASH

Hand wash pumps
Hand wash refill pouches and caps

WIPES, CLOTHS AND PADS

Power mop Absorbing Pads. Speedmop Wet Cloths

Pringles, Ferrero Rocher aluminium wrappers and packaging. Marigold Gloves