

FAREHAM eFOCUS



Fareham Methodist Church
eFocus January 2023
Registered Charity No 1127814

MINISTER: The Revd. Claire Simpson
Telephone 01329 828706
E-mail: revclaire72@btinternet.com

EDITOR: Lin Woodhams
E-Mail: Fareham.focus@gmail.com

Fareham Church Website
www.farehammethodist.org.uk

Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

Services for the Month of January 2023

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 8 th Jan. | 10:30 am Local Arrangement 1 st in Ordinary Time. |
| 15 th Jan. | 10:30 am Ms Lynne Matthews All Age Worship. 2 nd in Ordinary Time. |
| 22 nd Jan. | 10:30 am Mrs Tracy Cooper 3 rd in Ordinary Time. |
| 29 th Jan. | 10:30 am Revd. Ray Goddess 4 th in Ordinary Time. |
| 5 th Feb. | 10:30 am Revd. Claire Simpson Holy Communion 5 th in Ordinary Time. |

Tea and Coffee Rota for January 2023

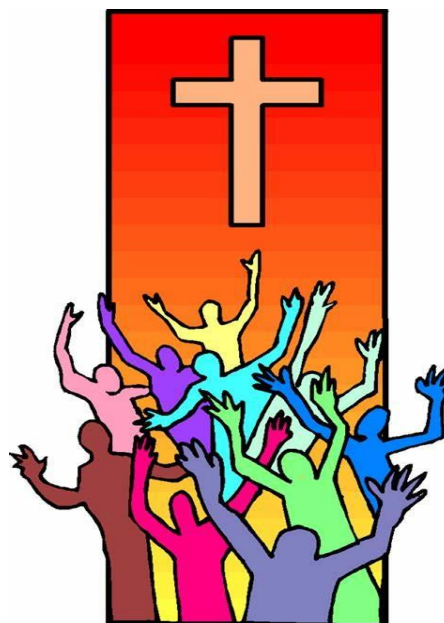
| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 8 th Jan. | Lynda Young and Elizabeth Wilcock. |
| 15 th Jan. | Lynda Haydon-Jones and Rae Shepherd. |
| 22 nd Jan. | Margaret Boyd and Jenny Chalmers. |
| 29 th Jan. | Sally Bland and Margaret Temple. |
| 5 th Feb. | Marilyn Woodrow and Lin Woodhams. |

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We are thinking of what's ahead for us in 2023. Have you got a little time to spare as the church is looking to increase the number of stewards?

If you want more information, please contact Maggie.

Maggs_wheeler@ntlworld.com



VESTRY JOTTINGS

A Happy and Healthy New Year to all our Church family.

Our Church Bazaar was very successful raising in excess of £700. Well done everyone involved.

The Christingle and Carol Service were well attended. A lot of hard work went into the preparation of both services.

December was also a sad month as we learnt of the deaths of Shirley De-Ath and Peggy Long. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

In February we are hoping to host a Holiday at Home. Watch this space for more details nearer the time.

Brenda
On behalf of the stewards

For information there will be no Friday Lunch this month. The Friday lunch will commence on Friday 3rd February.

Messages from our church family

To all my friends at church: instead of sending cards to people I see or could see on a regular basis I send a donation to a cause of my choice. This year I've chosen the Salvation Army.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

from Ian Bagshaw

Janice and Vic would like to thank everyone for their cards and kind wishes.

They send their blessings to everyone.

Sylvia Savage would like to say thank you for the flowers from church and to Irene for delivering them.

Editors Notes

HAPPY NEW YEAR

I hope that you had a great Christmas. All that preparation and it's all over in a wink of an eye. It is so much fun being together with family and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Chris and I thank everyone for their cards and good wishes.

Please don't forget to donate if you can, I know some people are struggling but if you can buy something for the food bank it would be great and much appreciated.

Please keep your articles coming for the efocus.

Deadline 1st February.





The Prayer Tree

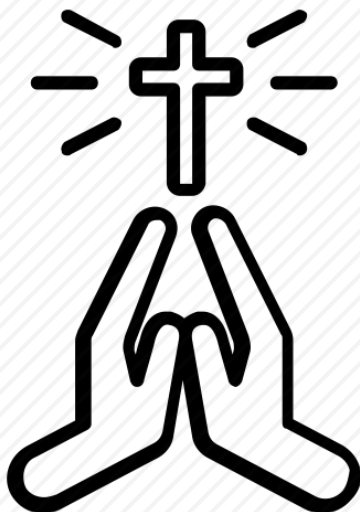
The Prayer Tree is now in the Welcome Area. Anyone who would like the Prayer Circle to pray for them, or others, please write your request on the leaf and hang it on the tree. These will be collected each month when the group meets.

THURSDAY PRAYER CIRCLE DATES

The Thursday Prayer Circle is held on the FIRST Thursday of each month at 10.30 am (unless advised of a change!).

All are welcome and as the Coffee Centre is open you are welcome to bring a drink into the Sanctuary with you. You can just drop in for 5 minutes or stay longer. Do bring any of your concerns and we will pray with and for you. Or just come and sit and listen – no pressure.

| 2023 | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 5 th January | Bob Temple |
| 2 nd February | Julie Kettle |
| 2 nd March | Bob Temple |
| 6 th April | Jill Race |
| 4 th May | Julie Kettle |
| 1 st June | Revd. Claire |
| 6 th July | Revd. Claire |



Prayer Circle Information.

An amendment to the information provided last month. Julie Kettle will only be distributing the prayers through Early Birds when she is leading the group.



Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank

I would like to pass on thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Basics Bank this last year. When Jill and I delivered the last contribution collected between Thursday 15th and Sunday 18th we were given some information by Phil Rutt (who organises the collection and distribution). In 2022 an average of 140 families were supported every week with 261 being helped in one week at the beginning of December.

Your contribution was a superb effort which was photographed after we loaded it into the car.

I have attached a list prepared by the Basics Bank of the items which are most needed.

Once again thank you for your support over the past year, please continue supporting the food bank in 2023.

If you shop in Sainsburys, Asda or Waitrose you may like to leave your contributions in the collection bins after the checkouts. These are emptied regularly by volunteers from the Basics Bank.

Jill and Malcolm Race



- **Tins of minced beef, stewed steak**
- **Tins of peas, carrots, sweetcorn**
- **Tins of corned beef, ham, spam**
- **Tins of potatoes**
- **Tins of meatballs, hotdogs**
- **Tins of spaghetti**
- **Tins of tuna**
- **Bags of rice**
- **Tins or cartons of custard**
- **Tins of rice pudding**
- **Tins of fruit**
- **UHT milk (semi skimmed and full fat)**
- **Shower gel**
- **Shampoo**
- **Deodorant - women's and men's**
- **Toilet rolls**



Caring for Everyone

"Be kind and compassionate to one another" – Eph. 4:32

Games and Activities – Worship – Meal

Wednesday 11th January 2023

from 3:30pm – Fareham Methodist Church





UKRAINE CHRISTIAN PARTNERSHIP

Dear Jill

It has been a little while since our last update and much has happened in the villages of Transcarpathia and the Kherson region of Ukraine.

The following are just some of the hardships faced and ways in which we have been able to support those most in need.

Transcarpathia

In October villagers woke to multiple fires in the village of Gyula following an arson attack.

Eight residents' homes and the church bell tower were targeted by a lone man, whose motives still remain unclear. With the onset of winter months this was a devastating blow to a community which was already suffering from the huge increase in food and fuel costs and the departure of many of the men in the villages to avoid the war.

Ukraine's main power operator announced recently that it has applied emergency shutdowns throughout the entire country due to a rapidly increasing power deficit following the many Russian air strikes.

These shutdowns have lasted as long as **16 hours a day**, plunging villages into darkness and shutting off mains supplied heating.

We are working with our trusted contacts to ensure that funding is provided to purchase back-up generators to create places of warmth that people can go to - at the time of typing this email temperatures are currently -3°C but can reach **-30°C in January**.



Church services taking place by candlelight during a power shutdown



Remains of one of the houses following the arson attacks

Kherson

Since the Russian withdrawal from Kherson, the region has come under heavy bombardment from shelling and artillery attacks, cutting off power and water supplies and damaging houses at random on a daily basis creating huge uncertainty and fear.

The situation in the region is desperate, food and hygiene supplies are difficult to source, and many are forced to walk to the river for water.

However, the incredible team behind The Cooks Project continues to work tirelessly to ensure as many people as possible receive a hot meal - coming up with creative ways to ensure food is prepared, cooked, and distributed safely - even during the power-cuts.





Due to the lack of internet coverage, communication is incredibly difficult, but we continue to work closely with The Kherson Initiative to ensure that your donations are getting to those who are in great need of support. We are also supporting orphanages and those with medical needs who need special supplies as much as we can.

Please visit our [website](#) for ways in which you can help. Our trustees are volunteers, as are our partners on the ground, and we can guarantee that **100%** of any donations given can go to support the people in need.

Please also **share our website** with your family, friends and anyone else that you feel would be interested in the work we are doing and [email](#) us if anyone you know should be added to our mailing list.

With our very best wishes at this Christmas time
The UCP Trustees

Family confidentiality

FM is contracted to protect the privacy of the Family. We hope you appreciate this can restrict the information we are able to provide you on the circumstances of the Family we are supporting. Please help us in this by showing caution in discussing details of the Family with others.

Welcome and Welfare

The family are by nature both independent and industrious. They arrived in this country with a hugely positive attitude. It has been surprising to us to see how ready and eager they are to use these qualities to settle into UK life.

The Team had volunteers to help the family with various activities such as shopping, using public transport and getting to know the area. Right from the start the family were proactive and after a few trips around the area they were keen to shop and explore independently.

They use Apps to navigate and tend to walk or cycle to avoid transport costs whenever possible.

They have met with neighbours and joined in with the street celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee in June. Some of the local youngsters now come and ask if the 'boys' (all in their 20's) will come out to play football!

Family members have been introduced to different groups and activities to help them integrate. As we continue to support their independence and integration within the local community, we focus upon their aspirations, seeking appropriate support.

Housing

The purchase and refurbishment of a suitable house by a group of ethical Investors has enabled the Family to have a good quality property at a rent well below market value and be assured that they will be able to rent this house for at least two years.

A six-month inspection was carried out in October to check if there were any problems. Only a few minor maintenance tasks were necessary. The family appreciate the house and are proud to live there and it does not surprise us that they are model tenants.

The investment group that purchased the house continue to build a fund to cover any unforeseen repairs or maintenance as deemed necessary. FM continue to be thankful to these investors for the affordable rental home they provide the Family.

Work and Benefits

Understandably the Family members were not able to seek work immediately as their English was insufficient and they also needed time to establish themselves here in the UK. FM supported them to apply for and receive the Universal Credit payments that they were rightfully due.

The three sons, all young men in their twenties, came with far more English than we expected. They had a strong desire to work, to help support the Family and to cease receiving benefits. Since June all three have been in full time employment. FM will work with all three to give them the knowledge they need to be able to consider their further education and training opportunities. However, it is important we always remember that ultimately it is their decision as to what course of action they take at any point in time.

The father had an extensive range of previous employment experience. He cannot realistically slot back into these sorts of roles until he improves his language skills. In the meantime, he could use his exceptional wood working skills on such things as commissions for building a variety of replica wooden models. His talent at this seems almost endless!

The mother had teaching experience amongst other skills. She might eventually wish to seek employment in primary school teaching. Whilst she improves her language skills, we are seeking appropriate opportunities for her to gain experience in the UK education sector.

Language development

It was not possible to enrol any of the Family for extensive formal ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) education until new classes started in September. In the interim FM ensured either both temporary formal and informal ESOL education was provided to all Family members. Since September the mother and father are doing an average of twelve hours a week at Highbury College in Portsmouth. The youngest son has received some ESOL education at Fareham College. At present all three sons employment hours mean they cannot realistically attend ESOL classes, but their English capabilities are growing without this.

Integration planning

Correct support leads family members to be as independent as possible whilst only intervening where necessary. The qualities of the family mean progress towards independence is quicker than we would have expected. Our task is to build up our skills in this unfamiliar process whilst allowing the family members to fully utilise their abilities!

Health

The Family are all enrolled with a local doctor's practice, but we have failed to find an NHS dentist with whom to enrol family members!

Any pointers in securing NHS dental registrations would be hugely appreciated.

Finance

Thanks to the excellent start we were given by many personal donations and donations from several of the Church communities in Fareham, we began this project on a healthy financial footing. This has been supplemented by ongoing donations from the Churches and several fundraising events undertaken prior to the family's arrival. We now have in hand sufficient money for our anticipated needs. FMF gives a huge 'Thank You' to all our benefactors over the past 3 years.

In conclusion

The ongoing settlement and integration of the family has been a positive experience for all involved – Core Group, Volunteers and, most importantly, the family themselves. Our whole team have repeatedly reported what a pleasure it is to meet and work with the family. It is particularly gratifying to see them begin to integrate both into UK society generally and to develop relationships in the neighbourhood. We give thanks to God for the grace he has bestowed on our work and for the prayers, support and assistance provided to us by CTiF members and local Churches.

Fourth Friday Games for All Ages

Next Games Night is 27th January 2023

Everyone is welcome between 6.30pm and 8.30pm

Enjoy being together to

play tabletop and/or more energetic games as you prefer and have a relaxed chat with refreshments.

Kevin and Linda Foster



WARM WELCOME SPACE



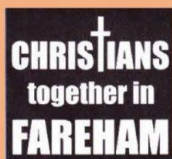
FREE • WARM • WELCOMING • SAFE

visit www.warmwelcome.uk

Christians Together in Fareham will provide you with a Warm Welcome every weekday this winter with warm drinks, activities such as jigsaws and board games, newspapers and books to read, a chance to chat or just a quiet place in somewhere safe and warm.

Our Warm Welcome spaces will be open at the times, days and venues below with the exception of the period Monday 26th December 2022 to Monday 2nd January 2023.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Monday | 11.00am-2.00pm | Hill Park Baptist Church 217 Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham PO15 6PZ |
| | 1.00pm-4.00pm | Fareham United Reformed Church 18 Osborn Road South, Fareham PO16 7DG |
| Tuesday | 10.00am-12.00pm | St John the Evangelist Church 1a Upper St Michael's Grove, Fareham PO14 1DN |
| | 1.00pm-4.00pm | Sacred Heart Church Portland Street, Fareham PO16 0NF |
| Wednesday | 1.00pm-4.00pm | Fareham Baptist New Life Church Gosport Road, Fareham PO16 0QW |
| Thursday | 1.00pm-4.00pm | Sacred Heart Church Portland Street, Fareham PO16 0NF |
| Friday | 10.00am-12.30pm | Holy Trinity Church 132 West Street, Fareham PO16 9EL |
| | 11.00am-2.00pm | Hill Park Baptist Church 217 Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham PO15 6PZ |



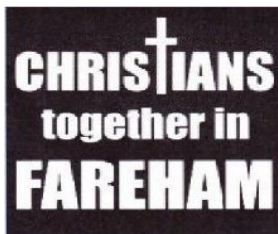
Christians Together in Fareham

brings together churches of many different traditions in united witness and service to our town.

For further information and enquiries please contact:

secretary@farehamchristians.org.uk





Lent Groups

We are looking for Hosts and Group Leaders for our Lent Groups in 2023.

They can be morning, afternoon or evening, Monday to Friday for the 5 weeks starting February 27th.

If you are able to help please contact Liz

elizdunning@ntlworld.com

07879 685556

By 15th January.

Thank you

WISDOM V Youth

An Airbus 380 is on its way across the Atlantic. It flies consistently at 800 km/h at 30,000 feet, when suddenly a Eurofighter with a Tempo Mach 2 appears.

The pilot of the fighter jet slows down, flies alongside the Airbus and greets the pilot of the passenger plane by radio: "Airbus, boring flight isn't it? Now have a look here!"

He rolls his jet on its back, accelerates, breaks through the sound barrier, rises rapidly to a dizzying height, and then swoops down almost to sea level in a breath-taking dive. He loops back next to the Airbus and asks: "Well, how was that?"

The Airbus pilot answers: "Very impressive but watch this!"

The jet pilot watches the Airbus, but nothing happens. It continues to fly straight at the same speed. After 15 minutes, the Airbus pilot radios, "Well, how was that?"

Confused, the jet pilot asks, "What did you do?"

The Airbus pilot laughs and says: "I got up, stretched my legs, walked to the back of the aircraft to use the washroom, then got a cup of coffee and a chocolate fudge pastry."

The moral of the story is: When you're young, speed and adrenaline seem to be great. But as you get older and wiser, you learn that comfort and peace are more important.

This is called S.O.S. - Slower, Older and Smarter.

Dedicated to all my senior friends - it's time to slow down and enjoy the rest of the trip.

So true Ian Thank you.

SUNDAY LUNCH
15th JANUARY at 12.15 p.m. approx.

This is open to all members of the congregation and all family and friends. There is no set charge for the meal, we just ask for a donation to Charity, this month we are supporting "Step by Step" - a charity that works with homeless young people. 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 Egg Mayonnaise

Main Course: Baked Ham, Sausages, Roast Potatoes, ,
Vegetables

Puddings: Variety

There will be a list in the Welcome area for you to sign. Please come along and enjoy a Sunday Roast!

If you are unable to come please let me know asap, even if it is early on the Sunday, so that we can adjust the numbers for which we cater and lay up. Last month we were expecting 47 people and only 37 turned up!

We need about 3/4 people to stay after the meal until about 2.30 to help with the dishwasher or to wash up. We would really appreciate your help.

Thank you

Jill Groom

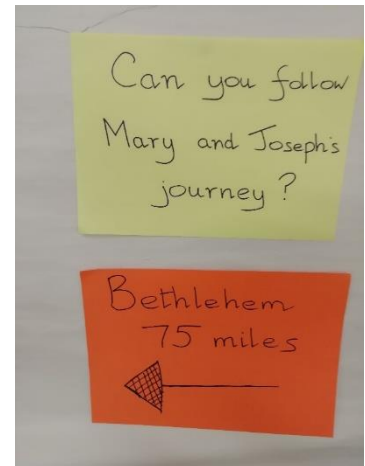
MESSY CHURCH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

*The Shepherds found Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus
lying in a manger.*



Making Mary and Joseph and a Manger for baby Jesus

Starting the journey game to Bethlehem.



Creating some edible sheep yummy.



Look what was made a stable with Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. A wonderful creation.



January – February 5th, 2023

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--|---|-------------------------------|--|--|----------------------|---|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 New Year's Eve | 1 10:30 Junior Fun Church. 10:30 Morning Worship led by Revd. Claire Simpson. Holy Communion. |
| 2 | 3 9.45 – 11.45 Parent and Toddler Group | 4 | 5 9.30 Coffee Centre 10:30 Prayer Circle Sanctuary. 17.30 Brownies | 6 | 7 | 8 10.30 Junior Fun Church 10:30 am Morning Worship Local Arrangement |
| 9 9.30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar. 19.30 Worship Consultation | 10 9.45 – 11.45 Parent and Toddler Group. 14:00 Tuesday Ladies' Club | 11 3.30 pm Messy Church | 12 9.30 Coffee Centre. . 17:30 Brownies. | 13 | 14 | 15 10.30 Junior Fun Church. 10.30 All Age Worship led by Ms Lynne Matthews. 12:15 Sunday Lunch |
| 16 9.30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar. | 17 9.45 – 11.45 Parent and Toddler Group. | 18 | 19 9.30 Coffee Centre 14:30 Red House Care Home Service 17.30 Brownies | 20 | 21 | 22 10.30 Junior Fun Church 10:30 Morning Worship led Ms Tracy Cooper |
| 23 9.30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar | 24 9.45 – 11.45 Parent and Toddler Group. 14:00 Tuesday Ladies' Club | 25 | 26 9.30 Coffee Centre 19:30 Singing Group Rehearsal . 17.30 Brownies | 27 18:30 Friday Night Games | 28 | 29 10.30 Junior Fun Church 10:30 Morning worship led Revd. Ray Goddess |
| 30 9.30 Mini Market in Coffee Bar | 31 9.45 – 11.45 Parent and Toddler Group. | 1 | 2 9.30 Coffee Centre 10:30 Prayer Circle Sanctuary. 19:30 Singing Group Rehearsal 17.30 Brownies | 3 Friday Lunch | 4 | 5 10.30 Junior Fun Church 10:30 Morning worship led by Revd. Claire Simpson. Holy Communion |