

FAREHAM

eFOCUS



Fareham Methodist Church
eFocus November 2021
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 Month of November

- 7th Nov. Revd. Claire Simpson
3 pm Service to Remember
- 14th Nov. Remembrance Service at
United Reform Church
- 21st Nov. Mrs Tracy Cooper
- 28th Nov. Mrs Imelda Temple
Advent Sunday
- 5th Dec. Revd. Canon Richard Atkins
Toy Service
Holy Communion



Thursday Prayer Circle Dates

The Thursday Prayer Circle has restarted. It 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.

- 4th Nov. will be led by Julie Kettle
- 2nd Dec. will be led by Claire Simpson
- 6th Jan. 2022 will be led by Bob Temple
- 3rd Feb. will be led by Jill Race
- 3rd Mar. will be led by Julie Kettle
- 7th Apr. will be led by Claire Simpson

I have to get May covered and I shall have everyone for the summer months. So that is good, and I hope to resolve that before Christmas.

Bobby

VESTRY JOTTINGS

It's almost that time of year again –

Remembrance, Advent and Christmas.

Thank you to all those who supplied poppies. You will see the lovely display at the front of the church which Maggie and Claire did in readiness for the Remembrance period. Some windows have also been tastefully decorated.

The first Sunday of Advent is the last Sunday of November when the Advent ring will be installed.

There will be a Christmas gift weekend on the 4th/5th of December. On Saturday the 4th, Shirley will have her Christmas stall, we will be serving refreshments, and Church will be open from 10.00am until 12 noon. You can bring your donations for the Toy service which is on the 5th of December coinciding with Communion which will be led by the Rev Richard Atkins. Any monetary donations towards Church funds will also be gratefully received on the Saturday.

All dates for Christmas activities will be announced.

As Penny has given up Thursday morning coffee due to health problems, we would like volunteers to help so that we can keep this outreach going. Initially it would only mean 2 hours once a month..

Brenda
On behalf of the stewards



Jill and I tidied the Messy Church cupboard, and the CD Player below was discovered. It has a controller which does not belong to it and two microphone inputs with no microphones. Does this belong to anyone? Please contact Lin 07840778063.



When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, do you just throw it away? Of course not. You change the batteries. 🔦. When a person messes up or finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not! You help them change their batteries. Some need AA...attention and affection; some need AAA...attention, affection, and acceptance; some need C....compassion; some need D...direction. And if they still don't seem to shine...simply sit with them quietly and share your light. 💕

Advent Gift Weekend

4th & 5th December

Saturday 4th December

- * Open Church
- * Refreshments
- * Christmas Stall
- * Christmas Carols
- * Decorate a window sill for Christmas
- * Make gifts to Food Bank
- * Make gifts to Church Funds

Sunday 5th December

Toy Service

10:30 am

Make your Christmas gifts for disadvantaged children

Church Pocket Book and Diary 2022 Floral

The Poppy

I am not a badge of honour
I am not a racist smear
I am not a fashion statement
To be worn but once a year
I am not glorification of conflict or of war
I am not a paper ornament
A token
I am more.
I am a loving memory of a father or a son
A permanent reminder of each and every one.
I'm paper or enamel
I'm old or shining new
I'm a way of saying Thank you
To every one of you.
I am a simple poppy
A reminder to you all
That courage, faith and honour
Will stand where heroes fall.

Thank you, Brenda,



The Church Pocket Book and Diary 2022 is the perfect church diary for anyone looking for a compact sized diary that follows the Common Worship calendar and includes lectionary readings.

This 14-month diary has a clear, spacious week to view layout, beginning with Sunday, that offers plenty of room for keeping track of appointments while still being a convenient pocket size that's easy to carry around. It also features two ribbon markers to keep your place throughout the year.

Beginning in December 2021 and running to January 2023, it covers the entirety of the approaching Advent season. It also has all the titles for the Sundays throughout the church calendar and the dates of festivals to correspond with the Common Worship calendar and lectionary and the Book of Common Prayer, making it an essential purchase for clergy and churchgoers wanting a Christian diary.

Your important contact details and to-do lists will be at your fingertips as well with this little pocket diary – it includes pages at the back for personal memos, addresses and telephone numbers alongside the complete Common Worship Calendar and Lectionary readings for Advent 2021 - Advent 2022 and includes the BCP scheme.

With information on every UK Anglican Diocese and those in the Republic of Ireland plus the names and addresses of all major Christian societies, charities and organisations covering all mainstream denominations, the Church Pocket Book and Diary 2022 is ideal for ministers and congregations needing to stay organised on to go.

This edition of the Church Pocket Book and Diary 2022 features a beautiful floral design depicting pink Nelumbo flowers with matching pink and peach ribbon markers.

I have found what I believe is a diary similar to the Action for Children diary. It is available from CPO and I am willing to forward any orders in bulk. The price is £9.99

Malcolm Race

"Remember, Remember"



*"Do this in
remembrance of me
Luke 22:19"*

Date - Wednesday 10th November 2021

Time - from 3:30pm

Venue - Fareham Methodist Church

Games and Activities

Worship

Meal



Contact Jill Groom - 07999 558524 for more details!

Sunday Lunch 21st Nov at 12/12.15 pm 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 very good – thank you.

The Menu

Starter: Soup or Pate

Main Course: Roast Pork, Sausages, Roast Potatoes, Vegetables

Puddings: Variety

There will be a list for you to sign. We will be asking you to come to serving tables to collect your food. Please wear your mask at this time, thank you. Come along and enjoy a Sunday Roast!

If you can help before or after the meal, please let me know. We particularly need help in the kitchen after the meal.

Thank you

Jill Groom

A message from Catherine Stevenson

Some family news (and a proud mum if I'm honest). Tom Stevenson has received his Diploma of Funeral Directing. A bit delayed due to Covid. He also received a special award for the highest mark overall.

A Message from Una

She wishes to thank you and is very grateful on receiving the flowers delivered by Jean Petter from the church

CONGRATULATIONS

Jean and Mike Petter are pleased to announce the birth of their 5th grandchild on 27th October – Alexander James, second son for Emily and Dan and brother for William.

This is one of the kindest things you may ever see. It is not known who replied, but there is a beautiful soul working in the dead letter office of the US postal service.

Thank you, Ian,



Our 14 year old dog, Abbey, died last month. The day after she died, my 4 year old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognise her. I told her that I thought we could so she dictated these words:

Dear God,
Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick.

I hope you will play with her. She likes to play with balls and to swim. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Love, Meredith

We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office.

A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought he had.

Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed, 'To Meredith' in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.'

Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note:

Dear Meredith,

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help. I recognised Abbey right away.

Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog.

Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in, so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.

Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you.

I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find, I am wherever there is love.

Love,
God

Dear friends,

And so, we find ourselves in November! The clocks have altered, the weather has cooled, and more hours of darkness are not always welcome. For me, November falls into two parts. The first half of the month is marked by remembrance as we move from All Saints' Day towards the solemnity and poignance of Remembrance Sunday. Remembering is part of our Christian life. Each time we gather around the Lord's Table to share in bread and wine we are mindful of that call to remember Jesus and all that he has done for us. As we remember the story of that first Last Supper that Jesus shared with his friends, we 'reanimate' it in a meaningful way as Jesus' friends and followers now. The second half of November, if I'm honest, is something of the last breather before we launch into Advent and approach Christmas and things start to get a bit busier for the festive season. Maybe you feel the same. But chance to breathe, be still and rest are also a necessary part of our Christian life. God built in rest to the created order and saw that it was just as good as the rest of what had been made.

So, I hope that remembering and rest are meaningful for you as we travel through this month and approach Advent, where we wait again in expectant hope for the gift of the Christchild to come.

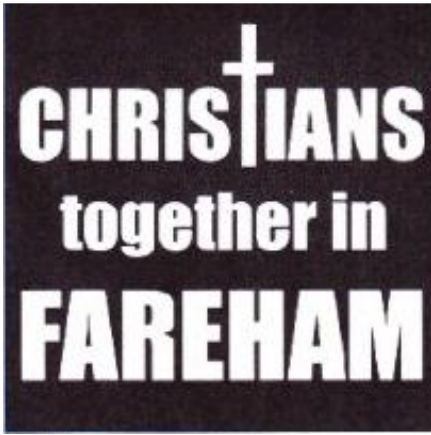
With love,
Claire

November begins with a season of remembrance. This is especially true for us at Fareham as we mourn the loss of much-loved church members. We give thanks for lives of faithful witness, and we continue to pray for all those who mourn. See below for the details of three services that are taking place in church and that everyone from our church community is invited to:

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lynda Thomas is to be held in church on Friday 12th November at 1pm followed by refreshments served in the large hall. Please wear a bright colour in memory of Lynda!

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Eric Wheeler is to be held in church on Monday 15th November at 1pm following a private committal at Portchester Crematorium. Refreshments will be served in church following this service.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Antony Hollinghurst will be held in church on Friday 26th November at 2pm following a private committal earlier in the day at Portchester Crematorium. Refreshments will be served in the large hall following this service.
Jesus said: 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted'.



Volunteers are needed
to be involved with
Christingle making

We have a stall at the

Fareham Christmas Light Switch On
in **West Street** on **Saturday 20th November**

The event runs from 10am till 8pm (with the lights being switched on at 5.30pm). We are planning to run our stall from 11am till 3.30pm.

We will have 2 tables on the go with six or eight Christingles being made at any given time, so we need a good handful of volunteers.

If you would like to help
and can offer an hour or
two, please contact Rachel
Hicks

rachel@thehickses.org.uk

01329 312895





Keep well, stay connected

Thank you for your support

from all of us at SeeAbility

www.seeability.org



T: 01372 755042

Registered Charity Number 255913

SA034-v1-0420

I received a handwritten note from Sarah Namusobya, the Public Fundraising Officer at SeeAbility thanking me for my support but I believe that has to go to the congregation of Fareham Methodist Church who raised the majority of the money for the young men and women who are helped by the charity to live independent, productive lives despite having significant sight loss and other physical disabilities.

With your generosity I was able to raise 281% of my target. A total of £562.44 with Gift Aid added: £618.69.

Thank You.
Mark

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Editor's Note

Well November has arrived, and the clocks have jumped back. We are now possibly thinking of Christmas – the church has a lot planned which is fab since last year was such a wash out for everyone to get together. Although we did focus more on the true meaning of Christmas as a family which is a good thing.

My family and I did run the Race of Life which as you all know was cancelled. We decided to walk 5k (we did more) on the day it was rather windy and nearly toppled us over at one point. We had such a laugh, and we knew it was for a good cause. I raised £170 + £17.50 gift aid. Thank you for your donations.

Efocus deadline for December is 1st

