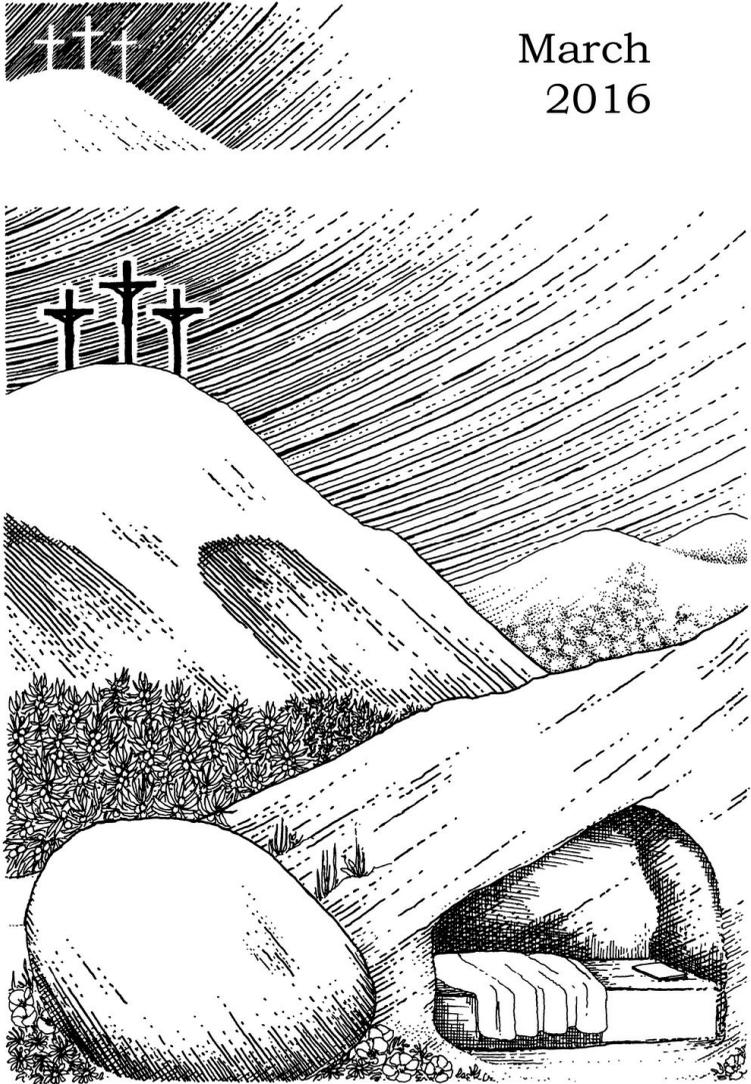


FAREHAM

O C U

March
2016

Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine



Registered Charity No. 1127814

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Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

MARCH

6th	10.30	Rev Claire Simpson Holy Communion
13th	10.30	Mr David Bloomfield
20th	10.30	Mrs Pam Davey All age Palm Sunday
25th	10.00	Good Friday walk of witness
27th	08.00	Service on the beach at Hill Head
	10.30	Mr Geoff Paffett Easter Day
	18.00	Rev Claire Simpson Iona Holy Communion

APRIL

3rd	10.30	Rev Malcolm Rothwell Holy Communion
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LOCAL PREACHER'S AND TEAM APPOINTMENTS

MARCH

6th	10.30	Portchester	Andrew Wilcock
13th	10.30	Lee on Solent	Tracy Cooper
20th	10.30	Gosport	Andrew Wilcock

APRIL

3rd	10.00	Emsworth	Andrew Wilcock
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Dear friends,

Easter Day is at the very end of this month and so it feels a little early to be reflecting on Easter themes when we still have some way to go on the journey through Lent. So that means I have a second opportunity to write about the season of Lent and ask you ‘How well are you travelling?’ I know that some people are following study books and meeting in groups as part of this journey. Others of you may have given something up, or taken something up, and are in the day-to-day reality of what that means for you. I am trying to make space (not always easy!) for some extra daily reading and reflection using a Lent book by David Runcorn called ‘Dust and Glory’. It’s challenging stuff because each day’s task is to take a bit of a look at myself – and not just the bits that I might like!! The book keeps intentionally reminding me that to live well I need to be reconciled to **all** of who I am. Sinful, yes, but made in God’s image too, with the capacity to know His mercy, live in His grace and experience His goodness. In the last day or so I have had my attention drawn to a meditation by Christine Odell called On Knowing Oneself from her book ‘Ever Increasing Circles’, it chimes with the Lenten journey that I am walking and I hope it resonates with you too as we continue to journey to the cross and beyond:

Teach me, Lord, to know myself so that I can serve you better.

I can be so sure that I am speaking for everyone when I’m only speaking for myself.
I can be so sure I am doing the right thing when I’m only doing what makes me feel good.
Teach me, Lord, to know myself so that I can serve you better.

I pretend to be so mature while the child in me misbehaves and clamours for attention.
I pretend to be impartial and unbiased when my experience of life has moulded me to a particular point of view.
Teach me, Lord, to know myself so that I can serve you better.

I claim I am a worthless, useless person although I have many gifts and talents.
I wallow in feelings of deep guilt that are unrealistic and smack of self importance.
Teach me, Lord, to know myself so that I can serve you better.

I am not a perfect person nor a total sinner. I do not know everything but I know much.
I am not fully grown up, nor a child.
But as I am, I can unthinkingly hurt or damage people, or I can learn to love and build them up.

Teach me, Lord, to know myself so that I can serve you better.

With Love, Claire

CHURCH NEWS

Vestry Jottings

Following the last church council a decision was made to increase the number of hymn books in the church, if you would like to purchase a book as a donation or in memory of someone please let a steward know. If you would like to take this opportunity to purchase a book for yourself again please let a steward know.

We continue to look towards our annual church meeting and ask everyone to consider how they may offer their help with jobs within the church. As I know I have said before we will be losing Jean as a steward this year, we are very grateful for all the work she has done as a steward and are looking for offers of help to join the team, is this something you would consider? Please chat with one of us if you would be willing to help.

Flower Ministry

Friends who have recently joined our church family may like to know how our flower ministry works.

Flowers are naturally used to enhance our Sunday worship, but also to comfort friends, who may be unwell, bereaved, or housebound, or to celebrate a happy occasion with them. The flowers are donated by our church friends who sign up on the diary in the corridor, often choosing a date of significance to them. Later the flowers are delivered by a small group of volunteers. If you are interested in donating flowers or arranging for those who cannot do so themselves, or to deliver them, then please speak to Irene or me. Thank you

Mary Bailey

Two years ago I started running. With medication to control my asthma I could resume doing something I had thoroughly enjoyed when younger. An event is coming up when I can potentially put my running to good use.

On the 20th March after participating in the annual Eastleigh 10k (6 ½ miles) race I'll be dashing by train to Winchester to take part in this year's Sport Relief challenge where I'll be running a further 6 miles in the University of Winchester's Sport Stadium. If you would like to sponsor me, any amount would be gratefully received.

Mark Brooks



Congratulations to Walter and Pat Metcalf on the occasion of their golden wedding on March 7th.



Message from the Editor

At time of writing we have been in our new home for just over a week. We would like to thank all those who have sent cards and emails wishing us well.

I am glad to say that our move went very smoothly and we are keeping busy now planning decorating and a few minor improvements. We are enjoying the peace of a semi-rural location and views over countryside. Sadly my mother has been admitted to hospital with a fractured hip and this makes additional complications, for my sisters and me.

We have been out of communication by landline and broadband since the move so will you please accept my apologies if I have not received or replied to any messages since the 12th Feb. However, with luck we will be connected on the 25th and I hope to pick up most of the news and contributions then. Sincerely Ruth (now connected!!)



**Wednesday,
March 9th
2016**

**Fareham Methodist
Church, Kings Road,
Fareham
PO16 0NU**

The Last Supper



3.30pm – 6.00pm

**Everyone is welcome to join us for games,
craft, worship and a meal.**

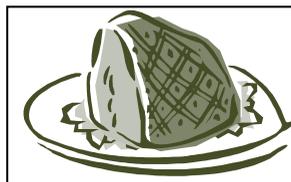
SUNDAY LUNCH 20th MARCH at 12.15
p.m.approx.

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 donations towards 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 Greek Salad

Main Course: Roast Turkey, stuffing, chipolatas, Roast Potatoes, Selection of vegetables.



Puddings: Variety

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

Please note that at the lunch on April 17th the donations will go to Christian Aid

Freezer

I will need to defrost the freezer this coming month. At the moment there are lots of items that are not named or sealed with a “use by date” on them.

If you have anything in the freezer, please can you check it is named as I will have to discard unmarked products. We are due for an inspection soon and will lose our 5star rating if all is not in order!
Many thanks, Jill Groom

Thank You

At last we seem to have settled into our new home!
We are very happy here and would like to thank, rather belatedly we're afraid, all our many friends who sent us their Good Wishes on our move to Faregrove Court.

Thank you, Gwen and Harvey Brosgall

Thoughts on 2 Sermons

From birth, my loving Christian parents, ably supported by their elder generation, placed my feet firmly ‘on the way’. Of course there were difficulties, one branch so puritanical that even needlework was prohibited on the Sabbath, not that that worried me! There was also self-denial and a generosity far far beyond their comfort zone, and call of duty. I learnt from them all with gratitude.

Fortified by example, Bible stories and memorised scripture, I walked firmly and happily ‘on the way’, only once diverted by the beauty and ritual of another form of worship.

Since the joy of worshipping at King’s Road Methodist Church, I have been awed by the diversity of skills and labour, so willingly offered. For myself, toleration and non-judgemental attitudes have improved, a learning curve one may think.

My eyes, more firmly on the signpost ahead, the little pathways where awareness, understanding and refreshment could be gained were missed. Still so much for me to learn, It was as if I had been gazing through the wrong end of a telescope, which now was gently removed, reversed and returned. No scales fell from my eyes, but the familiar was seen in a different perspective. Cont. on page 9

Cont. from page 8

That the wise men, having worshipped the baby Jesus, returned a different way was just accepted; now I knew that after finding Jesus it was *impossible* for them to follow the same paths, or even to go back to their old ways. I had been blinded by half-truths. Although personally knowing people whose lives had been changed by Jesus, I had missed the essential truth so clearly told in the Bible at the beginning of Christ's ministry.

Another sermon; another unfamiliar path opening to a glade of pain with loyalty, encircled by mysticism and love.

How thick I had been never to have related the pain of a Father agonizing over his boy writhing in the throes of a massive epileptic fit; bystanders callously thinking "he or his father must have sinned, they deserve all they get." The man's cry, "He is mine and I love him, can no-one help us?"

Why could I not pair up that story with the pain of our Heavenly Father, not only for his son Jesus, but for all his children, whoever or whatever their background; His love a powerful encompassing care for all who call on Him.

Now, with the telescope performing its proper function, what else will I see beside the road?

Una Peters

Coach Holiday to the Derbyshire Peaks and Dales

Since 2006 the Methodist Church in Petersfield has arranged a coach holiday for members and friends, over the years, welcoming friends from the local circuit and further away.

We travel by executive coach from the Methodist Church with further pickups at Liss, Alton and Basingstoke.

The price per person for an en-suite room is £599 staying in the Willersley Castle Hotel, Matlock, and includes return travel, eight nights half board accommodation, and six full day excursions. It does not include entry fees and gratuities

Further details can be found on the Church noticeboard..



CIRCUIT NEWS

East Solent and Downs Circuit

Mission Day: 'If you needed a neighbour...'

Saturday 30th April

2016 10am – 3pm

Fareham Methodist

Church,

Kings Road, Fare-

ham, PO16 0NU



Programme for the day includes:

Worship, sharing what we are doing in our Circuit with neighbours, new and old, close by and further afield, refreshments and lunch, looking at what needs to be done. Please complete and return the slip (or e-mail) below by 24th April to help us with planning and catering.

.....
.....

Name(s):

.....

Church:.....

Contact details:

.....
.....

Any dietary requirements:

.....
.....

Return to: Mrs Garry Bagshaw, 2 The Cloisters, Fareham, PO15 5PU

Tel: 01329 845978 or hazelbagshaw@virginmedia.com

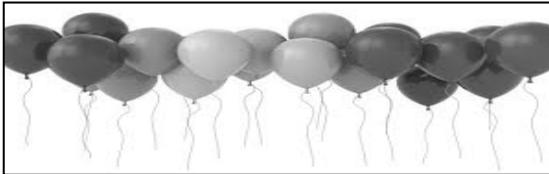
EASTER SUNDAY COMMUNION AND BREAKFAST
ON THE BEACH



0800 March 27th 2016

The Rotary Club Wheelhouse
Salterns Car Park
Hill Head

Following Bacon rolls, toast and hot drinks will be served the service



*AN INVITATION TO
BRIDGEMARY
METHODIST CHURCH
GREGSON AVENUE PO13 1PP
60TH ANNIVERSARY .
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
SUNDAY 6TH MARCH 2016
PREACHER: PAM STONE 10AM
SATURDAY 12TH MARCH 6PM
SKITTLES EVENING WITH
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
SUNDAY 13TH MARCH
PREACHER: REV.DR. CHRISTINA
Le MOIGNAN 10AM*

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Out Of The Ashes are a band with a loving message to encourage and enliven local congregations at Sunday services or evening concerts. Don't worry about fee - they will agree something you can afford. Having had their latest single 'The Right Place' played on Paul Jones BBC Radio 2 show, and Tours to the US, Tenerife and a new album planned for 2016 this offer is purely about supporting and blessing the local church. If you are interested to know more please see www.outoftheashesmusic.uk or email joel@soundconsultancy.co.uk

RETREAT

8/10TH JULY 2016

LADYWELL CONVENT

GODALMING

Growing in Gods Love

How does a seed become a tree? And how do we become all that God desires for us?

This retreat will explore the patterns of personal and spiritual growth, using imagery from the bible and writings of poets and people of prayer through the centuries

We will be guided on our retreat by Led by Rev Chris Chapman who is the adviser to the Bishop Southwark and diocese on Spirituality.

There will be 5 led sessions which will give time for your own personal reflection

The cost is £175 fully catered; there are a limited amount of rooms left, for further details please speak to me at church or call me on 01883 370945 or via email

brian-car@hotmail.co.uk

Brian Sherrell

Governments must do more to meet the immediate needs of Syria's people

The Methodist Church, along with three other major UK Churches, has called on governments to provide substantial new funding to alleviate the suffering of the people of Syria, including refugees in the neighbouring countries of Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan.

The call from the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church came on the eve of the international pledging conference for Syria, which took place in London earlier this month.

The Revd Steve Wild, President of the Methodist Conference, said: “The bombing and shelling of civilian areas by the Syrian Government and other groups has caused immense death and suffering. The disregard for civilian life has been shocking; it is callous and totally unacceptable, even in war.”

In the light of the recent deaths from hunger in the Syrian town of Madaya, he continued: “It is a fundamental principle under international humanitarian law that those fighting a conflict must not restrict the delivery of aid to victims. The parties to the conflict who are meeting in Geneva must tackle this issue. They have a responsibility to ensure that life-saving aid gets to all in need.” Since these words the UN have unveiled [plans for aid convoys](#).

This challenge to governments follows on from a [combined statement on Syria](#) issued in December 2015, in which the Churches challenged the divisive rhetoric that sets communities apart and committed themselves to prayer for those suffering conflict and for those tasked with negotiating solutions and bringing security.



THE BUZZ (Extract)

Issue 151



Almost a dozen Methodist ministers held a peaceful vigil at the French Embassy on Monday 18 January to protest about the conditions in which refugees are existing in camps at Calais and Dunkirk. The vigil took place between midday and 3 pm, with protestors holding placards saying ‘Je suis Refugee’, as a mark of solidarity with the refugees whose voices are not being heard.

A letter, urging co-operation between France and the UK to improve the conditions of the refugee camps and better address the refugee situation in general, was signed by the group and given to the French President Hollande and the British Prime Minister David Cameron.

The Revd David Haslam said: “We recognise that terrible things have happened in France over the last twelve months, but that does not excuse the appalling treatment of families, young people and, in some cases, lone children who are living in wholly inhuman conditions.

“Many Christians, and others, have offered hospitality to refugees should they arrive in the UK,” said the Revd Haslam. “Surely an agreement could be reached with the French and British governments to bring in some of those who are only 20 miles from our shores.”

The vigil took place with the support of the Social Responsibility Commission of the Methodist London District, a number of whose members were present on the day.

Email: The Revd David Haslam davidhaslam558@btinternet.com

Christians Together in Fareham

Fareham Baptist New Life Church, are holding an evening of meditation through Music and readings, on Good Friday at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

Thank you.

Alan Rogers.

"Pentecost Praise" - save the date 15 May at 6pm

Please note in all your diaries the evening of Pentecost Sunday, from 6 - 8pm, (with an interval.) at Holy Trinity.

You will have a chance to come and sing, and share in words, music and drama, to celebrate this special day as Churches Together in Fareham and the Western Wards. Posters and more details will be circulated nearer the time. Any questions at this stage to Rachel and Jeremy Hicks, Sue and Pete Hall, or Susan and Paul Bedford

Fairtrade Fortnight 2016

We're sitting down for breakfast and standing up for farmers.

Women's Breakfast

8.30 am Saturday March 12th

Fareham United Reformed Church

PO16 7DG

**If you would like to come please ring
01329 221465 and leave a message**

Or email secretary@farehamurc.org.uk

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN



HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the week before Easter Day; it starts with Palm Sunday which is on 20th March this year. Palm Sunday is when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.



The Thursday of Holy Week is called Maundy Thursday which is named for the words that Jesus used at his last meal with the disciples, what we now call the Last Supper. The Latin words are 'Madatum novum da vobis' – a new commandment I give you'. Do you know what that commandment is? You can read the whole account in St John's Gospel, chapter 13.

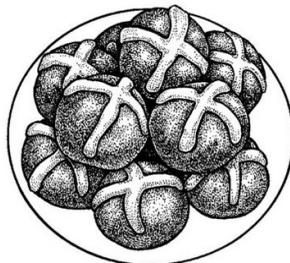
Then comes Good Friday - a lot of people can't see why a day that commemorates the trial and crucifixion of Jesus could be called 'good'. It was a black day but Christians know that without what happened that Friday there would be no Easter. Without the death of our Lord there would have been no empty tomb on Easter Day, no glorious Resurrection.

HOT CROSS BUNS

One of the pleasures of Easter is eating hot cross buns. Like most things they cost more now than they did in this old rhyme...

Hot Cross Buns,
Hot Cross Buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.
If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.

If you have some time to spare, see how many words you can make from the letters in the words **HOT CROSS BUNS**. Words of at least 3 letters, no plurals, proper names or foreign words.



What do you get when you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

A hot cross bunny.

Why couldn't the rabbit fly home for Easter?

He didn't have the hare fare.

FLOWER MINISTRY



Thank you very much for the lovely Church flowers kindly brought to me by Mary Bailey. They have given me much enjoyment as did Mary's visit and our little chat.

With love Maude

Thank you so much for the lovely messages, cards and flowers and to Jean for delivering flowers on a rainy afternoon. They helped so much.

Ruth and Antony would like to thank everyone for the gift of flowers on the occasion of our 51st anniversary.

Many thanks again for the flowers, delivered to me in January. I did appreciate them, and the lady who delivered them. They gave me great pleasure for quite a while.

Again my thanks, Lilwen

Fareham Good Neighbours Vacancy (part of Christians together in Fareham)

A vacancy has arisen for an Hon Secretary who is computer literate. For further information/Job description please speak to Edith Livingstone or Bobby Watson who will give you more information and details on who to contact.

DIARY DATES FOR MARCH

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
FEB 29 9.30 Mini Market 19.30 Pastoral meeting	1 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	2 10.00 Heal- ing Prayer grp at Padley's	3 9.30 Coffee am 10.00 Tranport enthusiasts 10.15 Prayer group 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	4 10.00Lent Study 13.00 Lunch 14.30 and 19.30 Women's World day of prayer	5
7 9.30 Mini Market 19.30 User grp AGM	8 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	9 15.30 Messy Church	10 9.30 Coffee am 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	11 10.00 Lent Study	12
14 9.30 Mini Market	15 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	16	17 9.30 Coffee am 10.15 Prayer grp. 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	18 10.00 Lent Study	19
21 9.30 Mini Market	22 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	23 14.00 Wed Fellowship	24 9.30 Coffee am 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	25 Good Fri. 10.00 Walk of Witness	26
28 BH	29	30	31 9.30 Coffee am	APRIL 1	2

The diary dates as displayed are presented in the same format as the Church website. They are as accurate as the information provided at the time of going to press, but should only be used as a guide, which can be updated with information from the weekly notice sheet..

Waiting

In the darkness the candle waits
for heart and will
and hand and flame
to love, to touch,
passivity into action,
readiness into fulfilment,
potential into reality,
impulse into sight,

In life's darkness my spirit waits
for your warm touch,
to heal my shame,
to woo, to win,
to bring me life,
dissolving all my resistance,
opening me to new ways of grace
helping me to enjoy your Love,
and celebrate new life.

I think these words were written with advent in mind. However, I think they equally apply to us all as we journey through our Christian

Mini-Market every Monday 9.30 to 11.45 am
(Not Bank Holidays)

Coffee Centre every Thursday 9.30 to 11.45 am

DOOR STEWARDS

MARCH 6th Lynda Young and Mary Bailey
13th Brenda Bennett and Janice Collins
20th Pat Croker and Keith Sargeant
27th Rosemarie and Tony Jackson
Eve. Eric Wheeler

APRIL 3rd Judith Bramall and Alan Sargent

(This is correct at time of publication but does not take account of changes made by individuals)

REFRESHMENT ROTA

MARCH 6th Pat Croker and Mary Bailey
13th Liz Haigh and Liz Avison
20th Pat and Walter Metcalf
27th Ruth and Tony Elvery

APRIL 3rd Marilyn Woodrow, Janice and Alan Sargent

FLOWER ROTA

MARCH 6th Linda Foster
13th Bobby and Patrick Watson
20th Lynda Thomas

PRESS DATE

All items for the APRIL Focus should be emailed to ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk or if this is not possible placed in the box in the Welcome Area by noon of **Thurs 24th March 2016**

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website