

FAREHAM

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March 2020



Fareham Methodist Church Magazine

Registered Charity No. 1127814

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Services for the Month of March

1st	1st of Lent	10:30 am	Revd Claire Simpson Holy Communion.
		6.00 pm	Revd Claire Simpson Family Service.
8th	2nd of Lent	10:30 am	Mrs Tracy Cooper.
15th	3rd of Lent	10:30 am	Revd Claire Simpson . All Age Worship, Annual Church Meeting.
22nd	4th of Lent	10:30 am	Mr Andrew Wilcock.
		6.00 pm	Revd Claire Simpson Iona, Holy Communion.
29th	5th of Lent	10:30 am	Revd Claire Simpson Church with Choices

Dear friends,

It is sometimes commented on that I walk fairly quickly. I set off and maintain a brisk pace that can sometimes leave others trailing in my wake!! However, my parents tell me that this wasn't always the case. As a child I hated walking anywhere and the thought of 'going for a walk' was something that filled me with dread. On many occasions when we stepped out as a family my dad and sister would be the ones setting the pace and I would be dawdling behind with my mum for company.

We have just begun the season of Lent and we can talk about the Lenten journey to the events of Holy Week and Easter being like a walk. One of the books that I will re-read this year is a book called 'Barefoot Disciple' by Rev Stephen Cherry (Continuum 2011). The book is, primarily, about the virtue of humility but the title itself gives us an image of how we might step out if we took off our socks and shoes and walked barefoot. It would feel different. We would possibly walk more slowly, and certainly more carefully, trying to avoid the uneven or sharp and stony parts of pathways that would hurt if we just walked straight over them.

Lent gifts us the opportunity on a practical and spiritual level to walk more slowly and carefully in order for us to be more aware of God's presence working in our lives and catching glimpses of God working in the world today. Having said that, the opposite could also be true in that Lent might be a time for us to 'speed up' a bit and hit the road with a project or a cause that is close to our heart and we need that impetus to get it going.

If you are going to walk barefoot then very slowly or very quickly are probably the best two alternatives!!

Lent is an invitation to read and meditate on God's word; to pray; to repent and examine one's own life. It is a time for self-denial and charitable giving.

How will you choose to walk through Lent this year?

Love,

Claire



A Quick Note From the Editor

Firstly I wish to give a special thank you to Rox for providing a fab template for me to work from. Good Luck Rox in all you do in the future. A thank you too to everyone for their help in compiling March's Focus. I have to say that I was a little daunted using Publisher as I haven't used it since retiring - but it works brilliantly.

I will acknowledge your emails so if you don't receive one then let me know so that I don't miss entries. Please email entries to:

Fareham.focus@gmail.com
by 19th March for April's focus.

Thank you *Lin Woodhams*

Vestry Jottings

February

A Happy and healthy New Year to you all.

The Toy Service and our Reverse Advent were a great success. It was lovely to see how generous the congregation had been.

Once again a big thank you to the Christmas Tree Festival Team for another successful event. Our Carols by Candlelight was also a great success and we raised over £309 for Action for Children. As we are into the New Year would anyone like to join the Stewards' Team?

Finally, we would like to thank Rox for her hard work with the Focus. Our good wishes go with her on the next stage of her journey.

March

Thank you Lin for volunteering to be editor of our Fareham Focus. It is very much appreciated.

Our congregation showed their generosity once again in supporting Amy Shepherd on her trip to do voluntary work in Nepal. A big Thank You from Amy.

Just a reminder about our Fashion Show in May. We need Ladies, Gents and Children's pre-loved clothes. All proceeds go to Messy Church and our church.

Finally, it's not too late to volunteer to be a steward. We would love someone to join our team.

Brenda - on behalf of the stewards.

Families, Friendship, Fun, Food and Faith in Fareham



Please join us on
Wednesday 11th March
3:30pm until 6:00pm

Theme: **Falling and Breaking**
includes a simple communion
at Fareham Methodist Church

New faces are always very welcome, come and give us a try! A freshly cooked hot meal is served towards the end of our session

For more details about this once a month event for the whole family, search for

farehammessychurch on facebook or email fareham.methodist.messy@gmail.com

PRE-LOVED FASHION SHOW

LADIES', GENTS' AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHES



Image: Freepik.com

FRIDAY

15 May 2020

Doors open 6:30pm

Show starts 7pm

Fareham Methodist Church

Kings Road, Fareham PO16 0NU

TICKETS £5

Inc. Tea/Coffee and a Biscuit

PLUS £1 OFF

your first clothing purchase!

*Children under 16 FREE when
accompanied by an adult*

All clothing can be purchased with proceeds going to
Messy Church & Fareham Methodist Church community

Tickets available at Fareham Methodist Church

Mon & Thur: 9:30-11:30am, Thur: 7-7:30pm

www.farehammethodist.org.uk Jill: 07999 558524

 [farehammessychurch](https://www.facebook.com/farehammessychurch)

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1127814

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE
OF OUR FUNDRAISING FASHION SHOW
Friday 15th May 2020

On the 15th May we are holding a Fashion Show to raise funds for Fareham Methodist Church and our Messy Church.

To enable us to do this we need your help!

Have you got some good quality, smart, day or evening wear that you no longer want? We need gents', ladies' and children's clothing and accessories. Along with clothing we are also looking for good quality shoes, scarves, bags and hats (no **jewellery** please).

If you have sorted out some lovely items Jill Groom or Rev. Claire would be willing to receive items from now onwards, please.



THURSDAY PRAYER GROUP

5th March	Bob Temple
2nd April	Claire
7th May	Julie / Claire
4th June	Claire
2nd July	Bob Temple
9th July	Wash up

Everyone is Welcome and can drop in for five minutes or stay longer. Bring your concerns and we will pray for and with you. Or just pop in and sit and listen. You do not have to take part if you do not want to. Just come.

Please pray for those most in need as **Refugee Matters**, with the support of 'Christians together in Fareham', seek to provide a home in our area for a refugee family which has lost everything.

Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homelessness and hunger. Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

News from the Web



I don't think this will be news to you, but we have a website!



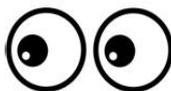
<https://farehammethodist.org.uk/>

On this website we make available a large amount of information about the church - its activities, calendar of events, our policies, news from local, district and national levels, photographs of events, etc..

Last month over 92,000 pages on our website were opened by people from all over the world. (In November 2019 nearly 137,000 pages were opened!)



Say the average visitor opened 10 pages per visit that means that 9,200 visits were made in the January. That's a lot of eyes on what we're up to!



I'm sure you'll agree with me that the website is a good shop window for our church. It also needs to be kept accurate and up-to-date.

Please! - I need your help!

- **Please keep me informed of dates, times, etc.,** for any events taking place as part of our church activities. (I accept email, snail-mail and you can even enter your own event on our website calendar (see the "Submit an Event" button - top right).
- **If you would like me to advertise** your meeting/event with a poster - please send me the information. (I'm even prepared to do the artwork for you!)
- **Please police the website** - if you see anything out of date or incorrect then please let me know - nothing looks worse than stuff that's wrong!

Every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Groom', with a long, sweeping horizontal line underneath it.

Malcolm Groom - Website manager
(malcolm@farehammethodist.org.uk)

A Poem

An angel kissed my tears away today
when I was feeling sad.
I wasn't feeling quite myself
my day had been so bad.
I felt a warmth brush by me
that quickly dried my tears.
A gentle kind and loving touch
that seemed to hold me near.
Immediately I felt better
and the day seemed brighter too.
Guess that's just the way you feel
when an angel comforts you.

February

Thank you for the beautiful church flowers and for Lynda Young who very kindly delivered them to me. **Liz Avison**

Joan and Jeffery want to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during the past months and for all the Christmas cards. We are coming to terms with our restricted lifestyle and thank God that Jeffery is contented. **Joan**

Joan Moore would like to thank everyone who sent her sympathy cards and attended her husband Alan's funeral. It was much appreciated. Many thanks. **Linda French**

February continued

Apologies to the congregation of 5th January 2020

What a way to start a new year! I wasn't in a good place (reason not excuse), didn't check my diary or the rota and forgot that I was on refreshment duty and scheduled to bring the milk. Please accept my apologies for this dereliction of duty leading to the availability of black coffee and tea or squash only. Many thanks to Lynda H-J for stepping in for me albeit to a not surprising very limited take up, I believe. I hope not to repeat this omission. If I had checked and attended as scheduled I would almost certainly have been better able to face people.

Ian Bagshaw

March

Thank you

I wish to thank all my friends and the Methodist Church for the support given to me and the family at Ronald's 'Service of Thanksgiving'. Also for the numerous cards, flowers and words of sympathy extended to us.

Margaret Henderson

Thank you for the lovely flowers from church. A thank you to Liz Avison who delivered them and spent time for a chat much appreciated.

Lynda Thomas



‘God in Love unites us’ - the Report of the Marriage and Relationships Task Group.

There are various opportunities to join with others and engage in study and prayerful discussion.

At Lee Methodist Church

Thursday mornings 10:30 am - 12 noon
March 5th and 12th.

At Stubbington Methodist Church

7 - 8:30 pm on Tuesday Mar 3rd and on
Mondays Mar 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and Apr 6th.

Circuit gatherings are also happening at Portchester Methodist Church

TO ALL PASTORAL VISITORS

The next Pastoral Meeting is on Wednesday 11th March at 7:30 pm in the church.

(not Monday 9th as arranged at the last meeting)

Sally Bland (Pastoral Secretary)

SUNDAY LUNCH 15th March
at 12:15 / 12:30 pm 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 for **the church funds** this month. 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, Apple Sauce

Puddings: Variety

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

If you can stay to help until all the washing up is done please sign the helpers list. It then means that those of us who have been at church since 8.45am can slip away before 3pm!

Thank you. Jill Groom





be a befriender!
Could you spare a couple of hours each fortnight?

Could you regularly visit someone in their own

home to provide companionship?

We are a group of volunteers who visit the lonely or infirm in our community. We visit people throughout the Fareham local area, but if you don't drive a car we can usually arrange that your contact is local to you. Some of those we visit live in residential homes, the remainder live in their own homes.

The day and time of the visit would be arranged to suit you.

Come and join us

It's a very rewarding experience.

Contact Mabel on 07512 078420

Need a Befriender to visit you?

MINI MARKET ROTA March - May 2020

<u>March</u>	<u>Bouncer</u>	<u>Extra Helper</u>	<u>Baking</u>
2nd	Tony	Lynda Y	Eric
9th	Keith	Penny	Mary
16th	Roger	Marilyn	Marilyn
23rd	Malcolm	Lynda HJ	Janice
30th	Bob	Margaret	Margaret
<u>Apr</u>			
6th	Andrew	Elizabeth	Elizabeth
13th	Closed - Easter Monday		
20th	Keith	Edith?	Edith
27th	Tony	*Lynda Y, Penny	Eric
<u>May</u>			
4th	Malcolm	Lynda	Mary
11th	Roger	Marilyn	Marilyn
18th	Bob	Margaret	Margaret
25th	CLOSED - Bank Holiday		
<u>Jun 1</u>	Andrew	Elizabeth	Elizabeth

Hopefully I've managed to avoid the holiday dates I have been given and that these dates will be convenient to everyone. As usual, If you need to swap, please let me know. Once again, thank you for all your help - it keeps the Mini Market running!.

God Bless

Liz

The Season of



Mathew 6

Verses 16 –18

And when you fast, do not put on a sad face as the hypocrites do. They neglect their appearance so that everyone will see that they are fasting. I assure you, they have already been paid in full.

When you go without food, wash your face and comb your hair, so that others cannot know that you are fasting - only your Father, who is unseen, will know. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you.

DIARY DATES FOR MARCH

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
2 9:30 Mini Market	3 9:45 Parent and Toddlers	4	5 9:30 Coffee Centre 10:45 Prayer Circle 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	6 13:00 Monthly Lunch Club	7
9 9:30 Mini Market	10 9:45 Parent and Toddlers 20:00 Ladies' night	11 15.30 Messy Church	12 9:30 Coffee Centre 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	13	14
16 9:30 Mini Market	17 9:45 Parent and Toddlers	18	19 9:30 Coffee Centre 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	22	21
23 9:30 Mini Market	24 9:45 Parent and Toddlers 20:00 Ladies' Night	25	26 9:30 Coffee Centre 17:30 Brownies 19:30 Singing Group	27 18:30 Family Friday Games	28
30 9:30 Mini Market	31 9:45 Parent and Toddlers				

Door Stewards

1st March	Tony Jackson and Brian Cooper
8th March	Lynda Haydon-Jones and Lynda Young
15th March	Pat Croker and Keith Sargeant
22nd March	Lynda Young and Mary Bailey
29th March	Liz Avison and Irene Russell

Refreshments

1st March	Sheila Dyer, Sarah Brooks and Meg Cox
8th March	Margaret Boyd and Jenny Chalmers
15th March	Margaret Temple and Sally Bland
22nd March	Cath Stevenson and Judith Bramall

Flowers

	<u>Providers</u>	<u>Deliverers</u>
1st March	Flower Fund	Liz Haigh
8th March	Pam Mullins	Tony Emberson
15th March	Flower Fund	Liz Avison
22nd March	Brenda Bennett	Margaret Temple
29th March	Joan / Alan Moore	Irene Russell

PRESS DATE - All items for the April Focus should be emailed to:

fareham.focus@gmail.com

by noon of Thursday 19th March