FAREHAM

Fareham Methodist Church eFocus March 2025 Registered Charity No 1127814

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Services for the Month of **April 2025**

06th Apr. 10:30 am.

> Revd. Bill Stillwell. Holy Communion.

5th of Lent.

13th Apr. 10:30 am.

> Revd. Les Judd Palm Sunday.

20th Apr. 10:30 am.

Mr Andrew Wilcock

Easter Day.

27th Apr. 10:30am.

Mr Steve MacFarlane (PSP).

2nd of Easter.

6:00pm.

Revd. Pauline Crispin. Holy Communion. Reflective Service.

04th May. 10:30 am.

> At URC 3rd of Easter

Sunday Coffee and Tea Rota **April 2025**

06th Apr. Edith Livingstone and

Liz Avison.

13th Apr. Catherine Stevenson and

Margaret Boyd.

20th Apr. Ian Bagshaw and Walter

Metcalf.

27th Apr. Elizabeth Wilcock and Terry

Ferguson.

04th May. Lydon Haydon-Jones and

Rae Shepherd.

Distribution of Hymn Books etc at Sunday Service. **April 2025**

06th Apr. Christine Fielding

13th Apr. Simon Potter.

20th Apr. Vacant

27th Apr. Vacant

04th May. Jenny Chalmers

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 a leaf and hang it on the tree. These will be collected each month when the group meets.

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.

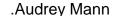
3 rd April	Pauline
1 st May	Jill Race
5 th June	Bob
3 rd July	Pauline
4 th September	Bob

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Thursday morning bible study are continuing to look at the women in the Old Testament. We will be meeting on the 10th April as it is Maundy Thursday the following week.

If you'd like the join us, we meet in the snug at 10:00 we look forward to seeing you all soon.

. Please pop in or if you would like more information, it will be great to speak.





The adult version of "head, shoulders, knees and toes" is "wallet, glasses, keys and phone."

SUNDAY LUNCH ON 13TH APRIL 2025 AT 12.15 P.M. APPROX.

This is open to all members of the congregation, family and friends. We ask for a donation (of at least £5 each if you are able, please) towards the cost of the meal and any profits will go to Christian Aid. 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 Egg Mayonnaise.

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

Sauce.

Puddings: Variety.

There will be a list in the Welcome area for you to sign.

Please come along and enjoy a Sunday lunch!

This a week earlier than normal because the 20th is Easter Sunday, as I shall be serving breakfast at the beach that morning!

If you can stay to help until all the washing up is done please sign the helpers list.

It then means that those who have been at church since 8.45am can slip away before 3pm!

Thank you. Jill Groom

Meet and Greet on a Sunday. April 2025

06th Apr. Heather Murphy.

13th Apr. Christine Fielding.

20th Apr. Christine Fielding.

27th Apr. Christine Fielding.

04th May. Christine Fielding.

Flower Rota
April 2025

06th Apr. Jean Petter.

13th Apr. Bob and Margaret

Temple.

20th Apr. Linda Foster.

27th Apr. Jill and Malcolm Race

04th May. Ian Bagshaw

SAVE THE DATE

ADVANCED NOTICE – Have your valuables assessed by Auctioneers Nesbitt's at Fareham Methodist Church on July 5th. More information to be provided.

Mini Market will be closed on Easter Monday, April 21st and the early May Bank Holiday, May 5th.

Thursday Coffee Morning will be closed on Maundy Thursday 17th April.

LENT LUNCH

Tuesday 15th April 12noon-1.00pm Fareham United Reformed Church Homemade Soup and bread tea or coffee Donations to Christian Aid



Everyone welcome

Vestry Jottings

Hello everyone.

The church's Eco. Projects have been completed, but we are still fund raising for the other big works that need to be done, (e.g. the rewiring at back of the church). Please keep 'a look out' for the upcoming events, like a quilting workshop or the Afternoon Tea and Music quiz, and don't forget the Lent quiz, which is out now, £2 a quiz sheet. We are also very much in need of people to help with some of the refreshments at these events, if you are able to offer a wee bit of time, please see any of the stewards.

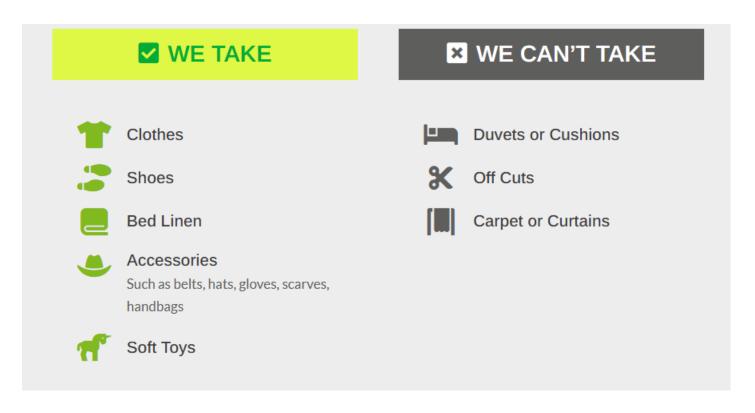
I'd like to say an enormous *Thank you* to Maggie and Jill for all their hard work over the past few years. Neither is taking retirement; Maggie is moving on to Synod Safeguarding Officer and Jill is continuing her many other roles. On this note, Jean Petter will be the Contact Steward from 1st May. We also welcomed Mike Shepherd back and Helen Hill onto the Stewards' team.

On the 12th April at 9:30 - 12.00 at Stubbington Methodist Church, Revd. John Ilsley is facilitating a workshop on "Mission": what we do well and where we might move forward. Everyone from the Fareham congregation is strongly encouraged to attend this important session, which is for both Fareham and Stubbington churches to each assess their own mission. Please sign the list in the Welcome area if you can attend. Transport can be arranged if needed. There is also the number 5 bus from Fareham Bus station to Stubbington and the Ditton Close stop at the far end of Mays Lane is almost outside the church.

It's a busy time this month, with the Maundy Thursday service, Walk of Witness on Good Friday and Communion on the beach at Hillhead on Easter Sunday (with bacon butties) before the 10:30 service.

Audrey, on behalf of the Stewards.

We have installed a textile bank alongside the church. The arrangement with Astra Recycling means that the church gets paid 20p per kilogramme for any clothing and textiles put into the bank. We would encourage you all to use it. The money raised will initially be put towards the Eco Project



Terracycle Plastic Packing

All Types of Plastic Package Programs

CHEESE - Pouches, wrappers, film protectors.

BISCUITS - Crackers, non-savoury, cake wrappers.

BREAD - Bags, closure tags, bakery, plastic trays and wax wraps.

TEA. - Plastic Packing.

AIR FRESHENER - Container, cartridge, car freshener.

FLASH - Power and Speedmops, floor wipes, Dust Magnet.

LAUNDRY and

DISHWASHER - Packaging, tinted bottles.

LENOR - Tumble drier sheets.

FERRO ROCHER - All packaging.

TEL: EDITH — 07747358060

Drop any of the above in the Yellow or Blue Bin outside the church next to the new textile bank.



Lent Study Groups 2025

CTiF are pleased to offer six study groups during Lent using the York Course 'You can be serious – meeting Jesus afresh in John's Gospel' by David Wilbourne.

Serious yet full of life and humour, the course covers:

Session 1: Temptation . . .

On checking every word that comes out of the mouth of God

Session 2: Strangers in the night . . .

Nicodemus came to Jesus under cover of darkness: finding God in surprising places

Session 3: The winner takes it all

'You worship what you do not know': upping our game with worship

Session 4: I was blind but now I see

'A god who can be understood is no god'

• Session 5: Them bones, them bones, them dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Contrasting events in John with parables in the Synoptics

The course starts in the **week beginning 10th March** and runs for **5 weeks**. Each attendee will receive the course book at the first session – please bring £5.00 with you to cover this.

If you wish to join with Christians from across the town, please fill in the form below and return it to Liz Dunning, 8 Frosthole Crescent, Fareham, PO15 6AD or by email <u>elizdunning@ntlworld.com</u> by Friday 28th February.

Name	Phone number
Email	(please print)
Church attended	
Any special needs or requirements?	

Please tick all the session/sessions that you can attend – you will be notified by the host for your session in the week commencing 3rd March at the latest.

Tuesday	10.00am	Frosthole Crescent	
Tuesday	7.00pm	Odell Close	
Wednesday	2.00pm	St John's Church	
Wednesday	2.00pm	Bentley Crescent	
Thursday	10.00am	Purbeck Drive	
Thursday	10.00am	Methodist Church	

Will you share a course book with spouse/partner?

If you have any questions or require information, please call Liz on 01329 237127







Messy Church for March.

Jesus said "If we do kind acts for others we are doing it to him".



As usual lots went on. Hearts were made into a keyring or a hanging decoration which could be given to someone. Flowerpots were decorated and spider plants potted. Biscuits were decorated and eaten!!

An altogether game, which was hilarious, and sausage and mash for dinner.

Why not join us next month - look out for the poster in the efocus.

WHATS BEEN HAPPENING LAST MONTH IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY



To Everyone at Fareham Methodist.

Thank you all for the love and kindness shown in allowing us to marry here. Your warm wishes and prayers have been much appreciated especially for good weather. It was a lovely sunny day. Thank you again and we look forward to worshipping with you all for many years to come.

Vickie and Sarah xxxx

Edith and Colin celebrating their Grandson Cameron's 9th birthday.





The Ladies Club

The ladies enjoying a game of curling. Everyone had a go and had plenty of fun.



Christian Aid Week 11th - 18th May

It is the 80th Anniversary of Christian Aid. There will be an opportunity to donate at the end of the service on 11th May or the following week.

There will also be a Christian Aid stall in Fareham Shopping Centre from Monday to Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm. Collectors are still needed! Please let me know if you can spare an hour to help with this.

Many thanks, Linda Foster

Tom Staniford Para cyclist

I just wanted to tell you about a very brave young man who is a friend of my son, George at Exeter. Tom is thirty-five and married and suffers from MDP which stops his body from putting on any fat and causes disfiguration of his face.

Tom is very positive and is organising a leisurely bike ride on Sunday, 27th April to raise funds for four charities in Devon including the Devon Air Ambulance Trust, Wheels for Wellbeing, Exeter UNESCO City of Literature as Tom loves books and finally the Devon and Exeter Institution.

Tom has chosen this date as a few days later, he will have one leg amputated and then the other leg a little while later. Tom is so positive and knows that this will be his last cycle ride with his legs.

Please look at his information pages online as he is such an inspiration to us all. I'm not asking for fundraising but wanted to share his story with you as my son has shared it with me. Love and prayers, Alison

Editor's Notes

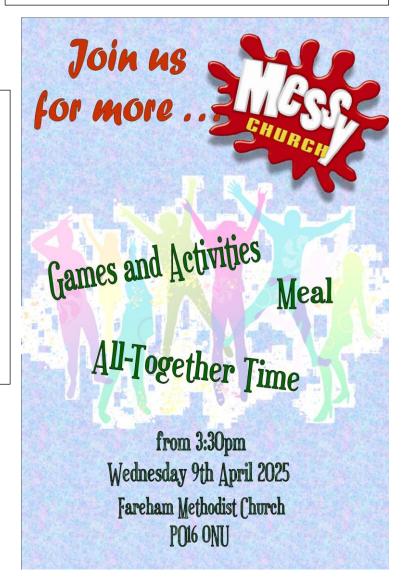
What lovely weather we're having. The spring flowers are blooming beautifully.

How are your gardens? Send photos for our page and share what you've done in March, including Mothers' Day events or family gatherings. Let's keep our page active every month. I enjoy hearing

We have fundraising events coming up in April and May. Please support them and take the chance to connect with someone new.

from you.

Next month's efocus deadline is 30th April.



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News from the Website

Statistics

Last Month

- We had about 1,800 different visitors to our website.
- About 11,000 website pages were opened.
- We had visitors from UK, USA (306), Poland (524), Germany (63), China (32), India (21), France (15) & Singapore (1).
- After the <Home Page>, the <Calendar>, <Contact Us>, <Focus>,
 <Photos>, <News>, <Leadership Team>, <History>, <Worship> &
 <Links> were the next most visited pages.

Please help to keep our website up-to-date!

- If you are organising any events ("One-off" or a programme of events for your organisation) please add them to the website Calendar.
 - email the information to <u>malcolm.groom@methodist.org.uk</u>
 - OR send your event(s) using the

Submit An Event

. . . . button on the <Calendar> page on the website.

Email Addresses

If you are a member of the church or an office holder in an organisation which is part of the church we can offer you an email address linked to the church. For example

forename.surname@farhammethodist.org.uk
scout.leader@farehammethodist.org.uk
. . . . just contact malcolm.groom@methodist.org.uk

https://farehammethodist.org.uk

Service of Witness Good Friday - 18 April 2025

Assemble at 10.20am

for 10.30am start

at The Podium,
West Street,
Fareham

You may wish to walk from your church to the Podium carrying a banner or a Cross

Hot Cross Buns will be shared with visitors to the town centre during, and at the end of, the service

In the event of really bad weather the service will take place in Holy Trinity Church (500 yards along West Street towards the Railway Station



Messages from the church family.

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers from the church. They are a picture on my kitchen windowsill. It is lovely to be remembered.

Julie Kettle

Hello Everyone,

Thank you so much for all the kind thoughts and prayers. I had hoped I could give you some good news about my surgery but no idea of a date yet. I am seeing a different surgeon in Salisbury on 15th April. The last one in December had a ten-month waiting list so hence the new appointment. I haven't been able to drive since September and can't walk far because of my spinal stenosis but everyone keeps me positive. Brownies Group is my lifeline with my Kate.

Thank you so much to Edith and Colin, Pauline, Heather, Linda Brooks, Terry and Keila. I don't know what I would have done without you all and your prayers and support. Thank you for all the phone calls, especially dear Una who always nags me to rest.

Finally, a big thank you for Linda, Meg, Pat and Jill for keeping Toddlers going.

I promise to let you all know when I get a date for surgery

Love and prayers, Alison



Update on the 5th Brownies

I thought it would be good to catch up with the Brownies' news and events especially as Una keeps reminding me to do it! Bless you Una.

There are ten girls, at the moment, and another new one joining us after Easter. The girls are encouraged to take part in badge work such as Collecting and Aviation and, fortunately, Girl Guiding has now brought back a book lover badge.

One Brownie's dad is a fireman, and we were invited to the Fire Station where the girls learned so much about fire safety and used the hoses and sounded the siren. We even stood back as a fire engine was called out to an emergency fire. Penguin tried on all the uniform, and we all tried on the helmet which is very heavy. I promised that there would be a fire drill during our meetings, and I surprised them with one yesterday.

Another Brownie's dad is in the RAF and is a flight engineer so is coming to talk about the rest of their aviation badge.

We dressed for World Book Day and discussed our favourite books, and Penguin organised some brilliant book emojis so that we could work out the book titles.

On May 1st, the police are coming to church to take our fingerprints! Then the girls are going to put them in key rings and ask the questions about careers for women in the police force.

The girls love craft and are making a room in a box including bookcases and mini books. They made beautiful Mothers' Day cards.

Next week is our usual Easter Egg hunt (apologies for any eggs left but please eat them) and we are making Easter nests.

Love and best wishes, Brown Owl and Penguin (who has been and still is my rock)



WANTED

Do you have any cups, saucers, or teapots that you no longer need? We are collecting these items for our upcoming Afternoon Tea and Music Quiz afternoon.

Your donations will be kept at the church for use during other occasions. If you have any items to donate, please contact Lin or Edith.

Thank you for your support!



Christian Aid Week – 11th- 17th May 2025

7 days to make a difference



In Guatemala, gruelling heatwaves and extreme weather are destroying Aurelia's farm. She worries deeply about how much harvest the family will have to eat and sell:

'Climate change has been killing our crops, and this is our food.'

The roots of this cruel injustice run deep. Indigenous communities like Aurelia's have done the least to cause the climate crisis, yet they endure its impact the most. But the unstoppable power of hope is in the hands of farmers like Aurelia, as she leads her community in the fight to overcome the challenges they face.

Aurelia is holding hope in her hands.

Your gifts this Christian Aid Week could help people around the world push back against poverty.

We are united by hope. Together we hope everyone will have the joy of living a dignified life, free from poverty.

Every gift. Every action. Every prayer. Every one of us can make a difference.

Join us:

Give:

- At your church there will be envelopes and a collecting bucket
- Scan the QR code on this poster
- On-line through our e-envelope:
 Fareham & Portchester CA Group Christian Aid Fundraise



Pray:

We absolutely believe in the power of prayer, so pray for the work of Christian Aid

Get involved:

If you would like to get involved locally email ca@thehickses.org.uk
If you would like to know more about Christian Aid go to www.christianaid.org.uk