

Martin Way Methodist Church

Buckleigh Avenue, Merton Park, London SW20 9JZ

(020) 8542 8211

Minister: The Rev Paul Timmis

(020) 8337 2348

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2016

& JANUARY 2017



MINISTER'S LETTER



2016 has been quite a year and one which leaves many of us feeling less sure about the future than ever before. The deaths of so many much-loved celebrities early on didn't help. Losing familiar voices and faces that have "always been there" reminded us that life is fragile. Not that we needed reminding. Yet again this year, shocking images from such places as Aleppo and Mosul have been beamed into our homes - as have pictures of countless people on the move, desperately seeking a safe place to call home. Such events remind us not only of the fragility of life but also that how our lives, our futures, pan out will, to a large extent, be determined by the decisions and actions of others. Again, we don't really need to be reminded of this. How the future will shape up here in the aftermath of the EU Referendum result - or indeed in the US following the election of Donald Trump as President - is anybody's guess. We live in uncertain times - politically and economically, and the lurch towards both populism and nationalism is deeply troubling, I think.

Quite what difference a story about the birth of a newborn child in humble surroundings can make at a time like this is open to debate, of course, but this was a story set in - and first told in and for - uncertain times, when people feared for the future and longed for God to do something, anything, to bring some much-needed light into the dark places in which they found themselves.

This is a story that reminds us not only that God understands this fragile life of ours completely but also that God has long since been immersed in it. It is a story about light, life and love entering this world of ours, bringing with it a promise of peace. Which leads me to ask, 'Where better is there to turn at times like this than to this story, this God?'

I look forward to journeying with you through Advent, to Christmas and beyond once again. My prayer for us is that, as we return to the

story at the heart of this season, we might find hope in it all over again - and hope enough to sustain us in the year ahead.

Wishing you a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

With every blessing

Paul

————— < 0 > —————

St. Nicholas

The true story of father Christmas began with a man names Nicholas, who was born in the Greek village of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey, in 270AD. His family were both devout and wealthy, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to use his inheritance to help people. He gave to the needy, the sick, the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to God's service and was made a Bishop of Myra while still a young man. As a bishop he joined other bishops and priests in prison under the emperor Diocletian's fierce persecution of Christians across the Roman empire. Finally released, Nicholas was not bitter, but all the more determined to shed abroad the news of God's love. He did so by giving. One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today.



There was a poor family with three daughters who needed dowries if they were to marry and not sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window - thus saving the girls from a life of misery. The bags landed in stockings that had been left before the fire to dry.

Hence the custom of children hanging out stockings - in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas - on Christmas Eve. The bags of gold are often depicted as three golden balls, which are one of the symbols of St. Nicholas. These are sometimes represented as oranges, hence the gift of an orange in the toe of your Christmas stocking.

CHRISTMAS COLOURING TIME





**CHRISTIAN
SOLIDARITY
WORLDWIDE**
VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

**November Press Releases
from CSW**

The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

Psalm 33:18

Sunday 20th November was the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, a day set aside where we join together in prayer for people suffering for their faith. It's hard to overstate how important this is to the people we work with. In praying, you bring the suffering of Christians and others all over the world to God.

Prayer brings hope in Sudan

Just one example of how powerful prayer can be is Meriam Ibrahim, a Sudanese Christian woman. Her marriage to her Catholic husband was annulled, and she was sentenced to 100 lashes for adultery and death for allegedly abandoning Islam, even though she has been a Christian all her life. Heavily pregnant at the time, she gave birth to her second child while in chains in prison. Thousands of people prayed and campaigned to #SaveMeriam, and she was eventually released. Now she and her family are free, safe and well.

Last year, CSW supporters prayed for the case of two South Sudanese pastors who were on trial for seven serious charges, including two which carried the death penalty. On the day we gathered to petition God for 24 hours, the men were free by lunchtime! Let's thank God today for his amazing answer to prayer.

Sudan has long been a country of focus for our Africa & Middle East Team, but over the past few years the Sudanese authorities have intensified their campaign against religious minorities. A government sanctioned policy of harassment of religious minorities has taken various forms in the last year, including seizing church property and buildings, forcing foreign Christians to leave the country, and harassing, arresting and imprisoning Christian leaders.

While being a Christian in Sudan is extremely difficult, being a church leader is even more so. Please pray for strength and protection for church leaders in Sudan.

Please pray for our advocates who work on behalf of those facing oppression because of their faith in Sudan. It's tough and often complex work, but our advocates are committed and determined!

During the trial of Rev Hassan, Rev Kuwa, Mr Abdumawla and Mr Jašek this summer, Christians from several denominations gathered outside the court in Khartoum to sing hymns as the hearing was underway. Let's give thanks for this act of solidarity and pray against any attempts to cause disunity in the Church.

Nepal

It would be great to focus your prayers on the case of eight Christians imprisoned in Charikot, Nepal for handing out comic books about the life of Jesus. They had their next hearing on Monday 21st November and would really appreciate your prayers: as would Asia Bibi, a Christian woman in Pakistan awaiting a date for her final appeal hearing against the death sentence, for a false blasphemy accusation.

In summary, please pray:

- For many people to raise the persecuted Church to God in prayer
- For the hearing in Charikot to clear the eight Christians of all charges
- For courage and protection for Asia Bibi.

Please pray:

Living Heavenly Father, today we pray for all Christians who face persecution just because of what they believe. We pray for people who cannot worship openly, who have their homes taken from them, their churches destroyed, and their lives threatened. Today we pray for all Christians who face persecution just because of what they believe. You are a God of justice, and you see these acts, and we know you do not forget them. Speed your justice, we pray, and protect your people.

Amen.

Prayers over the Christmas Period

During 27 November - 3 December Advent 1: Justice

As Advent begins, let's focus our prayers around the promises of God that were fulfilled in the coming of Jesus in that stable in Bethlehem. Firstly, Christmas gives us a powerful reminder that Jesus came to die for us as an expression of God's justice. This week, let's pray to a God who loves justice so much he was willing to die for us.

4-10 December - Advent 2 : Thankfulness and Joy

This week, we're rejoicing and giving thanks for all the ways we've seen our prayers answered this year: whether it's been the release of someone from prison, an improvement in prison conditions, or a milestone in our work at the United Nations! Each answered prayer is part of making religious freedom a reality.

11-17 December - Advent 3 : Peace

At this time when peace is a word that's used in everything from cards to carols, let's remember those for whom peace is a very real and desperate need. Not everywhere this year will have a peaceful Christmas: so it's vital that we pray for peace at this time.

18 -24 December - Advent 4 : Christmas Gifts

As Christmas draws ever closer, it's inevitable that we start thinking about gifts! That's why this week we're looking back at the gifts God has given us over the past year: and we think about those who aren't expecting anything this year at all.

1-7 January 2017

Merry Christmas - again! No, we haven't got the dates mixed up: Coptic Christians celebrate Christmas on 7 January. In Egypt this week, millions of Copts will be gathering to attend church and celebrate the birth of Jesus - but they will do so knowing that the year ahead holds a lot of fear and uncertainty.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

The CSW team

0845 456 5464

admin@csw.org.uk

Team Work

I recently sent an email to the team from Martin Way who helped make the Rock Choir and 'Gift Bags for the Homeless' evening such a success.

Two things struck me since sending that email.

The first was that we have many teams at Martin Way, some ad-hoc such as the one put together for the Rock Choir concert; some 'permanent' to staff the many activities that keep the church running such as, in no particular order:



The **Cafe Worship** team where Sylvia and Phil serve us hot dogs, bacon butties, tea and coffee before, during and after the service. They are backed by regular helpers who set the church up beforehand and reset it afterwards.

Big Brunch, a team from Platform 10^{3/4}, led by Tony, who serve up a 'Full English' on one Saturday morning each month.

Platform 10^{3/4}, where Abby and Tony provide our teenagers with fun activities relating to life and faith on alternate Sunday evenings.

Sunday Club, where Rebecca, Viccie, Abby, Tim and Peter teach our youngsters about God, Jesus and the Bible in a fun way each week.

The **Frogs** team where Lesley and Maralyn provide a safe and fun environment for visiting parents/carers and toddlers each Wednesday morning and afternoon.

The **Lunch Club** team of 4 cooks (Lesley, Anne, Sylvia and Beverly) together with their trusty support staff serve up a hot meal on alternate Fridays.

The **Men's Supper Club** team with Derek at the helm giving men the

opportunity to get together on the third Tuesday of each month to chat over a meal about 'man things'.

At **Coffee and Chat**, Geraldine and Sue serve up cups of tea and coffee every Tuesday throughout the year.

The **Audio/Visual (A/V)** team have recruited Yvonne, Jane and Colin to help out the two old codgers (Roy and Mike) that use to do it every week.

The **Worship Band** where Colin musters our musicians to accompany our hymn singing.

Time for Prayer each Tuesday evening, provides a time for anyone to come along to join the regulars for a quiet time of prayer and contemplation.

Our **Communications Team** ensures that everyone is kept up-to-date with what's going on via the Weekly Notices (Maralyn), Monthly Newsletter (Andrew), Publicity (Jane) and Website (Mike).

Our **Pastoral Team**, mentored by Paul and organised by Sue, look after the wellbeing of all people who call Martin Way "their church".

The **Leadership Team**, chaired by Paul, whose role it is to keep Martin Way 'on-track' and to make recommendations to **Church Council** (yet another team) for them to deliberate and act upon (or not).

Other people from the church lead **House Groups** (Tim, Caroline, Gwen and Jane) and **Guides** (Ruth), lead teams that maintain the **Property** (Colin), keep the **Finances** in good order (Roy and Martin) and take **Bookings** for hire of the premises (Simon).

They all deserve our heartfelt thanks as they willingly carry out, and hopefully enjoy, their tasks.

No doubt I've missed some out, but Martin Way is built on, and depends on, teams of volunteers to keep it running. Long may it continue.

The second thing that struck me was the age spread of these willing volunteers. There is a wide range of ages staffing these activities which can only be good for the future. But, some activities such as Lunch Club and Frogs, are staffed just by older folk. If we want these activities to continue and there is a continued demand for them or indeed we wish to start a new venture, then we need to encourage other, hopefully younger, folk to help out to prevent 'burn out' and to keep the succession going.

This is not always practical, I know. More people work these days and cannot spare the time during the day. Likewise they want to spend time with their families when they are not working. That is only natural and right so to do. Also, there are so many more attractions these days for people to enjoy.

However, when we have an event at church, rather than assume the usual people will do it, the old stalwarts need to ask and encourage younger folk to help. This has worked with the A/V team where the aforementioned old codgers can now enjoy some services without the technological worry. Sometimes it means us oldies letting go by showing the younger folk what needs to be done and working alongside them and then letting them get on with the job but supporting them when needed.

May I ask you to pray and think about this and voice your thoughts to the Leadership Team who can then bring your ideas to the Church Council and General Church Meeting?

*Thank you.
Mike Mortley*

Your Leadership Team is:

<i>Rev Paul Timmis</i>	<i>Sue Boyd</i>	<i>Brenda Cannon</i>	<i>Colin Smith</i>
<i>Anne Conquest</i>	<i>Jane Smith</i>	<i>Roy Ellis</i>	<i>Mike Mortley</i>

————— < 0 > —————

The real tragedy of life is not in being limited to one talent,
but in the failure to use the one talent.

Edgar W Work

Extreme Author

Taken from: Extreme devotion, the voice of the martyrs from the co-authors of Jesus freaks. Serious followers of Jesus pay a price, and extreme followers often pay the ultimate price. Each story is true.

INDIA : WILLIAM CAREY (17 August 1761 – 9 June 1834)

"They just can't do this," exclaimed William. "Can't you see how wrong it is? "Look, most of the people in this town think it's the right thing to do," replied the exasperated government official. "It's part of their religion."

William questioned, "How is tying a living woman to her dead husband and burning them together the right thing to do?"

With this, the official threw up his hands. "William," he answered. "one man alone can't change this. Just give it up and go back to tending your flock."

When his denomination said that "God alone" would convert heathens in pagan countries, William ignored them and embarked on one of the most successful missionary journeys in church history. In addition, he taught himself several languages and published a book that became the source for the modern missionary movement. He also translated the New Testament into thirty-four languages and the Old Testament into eight.

William Carey fought for years against the practice in India of burning wives alive with their dead husbands. Eventually, despite government opposition, he succeeded in getting the burnings banned.

William spent his life as an innovator for Christ, facing hardship to make a difference. And he was known for encouraging others to "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God" (based on Isaiah 54:2-3).

William Carey did just that.

Most people fall into the following categories when it comes to sharing their faith: go-go, go-slow, and no-go. When Jesus calls Christians to go into the world and make disciples, some respond with great fervour. Like William, they go and go for the gospel. Still others respond, but only halfheartedly, slowing down with age or the busyness of their schedule. Sadly, many believers are no-go Christians. They hear the command, but they figure that someone else will do it. Which category best describes your response to Jesus' call to evangelism? Ask God to renew a desire to share your faith with others. If you are expecting great things from his answer, then be prepared to attempt great things in his name.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations."

(Matthew 28:18-19)



Among the many organisations that meet in the St Mary's Merton Park Church Hall, the Parish Players are one of the longest lasting, and are celebrating their 60th anniversary in 2017.

The group was formed in 1957 and ever since has presented a play each May and a pantomime each Christmas, as well as other events from time to time, including a Passion Reading in church each Easter.

Four of the founder members are still active in St Mary's Church, and the tradition of raising funds for charity from performances has led to more than £25,000 being donated. More than 50,000 tickets have been sold over the years, and many members are very loyal to the group, including the longest serving member who has been a Parish Player for almost all the sixty years. Past members have gone on to work professionally in theatre, music and costume design; two recent members were performing at the Edinburgh Fringe this year. Our own Jack Pallister and Jacob Passfield have both also worked with the Parish Players.

This year Parish Players will be presenting Scrooge the Panto from 4th to 7th January, booking can be done via the website www.parishplayers.net

ROCK CHOIR CHARITY CONCERT GIFT BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS



A fantastic evening was had on Saturday 12th November when the Wimbledon Rock Choir gave a concert in aid of 'Gift Bags for the Homeless'. Led by their energetic choirmaster, Elliot Sutcliffe, the choir treated us to popular songs from the 70's, 80's and later. These included, the Beatles "I get by with a little help from my friends", Billy Joel's "Up town Girl" and Adele's "Someone Like You".

Apart from the mountain of donated items, £265.81 was collected in cash donations on the night. Part of this money will be spent on the actual gift bags, once the items have been sorted.

If you feel that the Rock Choir may be for you, then visit their website at www.rockchoir.com and sign up for a free taster session. They rehearse at St Mark's Church in Wimbledon at 6.30pm on Wednesday evenings. No previous singing experience needed!

————— < 0 > —————

Date for your Diary

Some of you may or not may know that we are holding a Table Top Sale in aid of the Flush Fund on Saturday 18th February. It will be from 10.00am until 15.00. The prices of the hire of the table will £12.00 The fund will make its money from the hire of the tables and from the refreshments that will be on sale throughout the duration of the sale.

If you are interested in hiring a table for £12.00 please let me know there will be a limited amount for hire as we only have a certain amount of tables to use.

Posters will be displayed in the local shops around Martin Way (if they allow us too), it will also be really helpful if you all could take leaflets



nearer the time to deliver down your road to advertise the event. Leaflets will also be given to the organisations that hire premises.

Please help us to raise the required funds to finish our loos!!

Sylvia Baxter

**Lantern Arts Centre - Raynes Park
Presents**



Snow White

on

7th to 10th December

at

Tolverne Road, Raynes Park, London, SW20 8RA

**Join us for the amazing lantern pantomime!
You'll have a wonderful time. Oh yes you will!**

**Tickets can be booked by calling 020 3761 7070
or by emailing to lac@lanernarts.org**

The Lantern Arts Centre exist to promote the advancement of the arts and culture for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively within the Raynes Park community of south west London. Having a strong Christian ethos, and working in a mutually beneficial partnership with Raynes Park Methodist Church, it seeks to include members of the local community, of all ages and abilities, as cast, crew and audience members in theatre, music, film, dance, exhibitions and other forms of artistic expression.



www.lanternarts.org

In previous December/January Newsletters we featured a story from Bill Pollock. He was the Minister in the central, mountainous part of the Island of Mull from 1987 until 2002 and was a good friend of Derek and Mary Heaton. We are delighted to feature another story from his 'Advent Anecdoteage - Mishaps of a Minister on Mull', which is reproduced with his permission.

Dress for the Occasion

There was no tradition of Christmas Day services in the Church of Scotland and little likelihood of an afternoon service anywhere else, so at three o'clock at Lochbuie I felt free to do my own thing within the church. The church seats over fifty and was normally full with people of all ages. They were generally in party mood so I ran a party style of service. We might dance up the aisle singing suitably modified words to 'The Grand Old Duke of York': pass the parcel with the winner sharing all; circulate the offering plate for everyone to take a piece of Aunt Anna's cake; and all would be interspersed with serious lessons and prayers. Each year the laird's wife hung sufficient up-market crackers on the tree for us all to get one and done an up-market funny hat - the golden crowns looked particularly fetching.



I was driving away from one of these happy services when I spotted a dead sheep or at least I thought it was dead but couldn't be sure. It was in a burn so I pulled on my wellies and paddled out to it. It was indeed dead - so I tried to oblige the shepherd, if not the sheep, by grasping its horns and dragging its corpse ashore, up the bank and behind a rock. It could safely wait there out of sight until the shepherd was working normally after the holiday. I then continued on my way towards my Christmas dinner. But I hadn't gone far when I came upon the shepherd by the side of the road. I stopped to tell him what I'd done but he didn't seem grateful - he didn't even seem interested; he simply stared at me as if he thought me crazy. I resumed my journey, muttering about the gormless shepherd.

I had been invited for Christmas dinner at an isolated farmhouse and enjoyed arriving and hearing the excited babble of a large family inside

and so forgot about the shepherd. But they all fell silent as soon as I entered. Then they all seemed to cry out in unison, “You look ridiculous! What on earth are you dressed like that for?”

I considered myself in the mirror. I was still wearing my suit and dog collar, wellington boots, and ... an up-market paper crown! No wonder the shepherd had viewed me as crazy!

But although I wasn't consciously dressed like that you'll realise if you have read my other offerings that it wasn't inappropriate for me at Christmas. The suit and dog collar remind us I was firstly called to preach the Gospel; the boots were required to meet people on smaller islands or at their work, to face the weather and to drag dead sheep. The hat simply showed it was predominantly fun.

My garb may have also had a deeper, more symbolic meaning for us all. We're all called to minister to each other and to meet people where they are at - not just literally in our wellies but in the mire of emotions too; and the golden crown reminds us that Christmas is a royal gift. Indeed, if that sheep had survived she would have had something wonderful to tell - how a man with a crown, Royalty, had come to save her on Christmas day. And that is what Christmas is all about for us all.

May you all enjoy your Christmas dinner and the deeper blessings of Christmas too.

Bill Pollock

————— < 0 > —————



CARVERY LUNCH

Big Brunch is taking a break until the New Year but fret not, there will be a Carvery Lunch on Sunday 4th December from 12.30pm.

So come along and enjoy a traditional Sunday lunch and help us to take our youngsters to Spring Harvest 2017.

Tickets are now available at £6 per adult and £3 for the under 12's.



Forever Living Products

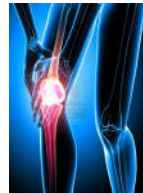
The Aloe Vera Company

**BRING ALOE
INTO YOUR LIFE**



Beneficial for:

- *Healthy Digestive System
- *Skin Disorders
- * Arthritis
- * Asthma
- * Bowel Dysfunction
- * Blood Cholesterol
- * Diabetes
- * High Blood Pressure
and many more.



**Young, Old or Middle-aged
Pure Aloe Gel will do you *good***



*You can't change your life if
you don't change your thinking*

FOREVER 

For further information contact:

Mike Fuwa

Tel: 07956 369579

Email: mfuwa@blueyonder.co.uk

**MARTIN WAY GIFT SERVICE
18th DECEMBER**

**CHRISTIAN CARE ASSOCIATION
TOYS FOR 2017 PARTY**



We would like presents (new or as good as new) to give to the boys and girls aged between 6 months and 11 years (but especially for the older children) who attend the Christian Care Association New Year Party on Saturday 28th January 2017. They do not need to be wrapped.

For babies and toddlers – rattles, bath toys, pull-along toys, puzzles, anything from Thomas the Tank Engine/Bob the Builder ranges, phones, baby dolls, building blocks etc

Cars, trucks, trains, Lego, games – appropriate for different ages.

Dolls - including anything from Action Man, Spider Man and Superman ranges as well as doll buggies and tea sets

Outdoor Games - footballs, skittles etc.

Stationery – crayons, gel pens, pencils, pencil cases, drawing books, photo album, disposable camera.

Books – fun activity and story books for all ages, but appropriate for children where English is not their first language

Clothes etc – hats, scarves, gloves, pretty tights, backpacks, bags, umbrellas, jewellery.

Sorry but we cannot accept toys and games with batteries which have to be replaced. We cannot use jigsaws and games with small pieces that are easily lost such as Monopoly and Scrabble, nor games featuring war or soft toys.

Finance & Property Matters

The Committee Q&A

What does the Finance & Property committee actually do?

That is the question everyone is asking. The main thing is that we have two or three meetings per year, so not too many (there's enough other meetings as it is!). We discuss, believe it or not, the current and future financial situation in the church and, believe it or not, the current and future property related developments and challenges we face. Sometimes it is exciting and sometimes just a bit dull!

Who is on the committee?

Without actually naming everyone, the committee consists of four property stewards, treasurer, gift aid secretary, lettings/ bookings secretary, A/V & IT technician, plus 3 elected members. To run the meetings we have a chairperson who happens to be one of the property stewards (that'll be me), and a secretary (who is also the Bookings Secretary just to keep him extra busy).

Should I consider doing a little bit of Finance & Property?

The committee welcomes new members, encourages new ideas and hopes that the current members do not feel stuck with their role for longer than is comfortable! There are currently only two female members on the committee so it would be good to equalise things out a bit if possible. There is certainly room for more members in the committee.

What are the hot topics right now?

Recently we've been talking about the refurbishment of the toilets and that in turn has resulted in discussions about the state of the church funds, specifically the 'flush fund'. We have also discussed the next project to refurbish the hall and what we can do ourselves to save costs. This reflects our need to maintain our premises not just for our own benefit but also in order to remain presentable to outside users. We have ongoing discussions about the situation with the coffee lounge floor which is hopefully now near to getting resolved.

So as you can see property, finance and bookings all roll into one and out of these items mentioned other items pop up. Items such as how can we improve our energy consumption from light and heat and how can we improve our storage solutions. Then there are all the little odd jobs that go on almost daily like changing light bulbs, getting various safety checks and certificates, clearing gutters and drains, meeting contractors and people using the premises and so on...we talk about all these behind the scenes things too.

That's all. Easy really. Happy Christmas and peace to you all.

Colin Smith
Chair of Finance & Property



MORDEN CAROL SINGING

It's that time of the year that we serenade the commuters of Morden. We will be raising money for charity and would welcome as many people to come along and join in the singing of carols at Morden Underground Station. We will be meeting at the Station on

Monday 19th and Wednesday 21st December and plan to start singing at 5.00pm and finish about 7.00pm both of these nights.

All welcome to come along - singer, players, collectors. Or if you are just passing by, say hello and drop some money in the collection buckets.

————— < 0 > —————

CHRISTMAS POST BOX AND CARDS

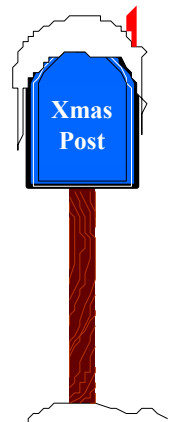
As it has been our tradition over the years, we will again place our Christmas post box. The church Christmas post box will be outside the vestry from Thursday 1st December to Friday 16th December for those wishing to send cards to members of the church family.

As in previous years, you are invited to make a donation which will go to Methodist Homes for the Aged (in doing so you may wish to remember that you are saving 55p for each card posted in the church post box rather than using the Post Office!) last year we raised £200.

Please address all cards clearly using surnames and initials or forenames to avoid confusion.

If you prefer, you are welcome to post a single card addressed to the whole church family. Such cards will be placed on display panels in the vestibule.

The cards will be available for collection on
Sunday 18th December.



Inspiring Learning...

Building upon your child's passion and confidence



“Knowledge is power!”



English & Maths



- ✓ Fully Qualified and DBS checked
- ✓ Dedicated Subject Specialists
- ✓ Friendly, approachable and enthusiastic teachers
- ✓ Safe, comfortable and engaging learning environment
- ✓ Small class sizes
- ✓ Value for money

➤ **KS2**

➤ **KS3**

➤ **KS4**

Location:



Martin Way Methodist Church
Buckleigh Avenue
London
SW20 9JZ

- ✓ Step-by-step approach to learning
- ✓ Dynamic teaching approaches
- ✓ Confidence building
- ✓ Consistent approaches
- ✓ Current, up-to-date teaching practice
- ✓ Experience within specialist provisions
- ✓ Differentiated approaches
- ✓ Proven success rates

Contact:

Sam: 07947 300738

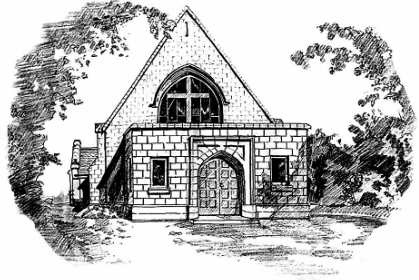
Siân: 07908 062700

sameeia2980@hotmail.com

sianeesian@hotmail.com

A Visit to Bembridge, Isle of White

On a recent visit to the Isle of White we attended Bembridge Methodist Church, where we received a very warm welcome. We were asked to convey their Church greetings to our Home Church, which we now gladly do.



The front of their weekly notices always bear a prayer and the week we were there it bore the following lovely prayer:

*Now I awake and see the light; Lord, Thou hast kept me through the night.
To Thee I lift my voice and pray that Thou wilt keep me through the day.
If I should die before 'tis done, O God, accept me through Thy Son!
Amen.*

On returning to our small Bed & Breakfast Hotel we passed the following saying on the staircase wall:

*Have a grateful heart,
Be yourself,
Dream big,
Say I love you,
Believe in miracles.*

Maybe some of the above will help YOU through each day, as they do us.

Blessings

Mary and Derek Heaton

————— < 0 > —————

Reflect on your present blessings, of which every man has many;
not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.

Charles Dickens

CHURCH DIARY



Sun	4	10.30am	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
		12.30pm	Carvery Lunch
Tue	6	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	7	11.45am-2pm	Toddler's Party
Fri	9	12.30pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	11	10.30am	Morning Service led by Viv Newitt and Brenda Cannon
		6.30pm	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	13	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	18	10.30am	Café Worship led by Rev Paul Timmis
		5.30pm	Carols by Candlelight with Rev Paul Timmis and SIGMA
Mon	19	5pm-7pm	Carol Singing at Morden Underground Station
Tue	20	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.00pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>Members evening</i>
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	21	5pm-7pm	Carol Singing for at Morden Underground Station
Sat	24	5.30pm	Christingle Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Sun	25	10.30am	Christmas Day Service led by Rev Paul Timmis

Please refer to the Website (www.martinway.org.uk) or Weekly Notice Sheet for any additional information

CHURCH DIARY



Sun	1	10.30am	Morning Service led by Tony Loft
Tue	3	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	6	12.30pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	8	10.30am	Covenant Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	10	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	15	10.30am	Morning Service led by Tony Loft
		6.30pm	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	17	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.00pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>New Year Social with guests followed by Musical entertainment</i> - Graham & Friends
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	20	12.30pm	Luncheon Club
Sat	21		Big Brunch
Sun	22	10.30am	Morning Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
		5pm	Churches Together United Service at St Mary's Church, Merton Park
Tue	24	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00pm	Time for Prayer
Sat	28		Christian Care Association New Year Party
Sun	29	10.30am	Morning Service led by Rev Margaret Adams

Please refer to the Website (www.martinway.org.uk) or Weekly Notice Sheet for any additional information

We wish all of those who
celebrate a birthday
in either December or January a very

Happy Birthday

and especially to:

Natalie Johnson on **2nd December**
Kabelo Sepanya on **13th December**
Zandile Sepanya on **16th December**
Kutloano Sepanya on **19th December**
Floyd Sepanya on **24th December**
Christopher Sweby on **23rd January**



We also have a very special birthday this month.

Zandile Sepanya celebrates her 50th
on Friday 16th December

*We wish her a very
Happy Birthday!*

————— < 0 > —————

A birthday is just another day where you go to work and people give you love. Age is just a state of mind, and you are as old as you think you are. You have to count your blessings and be happy.

Abhishek Bachchan

Birthdays are good for you.

Statistics show that the people who have the most live the longest.

Larry Lorenzoni

Items for the **February Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox,
(email: roife@hotmail.co.uk) by **Sunday 22nd January** at the latest

Church Activities

SUNDAY	Morning Worship	10.30 am
	Morning Communion (once a month)	10.30 am
	Evening Communion (once a month)	6.30 pm
	Sunday Club	10.30 am
	SIGMA—the Circuit Choir (as advertised)	4.00 - 5.30 pm
	Platform 10¼ Young People's Fellowship (1st & 3rd Sundays)	8.00 - 9.00 pm
TUESDAY	Coffee & Chat	10.30 - 12 noon
	Men's Supper Club (3rd Tuesday of the Month)	7.00 pm
	Time for Prayer	8.00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Morning Frogs Club (Carer & Toddlers Group)	10.00 - 12 noon
	Afternoon Frogs Club (Carer & Toddlers Group)	1.00 - 3.00 pm
	Rainbows (1st Merton Park)	5.30 - 6.30 pm
	Guides (2nd Merton Park)	7.30 - 9.00 pm
THURSDAY	Brownies (2nd Merton Park)	6.00 - 7.30 pm
FRIDAY	Luncheon Club (Fortnightly)	12.30 pm

House Groups, Coffee Mornings, Concerts, etc (as advertised)

