

Martin Way Methodist Church

serving the communities of

Morden & Merton Park



Minister: Rev Paul Timmis

(020) 8337 2348



Buckleigh Avenue, Merton Park, SW20 9JZ

Newsletter

October 2018

www.martinway.org.uk

enquiries@martinway.org.uk

MINISTER'S LETTER

Against a backdrop of challenge and change for the Methodist Church, as declining membership figures and reduced numbers of ordained ministers in active service etc., continue to highlight, this year's Conference took the decision to reaffirm Our Calling, a statement adopted by the Conference in 2000. To refresh memories, this read:



The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

The Church exists to:

- Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love (Worship)
- Help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care (Learning and Caring)
- Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice (Service)
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ (Evangelism)

(Our Calling Conference Report 2000)

In reaffirming this understanding of our calling as a church, certain priorities have been identified, including:

- To make more followers of Jesus Christ through mission and evangelism
- To help members deepen their faith and to put their faith into action (discipleship)
- To find ways to support improvement in the quality of worship offered to God
- To grow the number, variety and breadth of vocations
- To develop the property of the Church to support mission and evangelism
- To be a more inclusive and welcoming Church

- To evaluate and revise decision making processes of the Church so that they are effective and efficient enabling the Church to pursue its commitment to mission
- To enable the Church to be a good neighbour, especially to people in need, to be prophetic and to challenge injustice

In developing these priority areas, certain guiding principles and values core to the Methodist Church have been identified. These include:

- **Connexional Church:** The sense of being connected to a wider community throughout (at local church, circuit and district level) provides a sense of belonging and common purpose. This enables mutual support and the sharing of resources. In the sharing of resources and of experiences it is important that local churches and circuits have sufficient flexibility to make decisions in order to be responsive to the needs of the local communities.
- **Working in Partnership:** Wherever possible the Methodist Church will work in partnership with others at all levels and in many areas.
- **Inclusive Church:** The Methodist Church must be an inclusive and diverse community where all are welcome and the needs of the weak and vulnerable are recognised. Leadership throughout the church should reflect this and be inclusive.
- **Teamwork and cooperation between the lay and ordained members:** The complementary roles of lay and ordained are essential to the decision making process and the oversight of the Methodist Church.
- **Recognising and accepting that the Methodist Church is smaller today and that it must therefore behave like one that has c. 180,000 members.** This means that structures, decision-making processes and ways of working need to be adapted and choices made about which work we need to lay down for a time.
- **Being prepared to set priorities:** The Methodist Church must agree some focussed priorities under the Our Calling agenda.

- Sticking with a consistent message and plan for the next few years, resisting the desire to move on to the next thing. Educating and empowering all members with a clear vision, direction and plan for the Church so that all could own it and support it.

I appreciate that this “letter” is less personal than usual and that there is a lot of information here, but I wanted you to be aware of the reasoning and thinking that will be underpinning future conversations in our Leadership Team and Church Council meetings. Beyond that, I offer this to you in the hope that it will help you to reflect upon your own life of discipleship as you seek to respond to the gospel of God’s love in Christ.

With every blessing

Paul

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*The Church is full of people
in the Autumn of their years.
Some have led colourful lives
leaves bronzed and golden
through exposure to the elements
their appearance the centre of attention.
Others have been exposed
to more extreme conditions
branches bowed and scarred.
Some go unnoticed,
yet stand tall and steadfast
against wind and rain.
All have a story to tell
all can offer support and shelter
for saplings which grow beneath
their leafy canopy.*

John Birch



**CHRISTIAN
SOLIDARITY
WORLDWIDE**
VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

September Press Releases from CSW

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

This verse powerfully reminds us that when we ask God to comfort others, we do so in the knowledge of times when God has extended that same mercy and comfort to us. This allows us to pray in faith and confidence, knowing that God will answer our prayers for others: even when we pray for people who are as far away as Nigeria or China.

Urgent Prayer for Leah Sharibu

Last month, a humanitarian worker, one of three abducted by the al Barnawi faction of Boko Haram in May, was executed. Saifura Hussein Ahmed, a Muslim, was a 25-year-old mother of two. She had dedicated her life to helping others, working as a midwife in a camp for those who have had to flee their homes because of terrorist violence.

Worse still, the group has threatened to kill the remaining hostages, including Leah Sharibu, in one month unless the Nigerian government responds to its demands. We're asking CSW supporters to pray every day at 5.30 pm: please join us for this time of focused, intense prayer.

Pray for Zion Church

We received the news that Zion Church, one of Beijing's largest unregistered Protestant 'house' churches, was shut down on 9th September by the authorities.

This comes after a period of harassment of the 1,500 member strong church following the passage of the Regulations on Religious Affairs (RRA) on 1st February 2018. Many of Zion's satellite meeting places have been forcibly shut down, and church members have been harassed at their homes and work-places.

Please pray:

- For Leah Sharibu's immediate release
- Asking God to protect her and her family

- That God would protect the members of Zion Church from further harassment
- That they would find somewhere safe to worship
- That the restrictions on freedom of religion that began this crackdown would be relaxed or lifted.

Pray for Iran:

We're continuing to pray for all the Iranian Christians who are either facing or serving harsh prison sentences, or who are seeking refuge elsewhere. Many have appealed their sentences. However, we recently learned that the unjust sentences given to four of them were upheld.

Lord, you are indeed the God who sets prisoners free and upholds the cause of the oppressed. We continue to lift to you those in Iran who received long prison sentences for taking part in normal church activities. Grant them protection, provision and, ultimately, freedom. Amen.

For Nigeria:

‘We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair, persecuted but not abandoned, struck down but not destroyed.’

2 Corinthians 4:6-9

Reverend Yunusa Nmadu, CEO of CSW – Nigeria, used the Apostle Paul’s words to describe the plight of Christians in northern Nigeria, at our Pursue Justice Live event this year.

Heavenly Father, we lift the nation of Nigeria to you, and especially Christians in the north and Middle Belt. We know that although they are persecuted, you, Lord, have not abandoned them. Grant them heavenly protection and supernatural endurance, and move powerfully on the hearts of those in government, convicting them to ensure justice and protection. Amen.

For North Korea:

It’s no understatement to say that North Korea is one of the most oppressive regimes in the world, imprisoning thousands of its citizens in labour camps and controlling the everyday life of its people in ways that are barely imaginable. Though we’ve been seeing some steps towards dialogue between North Korea, South Korea and the United States, there’s still a long way to go before the peninsula is truly on the path to freedom.

Heavenly Father who is above all rulers and governments, we bring the nation of North Korea to you today. Please watch over its people as they hunger for a world very different from their own, and guide the hearts of its rulers towards genuine peace and freedom. Amen



Platform 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ will be taking part in Operation Christmas Child 2018.

They will be packing the Shoeboxes on **Sunday 18th November** and invite you to join in by either donating gifts, or money or even doing a shoe box yourself.

Choosing gifts to put in your shoebox is a really fun part of getting involved in Operation Christmas Child. There is something very rewarding about giving to a child you will probably never meet in this world – especially when you know your simple act of kindness will be felt and appreciated in more ways than you can ever imagine.

Once you have decided whether to give your shoebox to a boy or girl, you need to think carefully about gifts that would be most appropriate for the age group you have selected (either 2-4 or 5-9 or 10-14 years old).

Please see the list opposite of what we can and can't accept. There is also a board at Church with more details of what items are suggested for each age group. In addition there are knitting patterns if anyone would like to make something for the shoeboxes (please ask Abby Herring about this).

There will be a box in the store cupboard to place your items into between **1st to 18th November**. Platform 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ will put the shoeboxes together on Sunday 18th November. If you are unsure of what to get, but would like to make a monetary donation towards the shoebox appeal please do as we are asked to send £5 per box made if possible. There will be a donation plate in which to put your donation after the morning service on **18th November**.

Gift Suggestions

Please fill your box with a selection from the following or similar items. All gifts should be new.

TOYS

Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS

Toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.

Please note: 2018 will be the last year that toothpaste can be included, due to increasing customs regulations.

OTHER ITEMS

Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, wrapped sweets (best-before-date must be at least March of the following year).

Please note: 2018 will be the last year that sweets can be included, due to increasing customs regulations.

DO NOT INCLUDE

Used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate or other food items; liquids or lotions of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers, mirrors or fragile items; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; clothing other than as listed above.

Thank you for your support
From all in Platform 10 ³/₄

THE LANTERN CENTRE

LANTERN CHRISTMAS MARKET

BOOK YOUR TABLE!

The Christmas Market will be part of the Lantern Christmas Celebrations, taking place on Saturday 1st December from 10-4pm in the Lantern Centre Raynes Park (195-205 Worple Road, SW20 8RA).

There will a variety of events and activities on-site, including crafts, performances, children's storytime and Father Christmas has agreed to visit!

Limited stalls are available, so book today.

The cost of renting a table is just £12, which includes a Friday night set up if preferred in the secured building.

To book a table, please call Rosemary on:
0208 971 3263 // 07944 484646

www.lanternmethodist.co.uk

THE LANTERN
METHODIST CHURCH



EYES WIDE OPEN

Sharing moments all around us in pictures.



Please submit your images, digital photographs or scanned artwork to Andrew (Newsletter Editor) at roife@hotmail.co.uk. Every picture tells a story (or so they say) but if you want to add just a few words to accompany your image, please do.



ST MARY'S
CHURCH
MERTON

Trumpet **AND** organ

Trumpet: Ellie Lovegrove
Organ: Richard Moore

PROGRAMME INCLUDES:

Music for the Royal Fireworks
G.F Handel

Prelude from Te Deum
Charpentier

Voluntary on Old 100th
Purcell

Hornpipe from Water Music
G.F Handel

BWV 654
J.S.Bach

Five Poems
Paul Burke

Phoenix Processional
Dan Locklair

Pipe Dreams
(2nd performance)
Roderick Elms

Thursday 15 November at 7.30pm

St Mary's Church Merton, Church Path, Merton Park, London SW19 3HJ
Entry by donation. Refreshments in interval.

ST MARY'S CHURCH MERTON,
CHURCH PATH, MERTON PARK,
LONDON SW19 3HJ

Charity Mad Hatter Tea Party



Thank you to all who supported this event –
fun was had by all and we raised
£300.00 towards the Coffee Lounge Floor



Epsom and Ewell Friends of Shooting Star Chase

Christmas and Craft Fayre

Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell



Visit Father
Christmas



Raffles



Tombola



Face Painting



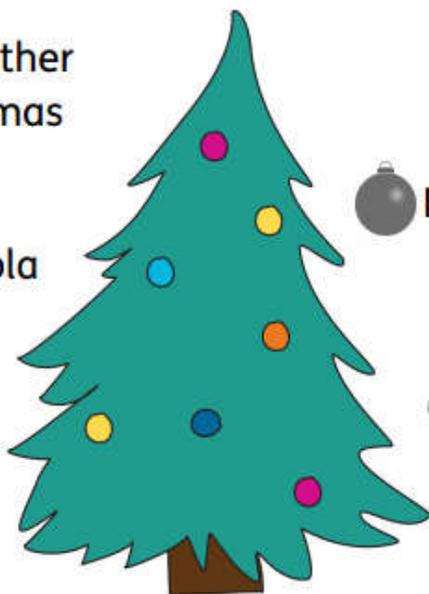
Gifts



Crafts



Cakes



Saturday 24th November 2018

10.30am - 3pm

Admission: Adults £1 Children FREE

An ideal opportunity to buy your Christmas
presents and stocking fillers

Sponsored by Paul Killoughery

In aid of

Shooting Star Chase
Children's Hospice Care



Harvest Fruit & Vegetables Search

SEARCH THE PUZZLE TO FIND AND CIRCLE THE WORDS IN THE WORD LIST. WORDS IN THIS PUZZLE ARE HIDDEN ACROSS AND DOWN.



APPLE
BEANS
BEETS
BROCCOLI
CABBAGE
CARROTS
CAULIFLOWER

CELERY
CORN
EGGPLANT
FIGS
GRAPES
ONIONS
PARSNIPS

PEARS
PEPPERS
POTATO
PUMPKIN
SQUASH
TURNIP
YAMS

T W O U C E L E R Y A R X Z B
W O P T F H C A P P L E J I M
D L R T V C O R N G B Q H W I
S T M E D D P A R S N I P S Z
T U F V Y A M S P B E E T S A
B R O C C O L I P U M P K I N
O N I O N S N S N S H M K N P
C I C A U L I F L O W E R C E
A P L D F E G G P L A N T A P
R H F I G S E P K L V Z Q B P
R U U O Z U Z O O N Y P B B E
O G R A P E S T T Z V J E A R
T K N U V A V A Q H C L A G S
S P E A R S N T Q I I L N E M
A S Q U A S H O Q Q V R S Y G



Calling all Creative people.....

Suzanne Martin who is a member at Ruxley Methodist Church has been asking if people can help her with a project. She is wanting as many Poppies - knitted, crotchet, made from materials like felt or coloured in for a display on Sunday 11th November.



If you feel you can help, see the knitted and crotchet pattern below and there will be colouring poppies left at Martin Way for people to take away and join in if they want. We also have lots of black buttons to put in the middle of your poppies – if you would like any of these, please ask me. You are also welcome to be creative and make poppies out of felt or tissue paper – this is up to you.

I will leave a box to collect any poppies made in the vestry and please leave your donations there by **Sunday 4th November**

Thank you for your help

Abby Herring

Knitted Poppies

For the best finish, knit with a Double Knit (DK yarn). The size of needle you choose will determine how big the poppy will be, but we recommend 3.5mm or 3.75mm (UK9). If you have different yarn left in your stash, just use that and the appropriate needle size. If you have any problems with any of the techniques in the poppy patterns - and you have access to the internet - you will find lots of tutorial videos on youtube.

Easy garter/knit stitch pattern for beginners

Colour A Bright Red (one ball will make a lot of poppies!)

Colour B Scrap of Black or a black button Body of Poppy

Using Col A cast on 120 stitches.

Rows 1-4 Knit Row 5 Knit 3 stitches together across the row(40 stitches)

Rows 6-9Knit Row 10 Knit 2 stitches together across the row(20 stitches)

Rows 11-14 Knit

Row 15 Knit 2 stitches together across the row(10 stitches)

Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 20cm Thread tail through a yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stitches onto the yarn tail and pull tight. Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch (or use whatever stitching you normally use) to seam for an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

Centre of Poppy

Using B, cast on 16 sts. Cast off. Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use a black or green button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy.

2. Easy ribbed poppy pattern

Colour A 1 ball red yarn (this will make a lot of poppies)

Colour B Scrap of black yarn or black button

Body of Poppy

Using Col A Cast on 60 stitches

Row s1 –10 : K2, P2 across whole row (for a slightly smaller poppy do 8 rows of rib).

Row 11 : Knit 2 stitches together across the row (30 stitches).

Row 12 : Slip 1 stitch, Knit 2 stitches together then pass the slip stitch over... repeat across the whole row (10 stitches).

Break off yarn with long tail and thread back through remaining stitches using yarn needle and pull tight. Join edges with mattress stitch

Centre of Poppy

Using B, cast on 16 sts. Cast off. Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use a black or green button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy.

Crocheted Poppies

You will need some red wool and a black button.

Patterns

1. Three petal crochet poppy with 4.5mm hook Ch 3, join with slst to form circle. Ch 3, work 9 dc into the centre of the circle and join with slst. Work the three petals separately. Petal 1. Ch 3, work 1st dc into same st, work 2 dc into each of the next 3 sts. ch 1 work 2 sc into each st, tie off. Petal 2. work 2 dc into last dc of previous petal, work 2 dc into each of the next 3 sts. ch 1 work 2 sc into each st, tie off. Work petal 3 as 2. Sew all ends in and attach button in the centre.

2. Two petal crochet poppy

Rnd 1: With 3mm hook and wool, ch2. Make 10dc in 2nd ch from hook. Join with a slst in 1st dc. (10sts) Rnd 2: *ch1 dc ch1 2tr in next st, 3tr in next st, 2tr ch1 dc in next st, slst in next 2sts. rep from * once again. Rnd 3: *ch1 3dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next 5sts, 3dc in next 2 sts, slst in next 2sts. rep from * once again. Fasten off. Attach button in the centre.

Stitch explanation st(s) = stitch (es)

ch = chain rep=repeat dc = double crochet rnd=round htr = half treble crochet slst = slip stitch r = row tr = treble crochet



Forever Living Products

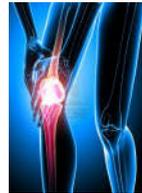
The Aloe Vera Company

**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

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*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

Extreme "sale"

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.

ROMANIA : SABINA WURMBRAND

Their repetition was maddening, and Sabina's nerves were stretched to breaking point. But the officer was unrelenting. "We have methods of making you talk which you won't like. Don't try to be clever with us. It wastes our time."

The next session was played with a gentler, craftier approach. The interrogator was alone and smiling. "Dear women, you are only thirty-six years old, with your whole life before you. Just give us the names of the traitors." Sabina remained silent.

He continued, "Let's talk practically. Everyone has his price, so why don't you just name yours? Just tell me what you want. Freedom for you and for your husband? A nice home and a church? We would take good care of your family."

Sabina responded with the fiery conviction, "Thank you, but I have sold myself already."

"You have?" The interrogator interrupted. "For how much and to whom?"

"The Son of God was tortured and gave his life for me. Through him I can reach heaven. Can you pay a higher price than that?"

We expect teenagers to go through it. We say it's a right of passage. Yet we never think it will continue to plague us as adults. Peer pressure. It's that all-too-familiar feeling of "being bought" by someone or something whenever we are tempted to compromise our values. After the deal is done, we feel like suckers. Fools. We feel cheap, having betrayed our own self-worth. However, Christ paid the ultimate price in order to win our affections. If anyone has a price, he named ours for us, once and for all. His purchase of blood makes us invaluable in his sight. You are already bought and paid for, so don't sell yourself short. Remind yourself of that today.

You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men.
(1 Corinthians 7:23)

CHURCH DIARY

OCTOBER



Tue	2	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Wed	3	8.00 pm	Church Council
Fri	4	2.30 pm	Coffee and Chat Extra
Sun	7	10.30 am	Harvest Festival Café Worship with Communion led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	9	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	12	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	14	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Brenda Cannon
		6.30 pm	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
<i>CRE Sandown Tuesday 16th - Thursday 18th</i>			
Tue	16	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
		7.30 pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>All Our Yesterdays</i> - Derek & Mary Heaton
Fri	19	2.30 pm	Coffee and Chat Extra
Sat	20	10.30 am	Big Brunch
Sun	21	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Richard Graham
Tue	23	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	26	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	28	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Valerie Ashcroft
Tue	30	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer

*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
this month a very

Happy Birthday

and especially to:

Ella Smith on 14th October

Jason Hillhouse on 23rd October

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Church Family News

We wish the young people from the Church Family all the very best as they travel far and wide to partake in their further studies.



Rebecca Smith who is now over in
Oklahoma, USA.



Celia Johnson who is studying in
York University.



Natalie Johnson in her final year in
Cambridge.



Jacob Passfield who is also in
York University



We also wish Tony and Maralyn Loft
a hearty congratulations on their
50th Wedding Anniversary
which they celebrated last month.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

COFFEE AND CHAT EXTRA

Anyone who fancies a cup of tea or coffee, a slice of cake and a chat is welcome to come along. If you or someone you know is lonely, at a loose end, just passing the church or simply wanting a chat, you are welcome to pop in and join us - the more the merrier!

We are meeting from 2.30 to 4pm on the following Fridays,
5th October 19th October 2nd November
16th November 30th November 14th December
28th December

BIG BRUNCH

Big Brunch is back on **Saturday 20th October**, in the hopefully re-floored Coffee Lounge, where between the hours of 10.30 am and 1pm you can enjoy a full English breakfast for £4.

Other Saturday dates are as follows:

17th November 2018 19th January 2019
16th February 2019 16th March 2019

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

We have over 40 stalls with unique and unusual crafts and gifts at the Bourne Hall Christmas Craft Fayre . If you are looking for an extraordinary Christmas Gift this is the place to be. Not only will you be delighted with what you see you will also be supporting a very worthwhile charity.

If anyone is interested in having a stall please contact Sylvia on 0780 372 4989 or email at sylvia.baxter1@tiscali.co.uk.

MARTIN WAY HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year all of the donations at our Harvest Festival, which is celebrated on 7th October, will be passed to the **FiA Homeless Drop-in Centre**.

To find out more about the work Faith in Action does please visit their website at www.mertonfaithinaction.org

Items for the **November Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox, (email: roife@hotmail.co.uk) by **Sunday 21st October** at the latest

Are you looking for a part-time or full-time income?



We are Recruiting

We are looking for:

- The employed looking for additional PART-TIME income
- The unemployed looking for FULL-TIME employment.
- Retired/looking into retirement with no hope of enough retirement income.
- Mothers at home who want to look after their children and want a steady income.
- Graduates/undergraduates with no employment and no work experience.
- Students who fear huge students loan debts after graduation.



For further information contact:

Mike: 07956 369579

www.mof.flp.com

www.iforevercare.com

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 (occasional)	4.00 - 5.30 pm
	Platform 10¾ YPF (1st & 3rd Sundays)	8.00 - 9.30 pm
TUESDAY	Coffee & Chat	10.30 - noon
	Men's Supper Club (3rd Tuesday in month)	7.00 pm
	Time for Prayer	8.00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Frogs Club (for Carers & Toddlers)	10.00 – 12.00
	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)