

Harlington Methodist Monthly

**November
2024**

Minister: Rev. Claudia Lupi

01582 663639/07702 012755 reverendlupi@yahoo.com

Senior Steward: Martin Wallis

01525 875850 martinwallis@hotmail.com

Hi all,

How's your memory? Mine has never been that good, at least for some things, like names and faces. My memory for numbers, as long as they aren't dates, is usually not too bad, unlike Tina's. November is the Remembrance month, when we think about those who died in war, particularly the two World Wars.



It is important to remember such things. Eventually direct memory fades. We no longer remember the Boer wars, or the Napoleonic wars, not even the Battle of Waterloo. The trouble is that, in forgetting wars we forget the causes, just or unjust, of the wars.

Memory is only a start, though. For all the First World War was called the war to end wars, it didn't. The results of that war were, ultimately, the Second World War, and many further conflicts as we delivered injustice or failed to deliver justice in the "peace" process.

Conflicts have not stopped. The current fighting in the Middle East is wholly a legacy of earlier conflicts. Each side that feels it lost out in one part of the conflict tries to regain something in the next. I don't know the origin of the fighting in Sudan. Sometimes it is just greed or the lust for power. Too often, however, it is a result of injustice perpetrated over generations and allowed to continue for political advantage, and because it is too hard to stand by the underdog.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Too often we find it easier to follow the incorrect words of rabble rousers than to think things through for ourselves. Terry Pratchett, in some of his Discworld novels, has a go at the illogicality of thought behind many extremists views. Unfortunately the “Big Lie” didn’t start or end with Hitler and it seems to prove popular with politicians who want to be elected (to misquote Alice Cooper).

So this Remembrance Day, can we remember, not just those who fought and/or died in war, but how our failures of honesty have led to further wars? Can we consider if there are ways we can act, and expect our politicians to act, to make war unprofitable? That will be difficult, and will not be cheap. Our desire for a peace dividend at the end of the Cold War has been, in part, what has led us to today. How will we stand?

Clive

LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOXES

If you would like to take part in this year's scheme, please ask me for a leaflet which has all the details. Shoeboxes should be completed and delivered to me by 8th November. Thank you very much.

Dorothy



LOCAL ARRANGEMENT SERVICES

There are an increasing number of Local Arrangements services on the plan. Although some churches have closed following the pandemic and some are working together, we have also lost a number of Local Preachers who have retired or died. We are also starting to see the reduction in full-time ministers. This means that it is getting harder to cover all the appointments on the plan, and we are seeing more LAs that we have not asked for. If you could help take part in preparing or leading an LA, please let one of the stewards know.

CLOCKS CHANGE

Don't forget that the clocks change this weekend—"Spring forward, Fall back". If you do arrive at church an hour early, you can always help set up.

HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH



Our next Messy Church will be on 16th November 2024 at 4 pm which will be live/Zoom/Streamed. If you would like to join us, either as a participant or a helper, please feel free. People may well be needed to help small children.

Our November session will be based on John Bunyan and Pilgrim's Progress..

Our normal format is to do activities until 4.45 pm, then have a Celebration which includes singing and further activities, usually ones it is easier to do at home. This is streamed and recorded.

Then at 5.30 pm we have tea. By the way, the past celebrations are still on YouTube, including the fully recorded sessions we did in lockdown.

ROTAS

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS
03 November	am Cathy pm No evening service	Doreen
10 November	War Memorial	No Service
17 November	John	John and Janet
24 November	Madeline	Tina

Could you be a vestry Steward? Have a word with Tina.
The Flower Rota for 2024 is available.
Could you fill any spaces? Speak to Doreen.

WALLACE EDWARDS

Just to ensure you have noticed on the Plan the important Circuit Service on December 8th at 2.30pm at Trinity, Leighton Buzzard.

This will be a Thanksgiving for the ministry of Wallace Edwards who has reluctantly had to cease preaching in health grounds.

The preacher at this service will be the former Superintendent of the Dunstable Circuit, the Rev David Jenkins.

Do come and join the Circuit in giving thanks – and for tea after the service.

Thank you

Jenny

NOVEMBER DIARY

1st 1830 626 Club

2nd

3rd 1000 Morning Service led by Tina and Clive Salmon—Come and See
NO EVENING SERVICE

4th 1400 Crafternoon Tea

1900 TFT Band

2000 Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley

5th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

1945 Outside Bookings—PBGS

6th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*

7th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

8th 1830 626 Club

2015 TFT

9th

10th 1050 UNITED SERVICE @ WAR MEMORIAL

1800 United Bunyan Evening Service at St. Mary's Church.

Rev Claudia Lupi is the preacher. Service includes Holy Communion

11th 1900 TFT Band

12th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

1945 Outside Bookings—PBGS

13th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*

14th 1430 Fellowship Group—Session 23—John 18: 28—19:16—
Character Test

1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

15th 1830 626 Club

2015 TFT

16th 1600 Messy Church

17th 1000 Morning Service led by Rev Claudia Lupi inc Communion

1500 Outside Booking—PBGS

18th 1400 Crafternoon Tea

1900 TFT Band

2000 Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley

19th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

1945 Outside Bookings—PBGS

20th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*

21st 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

22nd 1830 626 Club

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

2015 TFT
23rd 1600 Cinema Club
24th 1000 Morning Service - Rev. Tim Haines
25th 1900 TFT Band
26th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
1945 *Outside Bookings—PBGS*
27th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
28th 1430 Fellowship Group—Session 24—John 19: 17—42—Obedient to death
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
29th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
30th 1000 Coffee Morning

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS - NOVEMBER

4th Nov	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
5th Nov	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
5th Nov	1945	2200	PBGS
6th Nov	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
12th Nov	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
12th Nov	1945	2200	PBGS
13th Nov	1545	1930	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
17th Nov	1500	1700	PBGS
18th Nov	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
19th Nov	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
19th Nov	1945	2200	PBGS
20th Nov	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
23rd Nov	1500	1900	Cinema Club
26th Nov	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
26th Nov	1945	2200	PBGS
27th Oct	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

The two Thursday Fellowship groups still meet, every other week.

At 10.30 am. Live. Please contact Helen/Sandra for dates and location.

At 2.30 pm. On Zoom. Contact Tina (874481) for dates and details of the joining link.

REVIEW OF THE MONTH

Our service at the end of September was the united service to mark the end of the Prayer Weekend. This was led by the Life Church and Dr Robert Johns



was the preacher. The 1st Sunday in October was our Harvest Festival, with a Come and See in the morning and our usual evening Holy Communion. In fact 3 of the 4 October morning services have been Local Arrangements of one form or another.



If you think we should have more veg in the Harvest, the flower at the front is cabbage!

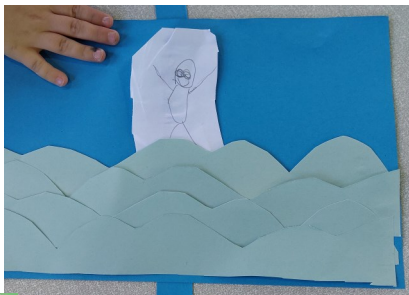
TFT had a varied program in October. This included a Sri Lankan meal and the National 10 Pin Bowling competition. Two teams entered, and did well, one reaching the semi-finals.

626 Club is meeting every Friday. We have an average of 20 attending, and will look to bring in another group of 6yr olds at the start of the new year.

Crafternoon Tea has had a good time in the month with 21 attendees at one session. They talk while they work at a number of crafts.



Messy Church had a small attendance this month, but still undertook a wide variety of activities. We were looking at



Peter's life, and had: a the beach, him sinking in Joppa, an angel to get him rock, friendship bracelets,



boat, a net with fish, a fire on the waves, animals to eat at out of jail, and a church on a and they were just the things

(Continued on page 7)

ISSUE #47

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **DECEMBER** edition will be **THU 14TH NOV** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 21st November 2024. It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP SPEAKERS

November

7th Lorraine Lane and Ann Meader from Aley Green selling jam and updating us on how they are progressing with their sales.

14th Russell Preston Talking about Harlington during the war for Remembrance day.

21st Father Mark from St. Mary's church.

28th Rev. Claudia Lupi

December

5th Choir from Harlington Lower School to come to us.

12th Cathy Sheehan talking about one of her holidays abroad.

19th Christmas celebration with Christmas music by Barbara

(Continued from page 6)

we got round to. As usual there are examples in the church and we are now developing a section of the Notice Board in the corridor which more people see.

Bright Hour met regularly each Thursday. The variety of their meetings went from Bagpipes to Gilbert and Sullivan.

Film Club had two films, both with a scary theme. Next month they will revert to a single film.

The Coffee Morning /Coffee Drop-in was on the last Saturday of the month as usual. We are gradually raising money for our chosen charity, Brain Tumour Research, and having an opportunity to get together (and eat sausage rolls).

Fellowships groups have also continued during the month.

We have also held a Church Council this month. Look out for things coming up as a result of our discussions there.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Learning Network have sent the following:

Following on from the recent Equipping for Equality day events, we are now offering some online evening sessions for anyone passionate about justice, dignity and solidarity. Bookings are now open for the first - "What does it mean to stand in solidarity?" on Weds 13th Nov at 7pm. Following recent unrest in the UK, Bevan Powell, Director of Inclusion, will head up this evening asking important questions such as: What does it mean to act in solidarity? Are we able to spot injustice in the church? Do we know how to challenge injustice? With no right or wrong answers, we will be exploring possibilities together. Open to anyone passionate about justice, dignity and solidarity – please do book on yourself and tell others about it. Bookings are here: [What does it mean to stand in solidarity? Registration, Wed 13 Nov 2024 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

We are also offering the workshops that took place at the Equipping for Equality days. If you attended the workshop on one of the days the material will be familiar, so please consider inviting a friend. More information and bookings here:

[Equality Impact Assessments explained Registration, Thu 16 Jan 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Making digital presence accessible Registration, Wed 19 Mar 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[An Introduction to Cultural Intelligence Registration, Thu 15 May 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

[Guide to the Inclusive Language Guide Registration, Mon 7 Jul 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

If you wanted to share a link to all the events you could use this:

[Equality, Diversity and Inclusion events | Eventbrite](#)

Any questions, please contact Kristie on evек@methodistchurch.org.uk

LEARNING NETWORK

The 2024-25 Learning Network brochure is now ready! Please see [this link](#) .

Change, Transition and Conflict

**Over two mornings
Tuesday 4th February and
Thursday 6th February
9.30am to 12.30pm**

**For more information please contact Brec Seaton
seatonb@methodistchurch.org.uk**

Book at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/positive-working-together-818889>



SCAN ME

The Methodist Church 

**POSITIVE
WORKING
TOGETHER**



Spirituality, Scripture and Conflict

Tuesday 11th February 2025 or Tuesday 24th June
9.30am to 3.30pm on zoom

Deepening our understanding of the wisdom and impact of scripture in managing change and transforming conflict.

Book your place here:

11th February: <https://SSC110225.eventbrite.co.uk>

24th June: <https://SSC240625.eventbrite.co.uk>



SCAN ME

Contact Brec Seaton:
seatonb@methodistchurch.org.uk



THE PENULTIMATE PAGE

As an editor, one of the decisions you have to make is; Do you push everything together and have a whole page clear which you then need to fill, or do you spread things out and see if you can create a whole page-worth of gaps?



You can tell I favour the former approach. This is because I think we should have enough to tell each other so that we don't want to waste space. After all, just think how much goes on in a month, and how much you do.

And yet we seem reluctant to tell others what we do or why. That applies both inside and outside the church. Some of this is because we don't want to boast, some is because we don't think anyone would be interested, some is because we don't want to

seem pushy. We may think we don't have time. And all those reasons have merit, except....

Would you like people to pray for the activities you undertake? Have you noticed how curious people can be? Do you want to tell others about God's love?



Sharing news is important. Being recognised is valuable. Being able to offer an opportunity to people has a real benefit. And if you don't want to write, send pictures. Today's medium for communication is essentially visual, so pictures are good anyway.

So if your group is doing something and it's appropriate to, take pictures and send them to me, or

just write a piece about what has happened. If you can, include people, but if you can't don't worry. For Messy Church I often use pictures with just hands, or just of objects.

We have a story to tell. Let's try to tell it, and while many people may not be interested, quite a lot are. Someone said to Tina this week, "I don't do craft, but I do like reading the Crafternoon Tea piece in Contact." Give it a try.

NOTICES Details of items for the Notices should be delivered to Trevor Caveney at the caveney@ntlworld.com OR t315485@gmail.com

DEADLINE for inclusion in December edition is THU 14th November

CHURCH BOOKING DIARY

PLEASE check with Trevor before adding any dates or events.

Prayer Chain number: Dorothy Preston 874841

Church Website: www.harlingtonmethodistchurch.uk

Church YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw

WIFI

WiFi is available in the Hall. Ask Clive for the password. Note that the system keeps information on the type of sites visited.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE CHURCH FAMILY



Pick up your pen, pencil or keyboard and share with us what you are doing in your life and as part of the Church.

Please feel free to send me items of interest, messages, birthdays, anniversaries or anything else you might wish to share for inclusion in future editions of these E-notices. Keep safe.

Trevor & Mary

CONTACT MAGAZINE

The latest edition is available at <https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

Paper copies will also be available.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

'The calling of Harlington Methodist Church is to respond to and celebrate the Gospel of God's presence. In all of our activities we seek to serve Harlington and the wider world. Most of all we aspire to honour and serve the living God.'