

Harlington Methodist Monthly

**AUGUST
2026**

Minister: Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams

From September 2026

Senior Steward: Clive Salmon

01525 874481 clivedsalmon@aol.com

Dear Friends,

As I prepare to begin this new chapter of ministry in London, I wanted to write to express my heartfelt thanks for the incredibly generous gift you gave me before my departure.

Your kindness and thoughtfulness have deeply touched me. The gift itself is a wonderful blessing, but even more than that, it is a tangible expression of your love, encouragement, and support. I will receive it with gratitude and carry it with me as a reminder of the privilege it has been to serve among you.

These years have been filled with so many precious memories. Together we have worshipped, prayed, laughed, mourned, celebrated, and sought God's will. Thank you for welcoming me into your lives and allowing me to share in your journeys of faith. I have been richly blessed by your friendship, your faithfulness, and your commitment to Christ and to one another.

As I move to the London Lambeth Circuit, I do so with a grateful heart. Although I will miss you dearly, I trust that God, who has guided us thus far, will continue to bless this church abundantly. My prayer is that you will keep growing in faith, hope, and love, becoming ever more a church that reflects the welcoming heart of Jesus Christ.



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Please know that I will remember you with affection and in my prayers. Thank you once again for your generosity, your encouragement, and for allowing me the privilege of serving as your minister. It has truly been an honour.

May God bless you, keep you, and fill your church with his peace, joy, and hope for many years to come.

With love and every blessing,

Rev. Claudia Lupi

OUR NEW MINISTER

Our new minister, Revd. Doreen Koffie-Williams, will be welcomed to the circuit on 6th September with a service at the Square at 6pm. It would be good to have a good representation from Harlington. Closer to the time we will discuss transport for those wishing to attend.

Her first services at Harlington will be on the evening of 13th September and the morning of the 20th September, both with Holy Communion.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like the Prayer Chain to pray for you, or for someone you know, please contact any of the Stewards, and they will inform the rest of the Chain to add your prayer to the list.

When and if you are ready to change the prayer, or cancel it, again, please contact any of the Stewards, for the message to be passed on.

There are no limits to the number of people who can be on the Chain, so if you would like to be included in the Prayer Chain, please let Tina know.

STEWARDS NOTES

We now have an agreed Mission Plan and have also received the environmental audit we also require for certain grant applications.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENT SERVICES

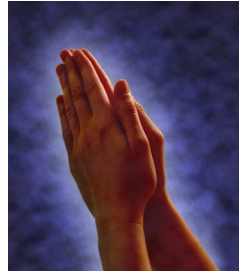
Our next so far unplanned Local Arrangement is the morning service on 13th September. Please keep thinking about ways you could help. Thank you.

Clive

PRAYER TIME

At the 2025 annual church meeting it was proposed that we all try to pray at the same time at 8am or 8pm but from wherever we happen to be at the time.

Here are some suggested topics for prayer at 8.



Sunday services and our preachers

Bright Hour Fellowship

Crafternoon Tea

Messy Church and leaders/helpers

626 Club and leaders/helpers

TFT and leaders/helpers

Those who come into the building for other things

Open the Book

Our Minister

All those unwell

The Village and the other churches

New people moving in to the village, particularly on the new estates

People leaving the village

Things we do outside the church building

Meet the Village follow up

New Project team

The Circuit

Stewards

Our new minister

Students taking exams or waiting for results

Children changing schools over the summer or going to university

PRAYER MANUALS

The new Methodist Prayer Manual will start at the beginning of the new Connexional year, September.

If you would like me to order a copy for you, please let me know by 16th August.

Tina

DUNSTABLE DOWNS

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to our Circuit Service on Dunstable Downs. What a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, thanksgiving and celebration we shared together.

It was a special occasion as we gave thanks for the faithful ministry of Rev Claudia among us and marked her farewell. We are grateful for all she has given to the life of our churches, communities and Circuit, and it was a joy to celebrate her ministry together.

A huge thank you goes to the many people who helped make the day possible:

- Those who got up early and completed their morning aerobics by putting up the marquee!
- Our musicians and singers who so beautifully led us in worship.
- Readers, interviewers and interviewees, and everyone who took part in the service.
- The sound team, who battled the wind and the challenges of many different people speaking.
- The Craftivists who made and displayed the beautiful bunting and canvases that helped make the site look so welcoming.
- Everyone who brought food to share and contributed to the wonderful fellowship after the service.
- The ice cream van, who delighted us all by serving an impressive 207 ice creams!
- And, of course, the approximately 220 people who attended and made the gathering such a warm and encouraging occasion.

Events like this are only possible because so many people willingly give their time, gifts and energy. Thank you for helping to create such a memorable and joyful Circuit celebration.

If you have any feedback, reflections or words of encouragement about the service, we would love to hear from you. And in due course photos of the day will be on the circuit website.

Looking Ahead

Our next Circuit Service will be:

Sunday 2 August 2026

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Time: 4:00 pm

Venue: St Margaret's Methodist Church – The Olive Branch
Montrose Avenue, Luton LU3 1HT

This service will be a Thanksgiving and Farewell Service for Rev Patrick, our Circuit Superintendent. We warmly encourage you to join us as we gather to give thanks for his ministry and leadership amongst us.

With grateful thanks and every blessing,

Tim Haines

EVENING SERVICE 2ND AUGUST

Please note that there will not be an evening service on 2nd August. Roger Owers has to be at the farewell for Rev. Patrick Kandeh as senior circuit steward and we do not now believe there will be time for him to get to Harlington after this service.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The next Church Council will take place on 20th October 2026, this being the preferred date for our new minister. Details will follow but put the date in your diaries.

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP

Bright Hour meets at 2-45 pm in the Hall nearly every Thursday. They have an interesting variety of speakers who cover a wide range of themes, and you get tea and biscuits. Come along, or if you know anyone who would like to spend some time with us, spread the word. It's not just for Ladies.

THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST.

WE WILL RESTART ON THU 10TH SEPTEMBER

AUGUST DIARY

- 1st
- 2nd** 1000 Morning Service led by Andrea Als-McClean
1600 Farewell Service Rev Patrick Kandeh - see separate item
No Evening Service
- 3rd
- 4th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 5th
- 6th
- 7th
- 8th
- 9th** 1000 Morning Service led by Clive & Tina Salmon
- 10th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 11th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 12th
- 13th
- 14th
- 15th
- 16th** 1000 Morning Service led by Rev Jenny Spouge inc Communion
- 17th
- 18th 1430 Tuesday Fellowship—the Letters of Peter: session 1
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 19th
- 20th
- 21st
- 22nd
- 23rd** 1000 Morning Service led by Angie Woodcraft
- 24th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 25th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 26th
- 27th
- 28th
- 29th 1000 Coffee Morning
- 30th** 1000 Morning Service led by Takudzwa Chiwade
- 31st

THE FOOD BANK

The Food Bank collection is now back in operation and Cathy will be taking the items to the food bank about once a month. There is a collection box in the main entrance but she is happy to pick up from other places if needed. No fresh food is accepted. They are often short of the items marked **

Milk (long-life)

Fruit juice (long life) **

Pasta sauces (jar)

Soup

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned meat meals (e.g. Chilli con carne, beef stew, chicken curry) **

Tinned solid meats (e.g. Ham, corned beef) **

Tinned fish (e.g. Tuna, salmon, mackerel)

Tinned vegetables **

Tinned potatoes & instant mashed potato **

Rice & pasta

Tinned fruit **

Cereal

Rice pudding (tinned)

Tea bags & instant coffee

Jam

Snack noodles (pots/packets)

Crackers or savoury snacks **

Biscuits & snack bars

500g bag of sugar

Laundry products **

Toiletries

Pet food

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—AUGUST

04th	1600	1900	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
11th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
18th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
25th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS

REVIEW OF LAST MONTH

Our services last month included Claudia's final evening service. The service was preceded by a farewell cream tea with a fine selection of strawberries, raspberries, scones, cakes and



jams together with tea or coffee. We presented Claudia with a history of John Bunyan which obviously included his

arrest at Harlington, and with a cheque.

The other notable service in July was the annual service at Dunstable Downs. This was a well attended service, the weather being not too hot but still dry, and included the circuit farewell to Claudia and a tribute to Tania Stanford who passed away recently. Tania had been our Circuit Steward, and was also the person who taught us how to make puppets, many years ago. She will be missed.



626 Club held its last few meetings of the academic year. The heat prevented us from going to Bury Orchard as often as we would have liked.

TFT seem focussed on food, with a session at the Hub and Spoke making pizzas, and also a barbeque at the T-Gs' for their



(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

final meeting before summer. They did play at the Lower School Summer Fayre at the end of June and ran a games stall.

Crafternoon Tea met and will continue to meet during the summer.

Open The Book was a little disrupted because of school end of year activities but we did attend both at Harlington and Sundon Lower Schools.

Messy Church had a slow feed-in of families, but we had 6 children and 8 adults by the end. Strangely, they didn't want to make the cream meringues, but they enjoyed making model surfers and rock climbers and lighthouses and aquariums. We talked about rest and holidays,



knew the actions. where we went and the things we do. When we sang "My Lighthouse", a number of them

The Coffee Drop-in coincided with the Lower School Fayre. Thanks to all who helped cover this. The Fayre was important for our community connections, and many of the 626 and TFT children were taking part, with church mem-

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

bers supporting through the Netball group, Gestalt Dance and the PA. Film Club did not meet again this month.

The Summer Holiday Club is meeting again this year. Picture to come later.

Stella's 90th Birthday Party was also held at the church. She got two cakes! It was good to



meet old friends on this occasion .



HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH



Our next Merry Church will be on 19th September 2026 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 normal format is to do activities such as painting, cooking, and making things until 4.45 pm, then have a Celebration which includes singing and further activities, usually ones it is easier to do at home and that are less messy This is streamed and recorded.

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

Merry Church is always on the third Saturday. If you can help at any of these, or would like to help with the planning, please let Clive or Tina know so that we can arrange things most efficiently. If you stay to the end you get tea!

Clive and Tina

ISSUE #70

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **SEPTEMBER 2026** edition will be **THU 20TH AUGUST** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 27th August 2026. It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

COLLECTIONS

During the pandemic we stopped passing the collection plate during services and many people set up standing orders to pay their collection directly into the bank. However, there are a few people who still prefer to pay by cheque and cash and some visitors leave money in the collection plate by the door. At the Finance and Property meeting on 21 January we agreed we would reintroduce the taking up of the collection during the service.

There is, of course, no obligation to put any money in the plate so it is ok to just pass the plate along the row. If you would like to give your collection using an envelope scheme please let Cathy know.

Stewards will, as before, be responsible for taking up the collection and counting it after the service.

Cathy

ROTAS

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS
02 AUG	am Mary	Setterfields
09 AUG	Cathy	Lesley
16 AUG	Sheila	
23 AUG	Steve T-G	
30 AUG	Madeline	Kay

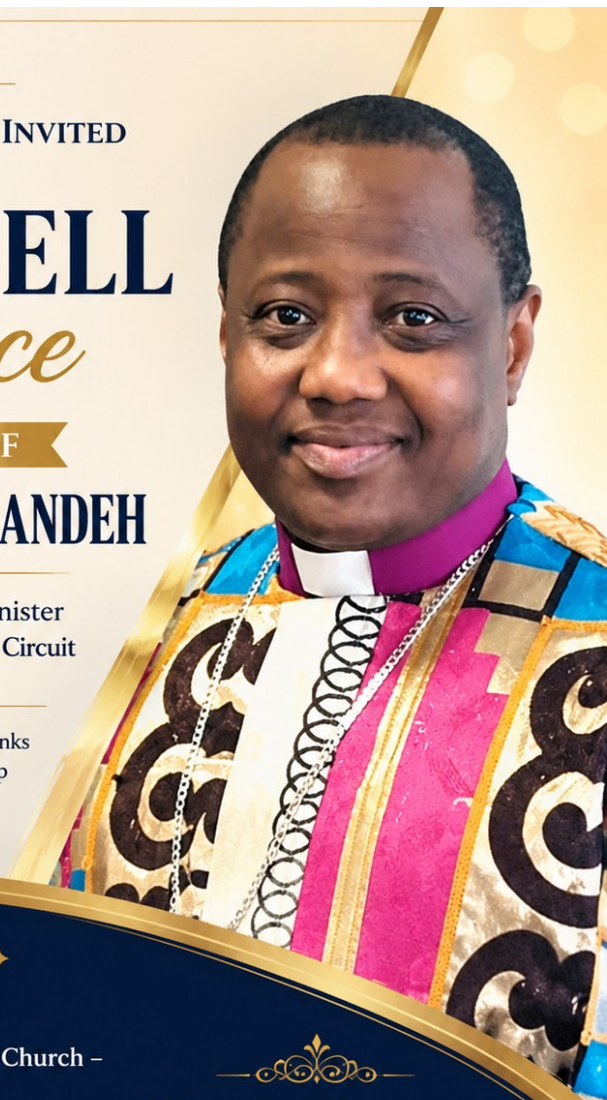
Could you be a vestry Steward? Have a word with Tina.
The Flower Rota for 2026 is available. Could you fill any spaces? Speak to Doreen.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO A
FAREWELL
Service

IN HONOUR OF
REV. PATRICK KANDEH

Circuit Superintendent Minister
South Bedfordshire Methodist Circuit

Join us as we celebrate and give thanks
for his faithful ministry, leadership
and dedicated service.



SERVICE DETAILS



VENUE:
St Margaret's Methodist Church –
The Olive Branch
Montrose Avenue
Luton, LU3 1HT



DATE:
Sunday, 2nd August 2026



TIME:
4:00 PM

“ *The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make His face
shine upon you and
be gracious to you.* ”

— Numbers 6:24–25 —

FELLOWSHIP GROUP

TUES at 2.30 pm. On Zoom every other week

Contact Tina (874481) for details of the joining link.

Having done one single study, on the letter of Jude, in August, we will start a series of eleven on the letters of Peter. If you would like to join us, please contact Tina for the Zoom link. See the Calendar for accurate dates.

DISTRICT PRAYER LIST

The District Mission Enabler produces a prayer list for the whole district. If anyone would like me to email them the list, please let me know.

TECH TRAINING

If you are interested in training on any aspects of the tech we use in the church, please let me know, and I will arrange a session. This will usually be at a Coffee Morning, but could be at a different time to suit. Clive

ROOM BOOKINGS

PLEASE can all leaders and secretaries of hirers/users of the premises, keep me fully updated of dates, times, additions, cancellations, variations or any other reason so that I can be sure that the bookings diary is accurate and up to date.

Failure to update could lead to no heating, unplanned double booking or even a lost booking opportunity as examples. Outside hirers have also been requested to ensure their bookings are up to date.

Thank you for your assistance.—Trevor—contacts on page 16.

CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT

The church bank account is now with the Co-op Bank. If you pay money to the church by standing order or other regular means, or make occasional BACS payments, the details are:

Name: Harlington Methodist Church

Sort Code: 08-92-99

Account Number: 67420034

Trinity Methodist Church

Leighton Buzzard



Vacancy for

Part-time Outreach Worker

20 hours per month with flexible working
Salary £4,000 per annum

We are keen to enhance our presence in the local community, looking to build our church's existing community links and develop new ones.

Your primary roles will be to organise our Early Church services three times per month and to liaise with others involved in encouraging families to be part of the Church

You will need recent experience of contact with families and young children as well as an understanding of Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding area.

A specific faith is an essential requirement for this role and, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010, it is an occupational requirement that the successful applicant is a practising Christian.

The appointment will be subject to satisfactory clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS checks).

Closing Date: 12 Noon Friday 7th August 2026

Please email: 45c.roots@gmail.com to express your interest and receive an application pack.

Further information can be found at www.trinitylb.org.uk



Registered Charity No. 1151861

Trinity Methodist Church



Leighton Buzzard

Vacancy for

Part-time Church Administrator

15 hours per week with some flexible working

Salary £10,500 per annum

We are seeking to recruit someone to provide administration support to the Minister and the Leadership team of the Church, including acting as a communication hub, maintaining the website and social media presence, compiling the monthly Church magazine and producing publicity materials as required.

Closing Date: **12 Noon Friday 7th August 2026.**

Please email: 45c.roots@gmail.com to express your interest and receive an application pack.

Further information can be found at
www.trinitylb.org.uk



Registered Charity No. 1151861

NOTICES Details of items for the Notices should be delivered to Trevor Caveney at the.caveney@ntlworld.com AND t315485@gmail.com
DEADLINE for inclusion in August 2026 edition is THU 20th August
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

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 are also available.

WIFI

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

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.'