

Harlington Methodist Monthly

**SEPTEMBER
2026**

Minister: Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams

07801 542420 super@southbedsmethodist.org.uk

Senior Steward: Clive Salmon

01525 874481 clivedsalmon@aol.com

Hi all,

There is a hymn that is frequently included in lists of favourite hymns. The surprise is that it wasn't written as a hymn. The author didn't actually like hymns. The hymn is part of a poem against noisy hymns. The hymn was set to music by a college music teacher and it took a long time for the author to accept it. It is not a noisy hymn.



John Greenleaf Whittier was a Quaker. He worked for the abolition of slavery. He was much against what we would nowadays call the "Happy Clappies".

I recall seeing that someone had written that Whittier particularly disliked the "Holy Rollers". I thought I would try some fact checking in writing this piece so I looked up "Holy Rollers". According to Wikipedia, they were Methodists! I must say I had thought that they were a pentecostalist group.

So there you have it. It would appear that a favourite hymn was written because a Quaker poet didn't like the way Methodists sang, and sometimes called out "Amen" or "Hallelujah" during services.

We have many ways of worshipping God, and for many of us, how we wor-

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ship will depend on our state of mind at the time. You will have noticed that I generally like more exuberant hymns and songs. But there are times for quiet reflection. A favourite song of mine is in Songs of Fellowship.

Here I am once again,
I pour out my heart for I know that You hear
Every cry; You are listening,
No matter what state my heart is in.

You are faithful to answer
With words that are true
And a hope that is real.
As I feel Your touch,
You bring a freedom to all that's within.

In the safety of this place
I'm longing to...

*Pour out my heart, to say that I love You,
Pour out my heart, to say that I need You.
Pour out my heart, to say that I'm thankful,
Pour out my heart, to say that You're wonderful.*

Craig Musseau

You can find it on YouTube https://youtu.be/jyex6CMigfk?si=SsqDnWaH_wQ4U_UM You may well not know it. It is not part of the Harlington repertoire.

It is easy to criticise the way others worship. However, what is important is not the form, but whether it enables us or others to connect with God, and deepen that relationship. Our worship must be true. (I am afraid I feel that the repeated use of the word "authentic" has removed all of its authenticity) *God is spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4.24.*

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Whittier believed that true worship was about actions, not noisy songs. What can we do so that our worship is true?

Clive

REV. DOUGLAS FORD

Tina and I were recently made aware of the passing of Rev. Douglas Ford at the age of 99. He was the minister here when we moved to Harlington. We are expecting to get details of his funeral when they are known.

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.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENT SERVICES

On the plan we have the following Local Arrangement services. In the next quarter

13th September.

4th October

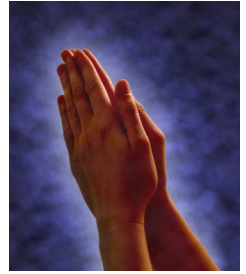
25th October

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 into 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
- Children changing schools over the summer or going to university

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.

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.

The Speakers for September are -

10th - Clive Salmon

17th - Sheila Norris

24th - AGM with Rev. Doreen Koffe-Williams

HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH

Our next Messy 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.

Messy 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

SEPTEMBER DIARY

- 1st 1430 Tuesday Fellowship Group—Letters of Peter—session 2
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 2nd
- 3rd
- 4th 1830 626 Club
- 5th
- 6th** 1000 Morning Service led by Tina and Clive Salmon
1500 PBGS
1800 Welcome Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams @ THE SQUARE
No Evening Service at Harlington
- 7th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 8th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 9th 1545 *Outside Booking—EmilyH—Child Drama*
- 10th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1800 *Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G*
1930 WORSHIP CONSULTATION—ZOOM
- 11th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 12th 0900 Bike 'N Hike
1500 Cinema Club
- 13th** 1000 Morning Service led by local arrangement
1800 Evening Service - Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams inc Communion
- 14th 2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley, Band*
- 15th 1430 Tuesday Fellowship Group—Letters of Peter—session 3
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 16th 1545 *Outside Booking—EmilyH—Child Drama*
- 17th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1800 *Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G*
- 18th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 19th 1600 Messy Church
- 20th** 1000 Morning Service—Rev Doreen Koffee-Williams inc Communion
- 21st 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 22nd 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*

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- 23rd 1545 *Outside Booking—EmilyH—Child Drama*
1900 PRAYER WEEKEND SET UPCONTA
- 24th **PRAYER WEEKEND**
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1800 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 25th **PRAYER WEEKEND**
1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 26th **PRAYER WEEKEND**
1000 Coffee Morning
- 27th** 1000 United Morning Service with Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams
1500 PBGS
- 28th 2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley, Band*
- 29th 1430 Tuesday Fellowship Group—Letters of Peter—session 4
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 30th 1545 *Outside Booking—EmilyH—Child Drama*

OCTOBER DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARIES

- 8th October—Finance and Property on Zoom
- 18th October—Dedication of new banners in morning service
- 20th October - Church Council 7.30 pm on Zoom
- 21st October Churches Together in Harlington 7.30 pm

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—SEPTEMBER

01ST	1600	1900	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
06th	1500	1700	PBGS
08th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
09th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Drama
10th	1800	1900	Emily T-G Gestalt
12th	1500	1800	Cinema club
13th	1500	1700	PBGS
14th	2000	2299	Scott Hemsley
15th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
16th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Drama
17th	1800	1900	Emily T-G Gestalt
20th	1500	1700	PBGS
22nd	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
23rd	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Drama
24th	1800	1900	Emily T-G Gestalt
27th	1500	1700	PBGS
28th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
29th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
30th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Drama

SPONSORED BIKE 'N HIKE

This is happening on 12th September. It is good if we can have the church open for cyclists/walkers on the day. I will put up a list. If you can fill a time slot, that will be great.

Clive

REVIEW OF LAST MONTH

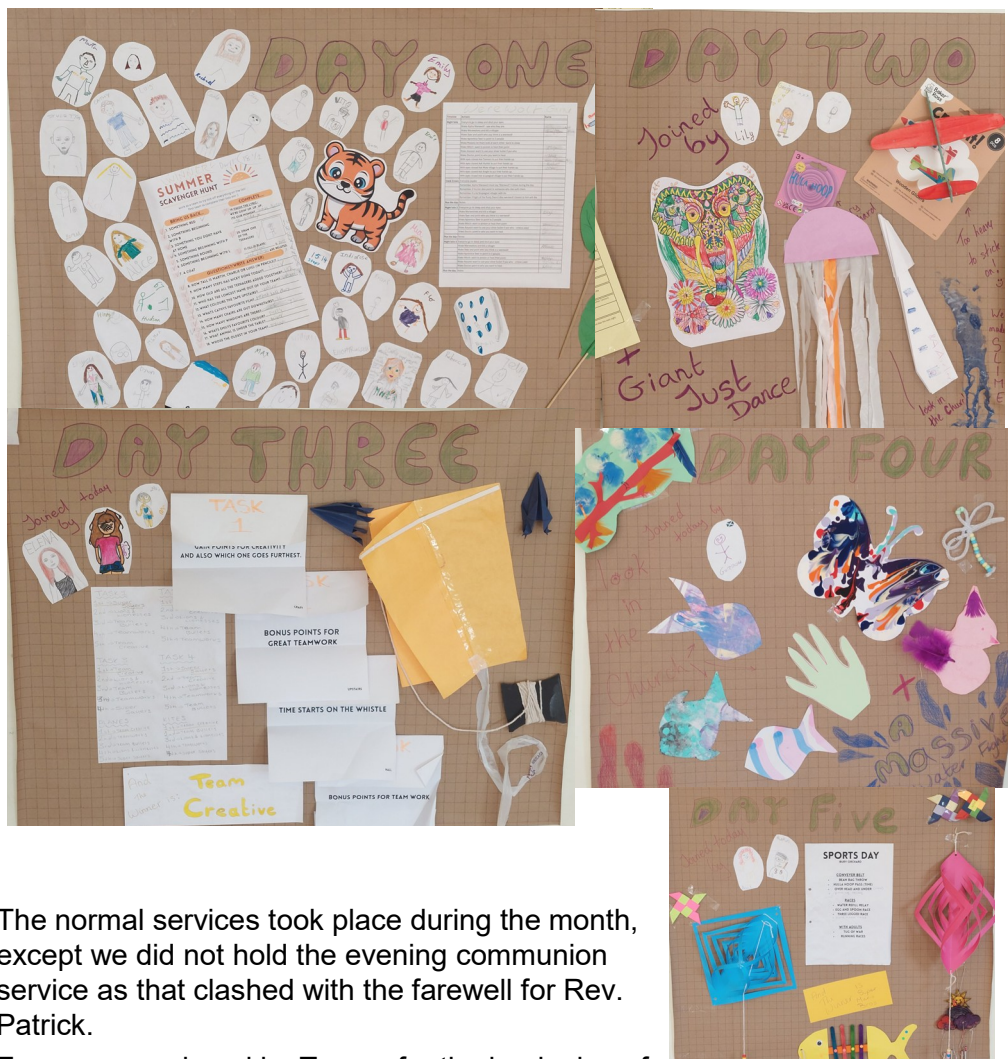
Because of holidays, the monthly was a little early last month and there was not a chance to put in things about the holiday club. The church is now decorated with all sorts of colourful craft, the front shows a marine scape, and with birds, butterflies and I don't know what else on the walls. Emily and all the



team are thanked for all that was done over this week. I could fill the whole Monthly with pictures of what they did, and that doesn't include them playing games. The daily sheets are up in the hall.

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The normal services took place during the month, except we did not hold the evening communion service as that clashed with the farewell for Rev. Patrick.

Zoom was replaced by Teams for the beginning of the month, and we could not put those services on YouTube but we are back to normal now.

Crafternoon Tea met twice, and the Tuesday Fellowship also met. Most other activities were paused for August.

ISSUE #71

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **OCTOBER 2026** edition will be **THU 17TH SEPTEMBER** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 24th September 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
06 SEP	Mary	Setterfields
13 SEP	Am Mary Pm Sheila	
20 SEP	Steve T-G	Christine & Alan
27 SEP	Madeline	Doreen

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.

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

JUSTICE, DIGNITY AND SOLIDARITY

The Square have asked me to let you know about a service they have planned for Sunday, 30 August @10.30 when they have a special visitor leading worship, **Rev Charity Ngezwu**.

She is Chair of the Connexional Justice, Dignity and Solidarity Committee, and I am sure, will have a powerful message for us all.

Link from the Methodist Church website:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/our-stories/a-letter-to-the-church-i-love-serve-and-the-church-i-hope-for/>

This service will be available on the Square's YouTube channel.

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 then started a series of eleven sessions 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

**NEW
SUPERINTENDENT
MINISTER OF THE
SOUTH
BEDFORDSHIRE
METHODIST CIRCUIT**



REV DOREEN KOFFIE-WILLIAMS

Welcome Service

6

September
2026

The Square Methodist Church,
Dunstable, LU6 3SN

6PM START

REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING |

OFFICE@SOUTHBEDSMETHODIST.ORG.UK

The **Methodist** Church 

GOT A HEART FOR **CHILDREN** & **FAMILIES?**

High Street Methodist Church
High Street, Harpenden, AL5 2RU
Registered Charity 1128950

JOB VACANCY

Children and Families Development Worker

Full Time, 35 hours a week (flexible), £34,000 pa

If you've got a heart for children and families,
we want you!

We are looking for an experienced worker ready to strategise, lead,
develop ministry and nurture faith.

Working in conjunction with the Church Leadership Team, the Children and Families Development Worker will be responsible for nurturing spirituality & faith formation of 0-11s and their families. They will develop and execute a strategy for the church's work amongst families.

Closing Date: 31 OCTOBER 2026

We reserve the right to close early if
we find a great candidate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND DETAILS ON HOW TO
APPLY VISIT:
www.highstreet.church/jobs

highstreet.church 
the church in the high street

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 October 2026 edition is THU 17th September
CHURCH BOOKING DIARY

PLEASE check with Trevor **before** adding any dates or events.

Prayer Chain contact any steward

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.'