

Harlington Methodist Monthly

**OCTOBER
2025**

Minister: Rev. Claudia Lupi

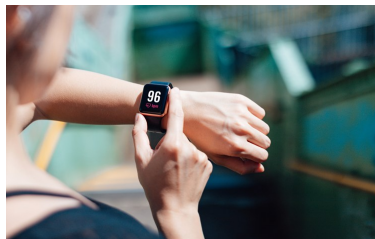
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Senior Steward: Martin Wallis

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Hi all,

Tina was unwell at the start of the year, and we decided that one of the things she needed to do was to take more regular exercise. For other reasons she got a watch, and one thing it does is count steps. Tina has joined the step counters.



You will therefore see her walking around the village rather more than you used to. You may wonder about the way she is walking. Quite often, she will walk around all the closes, or take the long way round when going somewhere. For a step counter, the target to aim for is a number of steps, not a destination.

You will not often see me walking with her. I like to take the shortest route between two points, at least when going round the village. I like a planned route that uses the minimum distance.

Which is more important, the journey or the destination? In truth, this depends on the purpose of the journey. If you are going to see someone, then the destination is important, if you are visiting an area of beauty, then the journey itself may be more important.

We often use journeying as a metaphor in life. Of course the big danger with metaphors is that we push them too far. If life is our journey can we separate out the destination from the way we attain it? There are some people who set themselves a worldly destination and go all out to achieve it. It may be

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wealth, fame, status, power or similar target. Those people are likely to miss the value of the journey. People who have achieved instant fame may well have missed out on the benefits of the struggle.

What about us? I feel we cannot achieve what we would see as our heavenly destination without an earthly journey with Christ. We need to learn from him, just as Cleopas and his friend learnt on their journey to Emmaus (I regret that the Bible records that there was a conversation but only gives the most cursory summary of what was said).

Journeying with Christ also requires us to share his concerns for our fellows, those who follow Christ and those who do not. The parable of the sheep and the goats says that clearly.

How will you journey this month?

Clive

LOCAL ARRANGEMENT SERVICE

You will see we have an LA at the end of October. If you would like to help with this service, please let one of the stewards know.

CHURCH PROJECT 2026

As decided at Church Council, this will be the Paynter Children's Home. Founded by the Thornton - Greet family over a 100 years ago, it is situated in the Naraylia Hill Country of Sri Lanka.

More material about this will be made available in the course of the year.

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP—SPEAKERS FOR OCTOBER

Speakers/activities for October are as below.-

2nd - John Enejo

9th - John and Barbara about something musical

16th - Frederick Cole

23rd - Margaret Newman

30th - Patrick Kandeh

HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH



Our next Messy Church will be on 18th October 2025 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, please let Clive or Tina know so that we can arrange things most efficiently. If you stay to the end you get tea!

NEW MINISTER

By now you will know that it is Claudia's intention to leave at the end of this church year, so we will have a new minister from September 2026. Rev. Patrick, our superintendent minister, will be leaving at the same time, and the opportunity is being taken to do some rearrangement. In view of the reducing membership of the circuit, only one replacement minister is being sought. This means that over two years the circuit will have lost two ministers. The new minister will be the superintendent, but will be in charge of the Square, Aley Green and us.

The way this works is that a circuit profile is prepared saying what our circuit is like. This is a short, summary document. This has been done. Supers are appointed first, and there will be a visit to the circuit, probably on 8th November, for a candidate to have a look at us and for us to see them. If this is a match then this goes forward to Stationing Committee and Conference for approval. Otherwise we will have other rounds before that happens.

We will have a new super appointed for September 2026.

OCTOBER DIARY

- 1st 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 2nd 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 7
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
2000 F & P CTTE - ZOOM
- 3rd 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 4th
- 5th** 1000 **HARVEST FESTIVAL** led by Martin Wallis
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
1800 Evening Service led by Rev Jenny Spouge inc Communion
- 6th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 7th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 8th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
1930 CHURCH COUNCIL—ZOOM
- 9th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 *Outside Booking—Gestalt Theatre*
- 10th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 11th 1500 Cinema Club
- 12th** 1000 Morning Service led by Worship Group
- 13th
- 14th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
- 15th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 16th 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 8
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 17th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 18th 1600 Messy Church

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- 19th** 1000 Morning Service led by Peter Baker inc. Communion
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS ??*
- 20th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 21st 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS ??*
- 22nd 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 23rd 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship Group
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 24th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 25th 1000 Coffee Morning
- 26th** 1000 Morning Service TBA—local arrangement
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS ??*
- 27th
- 28th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS ??*
- 29th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 30th 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 9
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 31st 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT

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. Next meeting is expected to be on 2nd October.

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—OCTOBER

01st	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
02nd	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
05th	1500	1700	PBGS
06th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
07th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
09th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
11th	1500	1800	Cinema Club
12th	1500	1700	PBGS
13th			
14th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
	1600	1900	Cinema Club
15th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
16th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
18th	1600	1800	Messy Church
19th	1500	1700	PBGS
20th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
21st	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
22nd	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
23rd	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
25th			
26th	1500	1700	PBGS
28th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
29th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
30th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G

REVIEW OF LAST MONTH

Probably the most notable thing this month was the wedding of Abigail Wallis and Harry Sims. The wedding was described by the photographer as the most joyful service she had attended. We wish them both every blessing for their life together.

Our normal Sunday services took place with the morning services also being on Zoom and YouTube.

Bright Hour Fellowship resumed on the 11th and is now meeting every week.

626 Club restarted at the beginning of the month. We currently have 22 children who have attended, which leaves a little space for new members, particularly useful if there are new families on the new estates.

TFT has also restarted, with at least one cooking session.

The September Messy Church looked at harvest, with ploughing sowing and reaping, not to mention bread and wine. We made a



wine press and grind stone in clay, a plough and a threshing



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sledge from lolly sticks, an ox and a watchtower in card, and baked unleavened bread.

Crafternoon Tea is going strong, with another new person plus other people showing interest. Tina often gets phone calls asking about it. It also uses Zoom, and last week Rosemary used that to drop in—see later article.

Workspace has been made available during September. This doesn't seem to have worked particularly well and we will be reviewing it at the next New Project Group meeting.

Our “Meet the Village” event is after this goes out but we have had a good response from the organisations; now to see what the response is from the new or other villagers.

Film Club was quiet, not yet back in the swing.

Fellowship groups are restarting.

The August Coffee Drop-in was quiet, as if people were taking a last chance to get away.

Open the Book has restarted. At Sundon we have started back at the beginning of the Bible again.

ROTAS

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS	
05 October	am Cathy pm Cathy	Harvest	Could you be a vestry Steward? Have a word with Tina. The Flower Rota for 2025 is available. Could you fill any spaces? Speak to Doreen.
12 October	John		
19 October	Steve TG	Madeline	
26 October	Madeline		

FROM HARLINGTON TO HIGHWORTH.

In 2024 Roy & I made the momentous decision to move from Harlington to Highworth to be near my daughter Anne. I moved into Harlington in October 1963 with 9 month old Christopher, Ian followed in 1966 & Anne in 1970. I taught in the old school & the new Lower School as well as belonging to many of the various organisations. I met Roy in 1992 & we were married in 1995, he immediately felt at home in Harlington & so for us both it was a very big wrench.

In March this year we moved into our new home & much to our surprise & delight we settled in very quickly. We live in a gated community for the over 60s, there are 9 houses & 4 flats, it has a walled garden & other communal areas, when the weather is fine we congregate for tea & chat.



The Methodist Church has a coffee morning every Saturday & by going regularly we have got to know several people, I have joined the WI & we have both joined the U3A. We can walk into the Market place, there is a small market every Saturday. We have just found a lovely community shop & cafe in the next village of Blunsden, 7 minutes down the road. We are very lucky to have almost every supermarket within easy reach. Anne & my grandson Ben are close by, a blessing as I locked myself out the other week.

We count our blessings everyday, yes we do miss our friends, but several have made the 2 hour journey here & we love seeing them, but we do love our new surroundings & the people we have met. We are always happy to see friends & hear the news from Harlington.

Rosemary & Roy

ISSUE #58

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **NOV** edition will be **THU 16TH OCTOBER** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 23rd October 2025. It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

FLOWER ROTA—2025

Doreen has kindly agreed to manage the flower rota again for 2025 and a copy is on the notice board in the hall-way.

Regular bookings have already been added BUT please check to see if any have been missed.

PLEASE check the list often to see if you can fill a space. Unable to provide the flowers? No problem—just make a donation to Doreen and she will sort out a flower display on a 'blank' date.



HARVEST FESTIVAL—5TH OCTOBER

Everyone is invited to help decorate the church for Harvest. We will decorate on Saturday 4th October. Listen out for the exact time.

TECH TRAINING

I am still trying to sort out a date for refresher training for the Sound System and for simplified Zoom, but a lot of things are happening at present.

Clive

WIFI

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

NEW BANK ACCOUNT

The church has now opened a bank account 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

In the mean time we are keeping the existing account open to allow time for people to make the changes, but will close it by the end of the year.

PRAYER TIME

At the annual church meeting it was proposed that we all try to pray at the same time at 8am and 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

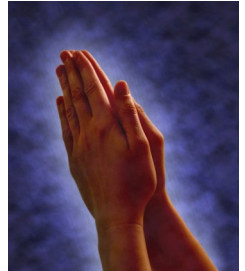
Things we do outside the church building

Meet the Village follow up

New Project team

The Circuit

Finding a new minister



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 November edition is **THU 16th OCTOBER**

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

FACEBOOK

Don't forget the church has a Facebook page. You can use this for communicating, and it's very good for showing pictures. If you want to join the group, contact Martin. Remember, the more people who use it and who belong to the group, the more useful it becomes.

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.'