



# Harlington Methodist Monthly

**MARCH  
2026**

**Minister: Rev. Claudia Lupi**

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Hi all,

Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent, when we remember Jesus going into the desert for forty days and nights. This happens just after Jesus is baptised by John, and is when he is tempted. The synoptic gospels tell of three temptations, which Jesus rejects. After this time Jesus' ministry starts, he calls his first disciples, performs his first miracles, and commences teaching.



The thing about the temptations, it always seem to me, is that they represent Jesus setting the boundaries of how he will perform his ministry, what he will do and what he won't in order to achieve what God wanted.

When we start something new, we have to decide what we are trying to achieve, and how we will try to achieve it. This is not to be totally prescriptive, but it is about setting the envelope. We decide what we will do and what we won't. And this is important because, in the church at least, how we do things is often as important as what we do.

When we start a new piece of work, or as we continue with on-going projects, we need to ask, "does the way we are doing this support our aims?" Something to think about as we prepare for our Annual Church Meeting.

Clive

## **CHURCH STEWARDS**

We need some new church stewards. Tina, Clive and I have all been stewards for more than 6 years, which is meant to be the time-limit. I will be resigning as a church steward at the annual general meeting on 8th March, but I'll continue to 30th September if no-one comes forward to replace me, if the annual meeting wishes me to. The role of the church stewards is to work with the minister and members to establish/review our mission and work towards it, represent the church to the village, to the other churches in the village and to the circuit. You don't need a great deal of knowledge about how the Methodist church works, just a willingness to listen to the church, distil our views, work with the minister and be proactive in undertaking necessary tasks. In the past, we have had people take on just some elements of the steward role, a bit like a job share. The more stewards we have, the less work is involved for each person. Ideally, we will have six church stewards. The role of church stewards can include acting as vestry stewards but is separate.

Ultimately, if we don't have stewards, we will have to cease to meet as a church.

Please pray and ask God if serving as a church steward for a few years is part of your calling.

Martin Wallis

## **DANNY JAMES**

Danny passed away at home on Wednesday 18th February. We send our sympathy to Helen and to his family.

## **FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

TUES at 2.30 pm. On Zoom every other week

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

From March, we will be studying the book of Ruth. If you would like to join us, please contact Tina for the Zoom link. See the Calendar for accurate dates.

## **CRAFTIVISTS**

The Craftivists also featured in the Methodist Recorder for 6th February!

## **HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH**



Our March Messy Church will be on 21st March 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!

## **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. Consider coming along, or if you know anyone who would like to spend some time with us, spread the word. It's not just for Ladies.

Speakers/activities for March are as below.–

- 5<sup>th</sup> - Robert Johns talking about the Flittabus
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Ivor Mitchelmore
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Tim Haines
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Sheila Norris

## **CHANGE OF MINISTER**

The exact timing of Claudia's farewell service is currently under discussion in view of the number of possible Circuit Services in July.

Our new minister, Revd. Doreen Koffie-Williams, will be welcomed to the circuit on 6th September with a service at the Square at 6pm. Again, it would be good to have a good representation from Harlington.

## MARCH DIARY

- 1st** 1000 Morning Service led by Martin Wallis—Come & See  
1500 *PBGS*  
1800 Evening Service led by Rev Joanne Sherwood
- 2nd 1900 TFT Band  
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 3rd 1430 Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount—13  
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 4th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Drama*  
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 5th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 *Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G*  
1930 **WORSHIP CONSULTATION - ZOOM**
- 6th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT
- 7th 1345 *Outside Booking—Emily Hancock*
- 8th** 1000 Morning Service led by—Christina Salmon  
1500 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 9th 1400 Crafternoon Tea  
1900 TFT Band
- 10th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
1930 *Outside Booking - PBGS*  
2000 **PASTORAL CTTE MTNG**
- 11th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Drama*  
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 12th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 *Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G*
- 13th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT
- 14th 1600 Cinema Club
- 15th** 1000 **Mothering Sunday** with Rev Claudia Lupi inc Communion  
1500 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 16th 2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 17th 1430 Fellowship Group—Zoom—Ruth—session 1  
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
- 2 2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*

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- 18th 1545 *Outside Booking—Child Drama*  
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 19th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 *Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G*
- 20th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT
- 21st 1345 *Outside Booking—Emily Hancock*  
1600 Messy Church
- 22nd** 1000 Morning Service, led by Sheila Norris  
1500 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 23rd 1400 Crafternoon Tea  
1900 TFT Band
- 24th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
2000 *Outside Booking PBGS*
- 25th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Drama*  
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 26th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 *Gestalt Theatre—Emily T*
- 27th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT
- 28th 1000 Coffee Morning  
1345 *Outside Booking—Emily Hancock*
- 29th** 1000 Morning service led by Peter Baker  
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
- 30th 1900 TFT Band  
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 31st 1430 Fellowship Group—Zoom—Ruth—session 2  
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
2000 *Outside Booking PBGS*

## **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

## OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—MARCH

01st	1500	1700	PBGS
02nd	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
03rd	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
04th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1830	2000	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
05th	1930	2030	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
07th	1345	1445	Emily Hancock—EXTRA
08th	1500	1700	PBGS
10th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
11th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
12th	1830	1930	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
14th	1500	1730	Cinema Club
15th	1500	1700	PBGS
16th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
17th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
18th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
19th	1830	1930	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
21st	1345	1445	Emily Hancock—EXTRA
	1600	1800	Messy Church
22nd	1500	1700	PBGS
24th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
25th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
26th	1830	1930	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
28th	1345	1445	Emily Hancock—EXTRA
29th	1500	1700	PBGS
30th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
31st	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS

## **PRAYER TIME**

At the last 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  
Things we do outside the church building  
Meet the Village follow up  
New Project team  
The Circuit  
Stewards  
Our new minister



## **ACTION FOR CHILDREN**

I have just received material for 2026 from AFC and they are again doing the **COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS** for Lent, BUT in a different format from previous years.

It starts between 18-22 FEBRUARY and runs for 7 weeks.

We are currently trying to make the material easily available to everyone.

## **NEW 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

## **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING**

Our Annual Church Meeting will take place on Sunday 8th March 2026, after the morning service, starting at about 11.30 am.

It will also be on Zoom, as an extension of our usual Service Zoom.

The request for material for the Annual Report is already out, so please write your pieces soon so that we can all read the report in advance.

This meeting is also when Church Stewards are elected.

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

For some years, we have had a Prayer Chain – a number of people who agree to pray, when asked, for direct, personal requests. This is in addition to anything or anyone else you may be praying for in your own prayer time.

These requests remain confidential to the members of the chain, with the possible exception of requests involving a member of the church, when it may be appropriate to also inform our minister.

However, it is a long time since the church was invited to say whether they want to join the prayer chain. This is, therefore, an invitation to anyone who is a regular member of our congregation to be a member of the prayer chain as well.

If you would like to be included in the Prayer Chain, please let Tina know.

## **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 12

## **REVIEW OF LAST MONTH**

January finished with our United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which was a good and very united service. We hosted, and provided readers, Life Church put the service together, using the material from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, and St. Mary's provided the preacher. Claudia led the "Come and See" and Steve and Cathy made a great job of the "Local Arrangements" the next week. Our Charity this year is the Paynter Home in Sri Lanka, and Steve talked about it with pictures and videos, while Cathy prepared the rest of the service and talked about her time in Sri Lanka just after the hurricane. We also had the usual morning and evening communion services, led by Claudia.

Bright Hour has met most weeks.

626 has met with the usual activities, including Hama Beads (sorry if you have been finding them around) and pom-poms as well as the usual games.

TFT have been studying First Aid, and playing table tennis.

Messy Church hasn't met yet because February this year is odd.

Open The Book continues at both Sundon and Harlington.

Crafternoon Tea had a project "Swap Shop" where you could bring in things you decided you didn't want and find things other people had brought in that you did want. Surplus went to the Barnardo's shop in Amptill who have a monthly craft sale.

January Coffee Drop-in was a bit quiet.

Film Club showed Bad Guys 2

After much consideration, we went ahead with Pancake Parlour. As it was in half-term, we had less passing traffic, but around £80 was raised for the project.



## **REFURBISHMENT**

We had an extra-ordinary church council on 21st January and agreed to the replacement of the water heater, instant boiler and dishwasher in the kitchen. We will also be looking to fix the lighting in the halls with the help of a grant that we will be applying for from the circuit.

## **HOLIDAY CLUB**

We are planning to run the holiday club again this year from Monday 20 July to Friday 24 July. We are looking for people to help in the kitchen from about 10am to 2pm to organise refreshments and to prepare sandwiches for all the volunteers. If you are interested in helping on any of the days, please speak to Cathy Sheehan or Emily Thornton-Greet. If you are interested in helping with the children, please speak to Emily.

## **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 re-introduce 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**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>STEWARD</b>	<b>FLOWERS</b>
01 March	am Tina pm Tina	Helen
08 March	tba	
15 March	Steve T-G	Lesley
22 March	Cathy	
29 March	Madeline	

**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.**

## **ISSUE #63**

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **APRIL 2026** edition will be **THU 19TH MARCH** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 26th March 2026. Th. It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

## **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

**NOTICES** Details of items for the Notices should be delivered to Trevor Caveney at [the.caveney@ntlworld.com](mailto:the.caveney@ntlworld.com) AND [t315485@gmail.com](mailto:t315485@gmail.com)  
**DEADLINE** for inclusion in April 2026 edition is THU 19th March  
**CHURCH BOOKING DIARY**

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

**Prayer Chain number:** Dorothy Preston 874841

**Church Website:** [www.harlingtonmethodistchurch.uk](http://www.harlingtonmethodistchurch.uk)

**Church YouTube channel:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR\\_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw](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.'*