

Harlington Methodist Monthly

**SEPTEMBER
2025**

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Hi Folks,

I'm sitting here quite late at night wondering what I want to say in this letter. As is frequently the case, no-one else has written one, and I feel something should be said to the church. What to say?

If you had a chance to say something to the wide group of people who receive the monthly, what would you say? What do you think is the most important thing that the people need to read?

It is said that the role of a preacher is to comfort the disturbed and to disturb the comfortable. To me that gives two messages, one of challenge and the other of comfort.

The challenges in our church are clear. We have a declining membership base with the same amount of, or more, things that need to be done. The circuit staff are reducing, we are getting older, we have an expanding village to reach. And increasingly the world, particularly the more youthful part, doesn't want to know. What shall we do? Shall we just throw up our hand in horror?

But this is where the words of comfort come in. We too often feel that the problem is ours, we have to find the solution and implement it on our own. That's not the case.

My father used to quote the following poem. I remember the first verse, and have found the whole thing thanks to the internet.

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He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,
He sendeth more strength when the labours increase;
To added affliction He addeth His mercy;
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

Fear not that thy need shall exceed His provision,
Our God ever yearns His resources to share;
Lean hard on the arm everlasting, availing;
The Father both thee and thy load will upbear.

His love has no limit; His grace has no measure.
His power has no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus,
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again!

Annie Johnson Flint

2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you: for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Clive

WORKSPACE

This is the New Project Team's second project, taken from Hazel's pre-Covid idea. It is intended for people who work from home and who occasionally want to work with other people.

Every Friday in September, at the Harlington Methodist Church, we will provide a free of charge working space for people in Harlington using both the downstairs and upstairs halls. Quiet spaces and meeting rooms can be booked in advance.

After a successful mini trial in June, we will now extend the trial for September. Each Friday the workspace will be available from 9am to 5pm and the dates are:

Friday 5 September 2025

Friday 12 September 2025

Friday 19 September 2025

Friday 26 September 2025

HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH



Our next Messy Church will be on 20th September 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 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, 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!

MEET THE VILLAGE

When you move somewhere new it can be difficult to get to know the neighbours or find out what is going on. "Meet the Village" is intended to provide an opportunity for just that. Using our Coffee Drop-in at the end of September as a base to provide refreshments, we have invited village organisations to showcase what they do. We will specially invite people on the new estates, but all villagers are invited to come.

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.

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.

SEPTEMBER DIARY

- 1st
- 2nd 1030 *Outside Booking—Emily—Dancers*
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 3rd 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
- 4th 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount 6
- 5th 0900 WorkSpace Internet Cafe
1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 6th **WEDDING**
- 7th** 1000 Morning Service Come and See led by Tina and Clive
1500 NATIONAL EMERGENCY PHONE ALERT TEST
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
1800 Evening Service led by Rev. Patrick Kandeh, inc Communion
- 8th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 9th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 10th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 11th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
1930 Worship Consultation—ZOOM
- 12th 0900 WorkSpace Internet Cafe
1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 13th 0900 **BIKE 'N HIKE**—Church open
1500 Cinema Club
- 14th** 1000 Morning Service led by Sheila Norris
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
- 15th
- 16th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 17th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*

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- 18th 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount 7
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 19th 0900 WorkSpace Internet Café
1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 20th 1600 Messy Church
- 21st** 1000 Morning Service led by Rev. Claudia Lupi, inc. Communion
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
- 22nd 1400 Crafternoon Tea
2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 23rd 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 24th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 25th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 26th **PRAYER WEEKEND**
0900 WorkSpace Internet Cafe
1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 27th **PRAYER WEEKEND**
1000 Coffee Morning
- 28th** **PRAYER WEEKEND**
1000 United Morning Service
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
- 29th
- 30th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP—SPEAKERS FOR SEPTEMBER

- 11th Sarah Bashorun from Action for Children talking about her work for the Family Support Team
- 18th Joanne Sherwood
- 25th Claudia

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—SEPTEMBER

02nd	1030	1300	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
03rd	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
05th	0900	1700	Internet Cafe
08th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
09th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
10th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1830	1930	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
11th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
12th	0900	1700	Internet Café
13th	0900	1600	Bike 'n Hike
	1600	1900	Cinema Club
16th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
17th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1830	1930	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
18th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
19th	0900	1700	Internet Café
20th	1600	1800	Messy Church
22nd	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley Band
23rd	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
24th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1830	1930	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
25th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
26th	0900	1700	Internet Cafe
30th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
26th—28th PRAYER WEEKEND			

REVIEW OF LAST MONTH

The end of July and all of August are a holiday period where not much happens. Most weekly meetings take a break, as do Film Club and Messy Church.

Sunday services took place during this time, although we could not stream the last week in July or the first week in August. Holidays also affected our ability to circulate the actual services, so we have often had to use “The Vine” so that those who read the service have something, although this doesn’t help those who like to be able to read along with a streamed service because it helps them follow it. (We do often use prayers from “The Vine” when the preacher hasn’t supplied them!) One notable service was the Local Arrangements led by Hazel and Nicky, when they looked at “Women in the Bible”. This was on 17th August and is available to view on our YouTube channel for those who wish.

However, while TFT did not meet at the church, some of them took part in an activity camp with other BB companies and enjoyed lots of activities such as climbing, raft-building, canoeing and mountain biking. This include their wheel-chair using member who was able to join everything but the mountain bikes!



Also at the end of July Emily ran the first Church Holiday Club, assisted by



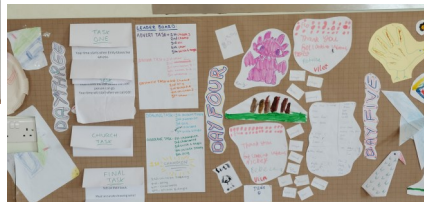
a number of other church members and some teenagers. From the comments I

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have seen this was extremely successful. 30 + children attended and had a good time



although one session had to be relocated to allow for the funeral. Examples of their work can be seen in the church and lower hall. This was the first activity organised with the New Project Group.

As mentioned above, the funeral of John Inwards took place on Tuesday 22nd July.

Crafternoon Tea continued through this period, meeting at the end of July and twice in August.

Outside direct Church activities, Church members were quite successful at the Village Show, despite, or even because of, its earlier date. A number won individual classes and we had a cup winner.





Save The Date!

Thanksgiving Service

Celebrating 230 years of
Methodism in Eaton Bray
1795 - 2025

Please Join Us For Our Final Service!

Venue: Eaton Bray Methodist Church,
Totternhoe Rd, Eaton Bray, LU6 2BD

Date: Sunday 28th September

Time: 1:30pm Refreshments and
heritage display

3:30pm Service



ROTAS

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS	
07 September	am pm Tina	Wedding Flowers	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.
14 September	John	Madeline	
21 September	Steve TG	Christine & Alan Parfitt	
28 September	Madeline	Doreen	

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 4th September.

ISSUE #57

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **OCT** edition will be **THU 18TH 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 25th September 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.



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.

PRAYER WEEKEND

This will take place from Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th September. Further information will follow.

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

The annual church meeting proposed that we all pray for the future of the Church. It was proposed that we all try to do it at the same time at 8am and 8pm but from wherever we happen to be at the time.

Here are some suggestions for prayer topics.:

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

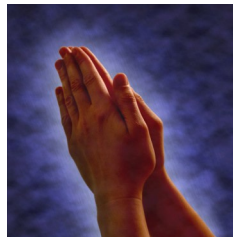
Things we do outside the church building

Summer Camp follow up

New Project team

WorkSpace

Meet the Village



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 August edition is **THU 18th SEPTEMBER**

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.'