

# Harlington Methodist Monthly

**JANUARY  
2026**

**Minister: Rev. Claudia Lupi**

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# Happy New Year

Hi all,

The end of one year and the start of a new one is an occasion when many of us pause for reflection. We look back over the past year and review what has happened, possibly comparing it with what our expectations had been, maybe considering all the unexpected things that happened in the year.

Sometimes we make New Year's Resolutions, promises to ourselves of the things we will do better in future. I've definitely given up there as mine rarely see out January, and never live long enough to be embedded in my normal way of life.

Perhaps the best use of such reflection would be to review the past year and look at the ways and times that God has been with us in our lives. We may wish to consider the surprise interventions when God has been very real to us in what has happened.

It can be a good time for the church to reflect as well. I write a review of the month in the monthly and, of course, we do an annual review at our Annual Church Meeting later in the year. Last year we started to look at new projects

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and we are also starting to look at some of the necessary church refurbishment in the kitchen and with the lighting.

From September we will have a new minister, which will bring further alterations to the way we do things and possibly to the things we do. The new housing will have also moved further and we hope that our interaction with it, and the role we have started to develop as a meeting place between old and expanding village will be bearing fruit of one kind or another.

No doubt there will be other changes that happen in the course of this year which, as yet, we can't imagine.

I wish you all a New Year in which you can know God with you in both the surprising and the every day.

God bless you,

Clive

### **FINANCE & PROPERTY**

Are you interested in serving on the Finance & Property Committee. We meet 3 times a year and report to Church Council. We monitor the finances and upkeep of the property. We have had one volunteer, but there is room for more. Please speak to Cathy if you are interested

We also still need one or more Property Stewards. A lot of the job involves getting people in to do work, and opening up for them. You don't have to do the actual jobs!

### **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 January are as below. – NO MEETING ON 01JAN

08<sup>th</sup> - Pam Greener

15<sup>th</sup> - John Enojo

22<sup>th</sup> - Rose Agnew

29th - Rev. Claudia Lupi

## **HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH**



Our next Messy Church will be on 17th January 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, please let Clive or Tina know so that we can arrange things most efficiently. If you stay to the end you get tea!

## **FELLOWSHIP GROUPS—ALL CHANGE**

The two Thursday Fellowship groups are changing.

The 10.30 am. Group has now **CLOSED**

At 2.30 pm. On Zoom is changing to **TUESDAY**. Commencing on **TUE 06 JAN** and then every other week. Contact Tina (874481) for dates and details of the joining link.

## **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

## **POSTCARDS**

I have sorted out my old postcards and I'm planning to send them to Mission Aviation Fellowship who will sort & sell them. If you have any postcards you don't want I could add them to my parcel. Cathy

## **THE FOOD BANK**

COVID meant we had to stop collecting for the food bank. Should we bring it back? Cathy is willing to take the food to the food bank if enough people are interested. Please let Cathy know if you think we should start collecting again.

## **JANUARY DIARY**

- 1st 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
2nd  
3rd  
**4th** 1000 Morning Service led by Sheila Norris “Come and See”  
1800 Evening Service led by Rev Joanne Sherwood, inc Communion  
5th *2000 Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*  
6th 1430 Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 11  
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
*2000 Outside Booking - PBGS*  
7th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*  
*1930 Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*  
8th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G  
9th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT  
10th 1500 Cinema Club  
**11th** 1000 Morning Service led by Worship Group  
*1500 Outside Booking - PBGS*  
12th 1400 Crafternoon Tea  
13th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
*2000 Outside Booking - PBGS*  
14th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*  
*1930 Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*  
15th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G  
16th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT  
17th 1600 Messy Church  
**18th** 1000 Covenant Service led by Rev Claudia Lupi, inc Communion  
*1500 Outside Booking - PBGS*  
19th *2000 Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*  
20th 1430 Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 12  
1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
*2000 Outside Booking - PBGS*  
21st 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*

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- 1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*  
1930 F&P CTTE METNG—ZOOM
- 22nd 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 23rd 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT
- 24th
- 25th** 1000 United Service, Week of Prayer For Christian Unity  
1500 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 26th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 27th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*  
2000 *Outside Booking PBGS*
- 28th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*  
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 29th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship  
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 30th 1830 626 Club  
2015 TFT
- 31st **1600 TFT—OVERNIGHT BOOKING**

### **ZOOM FELLOWSHIP**

As you will have seen from Trevor's note about Fellowship Groups, we are making changes to the Thursday afternoon group from January. This has been prompted by a suggestion that a different day might enable others to attend, who are not free to do so on a Thursday afternoon.

So, from 6<sup>th</sup> January, the Thursday afternoon fellowship group will become the Tuesday afternoon group! We will continue to meet fortnightly on Zoom, starting each session at 2.30pm, and lasting for approximately two hours. We spend about an hour to an hour and a half in study – currently we have three more sessions to go on the Sermon on the Mount – and then about half an hour on prayer concerns, and prayers.

If you are interested in joining this group, please let me know and I will send you the link, and the study material.

Tina

874481

christinasalmon60@gmail.com

### **THE NEW PROJECT COMMITTEE (NOT NAMED YET)**

This was formed to look at how we can serve our community. We have had three events so far with different levels of success. Workspace, Get to know your village and Holiday Club. If you are interested in joining the team please speak to Cathy

### **OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—JANUARY**

05th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
06th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
07th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1830	2000	Emily T-G —Adult Dance
08th	1930	2030	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
10th	1500	1730	Cinema Club
11th	1500	1700	PBGS
13th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
14th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
15th	1830	1930	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
17th	1600	1800	Messy Church
18th	1500	1700	PBGS
20th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
21st	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
20th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
25th	1500	1700	PBGS
26th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
27th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
28th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
31st	1600		TFT OVERNIGHT BOOKING

## **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 **2025**.

## **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

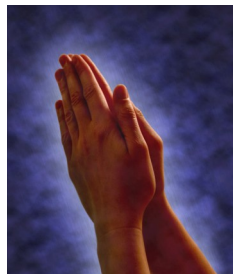
Things we do outside the church building

Meet the Village follow up

New Project team

The Circuit

Our new minister



## **WIFI**

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

## **REVIEW OF LAST MONTH**

December is always a busy month in the Church. Most of our groups had special activities of one kind or another.

The last service in November, the first Sunday in Advent, was led by Rev. Tim Haines. Our December Come and See was a reflection on the readings. Our evening service was replaced by a Circuit Advent Carol Service. This was a well attended service, also visible on Zoom and YouTube, preceded by a café craft and meeting time. That led to the excitement of the fire alarm going off in the service. Some lessons learnt there.

Our Family Carol Service, which included the ever popular puppets with 626 and Messy Church children, and readings by members of TFT, was also well attended and enjoyed. The service on 21st December was a Communion Service led by our minister.

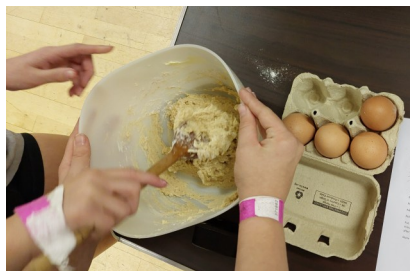
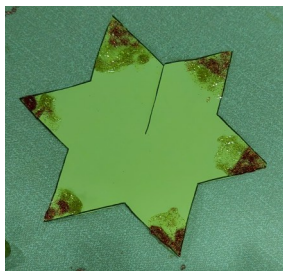


The Christmas day service was led by our own local preachers and worship leader, and included an “Open the Book” style reading. This was another well attended service.

626 Club met for the first two weeks in December, including running the Puppet Workshop in preparation for carols. However, we are finding it harder to get parents to put their names on the necessary rota for us to maintain adult numbers for safeguarding.



TFT have met, with the band playing at Centre Parcs on Christmas Eve as is now a tradition.



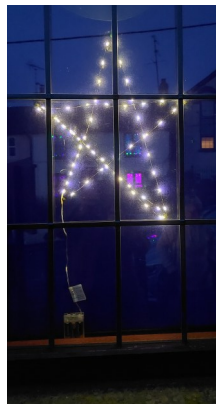
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Messy Church was on a Christmas theme, focusing this year on the wise men. This included lots of stars, with star shaped biscuits. We also found time to have a lit-up star behind the blue screen at the back of the church.

We led a carol service for the Harlington Pre-school, and had 20 2 and 3 year olds come and sing some simple Christmas songs and decorate some stars with glitter glue. Do you know how long that takes to dry when used by enthusiastic pre-school children? We do now!



Open the book teams led two carol services, our now usual service in the church for the Harlington Lower School, organised by Hazel, and a new request of a service at the school in Sundon, run with an augmented team from our church.

Film Club showed Arthur Christmas.

Bright Hour had a visit from the Lower School choir, amongst other activities. Crafternoon Tea has met during the month.

Members were also involved with the Salvation Army Carols outside the shops.



## **ISSUE #61**

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **FEBRUARY 2026** edition will be **THU 15TH JANUARY** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 22nd January 2026, It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

## **FLOWER ROTA—2026**

Doreen has kindly agreed to manage the flower rota again for 2026 and a copy is on the notice board in the hallway.

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.



## **A POEM FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

'Twas the day after Christmas and all through the town  
The trees were thrown out and the streamers pulled down.  
The cheap toys were broken, mince pies had gone stale,  
And all had forgotten the true Christmas tale.

Will we all abandon the story we've heard,  
Put it back with the tree lights and think it's absurd,  
That God should come to us and not as a king,  
But come as a baby, the real Christmas thing?

Will we still keep Christmas within and without?  
Will we spread the story of what it's about?  
Will we let people know of the baby who came?  
Or will we forget, let the world stay the same?

Let us head on with Christmas deep in our soul,  
Know that love is for sharing or else it's not whole.  
As we go through the year keep us focussed on you  
So the love that is Christmas lasts all the year through.

## **HOME BAKING—INGREDIENTS**

Thank you to those who have already provided ingredients list for home baked items.

If you usually make something – the same something particularly – and can produce a list of the ingredients, I can laminate it, so that you don't have to worry about producing it each month.

If we provide such lists – just the ingredients, not the recipes – they can live in a drawer in the kitchen, and be retrieved when necessary. I have been asked previously by several people if home-baked items were (a) gluten-free, or (b) suitable for vegetarians or vegans.

Bought items have to have a list of ingredients on the packaging, so all we have to do for those things is make sure the packaging is available to read – don't throw it away until after the contents have been consumed!

Tina

## **ROTAS**

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS
04 January	am pm	
11 January	Cathy	Janet and John Rutherford
18 January	Steve TG	
25 January	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.**

## **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

**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 February 2026 edition is THU 15th JAN  
**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)

## **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.'*