



LINK



STONELEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Revd. Emma Aikins Fd.A; DipHE

June 2019 – July 2019



Stoneleigh Crescent, Stoneleigh,
Epsom, Surrey KT19 0RT
www.stoneleighmethodist.church

Ecclesiastes 8:17

“No-one can discover everything God is doing under the sun!”

BUT HERE'S A TASTER

Worship in the Philippines...

In March, when Graham visited the Philippines, he was invited to accompany a colleague to her church for Sunday morning service – a very different experience to our church as you can imagine.

They have something like 15,000 members, 12 pastors and



associates, and 8 regular services on Sundays, and much teaching going on besides.

Everyone was very friendly – The service was in two languages, half in English and half in Tagalog. The theme for the day was the straight way of God. Worship included a band and a dance troupe,

The photo shows Graham with his colleague and her famous Filipino actress friend.

Graham reports “It was great to worship in a different culture.”

Good Friday



On Good Friday, I went along to the Walk of Witness in Epsom. It was the usual inspiring event – the only difference this year was that we had to spread out at the end, to get round the road works.

However, we had a good time of

worship in the market place, with some rousing Easter Hymns, followed by coffee at Epsom Methodist Church. It was a great way to start the Easter weekend.



Vivienne

From the Minister

Dear Friends, The period between Lent and Easter enabled us to focus on our journey with Christ as I believe many (across the world) were fasting, praying, reading, walking and engaging in many more challenges which became the spiritual drive and focus.

At the time of writing, children and students who had put a lot of work into revision have been writing their exams and looking forward to the finishing of it and then relax.

We now are hoping and looking forward to a good summer which again means sorting out the gardens; decorating and checking out on summer breaks etc.

Life is a cycle of activities; the same as I personally reflect on faith and deeds.

As Christians we never stop and there is a sense in our daily lives where we connect and be in tune with our Lord. It's like checking our fences and putting in a nail or two to make it stronger and stop it from collapsing; enabling it to withstand strong wind.

An image that, when Jesus is nailed into our lives, when we include him into our structure, we stand in a better position from unexpected pressures in life. An image that can help us to trust in Jesus Christ as again we are reminded from the words of the hymn written by Priscilla Owens

*"We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
Fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love".*

With every blessing *Emma*

Conquest Art are holding their annual open afternoon on Monday 17th June from 2 - 4 in the Link room. As always, we hope that you will come along and see the work of our artists and enjoy a chat with tea and cake.

These open afternoons are really happy occasions so please come and join us. *Lesley, Jeananne, Kate, Chris and Elaine.*

Minutes: Stoneleigh Methodist Church Annual Church Meeting

28 April 2019

There were 24 members present, and a further 9 members sent their apologies.

The meeting opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last Annual Church Meeting were agreed, and signed by Emma. There was one matter arising –

Mission Statement. Helen expressed concern about the Mission Statement and asked that once a decision was voted on and agreed, it should stand and not be voted on again. Emma explained that it came to her notice after the vote last year that there were two versions circulating, and the church had to agree on the correct version. Any item voted on at the ACM today (28th April 2019) will not be taken elsewhere or changed.

Reports

Reports from all organisations had been circulated prior to the meeting and were taken as read.

Jeananne stated that in her report she said Stewards had done 6 years; this should be 7.

Copies of all reports submitted for this year are available from Denise Gould.

In relation to Finance & Property Colin wished it to be noted that our thanks go to Robin for all his work at Church – the meeting concurred.

Acknowledgement of Sunday Stewards.

The church thanked those who have taken on these duties, and commented that the system was working well.

Re-Invitation of Officers & Church Council Members

Tom has agreed to be a Circuit Steward. His appointment will go to Church Council for approval. Sally B has agreed to be our 'Churches Together in Ewell' rep. Vivienne and Helen should be added to the list of co-ordinators for the Link magazine. Ken has asked to come off the Finance & Property Committee, and the Leadership Team would like two more members. Brenda offered to be on Church Council.

The amended list of all nominations was then presented to the meeting, proposed by Pat P, seconded by Lesley –agreed by the meeting.

Grants Local Charity donations*

Church Council had agreed that a proportion of our giving should go to local charities to be voted on at the Annual Church Meeting. After reading reports on five nominated charities, the members voted as follows:

Epsom & Ewell Refugee Network 8

Home start Epsom & Ewell 7

Age Concern Epsom & Ewell 13

Mary Frances Trust 7

Stoneleigh Community Library 8

As we had agreed to share the £350 available between two charities, and there was a tie for second place, it was decided to give Age Concern £150 and Epsom & Ewell Refugee Network and Stoneleigh Community Library £100 each.

Red Box. Emma mentioned the Red Box scheme and wondered if there would be any interest from groups using the premises. Members liked the idea but, as we were already donating similar items to the Food Bank and Whitechapel, would it be necessary and where would collection go so everyone could access it.

Benevolence Fund. The issue of transport of our less ambulant members was discussed and enquiries were to be made as to the viability of a taxi service to collect and return. Vivienne agreed to make some phone calls to obtain prices. How the service would work is to be further considered, as is payment for the service.

Plaques for courtyard benches. Lesley reported that a suggestion had been made to put plaques in memory of past members on these benches. After discussion, various problems were seen, not least who should be commemorated.

Date of next meeting (TBA)

The meeting finished at 1:15pm with the Rededication of Church Officers.

**There is more information about the chosen charities in the 'News Sheet' section of this magazine.....ed.*



Sudbury School

I am pleased to share that the council for Sudbury in Ghana has approved the planning application to build the Library and Computer Centre. A copy of the approved permit has been sent to me from Ghana. This exciting news gives us a focus now.

God bless Emma

News from the Pews:

When my husband joined Epsom Male Voice Choir in the mid-90s, I became their tea lady. At that time there were just about 20 members, now there are 60! They sing all over the country and on the Continent too. This May they are at the Epsom Playhouse and Krakow in Poland. So every Wednesday night for the past 20 odd years I went to their rehearsals to serve them tea, coffee and cakes. Now I've reached a ripe old age I decided it was time to retire. On my last night the entire choir sang an anthem to me and I was presented with a multi-paged card where everyone had written a message. They also gave me a beautiful crystal vase on which was engraved "Pat, thanks from all your friends at EMVC", a huge bouquet of flowers and a very generous M & S voucher. I was completely overwhelmed – what a send-off! *Pat S*



Call to Worship from the service 12th May

When our hearts are full of joy, we praise the Lord Jesus,
When our hearts are sad, we look to Him
When we need a friend, we rely on Him
Wherever we are, however we feel, we trust in Him,
Come and worship the Lord Jesus in this place as His people today.
(from Roots)

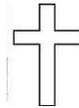
In response to this submission Ernie wrote

**When listening to a 'Call to Worship' we (or is it just me) hear, and take in, a line at a time. Seeing the full text enables me to comprehend and appreciate the full message. Ernie*

I wonder what others think? Helen

Prayers submitted by Hazel

Start with my heart, Lord,
And fill it with every good thing:
Loving kindness for friend and stranger,
Compassion and patience for those who would do me harm.
May I walk in faith, live in peace,
speak in truth and act in grace.
And may I take my place alongside all those who heed
your call to make our world
a fairer, kinder, more peaceful place to be.
May we be reservoirs of all that you hold dear
and channels through which your transforming love may flow. *Amen.*
Yvonne Williams, Pastoral Visitor,
Northallerton Methodist Church.



Lord Jesus, you call each one of us to follow you,
to be your disciples and to make disciples.
You enable us to live out that discipleship as we seek
to transform the lives of those whom we meet
and the communities to which we belong.
You inspire us to be agents of change
and to seize the moment to proclaim your love
and to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
You challenge us to live every day for you.
May we be open to new ways
And strengthened through your power.
Amen.
Paul Davis Lancashire District Chair.

CONTACTS

Bookings

020 8393 2155

Church Pay Phone

020 8393 9743

Receive, O Lord, every heart that
desires to love you.
Fill every mouth that longs to praise
you
and strengthen every hand that seeks
to serve you;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Francois Fenelon (1651-1715)

Prayer used in Word in time 12/5/19

**If you would like an item to be in
“The Link” please send it to**

Vivienne Ridgway
vivienne@ridgworld.com

**Articles for inclusion in the next
LINK should be with Vivienne by
July10th**

*The right to edit or omit articles is reserved to
SMC, The Minister and Stewards*

*The views expressed in this magazine are not
necessarily those of SMC as a whole*

Services

2 nd June	MHA Sunday	Holy Communion	Revd. Emma Aikins
9 th June		Parade Service	Deacon Dawn Canham
16 th June		Morning Worship	Brenda Cannon
23 rd June		Local Arrangement	
30 th June		Memorial Service	Revd. Emma Aikins
7 th July		Morning Service	Valerie Ashcroft
14 th July		Holy Communion	Revd. Emma Aikins
21 st July		Morning Worship	Richard Graham
28 th July		Morning Worship	Revd. Emma Aikins

Rotas

	<u>Stewards</u>	<u>Welcome</u>	<u>Sound/Proj</u>
2 nd June	Val and Sally	Ken & Brenda	Tom
9 th June	Jeananne and Tom	Pat S	Norma J
16 th June	Marion & Ernie	Ruth and Christine	Pat P
23 rd June	Lesley and Jeananne	Catherine	Tom
30 th June	Jeananne & Norma A	Jeff & Doris	Ken
7 th July	Denise and Val	Pat S	Tom
14 th July	Jeananne and Debbie	Ken & Brenda	Catherine
21 st July	Lesley and Sally	Jeff & Doris	Robin
28 th July	Jeananne, Barbara and Jim	Norma A	Tom

Tuesday Fellowship – 2.30pm

Please feel free to come along to Fellowship at any time,
there will always be a warm welcome.

4 th June	Revd. Paul Timmis
11 th June	Tom Turner – a walk with pictures
18 th June	Revd. Emma Aikins
25 th June	An afternoon with Denise
2 nd July	T.B.A.
9 th July	Movie Afternoon – NOTE START TIME 2.00 P.M.
16 th July	Paula Smith – Through the Roof Charity
23 rd July	Colin & Pat's Norwegian Travels
30 th July	Strawberry Tea at Barbara's



We are pleased to report that Bob Chappell (B.Ed. 1966-70) has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the New Year 2019 Honours List.



Bob and his daughters at the ceremony

The BEM is a British medal awarded for meritorious civil or military service of recognition by the crown.

Most recently Bob has been team manager of the England senior men's basketball team, but his basketball career has also included being team manager of the Great Britain basketball team at six World University Games, and the England U18 team at four European Championships. Many coaching courses ran by Bob Chappell over a 25 year period led to the development of UK coaches/basketball officials.

At present, he is chair and administrator of Surrey Schools Basketball which necessitates organising competitions for approximately thirty schools.

In 2005 Bob Chappell was installed as an Honorary Life President of the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA, which is now BUCS-British Universities and Colleges Association). In 2008, he was also appointed as an Honorary Fellow of Brunel University for his contribution to basketball and for his academic work in sport sciences.



More News from the Pews

Christian Aid.

Jim originally agreed to organise Christian Aid collections for one year, and is now about to start his 20th year.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to arrange door to door collectors (Christian Aid are aware of this and are looking at a different method) and various other factors have caused him to reconsider this post, and this year will definitely be his last.

He states that perhaps a different approach is needed.

A Wedding.

Norma J is very happy to announce that her daughter, Louisa, will be marrying Alistair on Thursday 25th July at 4pm at Stoneleigh Methodist Church. They hope you can join them in church, and afterwards, for refreshments in the Link Room



Steven and Catherine are pleased to announce that they are to be grandparents for the first time.

Patrick and Felicity are having a baby in October - they were surprised but pleased.

Things should be reasonably settled by the time of the planned wedding in June 2020



Next Film Clubs:

12th June Bohemian Rhapsody

7pm for 7.05 start

3rd July Mary Poppins returns

7pm for 7.15 start



Next 'Meet the Neighbours' - 21st September 2019

Make a note in your diaries

From the News Sheets

28th April

Missing (but we know where it went!), the silver birch tree in the car park has been removed (with Epsom Council's consent as it had a Tree Preservation Order on it) due to its rather poor condition – it will be replaced at the end of the year by an alternative to be chosen by Church members from a short-list of five options provided by the Council. Meanwhile our woodturning neighbour has sections of the trunk to recycle.

Robin

5th May 2019

Fire at Rembrandt Court. As many of you may be aware there was a serious fire in Stoneleigh on Saturday night and six families have lost their homes and everything in them. A 'drop in' on Sunday morning at St Johns for the local community to give gifts, and were inundated with toiletries and items to offer the families.

These families are going to need ongoing financial help for a long while.

There is a 'Just giving' page set up too and it can be found by typing in 'Stoneleigh Fire' The Auriol and Stoneleigh Residents Association Facebook page also has information. *Paula – Churches together in Ewell*

12th May 2019

Local Charity Support. Church Council on 28th April agreed to provide financial donations to three local charities nominated by members. The charities chosen this year are:

a) Age Concern Epsom & Ewell (ACEE) are a forward thinking, energetic, local, independent charity (they are not part of Age UK) supporting the elderly in the borough providing Information & Advice, Home Visiting, a varied social inclusion programme, Medical Transport, Foot & hearing aid clinic, IT support & education and DIY services.

They also have an afternoon tea party here at SMC one Sunday afternoon a month.

They provide their services with the help of over 270 volunteers. As an independent charity they receive no statutory funds and rely entirely on fundraising and the support from local businesses and community groups to provide our services.

b) Epsom & Ewell Refugee Network is an enthusiastic group of local volunteers committed to the common goal of helping refugees and asylum seekers who find themselves in this area.

They aim to befriend and support people struggling with the challenges of a new country and culture with little understanding of the language. They do this by offering help with housing, medical needs and the difficulties of bureaucracy. They also set up social groups where people can meet and share their experiences to support and help each other.

There will be a talk by their representative at our service on 23rd June.

c) Stoneleigh Community Library is open five days a week and has been a marvellous resource for the local community, old and young, for 53 years. It is now run solely by volunteers and managed by Friends of Stoneleigh Library. Their charitable objects are twofold. Firstly, to ensure that Stoneleigh has a lending library for the benefit of local people and, secondly, for the library to be a vibrant community space and community hub for all in the area, whether they borrow books or not.

What's on at Stoneleigh Methodist Church: unless otherwise specified, contact 020 8393 2155, or use our website contact form (stoneleighmethodist.church/contact)

Badminton - Monday morning 11am-12.30pm

Conquest Art - Monday afternoon contact 020 8393 4116.

Slimming - Monday evening contact 020 8224 1626 or
<https://www.slimwiththepinks.com>.

Keep Fit - Tuesday morning contact 020 8224 1626 or
<https://www.slimwiththepinks.com>.

Tuesday Fellowship –Term-time Tuesday pm 2:30-4:00pm.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts - Tuesday evening

Knit & Natter - 2nd & 4th Wednesday 10 -12 noon

Ewell Court WI - 1st Wednesday afternoon of the month
. contact 020 8393 3031.

Badminton - Wednesday afternoon 1.30-3.00pm
contact 020 8393 3725

Film Club - occasional Wednesdays evenings,
see posters for more detail

Badminton - Wednesday evening 7:45-9:15pm
contact 020 8393 9779

Carers and Toddlers - Thursday morning 10am-11.30am.

Brownies & Guides - Thursday evening

Pilates - Thursday evening contact 07921 706597
or www.just-pilates.uk.com.

Table Tennis - Friday afternoon.

Rainbows - Friday afternoon

Age Concern Afternoon Tea - monthly 2nd Sunday 2.30 – 4.45pm
contact 01372 732456 <https://ageconcernepsom.org.uk>.

Note that some of these activities are run by our church, and some by outside organisations, but all will welcome new attenders.

Good Friday was greeted solemnly and with reverence at SMC with a moving service, during the course of which Emma placed various items on a crimson cloth which was also used “*emblematically*” draped over the cross.

Picture by Emma



Spring Harvest



we go ready and able to serve others, at home and around the world, in the name of Jesus”.

If anyone wonders what Spring Harvest is, this is a statement from their website. “Spring Harvest aims to create space for all people to encounter God, to be confident in their faith and to see transformation in lives and communities. It’s an event where everyone is valued and cared for, and where the church is supported and resourced. This with the aim that



Back in the late 90s when I was a Lay worker, it was one of the annual “church trips” I loved organising and taking a number of the junior church to. It is spiritually fulfilling, it has down time opportunities to use for free some of the Butlin’s facilities such as the swimming pool, rides etc. This year some familiar

faces came along. Can you spot them?

Emma



in our villages, towns & cities

BOURNE HALL
GARDENS
KT17 1UF

Free Family Fun For ALL Ages

Live Music and Inspiring Speakers sharing
stories of Hope in our Community

Sunday 23rd June 2-5pm

Bouncy Castle - Pamper & Well-being Zone -
Tea Tent - Crafts And Games



www.ctewell.org.uk



Hope - Epsom and Ewell & PrayerTree



Goodbye Silver Birch – see story Page10 "From the News Sheets. Picture by Robin