



SORRY – We are closed again due to Covid - *but we are always open on-line*

Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 24 January 2021

10:30am: Morning Worship led by **Valerie Ashcroft**

You can join our Service today online or by telephone – details in the Service header

Prayers

Please pray for Valerie here today and Emma at Ruxley, for our Stewards, for others within the Church and beyond who continue to work tirelessly for the benefit of all, and for the continued health of the National Health Service staff and all our other key workers.

Please remember Martin and Ian in your prayers for healing and strength.

Please pray also for those of our Church family who are unwell or finding their mobility limited and consider whether they might welcome a call from friends.

*“Good things come to those who **believe**, better things come to those who are **patient**, and the best things come to those who **don’t give up**.” Unknown*

Notices

Christine Williams. On behalf of Martin and Ian Williams, I confirm that Christine's funeral service will be at the Randall's Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Wednesday, 27th January, at 3:30pm. The Order of Service is appended to this NewsSheet.

Donations in memory of Christine may be made to the Whitechapel Mission at memorygiving.com/christinewilliams1, or by cheque payable to 'Whitechapel Mission' and sent to 212 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ. Charity Registered Number 227905

Please make a note at the back of the cheque that it is in memory of Christine Williams.



Minister's Report

Gratitude. Since the lockdown from March last year, we all have continued to receive the weekly newsletter and I would specially want to thank Jeananne and Robin for seeing to this. It really has enabled members to keep in touch with what has been going on especially reading 'around the trolley'.

So many members have kept in touch by phone. Pat, you have done splendidly in encouraging and talking through with some of the members to learn how to join in service via Zoom. And thanks again to Richard for enabling us to keep in touch and above all using his data for live streaming. I applaud those who work behind closed doors on behalf of the church as a fellowship with one another.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge Jim as he has now resigned as a Christian Aid rep after notifying the Annual Church Meeting on 28th April 2019 that the following year would be his last year as a

Collector/Organiser for Christian Aid. He has now resigned after working for this charity for over 20 years. He has enjoyed collecting door to door in his area of Briarwood Road over these years; meeting and chatting to the people there who recognised him as the Christian Aid collector. The Charity no longer collects on a door-to-door basis, and Jim is happy to say that he was one of the last to assist in this way.

Sabbatical. I am looking forward to beginning my sabbatical leave from the first week of February although the prospect of a charity work with Age Concern in Epsom is now looking very unlikely because of the current strict lockdown measures. I have not been in a bubble with the volunteers at the office and I have been contacted about it so I might have to be creative in what I do for the three months. I do have a couple of things I would be able to do for the period, also to mention that the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land has been cancelled too.

Rev Paul Timmis is the emergency clergy contact.

Sunday Live Streaming. Thank you to all who have contributed to the live streaming service.

My hope is that we will all keep well and be back to normal church life soon. *Emma*

The Licensing of the Rev Fiona Ellingham took place at Ruxley Church last Wednesday – you can watch the Service in its entirety on YouTube at [youtube.com/watch?v=0jN6r7p5FCM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jN6r7p5FCM).

In the picture, from left to right, are Rev Emma Cusack, Archdeacon Martin Breadmore (Archdeacon of Dorking), Robin & Rev Fiona Ellingham (new Ruxley Priest), Bishop Jo Bailey Wells (Bishop of Dorking), and Rev Rosemary Donovan (Area Dean).



Foodbank. Our needed items this week are (**all URGENT**): -

Long life sponge puddings

Powdered milk

Instant mash

Sugar (500g bags)

Pasta/beans with meat

Tinned vegetables (not pulses)

Rice Pudding

Washing powder & pods

Coffee

Shampoo & conditioner

Long life fruit juice

Pasta sauce

Breakfast Cereal (not porridge we have lots)

Loo roll

Nappies - size 5+, 6 and 6+ (not training pants / pull-ups etc)

Please only donate items from this list, we are at full capacity of all other items. Please either donate at the usual supermarket points, or bring donations to our car park (please wear a mask).

As we are in lockdown please limit your trips to us, and ensure you wear a mask and gloves when you drop off your donations to Generation Resource Centre, (Behind West Ewell Primary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG. Monday-Friday 9-2pm. Please note earlier close on all days. Please make sure your donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol. *Many thanks.*

Action for Children boxes are due for emptying again soon. I will be happy to come round to collect yours if you get in touch. *Jeananne.*



Around the Trolley

Hilda is recuperating in hospital – we send her our best wishes and prayers.

CTE News. You probably know that Rev Sue Cooke has left All Saints Church for pastures new. We know what a difference she made there. We wish her well, as well as the congregation as they go through the process of finding a new vicar. *Jenny (Ruxley Church)*

Post Box toppers – more spotted by Catherine on her exercise trips around the local area.



Penguins and Gnomes? Have you seen any whilst out and about?

I'm just wondering how long it will be before someone has the bright idea of knitting a complete head (slot for mouth, day plate for nose etc), or even full length with arms etc. *Robin*



Heating repairs in the Church. The heating system in the Church is now 65 years old, and some of you may have noticed the increasing number of valves and joints showing signs of minor leakage (green growths!). Now seems a good time to 'repair and replace', and our contractors are booked for the coming Monday and Tuesday for this work. Fingers crossed we do not encounter the same surprises as Martin Way did. *Robin*

We continue to collect on behalf of the Whitechapel Mission for the Homeless (outdoor clothing, toiletries etc) and Foodbank (500g bags of sugar, rice puddings and long life sponge puddings are URGENT) – see the full list at epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk/news/.

While there is little activity at the Church Centre, we are asking you to drop donations off in the porch of 198 Stoneleigh Park Road please; we will relocate them appropriately in a day or so. And we are still collecting plastic milk bottle tops too! Glad to report that barely a day passes by without yet another donation silently appearing in the porch! Thanks – *Robin*

Finally – mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin (5) and Ryan (3). The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were here, he would say 'let my brother have the first one, I can wait.'" Kevin turned to his younger brother and said "Ryan, you be Jesus!" *Anon*

Contact Details

Contact: Jeananne (07729 028850) - contact@stoneleighmethodist.church

All items for future NewsSheets – to news@stoneleighmethodist.church or phone 020 8393 2155

Our weekly News/Service sheet is delivered to every member, and also a YouTube or Zoom Sunday Service is available to those able to receive it, including by telephone. A DVD copy is also available – contact Jeananne.

The Ruxley/Stoneleigh Thursday Morning prayer (10:00am) by Zoom is open to all. It is followed by Chat Time and virtual tea/coffee from 10:45-11:15. Email to publicity@ruxley-church.org.uk by Tuesday for details and a copy of the liturgy too.

Morning Worship – Sunday 24 January, 10:30am

led by Valerie Ashcroft.

Watch live on YouTube: youtu.be/i6gf4YOTbI8 or join on Zoom: bit.ly/2J5jvY8

To join the Morning Service through Zoom go to bit.ly/2J5jvY8
and if prompted, use Meeting ID: **874 6773 6490**, and Passcode **702336**.

On your home phone, dial **020 3481 5240**, listen to the announcement and enter the meeting ID **874 6773 6490** followed by # (hash) when prompted; just # on its own when asked for your Participant ID; and when prompted, the passcode **702336** followed by #.

And that's it: you should be connected and are able to listen into the service.
Simply hang up when the service finishes, or whenever you want to leave.

To unmute yourself during the post-service chat time, press ***6**

Call to worship

Let us come from our everyday and our routine
and meet with God – the one who made us,
and who gave us our daily bread
through the week just gone.

A gathering prayer

Loving Lord,
thank you that you meet us where we are,
in the middle and muddle of our daily tasks.
Help us to hear your call,
to recognise your voice,
and to respond to your invitation
to be with you now.

Amen.

Hymn - In heavenly love abiding (StF 736)

1 In heavenly love abiding,
no change my heart shall fear;
and safe is such confiding,
for nothing changes here:
the storm may rage without me,
my heart may low be laid;
but God is round about me,
and can I be dismayed?

2 Wherever he may guide me,
no want shall turn me back;
my shepherd is beside me,
and nothing can I lack:
his wisdom ever waketh,
his sight is never dim;
he knows the way he taketh,
and I will walk with him.

3 Green pastures are before me,
which yet I have not seen;
bright skies will soon be o'er me,
where the dark clouds have been:
my hope I cannot measure,
my path to life is free;
my Saviour has my treasure,
and he will walk with me.

Anna Laetitia Waring (1823-1910)

A prayer of approach

The Lord called the disciples to be fishers of men.

He calls us to follow him, to trust in, rely on and have confidence in him.

Come, let us cast our nets into his waters and offer ourselves in worship and praise.

Amen.

A prayer of adoration

Response after each line:

we pour out our hearts in praise.

God of our salvation:

God of glory:

God our rock:
God our refuge:
God of mercy:
God of loving kindness:
God of power:
God who calls 'follow':
lead us where you would have us go.
Amen.

Prayers of penitence

A prayer of confession

Lord, just like Jonah, fear can prevent us from spreading your 'good news', or from responding to your call to do something different.

Fear of being unpopular.
Fear of being inadequate.
Fear of having to give up possessions.
Fear of losing people we love.
Fear of losing friendships.
Fear of hard life changes.
Fear of becoming different.

We are sorry, Lord, for giving in to our fears.
We're sorry for allowing social or family pressures to influence our decisions.
Help us to respond to your call without hesitation.

Help us to lean on you.
Help us to trust in you.
Help us to learn from you.
Help us to follow you.
Help us to spread the good news.
We ask in your powerful name.
Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

**Jesus, you came proclaiming the good news of God,
and endured the cross through love for us.**

Through your sacrifice, we are forgiven.

May we share this good news

– so that others will know your loving freedom in their lives.

Amen.

A prayer of praise and thanksgiving

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began by going a day’s journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Mark 1: 14-20

Jesus Announces the Good News

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Reflection

Prayers of Intercession

God of the past and of the future,
we bring to you in prayer those people and places on our hearts today:

We remember the parts of the world
where people are being killed, oppressed and displaced.
We pray especially for the people of Tigray in Ethiopia,
for the people of Darfur in the Sudan,
for the Uighur peoples in China.
May those in power leave behind violence and follow your call to peace.
The Lord hears our prayer.

Thanks be to God.

Lord Jesus, you called fisherman as they worked,
so we pray for fisherman today as they struggle to make a living.
We pray for all those who work to bring food to our table
as they struggle with the complexities of legislation and the challenges of extreme weather.
And may those who exploit or abuse leave behind cruelty and follow your call to
compassion.
The Lord hears our prayer

Thanks be to God

We pray for all young people caught up in and trapped by gang violence,
for those who have been stabbed or shot and for their families,
for those who live in fear of being attacked,
for those who have been imprisoned, who have committed murder – and for their families,
for all those who carry weapons.
Help them to leave behind despair and to follow your call to hope.
The Lord hears our prayer

Thanks be to God

We pray for the people of America as Joe Biden begins his term as President,
and for Kamala Harris and all those entrusted with the responsibility

of re-shaping and re-uniting the states that make up that vast nation,
so divided by race and politics and so ravaged by Covid.

Help them to leave behind ambition and to follow your call to serve.

The Lord hears our prayer

Thanks be to God

We pray for one another,

for our church families, our communities, and our loved ones,

for those who feel overwhelmed by the challenges of each day,

for those adapting to new ways of living,

for those who are ill,

for those close to death,

for those who are grieving.

Help us all to leave behind all that separates us from you and from one another

and to follow your call to trust and to love –

in Jesus' name.

The Lord hears our prayer

Thanks be to God

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever.

Amen.

Hymn Will you come and follow me? (StF 673)

- 1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown,
in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?
- 4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?
- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

*John L Bell (born 1949) and
Graham Maule (1958-2019)
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A sending out prayer

Loving Lord,
thank you that you meet us where we are,
in the middle and muddle of our daily lives.
Help us to hear your call,
to recognise your voice,
and to respond to your invitation
to follow you whatever we might be doing.
Amen.

In Memory of Christine Williams



1st January 1940 - 31st December 2020

Randalls Park Crematorium

Leatherhead

Wednesday 27th January 2021

3:30pm

Service officiated by Rev Emma Cusack

Order of Service

ENTRY MUSIC

Canon in D by Pachelbel

GATHERING

I am the resurrection, and the life says the Lord. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die”

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, whose love is everlasting, you can turn the shadow of death into the light of morning

Speak to us your gracious promise, that we may be lifted above our distress, into the light and peace of your presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We praise you for your goodness and mercy that followed Christine all the days of her life and for her faithfulness in the tasks to which you called her.

Deal graciously with those who mourn, that they may cast every care on you and know the consolation of your love, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll not want

Tune: Crimond

TRIBUTES

Read by Revd Emma Cusack

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:1-6, 27 (NIV)

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.
2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus the Way to the Father.

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Amen

REFLECTION

Revd. Emma Cusack

PRAYERS FOR ALL

Eternal God, in your wisdom and grace, you have given us joy through the life of your departed child Christine.

We thank you for Christine and for our memories of her.

We thank you that for Christine, the tribulations of this world are over and death is past and we pray that you will bring us with her to the joy of your perfect kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

You have made nothing in vain and you love all that you have made.

Look in tender mercy on your bereaved, Martin, Ian, we pray for her sister Sylvia and all relatives and friends of Christine. Help them by your grace to find in you their refuge and their strength.

Amen

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those

who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling

Tune: Blaenwern

COMMENDATION

ALL STAND PLEASE

Let us commend Christine to God.

Into your keeping O merciful God,
we commend your child, Christine Williams.

Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
into the joy of everlasting peace and into the glorious company of the saints
in light
through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMITTAL

Since the earthly life of Christine Williams has come to an end, we commit
her body to be cremated.

Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust
In sure and certain hope of the resurrection,
to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ
to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen**

BLESSING

God, grant to the living, grace
To the departed, rest,
To the world, peace
To us and all the faithful, life everlasting.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the son and the Holy Spirit,
be with us now and for ever. **Amen**

EXIT MUSIC

Nat King Cole – Smile



Donations in memory of Christine may be made via this link:

memorygiving.com/christinewilliams1

or a cheque payable to 'Whitechapel Mission'

212 Whitechapel Road,

London E1 1BJ

Charity Registered Number 227905

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the care of

Alan Greenwood & Sons

425 Kingston Road, Ewell,

Surrey KT19 0BT

Tel: 020 8786 7476

