

Services



March 2023

5th	10:30 am	Maggie Garton
	3:00 pm	Love Remembered Service
12th	10:30am	Sharon Wright
	6:30 pm	SCT service at St Michael's
19th	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Holy Communion)
26th	10:30 am	Mike Bowstead
	6:30 pm	Film night

For (nearly) up to the minute news, visit our new website:
www.sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

If you're on Facebook—then 'like' our Facebook pages—
 and join in the conversation -

Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church

And **Babes and Tots—Sandhurst**

And if you tweet, we're there too:

@SandYMethChurch

To get in touch email:

Stewards: steward@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Hall hire: halls@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Babes and Tots: babestots@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Weekly notices: notices@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Monthly Newsletter: newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Multimedia: multimedia@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Musicians: musicians@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Website: siteadmin@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Anything else: info@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church Newsletter March 2023



The Minister writes...

Dear friends

We have just started Lent—the period leading up to Easter in which we remember Jesus' fasting and temptation in the wilderness and are invited into a deeper relationship with God through prayer and abstinence. I had planned to write about this when I stumbled upon a reflection by Revd. J. John, Canon and Evangelist, which really struck a chord in me and I thought might be relevant and encouraging for you too. So forgive me for 'cheating' this month, but I'm going to share some of J. John's words with you. *

Thinking about the word 'Lent' caused J. John to reflect on its other meaning. He remarked that when you are *lent* something, you have it and can use it, but it doesn't really belong to you, and eventually you, as borrower, must return what you have borrowed to the lender. And because you don't own what you have been lent, you are responsible—and ultimately accountable—for how you use it.

Our lives are lent to us by God. He gives us life, breathing into us strength and our very existence on a daily basis. Therefore, we do not belong to ourselves but God and we should honour him with our bodies. (1 Cor. 6 v20)

These lives that we are lent will one day be taken back by God. Sometimes the date we are 'recalled' comes when we are ready and may even be a relief and release. Other times it may come when we are least expecting it and much earlier than hoped. Only God knows when the time will be but, as we are starkly reminded in the liturgy for Ash Wednesday, 'You are dust and to dust you shall return.' And then is added, almost as a therefore: 'Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.'

One day we will all give account to God for the lives we have been lent. When faced with criticism over some action, it's common for someone to protest, 'It's my life!' But, no, for none of us owns our life; we have only been lent it. So, how have we used the gifts and talents God has given us? As it says in Luke 12 v42-48 'From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.' And, lest we should think too complacently that all we have is of our own doing and making, St Paul reminds us: 'What do you have that you did not receive?' (1 Cor. 4 v7). Though God is gracious and loving and offers us forgiveness in Christ, yet it's still important that we ask ourselves, 'What have I done—or am I doing—with this life I have been lent?'

This Lent we can focus on saying particular prayers or skipping chocolate or



March Rotas

Flowers

5th	Marian L
12th	Wendy H
19th	Mary A
26th	Alison F

Cleaning

w/c 6th March	Sandra W and Wendy H
w/c 27th March	Alison F and Alison B

Coffee

5th	Joan T and Sandra W
12th	Alison F and Cynthia R
19th	Cynthia R and Ann H
26th	Phil T and Cynthia R

Lifts to Church on Sunday morning

If you require a lift to church and you live in Sandhurst or Yateley, please ring through the listed names. They are happy to give lifts if they are available. Please alternate between the names if using the service regularly.

Please do take advantage of this service—people really do want to help.

Yateley

Pam Hardy 01252 870468
Tricia Needes 01252 658350

Sandhurst

Graham Fradgley 01276 36631
Barbara Rush 01252 876051
Douglas Brown 01252 655419

Spiritual Development Group



The spiritual development group organise:

Regular Prayer meetings and evening Bible Study, every Tuesday evening Rejoice! (1st Tuesday)

Please join us
—or speak to Keg, Sharon or Sue for more details.

The Tuesday evening prayer group and bible study will continue to be on Zoom for now.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/2799549300?pwd=YjVCazFHR0NwZE50OEhaRzhMdm13UT09>
Meeting ID: 279 954 9300
Passcode: 3v25BE

This is the same link for Stewards meetings and Church Council.

See p10 for more information about the Lent study course which begins on 21st February.

March

2023

7th 2:30 pm 7:45 pm	Rejoice! Lent Study 3	Schoolroom Zoom
14th 7:45pm	Lent Study 4	Zoom
21st 7:45pm	Lent Study 5	Zoom
28th 7:45pm	Lent Study 6	Zoom

abstaining from social media or alcohol. But as we pray, may we remember that all we are and all we have has been lent to us by God to whom we are both accountable and beholden. This Lent, may we remember what God has given us and live accordingly, with gratitude to him and love for one another.

With every blessing,

Sharon

**I have adapted and shortened J. John's reflection for the purposes of this letter. To read it in full, follow this link:*

<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/on.lent.and.being.lent/139794.htm>

Maundy Thursday 6th April

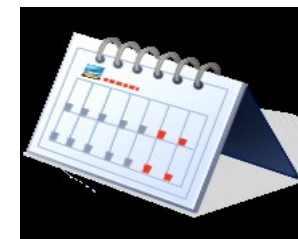
Tenebrae Service starting at 7.30pm Crowthorne Methodist Church

This year, instead of a Maundy Thursday supper and service we will be having a Tenebrae Service. 'Tenebrae' means 'darkness' and the service is characterised by the gradual extinguishing of candles until, at the end, the church is in darkness. The service includes the Passion readings, hymns and Holy Communion but not the sharing of a meal - so please eat before coming.

What's on?

March

1st: Wednesday housegroup
4th: Foundation Safeguarding Training Session
5th: Love remembered service
7th: Rejoice!
11th: Saturday Breakfast
16th: Thursday housegroup
23rd: Coffee morning
26th: Film night



April

2nd: Palm Sunday service, Messy Easter, Music and Meditation
6th: Maundy Thursday service (Crowthorne)
7th: Good Friday service, SCT service
9th: Easter Sunday service
29th: Coronation Barn Dance (St Michael's)

Saturday Breakfast

Saturday Breakfast **11th March 2023** 8.15 am for 8.30 am start at St George's Church Owlsmoor
Guest Speaker: Alan Lander talking about the charity Justice and Care.
All donations will go to this Charity that works to fight modern slavery.
'We empower individuals, families and communities impacted by modern slavery to live in freedom, we pursue those responsible for trafficking and create change at scale.'

Please sign up by March 5th

Upcoming services

Sunday 5th March 3pm Love Remembered Service

This is a gentle and reflective service at which we remember loved ones who are no longer with us. There is an opportunity to have names of loved ones read out and for you to light a candle in their memory.

If you would like someone's name to be read out, please let Sharon have the details. (You can have a name(s) read out even if you are unable to attend the service.)

Palm Sunday 2nd April 10.30am service of celebration and communion led by Sharon

Palm Sunday 3 - 4.30pm Messy Church Easter - please tell friends and family about this. It's always good to have lots of families attending. It's a wonderful outreach and lots of fun. Plenty of crafts, games and an interactive telling of the Easter story plus an Easter egg hunt in church and some Easter songs for children. Refreshments provided. Suitable for families with children (or grandchildren!) from tots to top juniors.

If you are able to help in any way, then please let Sandra W, Keg or Sharon know - the more help, the more we can do and the easier for everyone involved!

Palm Sunday 6pm St Michael's Church: Music and Meditation for the start of Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 6th April Crowthorne Methodist Church: Tenebrae Service 7.30pm.

This year, instead of a Maundy Thursday supper and service we will be having a Tenebrae Service. '*Tenebrae*' means '*darkness*' and the service is characterised by the gradual extinguishing of candles until, at the end, the church is in darkness. The service includes the Passion readings, hymns and Holy Communion but not the sharing of a meal - so please eat before coming.

Good Friday 10am Our Good Friday service will be led by our own Keg

Good Friday SCT service at The Meadows 12.45 - 1.15pm Please come and support this half hour service of songs and readings which is an act of witness to our community about the real meaning of Good Friday and Easter.

Easter Sunday 10.30am Our Easter morning service will be led by Christine Morgan

Film night

The next Film night is on the **4th Sunday in March—26th**

Do join us for fellowship and pizza (we order in)

The film will be chosen by Sharon :-)



Minister

Rev Sharon Gardner

minister@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk
01344 774967

Pastoral leader
Margaret Picken
pastoral@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Church Stewards—steward@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Karen Glossop	07934 144322	Senior Steward
Sandra Wooledge	01344 775177	
Heather Brown	01252 655419	
Matt Rowell	01344 775744	

House Fellowship groups providing a friendly platform for discussion ...

Thursday House Group (third Thursday)—at 15:00

Robert Godden, 11 Scotland Hill, Sandhurst. 01252 872503
Next meetings **Thursday March 16th.**

Wednesday House Group:

at Alison and Graham Fradgley's
3 Forbes Chase, Sandhurst

Next meeting **Wednesday 1st March** at Alison and Graham's.



Newsletter and Website

newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Contributions for the **April/May 2023** Newsletter (in church on Sunday 26th March 2023 or website) should be with Sue Truby by **Sunday March 19th 2023**

Contributions should either be:
Handed to Sue at Church,
Emailed to: newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk
Or posted to 58 Crowthorne Road, Sandhurst GU47 9EP (01252 879236)



Vinyl Records Wanted

I am looking for vinyl records from pop to punk, soul to funk and reggae to dance: Singles (7 & 12") and LPs. Happy to collect, will make a donation to church funds in return.

Contact: Margaret Picken: 01252 879802 or Ian: ianpicken@yahoo.co.uk / 07737 003891

St. Michael & All Angels, Sandhurst

COME....STRUT YOUR STUFF

AT OUR

CORONATION BARN DANCE

On Saturday 29th April at 6.30pm
at the Pastoral Centre, Lower Church Rd

Dancing to the Aldbrinkham Band

Tickets: Adult £10 U16s £3 U5s Free
Family Ticket (2 A & up to 3C) £25

Available through the Parish Office
Or the social committee
Or call 01252-871881

Please bring your own nibbles, drinks & glasses

Rejoice!



If you enjoy a good sing, chat & refreshments, why not come and join us at Rejoice. It's usually on the 1st Tuesday.

We sing a mixture of old favourites and more modern worship songs which are mostly chosen by those present. It also gives us the opportunity to learn new songs particularly ones we have struggled with on Sundays!

The next Rejoice! will be on **7th March** and will be led by Mary.

Circuit Sponsored Hymn Sing—report



Last Saturday some seven or eight of us from Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church joined with members of other churches in the Circuit, for a Sponsored Hymn sing.

There were about fifty people present and we were admirably lead by Maggie Garton at Crowthorne church. She gave us a historic background to most of the hymns and sorted out the running order of all the hymns.

We sang a total of thirty favourite hymns picked by all the churches represented, with a good cross-section of ancient and modern hymns.

We started with Born in Song, followed by The Lord's My Shepherd which was the first of six, picked by our own church. We ended the first half with a favourite of mine, You shall go out with Joy, also picked by our church.

This was followed by a beautiful spread of both savoury and sweet foods together with refreshments that helped soothe the throat. We resumed the second half with Great is Thy Faithfulness, followed by Dear Lord and Father of Mankind, another choice of our own church.

For those that are interested the other three hymns our church picked were

Thine be The Glory, Be Thou my Vision and finally I vow to thee my Country.

We ended the afternoon with And Can It Be, and everyone agreed it had been a truly enjoyable and uplifting way to spend an afternoon which we would be happy to participate in again, with a different set of favourite hymns.

So to cap it all, we raised a total of £195 towards church funds.



Opportunity

A rare opportunity has arisen to join the Communion Stewards at Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church.

The role is not too demanding as you would normally only volunteer on 4 Sundays a year (once a quarter) and arrive 30 minutes before the service starts and finish about 30 minutes after the service ends.

Full training, mentoring and support will be given but it's not too arduous or rocket science.
You too can be a star!

To find out more please contact Wilf Hardy on wjhscot@aol.com

Flower rota

For various reasons, there are a number of Sundays available on the flower rota.

If you would like to take one of these, please let me know.

You can buy a bunch of flowers to put in a vase, or flowers for an arrangement (Oasis is always available), or make a donation (via the stewards) and one of the silk flower arrangements will be used that Sunday.

Gil F has some tips:

It is tradition in our church not to use just red and white flowers—if you particularly want to use red and white, then please also include flowers of another colour.

Because the wall behind the communion table is black, some flower colours (dark red, blue or purple—receding) don't show up very well unless very carefully surrounded by light foliage. It is probably better to use white, yellow, orange, pink—bright (advancing) colours.

It is lovely to be able to give flowers to members of the congregation—a ministry of flowers.

Dates available:

2023

April—2nd, 30th

August—13th

Thanks. Sue T



Please note:

Please use the front entrance to the church when arranging the flowers if there are any hirers in the hall. The oasis and pot will be either in church or in the vestry once flowers have been distributed on a Sunday.

Thanks

sandhurst
baptist church

Bringing Christ and His love to our communities

Could you help SOL?

We would welcome more helpers to support
Speakers of Other Languages
to improve their use of

ENGLISH.

We meet at
Sandhurst Baptist Church
10.00am-11.30am on Thursdays
during school terms.

'Classes'

- adult learners, mostly Nepalese
- very informal activities
- not aimed at qualifications

Helpers

- need to be fluent in English
- do not need knowledge of other languages
- need no teaching qualifications
- do need to be supportive and adaptable

Offers of help on a regular or occasional basis are welcome.

For more details,
please call **01252 879 088**



Distraction Thefts



Thames Valley Police is issuing advice to local residents following reported distraction thefts across the Bracknell and Wokingham areas.

Offenders appear to be targeting vulnerable and elderly individuals using a number of distraction techniques:

- Approaching the victim carrying a clipboard to engage with them and talk about charity work and donations. The criminal then tries to hug or kiss the victim in order to distract them and obtain their watch or wallet.
- Distracting victims at ATMs and car park payment machines by engaging them in conversation, asking questions or telling them they have dropped something. They then take their card and subsequently use this to make purchases or withdraw cash.
- Distracting victims when loading shopping into their car by asking them to sign something, look at a map or claiming someone has damaged their car and asking them to look. While the victim is distracted, the offender takes their handbag or purse. These offenders often work in teams with one watching the victim inputting their pin in the store or supermarket and another distracting them in the car park.
- Purse dipping at supermarkets. Purses have been taken from handbags left on trolleys or by dipping into an open handbag.

Please be alert and aware of anyone approaching you or near you when you are at an ATM, a payment machine or in a supermarket car park. Being aware of your surroundings and not distracted makes it harder for people to take advantage. Offenders may watch as you key in your PIN so please be vigilant. Always cover your PIN and keep an eye on your card at all times. If someone taps you on the shoulder or tries to speak to you, just ignore them.

If you see or suspect that a crime is taking place, please call the police on 999. If you have any information regarding these offences or witness any suspicious activity, please use our online reporting form at www.thamesvalley.police.uk or call 101. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on free phone 0800 555 111.

Thank you

Karen Collins

(Police, Neighbourhood Administrator, Bracknell & Wokingham)

My friend Diane



We met at a Tupperware party in 1971 and our two girls, Gillian and Rachel became friends. They both took ballet classes at the Methodist church and went to New Scotland School. Diane and I also became friends and with the girls at Sunday School I joined this church. Diane and I were members of David and Maureen Jowett's house group and we both worked at New Scotland School. Diane in the kitchen and me in the playground.

Diane was always experimenting with new tastes for jams and jellies using local fruit and of course I got to taste them! She was, as you all know, an exemplary cook, properly trained and qualified and I held my breath when they came to dinner! Her mother was a milliner and Diane was an accomplished seamstress making many of the children's clothes. As a foursome we once visited Bletchley Park and

sat in the wartime desks pretending to be children. As time passed the children grew up, married and had children of their own.

Bill and Diane sat with Richard after his triple bypass and Richard and I sat with Bill when Diane went to hospital. We could talk about anything and everything and share our troubles. I will miss her.

Gil

Accessible Parking in Church Car Park

Whilst the church has two signs on the garage wall indicating spaces for disabled parking, there are quite a few people in our congregation who struggle with mobility and two spaces are not really sufficient on a Sunday morning.

Therefore it would be very helpful if spaces which are nearest to the church are left free for those who need them most. It is also important to remember that not every disability is visible plus if someone hasn't got a blue badge themselves they may still be giving a lift to someone who needs an accessible space.

Thank you,
Sharon & the stewards

Recycling for Good Causes

In the vestibule you will notice a largish box which advertises 'Recycling for good causes.'

Please donate your unwanted items from the following list. There are some leaflets available which tell you about what can be recycled but basically it is: Unwanted jewellery - including damaged items and costume jewellery and watches

Coins and currency - any age and UK and foreign both acceptable

Mobile phones, cameras, video cameras and gadgets including ipods, tablets but NOT laptops.

Stamps - single, loose and presentation packs.

The box contains a sack. When the sack is full Recycling for Good Causes will collect it and the church will receive 75% of the proceeds from the sale of the contents within about 8 weeks of collection. (As a guide, at High Cross they received a cheque for £80 - so it is definitely worth doing this!)

Thanks,
Sharon

Reminder of more recycling

And of course you can still recycle medication blister packs, Pringle tubes, bras (any condition), pens (working or not) and Ferrero Rocher boxes (probably empty!) in the other box in the foyer!

Thanks Sue T

Dear Friends

Please forgive this email but I really wanted you to know about a show that I am performing in.

It is a very rarely performed Gilbert and Sullivan musical "The Grand Duke".

This is a brand new "Classic Hollywood" inspired production, full of brilliant tunes. It tells the topsy turvy story of a theatrical company taking over the Government!

It is being directed by a multi award winning creative team of Duncan Hamilton and Bridget Bigger who have a very well deserved reputation for highly professional, original, ingenious and highly entertaining productions.

Tickets can be purchased online or drop me an email and I will get your tickets.

I look forward to seeing you in our audience.

Regards, Martin Radford
(martin.radford@ntlworld.com)

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Sandhurst

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College Town, GU47 0QA

01276 33241



www.camberleyanddistrict.co.uk

Babes and Tots

Wednesday mornings 10:30 to 12:00



If you know of anyone in the community with a young baby or child, please invite them to attend.

Small friendly group, all welcome, mums, dads, grandparents.

Book via the FaceBook page please: Babes and Tots—Sandhurst.

Sandhurst Churches together

12th March 2023 at St George's

2nd April at St Michael's

14th May at the Baptist Church

11th June at Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church

9th July at St Michael's

Sunday Coffee Rota Volunteers—urgent

We now have even fewer people on the Coffee Rota and it is becoming much more difficult to find enough volunteers to fill out the rota.



If you feel you are able to help it would be very much appreciated.

Please contact me for more details.

Alison Fradgley 01276 36631 alison@gfradgley.com

In memoriam plaques



I am delighted to be able to tell you that **Camberley and District Funeral Directors** (Yorktown Road, College Town) are now sponsoring our memorial plaques.

Just talk to Sue T about the words you'd like and they will provide the plaque for free! Doug W has been attaching them to the seats once done. Thanks Doug!
A donation to the church of £50 is suggested but not required.

THE SAVOY SINGERS PRESENT

GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S

THE GRAND DUKE

(OR THE STATUTORY DUEL)

REGISTERED
CHARITY 273603



CAMBERLEY THEATRE

8 - 11 MARCH 2023 - 7.30PM

PLUS - SATURDAY MATINEE - 2.30PM

TICKETS: TEL 01276 707600

WWW.CAMBERLEYTHEATRE.CO.UK

WWW.SAVOYSINGERS.ORG.UK



Coffee mornings

Coffee Mornings every **fourth Thursday** in the month. Note the change from being on the second Thursday.

We have started a monthly Coffee Morning at church for members and visitors. The first one was held in January and we had a dozen people attend. It was a lovely opportunity to catch up over coffee and cakes. These coffee mornings are now up and running again.

Do put the date in your diary and pop along if you are free between 10:30 and 12 midday.

The next coffee mornings will be on Thursday 23rd March



Lent Study 2023

Topic: Jesus' Final Week

Start date: Tuesday 21st February

(This is actually Shrove Tuesday so officially a day before Lent begins, but experience has taught me that we almost always lose a week for one reason or another so I hope by beginning a little early we will manage to complete 6 sessions by Easter!)

Time: 7.45pm

Session 1 Triumphal Entry
Session 2 Clearing the Temple
Session 3 The Last Supper
Session 4 Betrayal and Arrest
Session 5 Trial
Session 6 Crucifixion

There is a 7th session: Resurrection which we will look at *after* Easter to conclude our study.

Study booklets: We will be using Cindy Bunch's 'Jesus' Final Week' as the basis for our study and there is an accompanying booklet. These retail new at £6.99 but I have obtained good quality second hand copies for £3.50 each. If you would like a printed copy, please let me know. Or speak to me about an online copy (F.O.C.).

Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/2799549300?pwd=YjVCazFHR0NwZE50OEhaRzhMdm13UT09>

Meeting ID: 279 954 9300

Passcode: 3v25BE

Crowthorne Foodbank



Current shortages -

Custard (none in stock), Pulses (Chickpeas and kidney beans—none in stock), Rice pudding (tinned), Jam, Carton juice.

Washing up liquid (none in stock), Bleach (none in stock), Fabric softener, Toilet Rolls, Anti bacterial spray.

Men's Deodorant, Men's shower gel, Women's deodorant, Adult toothbrushes (single packets).

Note: the foodbank update their needs weekly here: Crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Note—they currently have plenty of coffee, porridge, pasta, pasta sauce, general toiletries, sanitary products, soup.

Please do consider the food bank when you do your food shopping. There are collection points in most of the major supermarkets. E.g. Tesco, The Meadows—please only place Tesco bought items in these bins. Co-op, the High Street, Crowthorne.

Foundation Safeguarding Training

The Circuit Safeguarding Officer is organising a Training Session on Saturday, **4th March 2023** at Crowthorne Methodist Church at 9.15 for a 9.30 prompt start and will finish at 12.30 with a short break for refreshments.

This Course is for those people who have just taken on a position within the Church as well as those who have had positions for a while as this needs to be renewed every four years. Those people who have done the Advanced Course do not need to retake the Foundation Course – I believe there will be a separate Refresher Course for them. I am not in Church on Sunday as I am away but please contact me if you have any questions. These places are on a first come first served basis and there are only 25 places available.

Alison Fradgley alison@gfradgley.com 01276-36631 07811-870183