

Services—October 2023



Services

October

1st	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner
8th (Harvest)	10:30 am	Sharon Wright
	6:30 pm	SCT service at St Michael's
15th	10:30am	Rev M Thomason (Holy Communion)
22nd	10:30 am	Local Arrangement
29th (dedication of Link to Hope she boxes)	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner

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

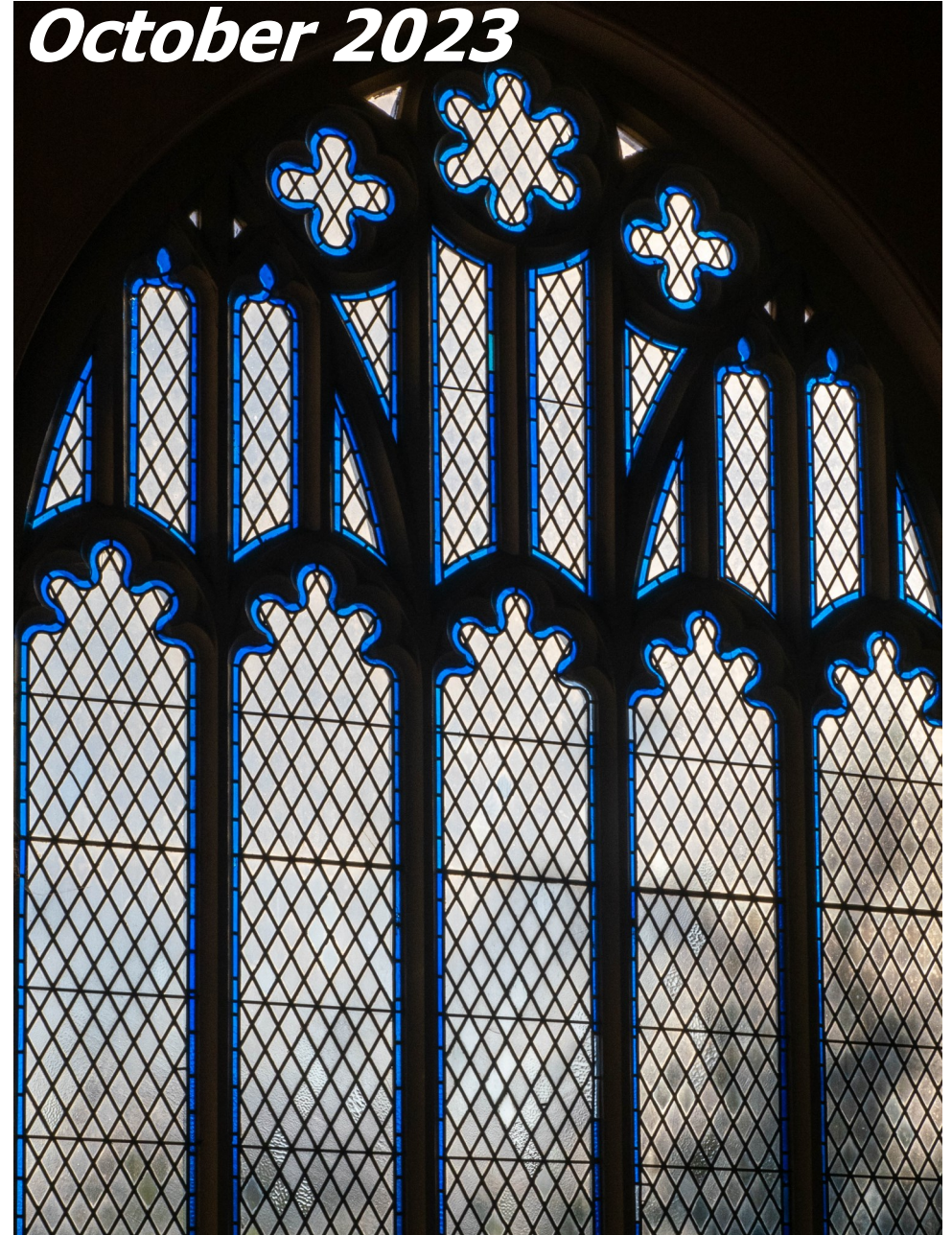
Multimedia: multimedia@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Musicians: musicians@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Website: siteadmin@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Anything else: info@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church October 2023



The minister writes...

Where are we heading?

Where is God leading us?

These are a couple of important questions that we need to ask ourselves as a church. To be honest, they are the kind of questions we should be asking on a regular basis, but we all get caught up in the busyness of 'doing' and it can be hard to find the time to just *pause* and ask:

'Lord, are we still walking the path you have planned for us?
Is our vision the same as yours?
What would you have us keep doing?
What might you want us to set aside?'

We know that the Church in this country (indeed in the West generally) is struggling. Struggling to stay relevant to the communities around it. Struggling with declining numbers and ageing congregations so that finding people to do the jobs that need doing becomes increasingly difficult. Struggling to be outward-looking and not inwardly focused.

We **know** that God is not irrelevant and that the message of his love in Jesus is timeless and one that needs to be heard more than ever before.

That IS the Missio Dei but how can we be a part of his mission when we have limited resources and our efforts are occupied with just sustaining the status quo....?

There *are* churches that buck this trend of decline.

What is it that they do that other churches don't?
Is there something we could learn from them?
What excites us about our faith?
What is so important to us that we want to share it?
Is God 'right up there' in that list?

Since it is difficult to find the time and opportunity to get together to discuss these questions and to pray about them, I have organised that I will be with you twice during October – once at the beginning and once at the end of the month. My grateful thanks to Revd Mike Thomason who has offered to take the Communion service (15th October) which frees me up to do something a little bit different during those services.

Don't worry, they will still be acts of worship. We will still have Bible readings, we will still sing and we will definitely pray. What I hope we will also do is give some space for God to speak, that we will talk with each other and listen to each other's ideas.

I believe it will make a *great deal* of difference to the fruit that will come from those services if we have prayed about them beforehand. Whether you are able to be there for both services, for one or even none, your prayers are essential.

October Rotas

Flowers

October

1st	-
8th (Harvest)	Muriel (Heather)
15th	Heather
22nd	Sandra F
29th	Matt and Helen

Cleaning

w/c 2/10/23	Alison F and Alison B
w/c 23/10/23	Sandra F and Mary A

Coffee

October

1st	Alison F and Cynthia R
8th (Harvest)	Cynthia R and Ann H
15th	Dawn O and Cynthia R
22nd	Dawn O and Cynthia R
29th	Cynthia R and Margaret H

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 Needses 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?](https://zoom.us/j/2799549300?pwd=YjVCazFHR0NwZE50OEhaRzhMdm13UT09)
pwd=YjVCazFHR0NwZE50OEhaRzhMdm13UT09
Meeting ID: 279 954 9300
Passcode: 3v25BE

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

October

2023

3rd 2:30 pm 8pm	Not Rejoice! Stewards meeting	Zoom
10th 2:30 pm 7:45pm 8.00pm	Rejoice! Prayer group Bible study	Schoolroom Zoom
17th 7:45pm 8.00pm	-	
24th 7:45pm 8.00pm	Prayer group Bible study	Zoom
31st 7:45pm 8.00pm	Prayer group Bible study	Zoom

Please pray that God will speak to each of us. Pray that we may discern his path for us as a church and that he will provide the resources we need to follow it. Pray that he will give us wisdom, courage (that's important – especially if we have to change anything!) faith and strength.

The faith of Christians before us built our church. Over the years it has grown and prospered and been blessed. Maybe the 'glory days' are behind us but that doesn't mean God has finished with Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church yet! However, remember Psalm 127 v. 1: 'Unless the Lord builds the house, they who labour in vain who build it.'

Let us ensure that all that we do, all that we labour for, yearn for, pray for, has God at its very heart.

In prayer and blessing,

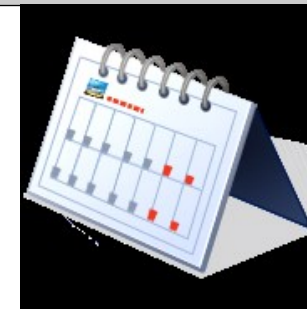
Sharon



What's on?

October

3rd: Stewards meeting, webinar on Artificial Intelligence
8th: Harvest service followed by lunch, SCT service at St Michael's
10th: Rejoice!
11th: Wednesday Housegroup
16th: Church council
19th: Thursday Housegroup
22nd: Film night
26th: Coffee morning
29th: Link to Hope shoe boxes dedication



Advance notice for December

2nd: Christmas Fair
15th: Christmas meal
16th: Christingle 3-4:30
17th: Carol service

Summer BBQ at The Manse



The barbeque for SYMC took place at The Manse on 26th August. It was lovely to see families and to catch up with guests from CMC.

A highlight of the afternoon was Sharon emerging from the kitchen with a candle-lit cake to celebrate recent birthdays of Margaret, Muriel and Sonia - a total of 283 years! Many congratulations to them.



There was delicious food provided by Sharon and Mike. A special mention must be made of the sausages beautifully cooked by Mike on the barbeque. Other lovely food was brought along by visitors.



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 meeting

Thursday October 19th—venue TBA

Wednesday House Group:

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

at Alison and Graham's. Next meeting will be **Wednesday 11th October.**



Newsletter and Website

newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Contributions for the **November 2023** Newsletter (in church on Sunday 29th September 2023 or website) should be with Sue Truby by **Sunday October 22nd 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

50s/60s 70s 80s 90s

Thank you!

Dance Soul Rock Chart Disco Blues Punk Reggae

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

Action for Children



Collection Boxes 2023

After a bit of a delay with the collection, I finally managed to bank £332.92 in cash and cheques for Action for Children. However, well done to everybody—although this figure is down on last year I realise the reasons for this. I am sure Action for Children are very grateful for your efforts.

Retiring Collection 9th July

This year your donations for the Action for Children retiring collection raised £85.00 of which £45.00 was gift aided. This was more than last year so was a very good contribution.

Thank you for all your generosity.

Alison F

We were also offered kimchi which brought back memories of my few months working in South Korea over 40 years ago!!

We were very lucky with the weather and managed to finish eating before showers arrived later on. Some of us then chatted inside, accompanied by further refreshments.

A big thank-you must go to Sharon and Mike for their wonderful hospitality and all that they did to make the event so enjoyable and such a big success.

Michael Bader

Film night

The next Film night is on the **4th Sunday - October 22nd** and will be held in the church.

Do join us for fellowship and pizza (we order in) at around 18:30.

The film will be chosen by Monica



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 or an alternative 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

October—1st, November 19th, 26th, December 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

2024

January—28th' March—31st (Easter Sunday), April—7th, 28th, June—16th, August—11th

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

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.

Camberley & District funeral directors

Here for you when
you need us most

- 24 hour service
- Free bereavement advice and support
- Pre-paid inflation proof funeral plans
- Wide choice of memorials for burials

Sandhurst

337 Yorktown Road,
College Town, GU47 0QA

01276 33241



www.camberleyanddistrict.co.uk

The Leprosy Mission



**NEW COZY
AUTUMN
GIFTS!**

Get ready for cozy nights in with the perfect British companion—a hot water bottle and a cuppa!

Enter the new autumn season with a hot cup of tea and plenty of products to help you get snug.

From hot water bottles, mugs and woolly socks—you can add an extra touch of comfort and joy to a loved one's tea time.

Visit the Leprosy Mission shop www.theleprosymissionshop.com for more information.

Methodist Housing (MHA)

MHA (Methodist Housing) celebrated its 80th anniversary with a service at Wesley chapel, Harrogate in September. This prayer acknowledges how MHA, with the support of the Methodist Church, has enabled older people to live later life well.

Generous God, We thank you for the vision of Revd Walter Hall in founding MHA 80 years ago, for the commitment of the Methodist Conference to supporting this endeavour, for the work carried out across the decades since by countless staff and volunteers, and for the care that has been shown to so many people. We give thanks for the partnership between MHA and the Methodist Church, and for the dedication of MHA church and circuit representatives. Lord, continue to bless MHA, its staff, supporters and beneficiaries, and guide us all to grow in respect of and care for those in later life. (Abigail Ogier, Acting Head of Chaplaincy South, MHA—September 2023)

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.

Your Church needs you! - Calling all previous stewards and assistants!

We currently have a lot of gaps in the weekly Stewarding and Assistant Stewarding Duty rotas. If you are able to do any duties then please email me and I will give you the dates which need to be filled.

Please let me know what you can do - even if you can only open up on the day and be the Steward/Assistant, I am always happy to liaise with the preacher. The Team will even pay the offering into the Post Office, if necessary!

So please do consider doing a duty or two, it would really take the pressure off the current Stewarding Team.

Many thanks in advance for your help - Keg

Autumn Lecture Series 2023

These have been published in the Methodist Publishing website under the heading 'Features'. They look really interesting. Here is the link that takes you straight to them.

[Autumn Lecture Series 2023 - Here I Stand, I Can Do No Other - St Martin-in-the-Fields](#)

Here I Stand: Films that give voice to the voiceless
Monday **16th October** 7-8.30 pm

Here I Stand: Politics on the Edge
Monday **23rd October** 7-8.30 pm

Here I Stand: With God
Monday **30th October** 7-8.30 pm

Here I Stand: Death and Dying
Monday **6th November** 7-8.30 pm

Here I Stand: My Name is Why?
Monday **13th November** - 7-8.30 pm

Here I Stand: Women's advancement and role in tackling climate change
Monday **20th November** 7-8.30 pm

You can attend in person or you can join the webinar. See the web-site for joining details. Tickets are priced at £10 to help fund their educational programme, or free if £10 is too much.

You need to book on-line and can book as many or as little as you want.

Enjoy!
Keg

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

Coffee mornings

Coffee Mornings every **fourth Thursday** in the month.

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.

Coffee morning in October will be on Thursday 26th



Messy Harvest

There were lots of crafts and activities for the children to play with at the recent Messy Harvest session.

Crafts included Autumn wreaths, sowing seeds and colouring posters. The children could make cinnamon apple slices and tractor snacks (either sweet or savoury).

At the end of the session everyone went into church for some songs and a story.

Our next Messy Church will be focussed on Christmas.
Sandra W

Hotel Toiletries

Maggy and Colin Garton will be visiting the Whitechapel Mission in November and so here's a reminder to donate any hotel toiletries that you don't use whilst on holiday to this wonderful charity who help the homeless. Just give to a Steward or pop in the donation box in the vestibule.

Many thanks

Keg

Hatchlands Park

On 5th September, a group from SYMC visited Hatchlands Park, a National Trust estate east of Guildford.

Today the house is home to Alec Cobbe and includes his collection of keyboard instruments owned or played by famous composers such as Elgar, JC Bach and Chopin.

Before completing our tour, Mary played some pieces of music on a large chamber organ built in 1903. We (and other visitors) admired Mary's beautiful playing, especially on an unfamiliar instrument.

Thanks you so much, Mary, for organising this splendid visit.

Michael Bader



What do you think?

As usual we will be holding a Carol Service in December. This year it is on **Sunday December 17th at 10:30 a.m.** Make a note in your diary and remember to tell friends and family.

For many years we had a team put together the Order of Service for the Carol Service but in recent years it has fallen mainly to Alison Bone and Wilf Hardy. So, this year we thought we'd check with you if you think we should update anything. Last year's Order of Service is below so:

Bible Readings

These are chosen to tell the Nativity Story. Should any be replaced and if so by what?

Please advise.

Also, we try and choose a wide variety of readers from the Church. Would you like to be a Reader?

Carols

We try to match these to the Readings and introduce 1 or 2 changes each year. Should any be replaced and if so by what? Please advise.

Are there any new Carols we should think of using?

Christmas Activity

Last year for the first time we had a drama. Other years it's been reading a poem or an extract from a book.

How should this continue? Any ideas of material that could be used?

Overall

Are there any other ideas or comments you'd like to make?

Please send any input to:

wjhscot@aol.com

Due to the number of inputs we expect, we can't guarantee that all changes you suggest will be implemented but we will try.

Alison Bone and Wilf Hardy

Harvest service and lunch

Our **Harvest Service** will be on **Sunday 8th October** and will be followed by a Bring and Share lunch.

There will be a list to put your name down in if you would like to join in the Harvest celebrations and lunch. Don't worry if you are not able to bring anything for lunch or if you make up your mind at the last moment—there will be plenty to go around!

Many thanks

Keg

Our **donations** at the service will be shared between Yateley Community Pantry and the Crowthorne Food Bank.

Christmas meal at the Bird in Hand

I know that during this heatwave it's a little difficult to focus on Christmas - however we need to forward plan!! I have booked the Bird in Hand in Little Sandhurst again for **Friday 15th December** at 7pm.

This is a popular venue with superb food. There were about 15 of us last year and we all enjoyed the food and the superb company! Please see the web-site (link below) for their Christmas menu and let me know if you would like to come along.

<http://www.thebirdinhandsandhurst.co.uk/update/data/img/uploads/files/2023%20Christmas%20Menu%202023.pdf>

The cost is £29.95 each with a 10% service charge on top. Hope you will be able to come and enjoy the festivities. Keg



Bird in Hand Sandhurst - Christmas Menu 2023

Starters

- Baked Wild mushroom and egg custard lined with herb pancakes and a mild curry sauce
- Minestrone soup with crusty bread and butter
- Crab, smoked salmon, crayfish and prawn cocktail with Marie rose sauce and brown bread and butter
- Chicken Liver Pâté with Onion Marmalade and toasted brioche

Mains

- Traditional Roast Turkey with all the Festive Trimmings
- Monkfish, salmon, prawn and chorizo stew with spinach, peppers and butter beans
- Slow braised brisket of beef in a rich red wine, port and mushroom sauce with a creamy root vegetable mash
- Roasted vegetable and pepper tart with crispy onion and bread crumb topping

Desserts

- Homemade Christmas pudding with Brandy Sauce
- Cheese and Biscuits
- Trio of chocolate mousse with a mulled berry coulis
- Raspberry and pistachio parfait with a white chocolate sauce

Crowthorne Foodbank

Current shortages -

**Long life milk, tinned custard,
Tea bags (boxes of 80),
cartons of juice, tinned
spaghetti, tins of fruit, jam.**

Liquid hand wash

**Men's deodorant, men's
shaving foam, conditioner**

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, cereal, beans, biscuits

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.



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
10th (note change of date from 3rd) October

Artificial Intelligence

There is a webinar on Tuesday **3rd October** at 6.30 pm entitled "AI (Artificial Intelligence) and the Church" - what does this mean for religious belief? Questions can be submitted beforehand. Cost suggested £10 but can be free - see web-site

Please visit <http://www.methodistpublishing.org.uk/features> for more information.
Keg

Church charity

At our next Church council meeting on **16th October** we will be discussing who to make our annual charity donations to.

Please do let Sharon or one of the stewards know if you have any suggestions.
Thanks

Sandhurst Churches together

8th October SCT service at St Michael's 6:30pm

19th November SCT service at Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist 6:30 pm
Sometimes for good reasons beyond our control, these services do get moved or swapped so please check for updates each month and also in the weekly notices.

Harvest Baskets

We are holding our Harvest service on **Sunday October 8th.**

Would some members like to decorate a Harvest basket and then it could be distributed to others following the service? If so, perhaps they would like to take a basket as laid out on the table in the refreshment area following the service. Also, if anyone has any suitable produce of fruit or vegetables that could be used in the display I would be happy to receive them on the afternoon of Friday **October 6th.**

Any queries please contact me.
Many thanks in advance
Heather

Link to Hope Family & Elderly Shoebox Appeal



Yes it's that time of year again!! This means it is time for the Shoe Box Appeal. Link to Hope is a Charity based near Worthing which sends shoeboxes to Eastern Europe (Romania, Moldova, Ukraine, Bulgaria) – they can be for a Family or a unisex shoebox for the Elderly. You don't have to wrap the box before you fill it – you wrap it up when it is full as you would a present. The shoeboxes should be average size – no boot boxes or oversized shoeboxes.

Let's see how many boxes we can fill in the next couple of months!! The leaflet gives details of the items that should be included. I have just confirmed the Shoe Box Dedication date of **29th October** when Sharon is preaching. Please bring your shoeboxes along to the service that Sunday morning so that we can deliver them before 5th November as mentioned on the leaflet.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on 07811-870183 or alison@gfradgley.com. I hope to be in Church on Sunday but not sure yet as I am currently on holiday.

Thanks
Alison F