

Services—December 2023, January 2024

Services



December 2023

3rd	10:30 am	Pauline Matondo
10th	10:30 am	Rev C Bowstead
11th	7 pm	Carol singing at The Village Inn
13th	2 pm	Carol singing at Four Ways
	5:30 pm	Carol singing at The Meadows
17th	10:30am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Carol Service)
24th	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Holy Communion)
31st	10:00 am	Woosehill. No service at Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church

January 2024

7th	10:30 am	Rev Sharon Gardner (Covenant Service)
14th	10:30 am	Doreen Murgatroyd
	3:00 pm	Love Remembered. (Rev Sharon Gardner)
21st	10:30 am	Peter Whalley
	6:30 pm	SCT service of Christian Unity—venue TBC but likely to be St Michael's
28th	10:30 am	Rev Mike Thomason

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

Sandhurst and Yateley Methodist Church

December 2023 January 2024



The minister writes...

Dear friends,

As I write this we're soon to begin the season of Advent, where we contemplate the coming of Jesus, remember the first Christmas and anticipate the time when he will come again. It's interesting to think that our knowledge of Jesus' birth is based on accounts in just two of our gospels (Matthew and Luke) and yet so much has been added to the story over the years and many traditions have built up around it, different ones according to the country you live in. Sometimes it can be hard to separate gospel from legend and, sadly, the wonderful truth at the centre of the Christmas message is often ignored or seemingly overwhelmed by the noise of secularism and commercialism.

As to the second coming, well Jesus himself talked about signs or clues as to when it might be near and perhaps, like me, you've wondered if it is not so far off, what with everything going on in the world ('wars and rumours of wars,' increasing environmental concerns, the emergence of a global economy, and the loss – in much of society – of a moral and spiritual compass). Yet one thing Jesus was very clear about was that no one knows the day appointed by God.

I don't know where the quote came from, but it is a true one which states that 'the past is history, the future is a mystery, but the present is ours in which to make a difference – which is why it is a gift.' The present moment is a gift to us and we can use it to give to others.

The Methodist Church has a theme for this Advent and Christmas: '*Out of the Ordinary*' and there are various posters which you will see appearing and postcards for you to take and give away. They have a scratch-off icon which invites the recipient to 'scratch beneath the surface this Christmas' and a QR code on the reverse which links with thoughts about the divine being found in and around us. There are different postcards for the different weeks of Advent. Please do take one each week – or two – one for you and one to give to someone else. You might want to write on the reverse and invite them to our Carol Service on 17th December or, if it's a family you're passing it on to, invite them to Messy Christmas on 16th December when, amongst lots of other



Rotas

Flowers

December		January	
3rd	Sandra F	7th	Ann H
10th	-	14th	Mary G
17th	-	21st	Joyce C
24th	-	28th	-
31st	Sue B		

Cleaning

w/c 15/1/24 Sandra W and Wendy H

Coffee

December		January	
3rd	Cynthia R and Sandra F	7th	Dawn O and Cynthia R
10th	Cynthia R and Margaret P	14th	Alison B and Sandra F
17th	Joan T and Sandra W	21st	Cynthia R and Margaret H
24th	Alison F and Cynthia R	28th	Joan T and Sandra W
31st	Cynthia R and Ann 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 Needs 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! (usually 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.

December

2023

5th	2:30 pm 7:45pm 8.00pm	Rejoice! Prayer group Bible study	Schoolroom Zoom
12th	7:45pm 8.00pm	Prayer group Bible study	Zoom
19th	7:45pm 8.00pm	Prayer group Bible study	Zoom
26th		No prayer group or Bible study	

January

2024

2nd	2:30pm	Rejoice! No prayer group or Bible study	Schoolroom
9th	7:45pm 8.00pm	Prayer group Bible study	Zoom
16th		Stewards meeting	
23rd		No prayer group or Bible study	
30th	7:45pm 8.00pm	Prayer group Bible study	Zoom

activities, we will make Christingles and sing
carols.

The first Christmas was very much 'out of the
ordinary.' How can we make our present one
something different, more special, more out of
the ordinary?

A final thought: Christmas is one day in the
calendar but the message of Christmas, that's
for every day. If we keep alive in our hearts the
wonder that God should send his Son to be born
as one of us, live among us, love us and die for
us, then there is nothing the future holds which
can truly dismay us – because we are his and he
will be with us no matter what.



May you have Christmases which are 'out of the ordinary' and may you enter
2024 with the love of God in your hearts, your hand in Christ's and your
footsteps guided by the Holy Spirit.

With every blessing,

Sharon

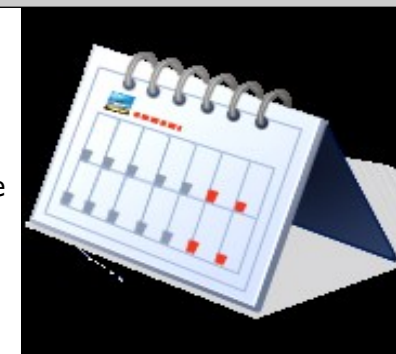
What's on?

December

2nd: Christmas Fair
5th: Rejoice!, Advent Bible Study—2
6th: Wednesday housegroup
8th: Handbell concert
11th: YCS concert, Carol singing at The Village
Inn
12th: Advent Bible Study—3
13th: Christmas service at Fourways, Carol
singing at The Meadows
14th: Thursday house group
15th: Christmas meal
16th: Christingle/Messy Christmas, Bagshot
Band concert
17th: Carol service
19th: Advent Bible Study—4

January

2nd: Rejoice?
10th: Wednesday housegroup
18th: Thursday house group
21st: SCT service of Christian Unity
25th: Coffee morning
28th: Film night



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

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

December 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

2024

January—14th, 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

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 December 14th and January 18th

Wednesday House Group:

at Alison and Graham Fradgley's

3 Forbes Chase, Sandhurst

at Alison and Graham's. Next meeting will be **Wednesday 6th December.**

Wednesday January 10th



Newsletter and Website

newsletter@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk

Contributions for the **February 2024** Newsletter (in church on Sunday 28th January or website) should be with Sue Truby by **Sunday January 21st 2024**

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

Dance Soul Rock Chart Disco Blues Reggae Punk

Thank you!

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

Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church

Scotland Hill
Sandhurst
GU47 8JR

Carol Service
Sunday 17th
December
10:30 a.m.

- All Welcome
- Invite friends & family
- + Festive Refreshments

Sandhurst Churches together

21st January Christian Unity combined service with Churches Together in Crowthorne and Sandhurst Churches Together Time and venue tbc - please look out for details in the notices - but likely to be at St Michael's

11th February Sandhurst Baptist Church
10th March St George's
14th April Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church

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.



To my church family and friends...



I wish to share my happiness with you all at the safe arrival of my granddaughter, Isabella Grace Walton. She is adorable and thriving well.

James and Rio have just returned from the hospital after both mother and baby had their first health check at one week old, passing with flying colours. They will not need another check up until a month's time unless anything unforeseen occurs.

I feel so blessed that I am here and can watch Isabella's progress for the next four months or so. James and Rio are ecstatic and can't wait to introduce her to everyone when they are next in the U.K.



Enjoy the pictures.

Lots of love.

Sonia xxx

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

Gifts in Wills I hope it. I Will it.



For many years, Christian Aid has encouraged supporters to leave them a legacy in their Will.

With fund-raising becoming more difficult for many reasons, this has become an even more important way or raising money for Christian Aid and also for

other charities.

So this Autumn, Christian Aid is running a campaign to get more of us to leave them a Legacy. It has the strap line "I hope it, I Will it"

This campaign involves various Church groups who also want people to leave them a Legacy.

This campaign is proving successful and has a supporting video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmAJavh1Muk&t=7s>

Leaving money to your Church is very powerful and can achieve much, as can be seen in our own Church. So if you haven't already done so, please consider in your Will leaving a Legacy to Christian Aid and to S&YMC.

To assist you this November is also Will Aid month, with help to set up your Will.
<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give/gifts-wills/will-aid>

Wilf Hardy

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.

Advent Bible Studies

During Advent we are following the theme of the Methodist Church's *Out of the Ordinary*. This will be reflected in both our weekly services and in our Advent study.

We will be meeting by Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7.45pm. Please use link below (same as in the notices):

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

Each study is a stand-alone session and you are welcome to join any or all of them as you are able.

The studies are for anyone to join in with! There is no need for you to be a regular Bible study attendee – all are welcome and often we find people will join for a 'special' such as Advent where an ongoing weekly commitment might not be possible.

Advent 1: **28th November** 'Letting stuff go'
Advent 2: **5th December** 'Changing your mind'
Advent 3: **12th December** 'Pointing to the Light'
Advent 4: **19th December** 'Listening'

Intrigued? Then come and join us and find out more!

Carol singing...



SCT carol singing at The Meadows Wednesday **13th December** 5.30pm (for about an hour)
Also, on the same day, a group of us will be carol singing at Four Ways at 2pm. Please come and join us if you can!

Finally, Sandhurst Baptist Church will be singing carols at the Village Inn on Monday **11th December** from 7 - 9pm and would welcome some support.

Sue T and Gill L invite you to...

Rushmoor "Odd Fellows"
Male Voice Choir

Christmas Concert

With Guests
The St. Lawrence Chobham
Handbell Ringers

In aid of 

At Farnham Maltings
Friday 8th December 7:30 p.m.

Tickets £15.00 from
Farnham Maltings Box Office
01252 745444
or online at farnhammaltings.com

Rushmoor "Odd Fellows" Male Voice Choir | A charity registered with the Charity Commission No. 1106232

Our Church Hall availability

Please keep in mind the following availability of our beautifully redecorated, light and airy church hall should you, or someone you know, be looking for such a facility.

Regular hirers as well as occasional use for children's parties or meetings always considered and most welcome.

Mondays—11am to 4pm

Tuesdays—all day

Wednesdays—4pm to 6:30pm

Thursdays—fully booked at present

Fridays—11am through to midnight

Saturdays—1pm through to midnight

To see our charges (plus more photographs and measurements) please click <https://sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk/blog/hall-hire/>

Regular bookings

£19.50 per hour with the use of the kitchen

£18.50 per hour without use of the kitchen

£17.50 per hour for charities with use of the kitchen

Single one-off events

£22.50 per hour for parties etc with the use of the kitchen)

£20.00 per hour for charities

Please make contact via halls@sandhurstyateleymethodist.org.uk



Sandhurst & Yateley Methodist Church
Saturday 16th December
3 – 4.30pm



**SANDHURST & YATELEY
METHODIST CHURCH
CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER
2PM TO 4PM**

Gifts, Tombola, Cards, Games,
Refreshments.

Do come along and join us and
start to celebrate
Christmas.

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 January 2024 will be on Thursday 25th
No coffee morning in December



Alison B invites you to...



Bagshot Concert Band

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

SATURDAY 16th DEC 2023

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL
LIGHTWATER

7.30pm

ADULT £10 CONCESSIONS £8

Tickets – call 07881 933850 &
adrian.benge@gmail.com
or subject to availability, on the door

Out of the ordinary—Daily Advent Reflections

Methodist Publishing's Christmas Campaign this year is entitled 'Out of the Ordinary'. This Advent and Christmas, you are invited to experience how the wonder of God's love is revealed in the ordinary:

2,000 years ago, a seemingly ordinary birth changed the world. Each day, ordinary acts of kindness can breakthrough to the extraordinary.

With lots of other information on the web-site about this campaign as well, you can sign up for daily reflections to be sent to you throughout Advent. If you are interested please visit: www.methodist.org.uk/outoftheordinary.

Keg

Christmas Service at Fourways

We shall be holding a short Christmas Carol service led by Sharon at Fourways Residential Home at 2 pm on **Wednesday 13th December**. We would love to be able to give each resident and each member of staff a gift wrapped selection box. We did this last year and everyone was so thrilled to receive a little gift. The selection boxes are already in the shops folks! If you would like to, please give your selection boxes to a Steward who will then put them in the vestry awaiting wrapping.

If you would like to join us at the service - that would be great - the more the merrier! Just let a Steward know and we'll arrange to meet up on the day. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Keg

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

Film night

The next Film night is on the **4th Sunday - January 28th** (no film night in December) 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 Keg



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 -

Sponge puddings, porridge, small squash bottles, tinned carrots, instant pasta

Bleach

Men's deodorant

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, pasta.

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
5th December and maybe 2nd January (TBA)



Wilf T invites you to...

Yateley
CHORAL
SOCIETY
Musical Director: James Casselton

Christmas Carol Concert

Monday 11th December 2023
St Peter's Church, Yateley, 7.30pm

Entry free
Collection in aid of The Fountain Centre
Seasonal refreshments

Registered Charity 104666
www.yateley-choral.org.uk