

!! GOOD NEWS & THANK YOU !!

Thank you to all those who helped or shared in the Messy Church session last Sunday. We focused on the Nativity story and had the opportunity to spend time in fellowship with one another over a scrumptious tea. Please pray for all those who give their time and talents so willingly to share the Good News. *(Jill Mason)*

Happy Birthday and congratulations to Olive Clapham on her 90th birthday which is today!

Thanks for all the stamps this year we have sent 10,000 stamps to St Catherine's Hospice for their fundraising. Please remember to retrieve the stamps when your Christmas cards arrive in the post, put them in the box in the Welcome Hall and carry on the good work into next year. *(Bobby Gillett)*

Still missing – a bag of tools, property of St Paul's and used by 'The Geoff's' when they do maintenance jobs around the building, has been missing since it was last seen on Wednesday 26th November in the locked cupboard where it is kept. Extensive searching has not found it. If someone borrowed the bag and didn't return it to the cupboard please would they do so, then The Geoff's can carry on their work.

NOTE - the next newsletter will cover 2 weeks, 23rd and 30th December.

Church Contacts

Minister Rev Ralph Ward

phone: 01342 325877 email: rlphwrd@gmail.com

Room bookings Please phone 07594 472523 or go to **Room Hire** on the website menu bar

St Paul's website www.crawleymethodistchurch.org.uk

Crawley Methodist Church is Registered Charity No. 1127744

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Northgate, Crawley

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3rd Sunday in Advent

16th December 2018

10:30am Nativity Service

with King's Kids and King's Teens

Theme: The Gift

Readings: Luke 2: 2-7

Luke 2: 8-20

First time at St Paul's? Please join us for refreshments and a friendly chat after the service. We can tell you about our church and its activities and we'll try to answer any questions you may have.

Large print hymn books are available from the door stewards.

Flowers today donated by Leonie Boosie in memory of her mother

23rd December 4th in Advent

10:30am Mr Jason Cooke

4pm Carols by Candlelight Rev Ralph Ward

Our mission at St Paul's is to:

Unite in Faith

Worship in Faith

Grow in Faith

Share the Good News

Make disciples

Serve in love

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Loaves and Fishes Café

Monday – Wednesday 10:30 – 1:30
Thursday Closed for Christmas break
Re-opens Monday 7th January

- Wed 19th** 9:30-12 Everywoman's Badminton
2pm Women's Fellowship. *Carols and Cake*
7:30pm Travellers' House Fellowship at the Jordans' house *Advent and Christmas Miscellany with mince pies*
- Thu 20th** 10am Loaves and Fishes Volunteers' meeting
- Fri 21st** 7pm Young People's Singing Group
7:45pm Choir practice

Christmas Services

Sunday 23rd 4pm Carols by Candlelight with Rev Ralph Ward
Christmas Eve 11:30pm Midnight Communion with Rev Clive McKie
Christmas Day 10:30pm Family Celebration with Rev Ralph Ward

Mince pie donations needed for after the Carol Service. Please bring a box of pies and leave them at the Loaves and Fishes servery in the Welcome Hall next Sunday.

Wishing each other Happy Christmas Again this year there will not be a post box for your Christmas Cards at the church. Instead the *Action for Children Big Christmas Card* is in the Welcome Hall for you to write your greetings to all the church family - pen provided. In place of the cost of buying all those cards and the postage please put a donation to *Action for Children* in one of the envelopes and post it in the Red Box. Of course you can still give cards to your friends but please hand them out personally, not put them in the pigeonholes. Thank you. (Sheila Jones)

Its quiz time Copies of the 2018/19 Christmas & New Year Quiz, entitled *A Beastly Quiz*, with an entry fee of £1.50 a copy, are now available. This is always good fun, you might win a prize and profits go to a worthy cause. If you want to take the challenge ask Geoff Ridgway for a quiz sheet.

St Paul's flower ministry – we all appreciate the lovely flowers that enhance our Sunday worship and are then distributed to folk who are sick, housebound, recently bereaved or otherwise in need of loving care by the church. A visit from a friendly face bearing a gift of flowers can mean so much.

The flower rota for next year is being drawn up now. If you have a special date to commemorate and would like to do so by having your flowers in the church on a Sunday, please put your name in an empty slot on the rota for 2019 which is on the Charity noticeboard in the Welcome Hall. You might even like to arrange your flowers yourself, or deliver them to people who are feeling in need of a cheery thought from their friends at church.

We could also do with a few more people who would deliver flowers occasionally. Just let me know as soon as possible. The flower ministry can only continue if we get the rota filled up! (Jill Mason)

Time for Prayer

Please pray for St Paul's Flower Ministry and the needs explained above. Thank God for this opportunity to show His love to our members and friends who are blessed through visits from volunteers delivering flowers.

Please pray for Maureen Olashore and continue in prayer for Joyce Walling, Stephanie, George, Marcy, and others with needs known to ourselves.

Methodist Church Guidelines state that permission must be received from a person before their name is put on the Church prayer list. Please ensure that you obtain such permission.