

!! GOOD NEWS & THANK YOU !!

Thanks to all the helpers at Messy Church last Sunday. You did an amazing job retelling the story of the "Very First Christmas" and reinforcing it with interesting, memorable activities. Thanks to those who continue to support these sessions and bring their friends along. If you put the date, January 12th, in your new diary you won't miss the next session when we'll be looking at *The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant*.

How Does Your Garden Grow is the title of this year's Christmas/New Year Quiz. Quiz sheets, at a cost of £1.50 per entry, are available from Geoff Ridgway for the next two weeks. The proceeds, after prize money, will go 50% to St. Paul's Redevelopment Fund and 50% to St. Catherine's Hospice. Geoff's quizzes are always great fun, a bit of a challenge and a good way of looking busy whilst sitting very still digesting all those Christmas meals!

Flower rota 2020 If you haven't yet seen next year's proposed rota on the blue board in the Welcome Hall, please have a look and check that you have been given an acceptable date and confirm this by signing in the end column. There are also several dates still available for anyone who would like to donate flowers, so please add your name in an empty space. Thank you. (*Jill Mason*)

IMPORTANT the next newsletter will cover 22nd and 29th December. There won't be another one until 5th January.

Church Contacts

Minister Rev Ralph Ward phone: 01342 325877 email: rphwrd@gmail.com

Room bookings phone 07594 472523 or see **Room Hire** on the website



Website www.crawleymethodistchurch.org.uk

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St Paul's Methodist Church, Crawley

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Welcome to St Paul's

Sunday 15th December 2019

3rd in Advent

10:30am

Mr Eddie Newton

Theme: Seen and heard - then and now

Readings: Isaiah 35: 1-10

Matthew 11: 1-11

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.

Bibles and large print hymn books are available from the door stewards

Sunday 22nd December 10:30am

4th in Advent

Nativity with the young people

4pm Carols by Candlelight with 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 & Fishes Café

Monday – Wednesday 10:30 – 1:30

Thursday 10:30 – 12:30

- Wed 18th** **9:30am-12** Everywoman's Badminton
2pm Women's Fellowship *Carols and cake*
7:30pm Travellers' House Fellowship *with Rev Ralph at the Jordans' house*
- Fri 20th** **4:30-7:30pm** Performing Arts activities
7pm Young People's Singing Group
7:45pm Choir practice

LOOKING AHEAD

- Mon 6 Jan** **2pm** South Crawley House Fellowship *Talking about Christmas, at Ianthi's house.*
- Wed 8 Jan** **9:30am-12** Everywoman's Badminton
2pm Women's Fellowship *Changes in celebrating Christmas*
8pm Pound Hill House Fellowship *Bible study with Helen Greaves at the Webbs' house*

Action for Children internal Christmas post service Please post your Christmas cards to your friends in St Paul's congregation by Wednesday 18th December in the labelled box in the Welcome Hall. They will be ready for collection from Friday 20th - 25th December. This service is in support of *Action for Children* so please put a donation in the box in lieu of postage. (*Sheila Jones*)

Mince pies please - Donations of mince pies would be very welcome please for serving with the refreshments after the Carol Service next Sunday.

Christmas at St Paul's

Sunday 22nd

10:30am *Nativity with the young people*

4pm *Carols by Candlelight with Rev Ralph Ward*

Christmas Eve

11:30pm *Midnight Communion with Rev Ralph Ward*

Christmas Day

10:30am *Celebration with Deacon Irene Tafirenyika*

Come and celebrate the birth of Christ!



Time for Prayer

Now that the result of the General Election is known, pray for the new Government and for all MPs, whether in Government or opposition. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance to lead them all in the days ahead.

Please pray for Priya Shan, Lorraine Valler, Wendy and Joyce Walling, Daniel Okun, Jean and Geoff Rose, Jean Franklin, Maureen Olashore, 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 have such permission.