

!! GOOD NEWS & THANK YOU!!

*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor,
The mighty God, The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.
(Isaiah 9:6)*

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. 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 this newsletter covers 22nd and 29th December. There won't be another one until 5th January.

Church Contacts

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

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



Website www.crawleymethodistchurch.org.uk

Crawley Methodist Church is Registered Charity No. 1127744

St Paul's Methodist Church, Crawley

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Welcome to St Paul's

Sunday 22nd December 2019

4th in Advent

10:30am Young People's Nativity

4pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve 11:30pm

Midnight Communion Rev Ralph Ward

Christmas Day 10:30am

Celebration Deacon Irene Tafirenyika

Sunday 29th December 10:30am

Miss Lorraine Valler

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

Flowers today donated by Leonie Boosie wishing all a Happy Christmas

Sunday January 5th 10:30am

Annual Covenant Service and Holy Communion

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

Closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays. Re-opens Monday 6th January

LOOKING AHEAD

- Fri 3 Jan** 7:45pm brief choir practice
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
Fri 10 Jan 4:30pm Performing Arts activities restart
7:45pm Choir practice
Sun 12 Jan 3-5pm Messy Church

Action for Children internal Christmas post service please collect your cards from the table in the Welcome Hall by 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*)

Christmas charity support as well as your contributions in lieu of postage on Christmas cards, the cash collection on Christmas Day will go to *Action for Children*. The cash collection at the Carol Service and money for refreshments during December will go to *MHA* (Methodist Homes). Christmas is a great time to support two of our favourite charities.

Songs of Praise: 5 Jan 2020

Songs of Praise will be marking the start of the New Year by exploring the Covenant Service on Sunday 5 January at 1:15pm. The Revd Kate Bottley visits the New Room, Bristol and speaks to historian Gary Best about John Wesley's radical preaching, his passion for social justice and the Covenant Service. Kate also meets Thelma Commey, the current Youth President of the Methodist Church, to hear about what the covenant service means to young Methodists. (*Methodist Church Media Office*)
Our own Covenant Service will be led by Rev Ralph at 10:30 the same day for us to make our own yearly Covenant commitment.



*Wishing everyone
a very happy Christmas
and a blessed New Year*

Time for Prayer

At this Christmas time please pray for people who will be alone without the comfort of a family gathering. Pray for those who will struggle to afford a Christmas celebration. Pray for people resorting to Food Banks to feed themselves and their families. Pray for the homeless, especially for those sleeping on the streets.

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.