

!! GOOD NEWS & THANK YOUS !!

Summer Coffee Shops raised £160 for St Paul's development fund. Many thanks to all who supported these either as volunteers or by being customers. (*Daphne Ford*)

Performing Arts Project is growing

Thank you to everyone who responded to the call for volunteers to help with the Performing Arts Project on Friday evenings. This makes it possible, not just to continue as before, but to add some new activities as well.

From October, we will be offering the opportunity to:

- learn about effective use of the spoken voice, leading to a drama at Christmas
- learn to be a sound technician
- learn about lighting

We'll also be serving food (pizzas etc) for a donation to cover cost.

The usual instrumental lessons will be continuing so if you are interested in learning an instrument (drums, keyboard, guitar, singing), please talk to us, or leave a message in the red message box in the Welcome Hall with your name and contact details, and say which instrument you are interested in learning. Lessons will start on Friday 20th September at St Paul's. (*Carol and Martyn Ofield*)

Church Contacts

Minister Rev Ralph Ward

phone: 01342 325877 email: rphwrd@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

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St Paul's Methodist Church, Crawley

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Welcome to St Paul's

**Sunday 8th September 2019
10:30am**

Deacon Irene Tafirenyika

Theme: The Cost of Following Christ

Readings: Jeremiah 18: 1-11
Luke 14: 25-33

3pm Messy Church

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 this week donated by Angela Brown in memory of her Dad

**Sunday 15th September
10:30am Rev Clive McKie
Family service**

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

Mon 9th	2pm South Crawley House Fellowship <i>Planning meeting</i> at the home of Arthur Parrish
Wed 11th	9:30am-12 Everywoman's Badminton 3pm Women's Fellowship open to everyone for a talk by the Fire Brigade, <i>Fire Safety in the Home</i>
Fri 13th	7:45pm Choir practice

LOOKING AHEAD

- Wed 18 Sep** **Travellers' House Fellowship** at the Bramhills'
Fri 20 Sep **Performing Arts** activities restart
Sat 21 Sep **Coffee Stop** for Hope House
Wed 25 Sep **Women's Fellowship open to all** illustrated talk by Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance

New course coming soon Our minister, Ralph, is busy writing a new 4-week course for us looking at developing our personal ministry through the gifts God has given each of us. We would like your views about the best days and times to suit as many people as possible so please fill in the form given out with this newsletter. The course will start in the week beginning 7th October. (*Peter Jordan*)

Crawley Interfaith Network the September-December programme is on the Other Churches noticeboard in the Welcome Hall.

Coffee Stop vacancy there is no Coffee Stop booked for Saturday 14th December. If you would like to organise one for your favourite charity on that day fill in the date on the programme on the Charities noticeboard in the Welcome Hall or let me know. (*Ann Brown*)

Friary lunches It is our turn to provide lunches for some of Crawley's people in need at the Friary next Sunday. Offers of help for serving the lunches, making sandwiches (2 in a bag labelled with the filling) and your prayers for the team would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. (*Jill Mason*)

The welcome service for Deacon Irene on Thursday evening was a truly joyous occasion. The church was pretty well full with people from all five circuit churches. There was great singing by St Paul's young people and choir, as well as by the congregation, with some of our up and coming musicians playing along as well. We were privileged to have the Mayor and Mayoress of Crawley, Cllr and Mrs Raj Sharma, in the congregation recognising the part Irene will play in our community. Henry Smith, Crawley's MP, had been called to a meeting at 8pm but came along to meet Irene before the service and joined the congregation for as long as he could. The new District Chair, Rev David Hinchliffe, preached an inspirational sermon then led the circuit staff, the Mayor and representatives from the community and other churches, in personally welcoming Irene and her children, Nathan and Petra.

Just about everyone stayed to enjoy refreshments together in happy fellowship. The Mayor and Mayoress, having been amongst the first to arrive, were almost the last to leave. With much laughter the Mayoress organised photos on her phone of the two of them with nearly everyone present to take away with her. This sort of happy meeting of Town and Church is something to pray about for the future as we work towards building our mission in the town.

Thanks are due to the people who made this event work well; greeters, car park attendants, refreshment organisers, techies and musicians. Thanks to Ness for thoughtfully providing flowers and to Isaac, Jordan and Rhys for making access to the overflow parking area possible in spite of the skip not having been collected. Apologies if I've overlooked anyone.

If you'd like to hear David's sermon, you'll find it on St Paul's website www.crawleymethodistchurch.org.uk (*Joyce Jordan*)

Time for Prayer

Today is Education Sunday a national day of prayer and celebration for the world of education. Pray for all teachers and educators in our town, in our country and throughout the world.

Please pray for Jean and Geoff Rose and continue to pray Julie Anscombe, Jean Franklin, Maureen Olashore, Neil Roberts, Marcy, and uplifting 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.