



**Methodist Church calls for
Govt action on poverty in the UK**

More than 56 charities, faith groups and political leaders have joined with former Prime Minister Gordon Brown to call for urgent action to bridge the gap families are facing in their finances.

With living costs skyrocketing, support payments provided by government aren't stretching far enough. We need to make sure everyone has #EnoughToLive.

Find out more and read the report on our website at <https://fal.cn/3qPXh>

Last call for collection boxes

If holders of *World Church* and *JMA* collection boxes haven't yet returned them to me for emptying, please do so by next week. This will be the last time as we will no longer be using boxes to make donations for these Mission activities. In future there will be an opportunity for everyone to donate at a designated Mission Sunday on a date to be arranged. Anyone wishing to donate to either of these causes this year can do so by cheque which should be made payable to Crawley Methodist Church. Don't forget to say which organisation is the recipient. Many thanks, *Ann Brown*

Praying for rain

Thanks to Geoff Ridgway for this timely story:

Some years ago when there was no rain for ages, the Minister of a Church asked his congregation to come to Church to pray for rain.

He ended his prayers by saying. 'Here you are, having come to Church to pray for rain, but not one of you has brought an umbrella!'



Remember Ukraine

The next newsletter will go out for 4th September. Please send me your items by Thursday 1 September. Many thanks, *Joyce*

Contacts

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General enquiries and prayer requests ask.stpauls@gmail.com

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

Find us on Facebook and give us a 'like'

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St Paul's Newsletter 21/28 August 2022

Dear friends,

During this hot weather I wonder if you've been able to go away to the beach somewhere or simply holidayed at home. Just taking time out of our usual weekly routine is a good thing every now and again. We all need a break.

Now, I wonder when you last had a Mars bar?

No - I haven't gone 'off piste' this month into advertising! But in thinking about work-life balance – work and rest - I had a sudden flashback to the old television adverts for Mars – '*A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play*'. This was a fabulous slogan first adopted for the chocolate bar in the 1960s, dropped in 1997 but re-introduced briefly ten years later with a video of monks bellringing! I'm sure you must have seen that, but if not, it's available on YouTube! I'm not sure that eating a Mars a day is particularly healthy but there we go...

We all need work, rest and play and getting the balance right is important for our physical and mental health. None of us can go flat out at work without risking 'burn-out' and none of us can just rest without losing the ability to move and be productive and, if life was just play, I'm not sure what we might achieve in life. But many of us find it difficult to get the balance right.

And what about our spiritual wellbeing? How often do we wonder if we are achieving the right balance there or ignoring our spiritual needs completely.

Jesus knew how to withdraw often and find space and time to 'just be', to connect with God and to pray. He knew the importance of getting the balance right and in doing so was better equipped and able to be there for others to help them to achieve inner peace and rest. He said:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

This coming Autumn maybe we all need to re-evaluate our 'work, rest and pray' balance and see if any adjustments need to be made. Jesus is waiting to hear from you.

Every blessing, *Jenny*

Worship at St Paul's

- Sunday 21 Aug 10:30am** All-age worship with Mrs Linda Little
Sunday 28 Aug 10:30am Joint Communion service for Crawley, Horley and Redhill, at St Paul's
Sunday 4 Sept 10:30am Worship with Deacon Jenny Parnell
Sunday 11 Sept 10:30am Communion service with Rev Clive McKie
All services live-streamed on Facebook unless otherwise stated

Help needed please

As the hosts, we will be serving refreshments to everyone following the joint Crawley/Horley/Redhill Communion Service on the 28th July. A few extra pairs of helping hands would be much appreciated please.

Fellowship at St Paul's

Tuesday Fellowship meets each week at 8.00pm via Zoom. All welcome. For the Zoom link contact Carol Ofield or email ask.stpauls@gmail.com
Wednesday Fellowship We're taking a break in August, starting again 7th September, 11am at St Paul's. Everyone is welcome.

For kids and young people

King's Kids is taking a break during August while services will for all ages. **Young People's Singing Groups** are taking a summer break and will restart in September. Thanks to you all for your hard work practicing on Friday evenings and singing for us in services. Thanks also to Carol and Martyn for their work with the groups. Have a great summer!

Welcome Service for Rev Billy Slatter and Celebration of Rev Gillian Baalham's Appointment as Superintendent Wednesday 31 August, 7.45pm at Redhill Methodist Church

There will be a Circuit service to welcome Billy to the Circuit and commission Gillian as our Superintendent at Redhill Methodist Church on Wednesday 31 August 2022 at 7.45pm. Parking on the church premises is fairly limited so do make use of the public car park on Gloucester Road (RH1 1FH) which is opposite the church. It is free to use after 6.00pm.

There will be tea/ coffee/ cold drinks available from 7.15pm and some refreshments after the service as we enjoy each other's company and look forward to the new Connexional year. The welcome will be extended on our behalf by Rev Deborah Cornish.

Do join us as we give thanks for all those who minister to us within this Circuit.

From the Circuit Stewards

In your prayers

Daud Irfan, Methodist Church Youth President 2021-22, has written the following prayer for all students who sat A Level and GCSE exams this year. The A level results are already out but GCSEs are still to come.

Lord, we come to you remembering all of those students in this country and around the world who went through examinations this year, and as we are now approaching results day for all of those students, we thank you for all the hard work, effort and dedication that they have put in over the past year; for all of the wonderful new skills that they have learnt.

We praise you for being a God who always looks out for us and wants the best for us, in all situations and circumstances. In this period of waiting for exam results, we pray for comfort and rest for all of those who are looking forward to the coming changes in their lives.

Pray for our circuit and our own church as we look forward to new leadership from September.

Pray for Rev Gillian Baalham as she takes on the demanding role of Circuit Superintendent in September.

Thank God for all volunteer workers in our church as they take a well-earned summer break. Pray for refreshment for them and strength for when they take up their tasks again.

Continue to pray for all you know who are in need of our prayers.

Please send prayer requests to ask.stpauls@gmail.com and remember to obtain the permission of the person to be named

Sad news

Those of us who were friends of Anisah Cooper, who moved away from Crawley and St Paul's several years ago, will be saddened to hear that she has died. We have no other details.

Good news for St Paul's

I am pleased to be able to tell you that, from September, Rev Gillian Baalham will take on the pastoral oversight of St Paul's. This means that Rev Gillian and Deacon Jenny will jointly work with 3 churches; Crawley, Horley and Redhill. These 3 churches have already been getting used to working alongside each other, for example at the joint Communion service at Redhill on 22nd May and in planning the next joint service to be held on 28th August when St Paul's will be the host. The future looks good! *Joyce Jordan*