



Lent Rise Matters - the info sheet for

Lent Rise Methodist Church

Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday 10:30am we welcome Rev. Vicci Davidson.

Next Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday 10:30am we welcome Ken Tuckey. Ken is a Local Preacher of some years' experience from South Africa, now living in the Thames Valley Circuit.

Additional Services around the Circuit for Easter 2024

Holy Week Tuesday 26th March	Zoom service 6 pm Rev. Phillips Holy Week Zoom Events: ttp://bit.ly/ZoomHolyWeek Cookham Rise 7.30 pm Rev. Davidson
Wednesday 27th March	Zoom service 6:00 pm Rev. Phillips
Maundy Thursday 28th March	Hampshire Ave 6.00pm Rev. Davidson High Street 6 pm Rev. Phillips HC St Marks Crescent 12 noon Deacon Chipandambira Agape Windsor 7.30 pm Rev. Davidson HC
Good Friday 29th March	Ledgers Road 300 pm Rev. Davidson HC St Andrew's 11.00am LA Windsor 10.30 am Rev. Davidson

Prayer Cards

If you would like to ask for prayer for a specific person or event, please complete a prayer card, to be found on the table at the entrance to the Church.



Please hold in your prayers: Jo, Andrew and Peter Webb, Joanne Prior;

Ed; George, Liz and family; Keith and Hilary; Marilyn and Bill; Julia; Pat; Angel's family, Freddy

If you are new here today and would like to keep in touch please look out for one of our yellow Welcome Cards, enter your details and hand the card to a Steward.

Fifth Sunday fellowship lunch

On Sunday 24th March , as a time of fellowship and friendship, we hope to be sharing lunch together here after the 10:30 service. Everyone is welcome - even if you are not able to attend the service.

This week in Burnham Methodist Church:

Monday Club for Senior Citizen's from Burnham Community Association. For more information call Steve Tindall 07780 665910

Tuesday LentRisers Toddler Group offers a warm welcome to parents and carers of children from birth to school age. If you are reading this and would like to get involved in helping the group please contact Pauline.

Wednesday The Meeting Place from The Well@Lent Rise from 9:30am – 12midday. A place for all ages to come and simply be, with coffee or tea, cake and a special warm welcome.

Thursday CAMEO lunch club for Senior Citizen's from 12:00midday. For more information or to book please speak to Jo Webb.

Bible Study, led by Revd Vicci. 10:00am – 12:00pm. Next meeting to be confirmed. We are looking at "Spiritual Needs" and the group has found the sessions informative, and challenging ...something we all need from time to time. The group is open to anyone who has an interest in furthering their personal Faith journey.

Dates for your diary

Alive to tell the story

Calling any singers and performers out there ... there is a Circuit Service planned for 23rd June at Windsor at which there will be a performance called Alive to tell the story by Susie Hare. Any singers and actors are welcome to come along to rehearsals on alternate Wednesday evening in Windsor Church between 6pm and 7pm - the next being on Wednesday 13th March, and be part of this service. Please contact Rev Vicci in the first instance

Sunday 30th June - Leeds -You may well have heard by now the glad news that our probationer deacon, Deacon Margaret Chipandambira, has passed her probation with flying colours and has been recommended to be ordained at the coming Conference, the service accepting her into full connexion being on Sunday the 30th of June at 10:30 and her ordination being at 4pm that afternoon at Morley Central Hall. The Conference and Ordinations are in Leeds and tickets are free, but must be booked. They will be available at this link from the middle of April: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2024/ordinations-2024/>

Because Leeds is a long way away and because many who do want to come will want to attend both services, we are not hiring a coach on this occasion. For some of you it will simply be too far, and for others they would prefer to arrive the day before and book a hotel. However, if you are thinking of going and want to look at the possibility of car sharing, please contact Pauline who will keep a list of those looking and those offering. Do let her know if you are intending to drive to Leeds and have spare seats.

For those of you who will be unable to attend the ordination, we are intending to stream the service of welcome into full connexion at the churches with that facility in lieu of a "live" service. It is likely, given our shortage of preachers at this time, that we will make these joint services.

Vicci's Thought for the week

Friends

I was scrolling through the internet the other day and came across the meme: "I'm not glass half full or glass half empty; I'm get a smaller glass and fill it to the brim." I rather liked it - it reminded me of the old song we all sang as children:

Running over, running over
My cup's full and running over
Since the Lord saved me,
I'm as happy as can be
My cup's full and running over.

It reminded me also of a sampler I have on the wall in our flat on Bute which says: "If you love everything you have, you have everything you need."

These are all simple statements which we could deconstruct and pull to pieces if we really wanted to - condemning them as sayings from a simpler time - and yet there is truth in them.

I am constantly amazed by the number of books there are written on the importance of gratitude. Gratitude we are told can help our mental health, our relationships and our understanding of the world. We are advised to keep gratitude journals in which to write down lists of "five things you are grateful for" or to write something down each day and put it in a jar and then pull out the little scraps of paper on New Year's Eve to remind ourselves of all the things that we have had to be grateful for over the previous year.

Sometimes the writers even note with some sadness, that it is hard to be grateful when we have no-one to thank. I have cause to reflect, as I often do in these types of situations, that the Church had the answer millennia ago and we know exactly to whom we give thanks.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." As we approach Holy Week via Palm Sunday, we are reminded powerfully of humanity's inhumanity, and yet even so, we know that after the awfulness of Good Friday at the end of next week, we will be offered resurrection. We truly can rejoice and give thanks.

Prayers and Prayer Pointers for the Week Ahead

Monday 25th March Look at the palm of your hand. Consider the story of Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey before his crucifixion and the crowds welcomed him. Think of five ways, one for each finger, that you welcome Jesus into your life?

Tuesday 26th March Pour a glass of water. Think about the things you do that get in the way of your relationship with God. You might think it muddies the water of your life, but God forgives us for all these things, and offers us living water. Drink some of the water and give thanks for the way God reaches out to you with love and forgiveness.

Wednesday 27th March You are loved. Just as you are, and completely. Today, spend time trying to accept this fundamental and important truth: God loves you.

Thursday 28th March God of all creation, I worship you. You know me - what I need, what I rejoice in, what I'm nervous about. You see me - as the unique individual you created with all my little habits and characteristics. You hear me - when I pray aloud or silently. You meet me - here and now and I am content. Amen Wonder to yourself if you are really able to say the words. Imagine what it would be like to hear someone else say them for you. Notice how you feel as you read them. Take time to tell God what you've discovered.

Friday 29th March God of the whole earth, Today I pray for refugees and exiles all around the world, Those who are living in fear and have fled the place they call home. Show me how to show love to those in need, To be a place of sanctuary to all who encounter me, In Jesus' name, Amen.

Saturday 30th March Think about the fruits of the spirit. Pick one of them that you don't feel you are very good at, or that needs some intentional work. Spend some time praying about this, and then practice it for a whole day in all you do.

We have a Church website page <https://www.burnhammethodistchurch.com> worth a look if you want to see what's going on, in our Church and around the Circuit.

Many of us are shopping online these days and the Church has signed up to a site through which some of our most loved retailers will give us a donation every time we shop.

Sign up and help us raise funds by:

1. Visit the link below Search for Burnham Methodist Church
2. Your favourite brands will donate when you shop with them. This includes Booking.com; ebay; M&S; Curry's; TUI; BT and John Lewis www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause

Just a Song at Twilight -usually the 2nd Sunday of the month ..the link remains the same each month..

<https://zoom.us/j/94770524280?pwd=WkZ5VC9leldkVVhTdG82c2xkZzB3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 947 7052 4280

Passcode: 642790