



Lent Rise Matters - the info sheet for

Lent Rise Methodist Church

THIS WEEK HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday 21st January 10:30am we welcome Rev'd Vicci Davidson to our pulpit for our Covenant Service.

Sunday 28th January 10:30am we welcome Rev'd Margaret Dudley.

This is the first LentRise Matters of the New Year and it's a bumper edition 😊. Sit down with a cup of tea or coffee and have a read through. I (Pauline) would really appreciate any feedback as I put quite a bit of thought into this. God bless

A Message from our Minister, Vicci:

Vicci has been asked to be a part of the Connexional Safeguarding review on Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults. The section on this on the website is very sparse and we are looking for areas where we can improve the experience for everyone. If you, as an adult, have at any point felt vulnerable by way of sickness, neurological difference, disability, mental health, being at a crisis point in your life, anything really where for a long or short people you have felt yourself to be vulnerable and you are aware of something that happened that was not helpful or didn't happen that would have been helpful and you feel able to either send Vicci a quick message/have a quick chat about it, or contribute to the Safeguarding Review Panel, please can you let Vicci know? Any information shared will be with your permission and strictly anonymous. Please give this some thought as it allows us to play an active part in the development of the safeguarding work.

God bless

Vicci

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: Joanne Prior; Ed; George, Liz and family; Keith and Hilary; Marilyn and Bill; Julia; Pat; Angel's family.

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.

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 Friday 2nd February. We are looking at "Spiritual Needs" and the group found the first session What are Spiritual Needs interesting, if 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

Friday 1st March World Day of Prayer - 2:00pm. We are hosting this annual event this year. The theme is Palestine, and we will be decorating the Church and providing refreshments. If anyone (1) has a small olive tree or artificial olive branches they could loan for decoration that would be lovely: (2) has any ideas about typical Palestinian/Middle Eastern food that is easy to prepare please speak to Pauline or Hilary: (3) if you would be available and like to take part in the Service please speak to Pauline.

Saturday 2nd March from 11:00am is Daffodil Day at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. Some of you have, I know, been in the past and have shared what a lovely day it is. This year the Circuit are looking to put on a coach to transport as many as would like to go. The cost will be towards coach hire, and will be circulated once we have an idea of numbers. Please let Pauline know ASAP if you are interested in coming.

Lent Bible Study at the Stanley Spencer Gallery, led by Revd Vicci Davidson (Methodist minister at Cookham Rise).

Stanley Spencer, well-loved Cookham painter, produced a series of works entitled "Christ in the Wilderness" during the period encompassing the second world war and through to the end of rationing (1939 - 1954). They

show Jesus' understanding of his ministry and vocation as well as a love for Creation in a new and vivid way.

This Lent, we will be using Stephen Cottrell's reflections on five of these paintings as we explore what it was like for Christ in the wilderness, and what it means to us to be his disciples today.

The study will be on Tuesdays at 2:30 for an hour and a half running on the following dates;

27th February

5th March

12th March

19th March

26th March - this final study in the series will take place at Cookham Rise Methodist Church, Lower Road, SL6 9HJ as the gallery will be closed for the hanging of a new exhibition.

Saturday June 22nd – St Peter's Church, Burnham are organising a coach trip to Wintershall, The Life of Christ. The greatest story of all time is movingly recreated with authentic detail, outstanding quality sound and music. The Life of Christ is a passion play not to be missed. It is both educational and entertaining, amusing and serious. The cost will be max of £50 which includes a £35 ticket. If you would like to go, please contact Pauline with a £20 deposit by Sunday 18th February to secure a place.

<https://www.wintershall.org.uk/life-christ-2024>

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
2. Search for Burnham Methodist Church
3. 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

Prayer pointers for the coming week from The Vine: Please let me know if you find these useful. If I get no responses I will not send them 😊

Prayers and Prayer Pointers for the Week Ahead

Monday 22nd January - Gracious God, show me how to love without borders or restrictions, how to radically live out your calling on my life and your challenge to all of us to live in the way of love. - Show me how to be the kind of shepherd who would always go in search of the one most in need, how to reach out to the lost sheep in my life and community. - Show me how to love as you love, O Christ.

Tuesday 23rd January - The German theologian Meister Eckhart once said, 'if the only prayer you ever say in your life is "thank you", that will be enough'. - Today, throughout the day (or whatever is left of the day), simply look for opportunities to pray the words 'thank you' to God. - Thank you for the sunrise. Thank you for that I have enough food for the day. Thank you for my health, such as it is. Thank you for that lovely conversation with a friend. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Amen.

Wednesday 24th January - God of all grace, I know you have plans for me - plans for me to be a part of your kingdom and an agent of love in the world. - Today, show me how to respond to the invitations I might receive. Help me to be open to the opportunities to share your love. - In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

Thursday 25th January - Take time to find something in your home that you hold as precious and important. It may be a photograph, a flower or personal item. Whatever you choose consider: o What is it that makes it important to you? o What memories does it hold? o How do you feel about it and what would happen if you lost it? - Now imagine that God is holding you as precious and important: o Loving and caring for you and your unique character o Following your journey of faith o Wanting never to lose you - Bring all that to prayer, knowing that whatever you offer in this moment is precious and important.

Friday 26th January - The next time you open your fridge, why not pray this little prayer: - Generous God, Thank you for the blessings you have given me, and the food for this day. Thank you for all the work of creation, all the work of farmers and supermarketworkers and delivery drivers that means this food can be here, in my house. Thank you for all that I have received. Thank you. Amen.

Saturday 27th January - Today, take some time to observe nature. The first signs of spring are starting to show. We are nearing the end of the season the Celts refer to as 'Imbolc', the ending of the depths of winter and the time when new life starts to show. - Are there signs of new life in your spiritual journey, your discipleship? Are you able to discern some sense of what you are supposed to do next? - However those questions make you feel, spend some time praying about them, and maybe find time to talk to a trusted friend or someone from the pastoral team at your local church about your answers.