

Dear Friends,

This is not the letter I was expecting to write to you. However, the death of Pope Francis on Easter Monday morning demands our attention. The death of any Christian leader needs to be marked and especially when that leader is the head of one of the world's largest Christian denominations. This Pope could lay claim to many 'firsts': he was the first pope to take the name Francis, after St. Francis of Assisi, he was the first pope from South America, he was the first Jesuit pope, he was the first pope for many centuries to be able to meet with his predecessor, Pope Emeritus Benedict, he was the first pope to address the American Congress, he will be the first pope for over a century to be buried outside the Vatican etc etc the list goes on.

The British Methodist Church has issued a statement: Even to the final days of his long life, by his actions and his words, Pope Francis continued to set forth the gospel of God's love in Christ. He spoke plainly of the hope that is to be found in Jesus Christ, showed profound compassion for those who are poor and marginalised, and gave particular emphasis to God's demand for global justice. Through his papacy, Francis has fostered an openness to Christians sharing together in the Church's life and mission, in ways which have broken new ground for the Catholic Church. In all these ways, for many Methodists Pope Francis's witness to the Christian faith holds a special resonance, and his loss is deeply felt.

Rev Dr Mark Wakelin, a former President of Conference and Chair of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the oldest faith-based peace movement in the UK, said:

"Today the Catholic Church lost its leader and the wider church lost a prophetic voice. Pope Francis was a beacon of hope in increasingly dark times. He dared to frequently speak God's truth of gospel nonviolence in a world that seems addicted to war. His statements on war, peace and gospel nonviolence, coupled with his intentional prioritising of ecumenical relationships have ensured his legacy will continue to send ripples beyond the Catholic Church".

Finally, a prayer from the Methodist Church:

Almighty God,  
we thank you that you continue to call disciples to represent you on earth.  
We recognise this call in the life, faith and ministry of Pope Francis.  
We give thanks for the unique gifts with which you blessed him for this task, and for his  
obedience in fulfilling all that you asked of him.  
Thank you for receiving Francis into the eternal home that you have been preparing for him.  
We pray that all who mourn his loss will be comforted and for the Conclave that will elect  
his successor.  
We hold before you the Catholic Church and pray that we might continue to work together  
for the unity of your Church and for peace, justice and compassion in your world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,  
Allan

## **Circuit Notices**

### **Peter Youngs – Funeral Arrangements**

Peter's funeral will take place on Thursday 8 May. There will be a Thanksgiving service at St. Mary's, starting at 2:30pm which will have been preceded by cremation attended by Peter's family. Refreshments will be served after the Thanksgiving service.

To assist with catering it would be helpful to have an idea of those planning to attend – details to [nigel.campion-smith@outlook.com](mailto:nigel.campion-smith@outlook.com) please.

For anyone wishing to write to Peter's family, please send cards or letters to Peter's address - 89 Farnham Road, Guildford GU2 7PF

### **A message from Walton Methodist Church**

*Dear Friends,*

*Walton is hosting its quarterly Pudding and Praise café style worship service this Sunday 27 April.*

*4.00pm for Puddings and 4.30 for the Praise bits...*

*Come and enjoy some fabulous puddings made by our crew of Brilliant Bakers and stay for an hours' café style worship, led by Breeze in the Church Hall. The theme in Part 2 of our Pudding and Praise worship series is "In" (thoughts on how we abide in Jesus and how he abides in us.)*

*All are Welcome.*

## **Resources**

### **Training Sessions to Support Dementia Care at Home**

Do you care for someone with a memory issue or dementia?

Free training sessions are available to support you to provide the best possible care at home, helping your loved one to live safely and well.

The training will be available at day centres and other community venues in Surrey and is spread over several sessions. Sessions are currently available in Guildford and Milford – please see below for details.

[Training sessions to support dementia care at home | Healthy Surrey](#)

# STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

## COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



1<sup>st</sup> April

8<sup>th</sup> April

15<sup>th</sup> April

22<sup>nd</sup> April

29<sup>th</sup> April



Enjoy Coffee & a Chat, Coffee & a Game, or Coffee & a Book

The choice is yours!

**Everyone welcome – bring a friend!**

**Saturday 26 April, 10.00am to 12 noon at Knaphill Methodist Church:**

**MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING AND SALE**

**BOOKS, DVDs, JIGSAWS, CAKES, BRIC-A-BRAC & MORE**

**KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

**4th Saturday every month (except December)**

**10am to Noon**

The advertisement features a central illustration of a woman in a green shirt and orange cap serving coffee at a counter. To her left is a white coffee cup on a saucer. To her right is a blue menu board listing "TEA", "COFFEE", "BISCUITS", and "BACON BUTTIES". Below the counter are various items for sale, including a lamp, a picture frame, and a bicycle. In the top left corner is a circular logo with a cross and the text "OUR CALLING KMC".



**SUNDAY  
27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
4.00pm**

# **PUDDING AND PRAISE**

This will be led by

Ross Richardson and Dave Paterson

Come and have some delicious puddings at 4.00pm and then settle down to some great praise, worship and contemplation at 4.30pm

**Delicious puddings and  
great Praise**

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**If you like a good  
pudding come and  
taste some**

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**Be uplifted by great  
praise songs  
led by 'Breeze'**

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**WALTON METHODIST  
CHURCH**

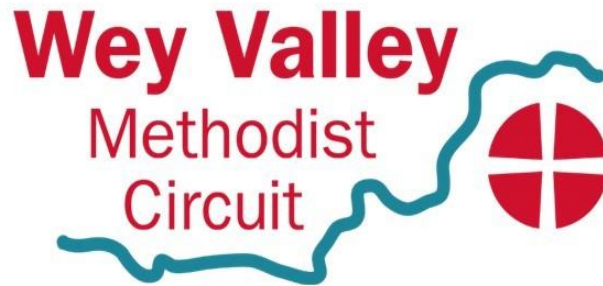
Terrace Road  
KT12 2SR

Telephone

01932 429184

<http://www.waltonmethodist.org>

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025 4pm



## **Circuit Service**

**In 2025/2026 we celebrate 60 years since  
the admission to the Order of Local  
Preachers of**

**Revd. Allan Taylor and Revd. Peter Hills  
and 70 years since the admission of  
Roland Hamon**

**This service will celebrate the significant  
milestone of 190 years of preaching, and give  
thanks to the faithful ministry of those who lead  
our worship.**



**Refreshments will be served after the service**

**Sunday 11 May 2025 3.00pm**

**Merrow Methodist Church  
Bushy Hill Drive, Guildford, GU1 2SH**



**COFFEE  
AND CAKE  
AT ST. MARY'S  
QUARRY ST. GUILDFORD GU1 3UP**

**APRIL - JUNE  
2025**

**10.30 – 12.00**



*Everyone welcome*

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**Thursday 24 April**

**Thursday 22 May**

**Thursday 26 June**

# Songs of Praise



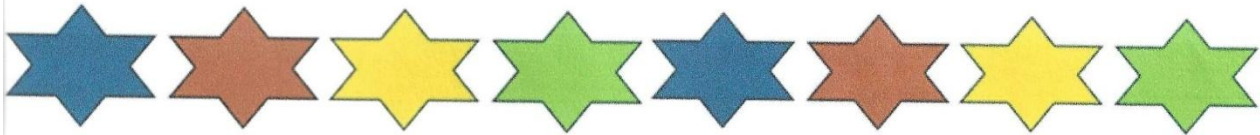
**Saturday May 17th**  
**Horsley**  
**Methodist Church**

(next to W.H. Village Hall)

**7.00p.m.**

Come and sing a selection of favourite hymns.

Phone 01483 282474 to make requests.



**Saturday morning events at the  
Addlestone Methodist Church café  
on Station Road**



**Come along between  
10am and 12 to enjoy  
tea/coffee and cake and  
join in with activities**

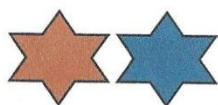
**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each  
month – Fun Bingo**

*Donations to Sam Beare Hospice  
or Open Doors Charity*

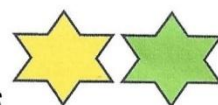


**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays – popular  
hymns & songs to sing to or just  
listen to.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – time for our Quiz**



*Check notice board for any changes*







# PET SERVICE



**Sunday 8th June**  
**15:30**

Walton Methodist Church,  
Terrace Road, KT12 2SR

Do come along to this short act  
of worship where our pets will  
be blessed.

Coffee, tea, biscuits and cakes  
served afterwards.

[www.waltonmethodist.org](http://www.waltonmethodist.org)

Charity No. 1174524

