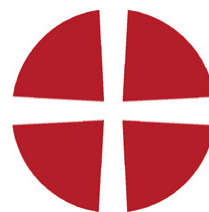


Upminster
Methodist Church



Newsletter
May 2018

About the Methodist Church



The Methodist Church is one of the largest Christian churches serving Great Britain, with nearly 209,000 members and regular contact with 800,000 people.

It has 4,812 churches in Great Britain, and also maintains links with other Methodist churches with a worldwide total membership of over 80 million.

Its activities, both alone and with ecumenical and secular partners, are based on four aims known as ***Our Calling:***

To increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

To help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care

To be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

To make more followers of Jesus Christ

Creator and sustainer of all that is, we worship you.

Saviour and friend of all humanity, we worship you.

Enabler and comforter of each disciple, we worship you.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we worship you.

New every morning is your love, eternal is your presence.

From start to finish, we worship you,
the first and the last.

Amen.

Graham Thompson, Plymouth and Exeter District Chair



Contemplative Worship

Upminster Methodist Church

Are you seeking to explore your spirituality and an alternative way to worship?

At Upminster Methodist church Revd. Jason Vinyard will be leading Christian Contemplative Worship on the third Sunday evening of each month from 6.30pm

This is a forty five minute Contemplative Service, with tea, coffee or hot chocolate served afterwards, for those wanting to stay and reflect



If you are interested and would like to find out more please have a look at the website www.upminstermethodistchurch.org or contact Revd. Jason Vinyard by phone 01708 223568 or by email revjcvinyard@gmail.com



Greetings.

So much is hidden from our sight.

We've been keeping an eye out for the hedgehogs during the winter months – they've been out and about in the garden some nights so Yvette and I made sure water and food were available for them. Spring has sprung and we've been enjoying watching them get back into their full time activities. We think there's three living in our garden.

Driving to church one Sunday recently, just around the corner from the manse, there in the road lay a hedgehog. It was clear that a car had run over it. I said to Yvette and Jasmine, 'Oh no! Look....it doesn't look like one of our hedgehogs.....but it's a bit flat and misshapen now'. (I know, I know). But *it really didn't look like one of the hedgehogs from our garden*. (I've learnt to tell them apart – they are all different sizes and have slightly different body shapes. Don't we all?). What a day – waiting to find out if hedgy was still with us. That evening, to our joy and excitement, all three joined us – their names: Hedgy 1, Hedgy 2 and Hedgy 3 – the hedgehog trinity (I know!).

The next day was my day off. I was pottering about in the garden. I ended up in (big mouthful coming) 'the natural wildlife but managed area'. You may recall that I wrote about this last year and about making a pile of logs, branches, twigs and leaves into a kind of wildlife high-rise block of flats. I also have another 'working' pile, a collection of matter that either takes a long time or is unsuitable for composting.

I enjoy using this for one of my favourite pastimes – garden fires! As it's now in the 'natural wildlife but managed area' I've scaled this activity down a bit and now use just an incinerator. When I had nearly incinerated one pile, I noticed Hedgy 3! I was working on my knees and running my hands through all the life-sustaining humus, while marvelling at the teeming and abundant life in it: beetles and spiders, woodlice and worms everywhere. The humus mixed with the soil is so rich and sweet smelling. It was here that I came across Hedgy 2 – who had made a home underneath the pile and who looked so warm and safe surrounded by so much humus and so much food! I was seeing life at a deeper level. I could look at a seemingly dead pile of wood but not see underneath where there is a wealth of life.

As a Presbyter, I receive many phone calls arising from the notice boards at Brentwood, Farmlands and Upminster Churches. I am privileged because so many of these calls are pastoral and therefore I get to see a little of the inside of the caller's life at these times. Conversely, if a caller asks, I outline all that goes on within the church – from Bible studies, Fellowship groups, Tots groups and Youth groups, Prayer groups and Anonymous meetings – and so much more. The caller may then understand at a deeper level that the church is not just old empty buildings but is absolutely teeming with life. Similarly, our lives are not empty with nothing going on within them.

I've been drawn to the fact that Jesus' first disciples needed to 'see again' and come to a deeper understanding after the resurrection. They needed to recognise that Christ's presence continued with them and to understand that life, death and resurrection are a continuum.

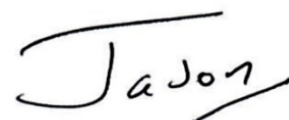
That leads me to ask: How do others see me? What do they see? Do I give life? Do they encounter something of the risen Christ in me? Where do I see Christ? Where do I need to see again – and at a deeper level?

I have a wooden hedgehog house and so I laid it next to Hedgy 2. I then covered them both with humus. I made a framework of small branches and covered these with leaves and such. I rebuilt Hedgy's home (it's about 4 feet wide, long and high). I put some food in and said 'I'm so sorry for not seeing you, please forgive me'. It's not just a pile of old wood and it's never empty. Quite the opposite, even during those winter months there is so much life inside.

We can't all see into each other's homes and family life; we don't all see into each other's churches and what's going on there, but we can trust that life is teeming. We need to trust together, wherever we are, whatever we are going through, whatever news we are waiting for – that life is happening all around us. In the resurrection appearances, I see again the ultimate truth that saves us – and it's inbuilt within the pattern of creation – of nature bursting forth again and again in resurrection. And that, dear friends, is a beautiful thing to see – for we are all a part of it. No matter what or where we are, resurrection is happening all around us and all of the time. In our homes and in our churches, in the community and throughout the world – and it will happen to you and me and that is guaranteed. We will see it, again and again and again. God knows and sees our hearts. We are held safe and loved and we always will be.

That is such Good News. Do not be afraid.

My Love and Prayers.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jason', with a stylized flourish at the end.

FAMILY NEWS

Revd. Teresa Rutterford

We are sad to announce the sudden death of Jerome the son of the Revd. Teresa, a former Minister of this Church, and her husband Peter. Jerome was forty years old.

Please remember Teresa, Peter and their two sons in your prayers. Thank you

Betty Barnes

It is with sadness to announce the death of Betty Barnes

The Thanksgiving service for the life of Betty Barnes will be held at the church at 1.00pm on Tuesday 1st May.

All are welcome to attend and to remember our friend Betty, at this service .

EASTER OFFERING DEDICATION

There will be an Easter Offering dedication service on Sunday 6th May at 4.30pm at The Circuit Mission Outreach Centre, Clockhouse Lane, Collier Row.
Thank you, all are welcome

ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT?

The 'Walk thru the Bible' will be held at Cranham Baptist Church on Saturday 2nd June between 10 am and 4.30 pm.
Details are on the poster in the corridor, or ring the Church on 01708 224851.

FAMILY COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is on Tuesday 5th June, at 8 pm in the Scout Den.

WE ARE FESTIVAL

This annual event will be held on Saturday 26th May and helpers are required afterwards AT THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH.

Please have a word with Judith Hall for fuller information.



David and Carole Jenkins

We couldn't believe that it has been 5 years since David and Carole joined the Steward Team, when we were discussing it at their last Stewards' meeting.

They brought a whole range of talents to the Team and could always be relied upon to volunteer, put vast amounts of energy and effort into everything they have been involved, and provide support to others.

All of the Stewards would like to thank them for everything they have organised, helped with or supported as Stewards.

Thank you.

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY GROUP

If any one is interested in joining a Prayer and Bible study group, and would like to come to a meeting to discuss about it.

Please contact : Linda Milton on the telephone number :
01708 220245

May God Bless this endeavour.

Linda Milton.

CHURCHES TOGETHER SOCIAL

With the thought that it would be a good idea for the various Churches to meet together, a social is planned for Saturday 12th May, from 1pm - 4pm.

The event is to be hosted by Kings Church, and will be at Gaynes School in the old 6th form block. There will be a BBQ, with various events arranged, including table tennis, snooker, etc in the games room in addition to board games and sports.

They would appreciate offers to help in running other acitivities, so if you would like to 'give a hand' or require further information, please have a word with Judith Hall or Valerie Kinder.

Please do support this event any time between 1pm and 4pm.

MESSY CHURCH – REPORT

On Tuesday 10th April, during the Easter holidays we held our second Messy Church. We had 21 families with 34 children attending, with children from 2 – 11 years old. Although the number of people attending was the same as the last event, many of the families were new.

This Messy Church was themed on New Life. We started with some relaxed time of talking and playing games – the marble run game has become very popular! We then went through to the main hall to explore the theme through crafts of all kinds, from origami to sticking and gluing and rolling marbles in paint.

After all the mess and chaos, we had a time of celebration and singing in the Church.

Finally, we shared a sandwich lunch with everyone before they left after having a great morning.

Thank you to everyone that came and helped and were a part of the event. If you feel you can help out at our next event on Sunday 20th May please contact me.

Our planning meeting for the next Messy Church will be Tuesday 1st May in the Parlour at 8pm. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible to give input for the next event.

Sarah Harris



CHILDREN AND FAMILY WORKER - REPORT

After some time off with the new addition to the Harris Family I would like to say thank you for all the love, prayers and support during my maternity leave. Thank you to all the people who have taken on so many jobs and creating new and exciting events to take part in as well as come back to.

New events coming up

The next Messy Church will be on Sunday 20th May from 10am till 12.30pm finishing with a lunch. If you would like to attend, please sign your name on the sheet at the back of the church so we know the numbers for catering purposes.

If you would like to help out with this event, please let me know.

Crèche

There are number of children that currently use the crèche and we need to set up a rota of volunteers to help out. If you feel you are able to volunteer for this please, let me know and I would be happy to talk things through.

Summer holiday clubs

The holiday clubs will still be going ahead this year and details will start to filter out soon, but due to some hall maintenance we are planning to hold clubs on the weeks commencing Monday 13th August and Monday 20th August during the school holidays.

Lots more to come in the future weeks and many things to look forward too, please feel free to contact me on phone, 07511377351 or 01708 222278, or email sarahupminstermc@gmail.com

Sarah Harris

WESLEY DAY 24TH MAY

Another year has rolled around and it will soon once more be 24th May, the day which is commemorated and celebrated by the 75 million strong worldwide Methodist Communion in memory of the evangelical conversion of its co-founder John Wesley, which took place in the year 1738. But, you may say, that was 280 years ago in the 18th Century, so what relevance does it still have to people of Upminster Methodist Church, living in the second decade of the 21st Century?

After all, John Wesley has now been buried in his tomb at the rear of Wesley's Chapel in the City Road for 227 years. Further, his conversion experience happened in very different circumstances, under the very different conditions prevailing in the smaller, less cosmopolitan, London of his day.

Why then should we and Methodists worldwide continue to commemorate that first Wesley Day and to do so with grateful hearts?

If anyone had cause to ask such questions then it is hoped that this timely article will help to provide answers, or at least serve as a reminder of the need for maintaining a tradition which witnesses to the Love of God to his people and the essential truth of Christ's Saving Grace.

Specifically, this will be attempted by, amongst other things, calling attention to some of the events which are known from John's own writings, to have influenced him and his brother Charles, on, or, before the 24th May 1738, and relating them to particular places in London which were involved in such experiences.

In this way it is hoped to show the relevance of why they should continue to be a feature of the modern day Wesley pilgrimages which we can all take.

Perhaps, before we begin to trace the course of such a journey, we should pause to consider what perhaps it might be like today if the particular happenings which both preceded and occurred on the original 1738 Wesley Day had perhaps never taken place.

Such speculations are worth considering and are likely to come up with a wide range of answers, one of which is that the world would now be likely to be a very different, perhaps less caring place, but to confine ourselves to the superficial, then one scenario could be that Upminster Methodist Church, and the Romford Circuit of which it is part, the world wide Methodist Community or anything similar, would be unlikely to exist.

As they say, “it makes you think” as it is one of the great WHAT IF? Questions to consider as the article opens. To reiterate, what if the momentous event which Wesley Day commemorates had never happened?

This is in fact a very strong possibility as, prior to May 1738, John Wesley had been living a comfortable, well paid, not too demanding a life, as a Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford; an appointment of which he was immensely proud as testified on the title pages of all his publications, and recorded on his tomb stone.

So engaged, he might have continued to live his life as an Oxford Don to the end of his days, although, there was one incident that might suggest otherwise. This was when he made the perilous crossing of the Atlantic Ocean, in one of the tiny wooden sailing ships of the day, to the then remote, and barely civilised, war threatened, English colony of Georgia in North America.

There, to try his hand, in the company of his non-too willing younger brother Charles as fellow missionaries to the indigenous peoples. This, therefore, suggests that even in 1735, and at the, for then, advanced age of 32, when no longer in the “first flush of youth”, John still nursed ambitions and was not yet prepared to devote his life to being just an academic.

Nevertheless the failure of his mission to both the native peoples as well as to the settlers in the colony to whom he had gone to minister and who, in the main, rejected him with hostility, coupled with the premature return home of his brother, could have sent him scurrying back to the safe haven of his Oxford college.

That this did not happen might owe something to the insights gained from his encounters with the Georgia colonists, but most particularly with the Moravian emigrants he travelled with on the voyage out to America, as well as the subsequent conversations with their leaders both in Georgia and back in Britain.

Certainly, the whole Georgia episode and his discoveries in the American colonies of the realities of slavery, with insights gained learning from the Moravians what the result of a deep faith in Christ could be, in serving to shape his thinking, helped to the change in his life which ensured that the “might have been”, never actually came to pass.

The medieval Christian Church sometimes likened life to being akin to the tortuous journey through a labyrinth that they often symbolised in the form of the tiled pathways they laid out at the entrance to a cathedral, but, in reality, the lives of most people would appear to be more to resemble a maze with many dead ends and false turns on the way.

Certainly the life of John, and to some extent Charles, can be so likened, especially in the period leading up to their evangelical conversions.

Indeed, some of the episodes of set back and necessary changes of course in his life path outlined in John Wesley's Journal which he describes as occurring to him at that time, as well as during the 35 years of his prior existence before the life changing event of May 1738, came to be seen by him as the necessary preparations for the work that then occupied him for the subsequent more than half a century.

From the information in the diaries and journals of both John and Charles, it would seem that for most of their early adult lives they had both been avidly looking to find a purpose in life as well as chasing something which on consideration they realised had always been within their grasp, if only, instead of trying so hard they had surrendered themselves to, *"Trusting in Christ above for salvation and for the assurance that he had taken our sins, even our sins, and had saved us from the law of sin and death", and "to finding ourselves at peace with God and rejoicing in the hope of a loving Christ"*.

Still, this was their retrospective understanding of the outcome of that extraordinary May of 1738, written when they had had the opportunity to digest their experiences. However, that was only after their mature reflection on the events, and we are going to meet John and Charles at the point in their lives at the beginning of the year 1738 when they had returned from America and were still seeking, as John Wesley recorded in Journal, *"A Justifying saving faith, a full reliance on the blood of Christ shed for me; a trust in Him, as my Christ, as my sole justification, sanctification, and redemption"*.

The Conversion of Charles Wesley.

Now, although it is this conversion of John that we particularly commemorate, it must not be forgotten that it took place only after a very similar experience had happened to his younger brother. As to the latter event, it took place at a site which is close to the City of London Church of St Botolph without Aldersgate, and just around the corner in the street called Little Britain.

Here, about halfway along, in today's London, will be found a blue plaque marking the site of the former workshop and home of the brass worker John Bray. The residence of this artisan, who was a member of one of the Moravian religious societies, was where Charles Wesley had chosen to go to stay when he was ill with pleurisy.

It was here that the encounter of Charles with the humble faith exemplified by the life of John Bray, and the spiritual guidance provided by the latter's sister, Mrs Turner, were instrumental in the evangelical conversion of Charles. A coincidental consequence of which would seem to have been his rapid recovery from illness since both events happened on Pentecost Sunday, May 21st 1738.

John Wesley recorded the news of both of these events in his Journal entry:

“Sunday May 21st: On Whit Sunday, after hearing Dr Heylyn preach a truly Christian sermon, I received the surprising news that my brother had found rest for his soul. His bodily strength returned also from that hour. Who is so great a God as God?”

The Conversion of John Wesley

No doubt John must longed for the same “rest for his soul”, as had his brother on May 21st, since for the next few days, as noted in his Journal, he, *“had continual sorrow and heaviness of heart”*. He was still troubled on the morning of 24th May, when he got up at his usual early hour, from his bed in his lodgings at James Hutton's book shop, The Bible and Sun, which was in what was then Little Wild Street, (now Keeley Street), close to Lincoln's Inn Fields, in Holborn.

Here, in the early hours of the morning of that Wednesday, John prayed, then sought guidance from Scripture, as was his customary practice of opening the Bible at random, when his eyes were caught by the words: *“Though art not far from the Kingdom of God”*, verse 34 of the 12th Chapter of Mark’s Gospel.

Then in the late afternoon, John went to the Evensong service at St Paul’s Cathedral, where the anthem was Psalm 130, *“Out of the depths, have I cried unto Thee O Lord”*. Then in the evening of that day, John was persuaded by his landlord, James Hutton, they should go together to a Moravian Society meeting which was being held in the, now long gone, venue of Hall House which was then located in a narrow passageway opening off the east side of Aldersgate St. John records in his Journal that he went *“very unwillingly”* with Mr Hutton.

While this apparent reluctance on John’s part may have had some other cause, we can all sympathise. The prospect of attending a late night meeting is one few find appealing, especially if, like John they had been up since 4.00 am, had already had a busy day and were sure of not being able to retire to sleep until long after the normal 9.00pm bed time. But, what ensued, is an example of what wonderful things might happen, if albeit hesitantly, or reluctantly, we abandon natural inclinations and usual habits.

If, that night, John had refused Mr Hutton’s invitation, had stayed in his lodgings and gone to bed, then he might have had a good night’s sleep, but would have woken with his yearnings still unfulfilled and an opportunity lost.

Fortunately, for us, John, reluctantly maybe, attended the meeting, for it was there that the singular event we commemorate, and celebrate, took place.

As recorded in John's Journal, he wrote, that he was sitting in the meeting listening as, "*someone*", was reading from Martin Luther's "Preface to the Epistle of Paul to the Romans", when, "*About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart by faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed and an assurance was given me he had taken away my sins even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death*".

Exactly what happened to John is as difficult for us now to ascertain as it was for him then to find words to describe it, and indeed, he was never quite sure what to make of this experience either at the time or later on the several later occasions he records giving it reconsideration. Nevertheless, it was then enough to make him leave the meeting as soon as possible in order to hurry around as quickly as he could to John Bray's house to tell Charles.

The ensuing meeting being described in Charles Wesley's Journal: "*Towards ten, my brother was brought in triumph by a troop of our friends and declared, I BELIEVE*".

The assembled company are then understood to have sung the hymn, (now: No 454 in StF), *Where shall my wandering soul begin*, that is thought to have been composed by Charles to celebrate his own conversion. One fruit of which was to release the flood of scripture based poetry that was turned in to the powerful hymnody which fuelled revival and taught the burgeoning Methodist societies the basic theology which changed lives then and still retains the power to do so today.

Although, to an extent, John later tended to down play the significance of his Aldersgate Experience, it would seem to us that this was his “Damascus Road” which changed his cerebral belief into one of heart and soul then imparted the evangelical zeal that tore him away from the possibility of ever again retreating back to comfortable academia; to instead to spend the rest of his life in the restless search to fulfil the mission which he considered he been entrusted by God to preach, “*The glad tidings of salvation to all who would listen*”, and while seeking to revive the Church of England by spreading scriptural holiness, to inadvertently found a new branch of Christianity by living out and practising the implications of his faith.

Hill House and Nettleton Court as well as the site of John Bray’s house, have long since been redeveloped out of existence, but a blue plaque marks the probable position of the latter.

As for Hill House, the Aldersgate Flame monument, the large bronze sculpture located just outside the main entrance to the Museum of London, stands immediately above the place where John Wesley had his “*Heart strangely warmed*”, that first Wesley Day.

If the Aldersgate experience of 1738 had never happened then indeed, as suggested, John Wesley might well have ended his days as an obscure Oxford don and his brother Charles as a country parson with a penchant for poetry.

Nevertheless the religious revival of the 18th Century would assuredly have still taken place, although God's agents, who were its prophets and preachers, would perhaps have been those others, the now near forgotten contemporaries of John and Charles, and its fruits would assuredly have come down to us in some other form unattached to the name of Wesley.

But there, speculation ends as must this article.

Keith Dutton.

**The Wesley Players
present**

**The W. I. Blues
By John Peel**

Story: The W. I. Blues is a light comedy by John Peel. Grace is hosting an unofficial W. I. meeting at her home. She has called a few friends round to discuss, prior to the forthcoming AGM, the threat to the organisation by the "wrong sort of people" in the village.

Will the evening go as smoothly as she expects?

Prices: £7 for Adults, £5.50 for Concessions and £3.50 for Children (under 16).

As usual, Senior Citizens are admitted free to the Thursday & Friday evening shows.

Tickets will be available on the door or may be booked in advance via the Box Office (text or phone) 07708 214742 or email tickets@wesley-players.co.uk.

Performances: are at 8.00pm on Thursday, 17th, Friday, 18th and Saturday, 19th May 2018.

Location: Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, 10, Hall Lane, Upminster, Essex. RM14 1AE.



WHITECHAPEL MISSION **5p's COLLECTION**

The 5p collection continues and thank you for all your previous donations, we have collected another £100 and it helps a great deal with the work of the mission.

Jean Nicholls

Letter from Whitechapel Mission

Please convey to the members of Upminster Methodist Church our sincere thanks and gratitude for their kind donation of clothing in support of our work amongst people who have the misfortune to be homeless.

Supporting our clients takes many forms; from simply providing a hot meal and a sympathetic ear, to the task of helping an individual to gain the skills and confidence necessary to prepare them to sustain a tenancy and regain their rightful place in the community.

Your support is particularly welcome now and in the future as we strive to meet the constant increase in demand for the services, simple and specialised, we provide in your name.

Thank you for being our partner in this work.



A NEW YOUTH CLUB

Essex Boys & Girls Clubs are starting a new youth club to meet at the church on Tuesday evenings. See poster. It's hoped to start on 24th April, running from 6pm – 8pm.

Although not run by the church, we hope to have involvement both with helpers and members.

Volunteers are needed to help on club nights and some days out. The role would suit someone interested in working with all young people, in a fully inclusive environment. Helpers wouldn't be expected to attend every week. If you are interested in helping, or attending as a member, please talk to Peter Caton (peter.caton@adhtechnical.com 07770 851362) or Katie Churchill (katiec@essexboysandgirlsclubs.org 0785 6027439).

This will be an inclusive club for anyone aged 10 to 25, although depending on numbers and ages it may split into two age groups. It will be good to see our halls alive with young people on Tuesday evenings again.

Peter Caton



BEWARE – Scams and Fraud

A number of local elderly have fallen victim of a courier scam, but it isn't just the elderly who can be the victims of scams.

They make a living scamming people but, unfortunately, they generally prey on individuals that Society should be looking after not taking advantage of.

Before reading further you need to know that banks will not call you and ask for your bank account details, especially your PIN number either verbally or keyed on your phone, and neither the police or your bank will ask you to make a large withdrawal as part of an investigation they are conducting.

There are various versions of the courier scam but the current one follows this scenario:

The fraudsters cold call you pretending to be from your bank or from the police. They claim there is an issue with your bank account or request your assistance with an ongoing bank or police investigation. The ultimate aim of this call is to trick you into parting with your money either in person, online, via a money service bureau or in a bank. They may even ask you to buy high value goods, foreign currency or gift cards such as iTunes.

During the call they may claim they are conducting an investigation, often saying it involves corrupt bank employees or police and ask for your help or say your account is at risk. If they manage to convince you, they instruct you to carry out a task which effectively involves you handing over your money.

These include:

- Asking you to attend your bank branch, withdraw a large sum of money which they will then collect from you as evidence or that it is going to be sent off for forensic or fingerprint analysis.
- Asking you to withdraw large amounts of foreign currency, which will similarly be collected by a courier from your home address.
- Asking you to provide details over the phone, including typing in your PIN number. Then handing over your bank cards to a courier sent to your address. Sometimes they ask you to cut them into a few pieces.
- Asking you to purchase high value items, such as expensive watches to 'clear criminal funds' which will again be collected by a courier.

In all of the above they will assure you that you will soon be reimbursed and thank you for your help to prevent fraud.

When you are making the large withdrawals at the bank you will have been instructed not to tell them any of the reasons you are doing it as the cashier/manager might be part of the fraud team that they are investigating.

Some other scams are:

- Phone calls where the caller claims to be from Microsoft, your internet provider or even the police stating that your computer IP address has been hacked. These calls normally lead to them offering to sort the matter by you giving them remote access. Once they have access they may ask you to check your bank account hasn't been compromised but, when you do this, they will have your log in details as they can see the keys you are using and even before the call is over they will have cleared your accounts and may even take out loans in your name.

- You receive a knock at your door and the caller tells you that your roof, gutters or some other item has a problem.

They offer to fix it straight away and agree a price with you. They may ask for a payment in advance to buy the materials and, once paid, won't be seen again.

However some will start the work and then say the job is bigger than they had originally thought and say it will cost more. They will often escort you to the bank to get the money. The work is often not required, they have charged massively in excess of the true cost and/or they leave your property in a worse state of repair than when they first knocked.

Banks, the police, internet providers and other such people will rarely contact you in this way but, if you think it is genuine do the following:

- Obtain any applicable reference number from the caller.
- End the call. Make sure you get dialling tone. Look up and ring the organisations published telephone number. DON'T use any number given by the caller.

You could also contact someone that you trust to talk over the call. This could be a family member, good friend or even a trusted member of the Church.

Remember these people will be friendly and convincing as they do it for a living. Take care!!

ATTENTION - Car Parking Permits

To assist with the identification of legitimate parking on our premises, car parking permits have been issued.

It is important that EVERYONE who has a permit displays it clearly in their car's front window whenever they park on the premises, except on Sundays.

If every legitimately parked car has a permit displayed it is easier to identify cars that have no legitimate reason for being on the premises. Also those drivers who should not be parking there will see that other cars have a permit and it may deter them.

If you have misplaced your permit, please see Chris Wheeler asap.

Together we can stop unauthorised parking enabling those with a valid reason to be parking to do so.

Thank you.



QUIZ NIGHT - Very Advance Notice

By popular demand there will be a Quiz Night in the Wesley Hall on Saturday 6th October.

Please make sure that you keep the date free so that you can come and have some fun!!!

Tickets will be available nearer the time.

Thank you.

Peter Hobbs



J.M.A. COFFEE AND PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 12TH MAY

10.00AM – 12 NOON

We will be holding a sale on the 12th May from 10.00am until 12 noon.

Any donations of bric-a-brac, cakes, books or plants would be appreciated.

Thank you for supporting J.M.A.

Jenny Smy

J.M.A. Co-ordinator



Romford Methodist Circuit

COME FLY

DIARY DATES OF CIRCUIT EVENTS 2018

MAY

Sunday 6th - 4.30pm Circuit Easter Dedication service at the Circuit Mission Outreach Centre, Collier Row led by the COMEFLY Team

JUNE

Saturday 23rd - 7.30am Circuit Prayer Walk starting at Farmlands, Doddinghurst and finishing at Rainham with light refreshments and an act of worship at 7.30pm

Sunday 24th – 4.30pm Circuit Mission Celebration service in Aid of Mission in Britain at Circuit Mission Outreach Centre, Collier Row. Speaker Revd. Ashley Cooper, Principal of Cliff College

JULY

Sunday 29th – 4.30pm Circuit BBQ + Summer Praise at Revd. David Jebb's, 12 Oaklands Avenue, Romford RM1 4DB. Collection for the Circuit Mission Outreach work.

More dates to follow in future editions



Newsletter – *The next newsletter will be the June issue. Please forward material to Allyson Hill by the 15th May .*

The newsletter email address is
upminster.newsletter@gmail.com

If you would like to receive the monthly Newsletter by email please place your request via the email address above.

The views expressed in articles in this magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the editor, minister or officers of the church.

Weekly Notices - Items for the weekly Notices sheet should be sent to **upmethodistchurch@btinternet.com** or pass to Allyson Hill

If you would like the weekly Notice sheet emailed please email Allyson Hill

METHODIST BLOG

If you wish to read the President and Vice President's blog on a regular basis, please go to the Methodist Church website at **www.methodist.org.uk** and there you will be able to follow the links on a regular basis.

You may find other articles of interest too on a weekly/ monthly basis.





FLOWER ROTA

Very many thanks, as always, to both providers and arrangers:

	Provider	Arranged by
May 6th	Marilyn & Andrew Milne	June Dutton
13th	Eileen Larrington	Chris Hughes
20th	Grace Ababio	Grace Ababio
27th	Allison Winegarden	Chris Hughes

We still have several Sundays during the year when there isn't anyone providing flowers, especially for June and September. If you would like to, perhaps in memory of a loved one or a special anniversary, please contact Chris Hughes or add your name to the list on the noticeboard at the back of the Church. We would be most grateful. Thank you.



Upminster Methodist Church Weekly Activities

If you have a date or activity you wish to add, please let the editor know at upminster.newsletter@gmail.com



Holy Communion

Wednesday 10.00am – 11.00am



Gateway Tea, coffee and chat

Monday and Wednesday 10.00am – 12 noon



Choir and Band Practice

Fridays and Saturdays as announced
7.30pm

Adult Badminton

Thursdays 8pm – 9.30pm

All abilities welcome



Wesley Players

Mondays 8.00pm



Patchwork Group

Mondays 1pm





Tots and Co

Tuesdays in term time
9.30am – 11.30am

Uniformed Groups

Mondays	5.00pm	Rainbows
	6.15pm	Brownies
	7.15pm	Guides and Rangers
Wednesdays	6.30pm	Cub Scouts
Thursdays	6.00pm	Beaver Scouts
Fridays	7.30pm	Scouts



SUNDAY WORSHIP

MAY

6TH

10.00am: Revd. John Chambers
4.30pm: Easter Offering at CMOP

13TH

10.00am: Revd. Jason Vinyard – All Age Worship and Parade

20th

10.00am: Mrs C Simmons POT
6.30pm: Revd. Vida Foday – Contemplative Service

27th

10.00am: Revd. Jenny Kirby – Holy Communion



"You are still pulling a bit too hard Mr Dunn!"