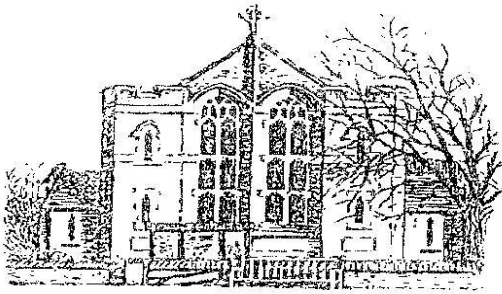


UPMINSTER METHODIST CHURCH



Church Notices
27th September 2020
www.upminstermethodistchurch.org

WEEKLY NOTICES

- Revd. Joseph Riberio's 11.00am zoom service can be found on the email page.
- Revd. Jason Vinyard 7.00pm zoom service can be found on the email page.

(if you wish to dial into Revd. Jason Vinyard's service using your telephone, please use one of the numbers below and then you will be asked to enter the meeting ID number, including hash tag)

Dial by your location

0203 051 2874 United Kingdom

0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

0203 481 5240 United Kingdom

0131 460 1196 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 816 4329 4747#

Also you can find the link for the Rainham Foodbank which includes a monetary donation section.

From Luke 10: 38-42, 11: 1-4

Jesus Visits Martha and Mary ³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴² there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

The Lord's Prayer ¹¹ He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' ² He said to them, 'When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

From Singing the Faith, hymn number 718

- 1 We lay our broken world
in sorrow at your feet,
haunted by hunger, war and fear,
oppressed by power and hate.
- 2 Here human life seems less
than profit, might and pride,
though to unite us all in you,
you lived and loved and died.
- 3 We bring our broken towns,
our neighbours hurt and bruised;
you show us how old pain and wounds
for new life can be used.
- 4 We bring our broken loves,
friends parted, families torn;
then in your life and death we see
that love must be reborn.

5 We bring our broken selves,
confused and closed and tired;
then through your gift of healing grace
new purpose is inspired.

6 O Spirit, on us breathe,
with life and strength anew;
find in us love, and hope, and trust,
and lift us up to you.

Anna Briggs (b. 1947) Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words
Edition, number **718** Words: © Anna Briggs

From WATCHING for the KINGFISHER, poems and prayers, Ann Lewin

Too busy to pray

It must have smarted,
That implied rebuke. *
She was only doing
What hospitality required,
And they would both
Want to be fed.
But when she thought about it later,
I wonder if she realised
She too had a choice?
She could have sat with Mary at his feet
Absorbed in his teaching,
Enlarging her inner space;
Work would have waited.
Perhaps then Mary would have
Joined her in the chores,
And both discovered
The better part that
None can take away,
Their work transformed
By the presence
They had practised.

*Luke 10: 38-42

From The Methodist Prayer Handbook Day 27 We offer you our hands, O Lord,
to do your work; our lips to sing your praise; our life to proclaim your glory and our
heart to serve you in our neighbour; for Jesu's sake. Amen.

Hildegard of Bingen (1098- 1179)

RE-OPENING OF UPMINSTER METHODIST CHURCH

The anticipation is that Upminster Methodist Church will open its doors on Sunday 11th October 2020.

However, it will open with a vastly reduced congregation, maximum of 12 people, with the service being broadcasted via You Tube, allowing more of the congregation to take part virtually.

It is imperative that we have enough volunteers and so far we have four people who are willing to help. Unfortunately, this is not enough to make it safe and practical to open. If we cannot get more volunteers then the opening of the Church to the congregation will be cancelled until we have sufficient numbers.

However, the live streaming will commence on the 11th October.

Below are the strict guidelines that will need to be adhered to if you wish to personally attend the Church.

1. Do not come if you have any of the symptoms of Covid-19, including high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell etc.
2. You will need to book in advance, please do not just turn up and once we are at capacity, no one else will be able to come.
3. When you book you will be asked to provide us with your name, address and phone number as these details have to be kept for 21 days. You will also be asked how many seats you require. If you have booked and find you can no longer come, please do cancel so others can take your place.
4. The doors will not be open until 15 minutes before the service in order to reduce the length of time we are in contact with one another. This means that if you arrive early you can remain in your car rather than needing to stand and queue.
5. Everyone will need to observe social distancing. There can be no handshaking, hugging, kissing or physical contact at all.
6. Stewards will direct you to your allocated seat (you cannot necessarily sit in your favourite seat, please sit where you have been asked). There is also a

one-way system in place in the church building. Please keep to it without exception.

7. The wearing of masks in the building is now required by law unless you're exempt for medical reasons and there will be no singing, open prayer or shouted out comments or responses.

8. At the conclusion, there will be no drinks and you will be encouraged to leave the building relatively quickly.

9. There are a number of hand sanitisers around the building including at the entrance and by all the toilets. Please sanitise your hands as you enter the building.

We recognise that this may feel a bit daunting, but we are required to follow this guidance. The reality is that it will feel very familiar to you as this is what many of us have been doing in recent weeks. Yes we are people of faith and believe in the protection of God, but in the words of Jesus when tempted by Satan to jump, responded "we should not put the Lord thy God to the test." _Along with faith, God also gave us common sense.

Thank you to those who have volunteered so far. However, we still require more people to enable the Church to open, without them, we can't.

There are still a number of hurdles to overcome before we can start and we will need volunteers to undertake the following roles:

- Door Stewards - checking people in and showing them to the designated pews
- Booking Secretary - To answer calls and list names of the intended attendees
- Cleaning volunteers - to ensure the Church is cleaned after the service to a strict regime
- Track and Trace Co-ordinator - to keep a list of all (including volunteers) attendees of the service

If you feel that you are able to volunteer for one of the above, please contact us on upminster.newsletter@gmail.com and someone will contact you with more details.

Due to the COVID situation, everyone should put their own welfare first, and not feel obligated to put your name forward, especially if you are a volunteer at the present time.



Dial a prayer and podcast

During lockdown we heard that many people didn't have access to online services so we set up free phone lines that are updated on a Thursday with a new prayer and our podcast.

We are delighted that nearly 6000 people have used this service and would ask you to share the numbers with anyone you know who might not wish to use online services.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

FAMILY NEWS

- Trevor Chapman (& his twin brother) recently celebrated their 60th birthday. Happy Belated Birthday to you both!



Don't forget, if you have any news of any kind that you wish to share with the congregations, please send an email to: upminster.newsletter@gmail.com

CHURCH FLOWERS

Every year many of us sign up to contribute towards flowers for the Church arrangement each week, others arrange the flowers and then flowers are distributed to members of our Church family on a Monday. Obviously over the last few months there have been no flowers, however, now seems a good time to start distributing flowers to our Church friends again.

Some people are able to be out and about a little more, others are still having to shield, and although we are still trying to find a way to re-open our Church in a safe way we would like our Church family and friends to know we are still thinking of them.

If you would like to contribute to this new Flower Fund please put some cash into an envelope marked 'Flower Fund' and pop it through my door - 1 Oak Avenue. Margaret Wilkins has kindly offered to purchase some bunches of flowers and distribute them (as she would normally have done) Margaret will deliver during the week.

Caroline Kinder

OFFERTORY

It is with much regret that we have had to temporarily suspend all meetings on our premises which most unfortunately includes Sunday worship.

A number of you already give your offertory via standing order and at this time I would ask those of you who don't to consider pursuing this option should you wish to continue your regular giving, please contact Peter Hobbs for further details or set it up yourself from your bank as a monthly standing order quoting your envelope number as the payer reference.

The bank account details are; sort code 20-72-89 account number 73858618 in the name of Upminster Methodist Church Council.

SHOUT

Shout will not be meeting this week. A further update will follow in due course. If you want any update on activities for young people please email gordonmreed@gamil.com

PRAYERS, HYMNS AND SERVICES

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Church of England have set up a freephone telephone number called 'Daily Hope'.

When you ring the number they have a very good easy press button system for the caller to listen to hymns, prayers, services etc. Some of the items are updated daily and people can call the line at any time of the day, how often they want, completely free.

It is very easy to use for anyone who may not have any technology devices or are fearful of technology.

The number is: 0800 804 8044.

HALF MARATHON

I was hoping to take part in the Havering Half Marathon on 11th October, but it has now been announced that it has been cancelled.

There will be a virtual route in Hornchurch Country Park and I am waiting to learn how that works. The virtual route can be run any day in October and as many times as you want to try for better times.

I intend to run the virtual route at least once trying to hit my 2 hour target, but I might run it again if I miss my target.

This year I will be running for Macmillan and, if you would like to donate, please use the JustGiving link below, but donations by cash or cheque would also be appreciated.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/peter-hobbs11>

(Access link by typing in the address above into your Search Engine)

Thank you.

Peter Hobbs

FOODBANK UPDATE

Thank you all so much for your continued support.

The address to deliver the donations to is:

8 Hurst Park Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6DJ

SPONSORED SWIM

Many of you remember Sarah Harris, who was our Family Worker and recently took up a position at Frances Bardsley Academy. She shall be undertaking a sponsored swim to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society.

She will be swimming 12 miles in 12 weeks and if you would like to sponsor her please go to the link (you will need to type in the address below into your Search Engine).

<https://give.everydayhero.com/uk/swim-for-alzheimer-s>