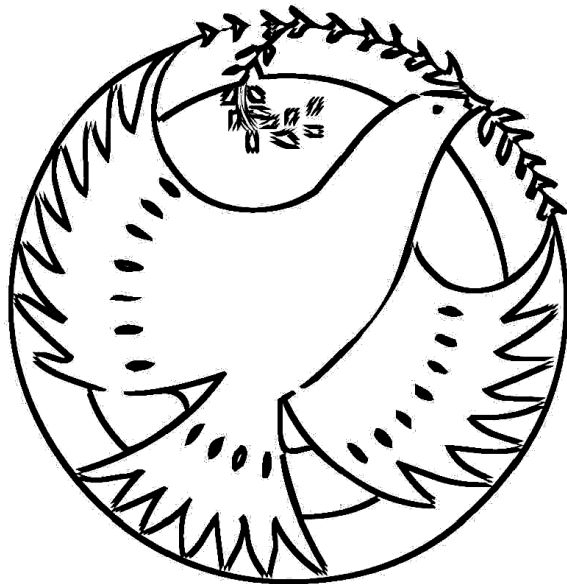
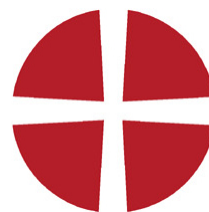


Upminster
Methodist Church



Newsletter
May 2019

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.

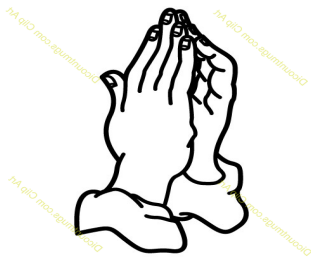
Its activities, both alone and with ecumenical and secular partners, are based on four aims known as ***Our Calling:***

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



Grant us grace, O God, to take your Son for our Redeemer; his life for our example, his word for our rule, his Spirit for our guide, his wounds for our healing and his cross for our salvation, that he may take possession of our hearts, now and for ever. Amen.

Jeremy Taylor (1613-1657)



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

A blessing for Jason as he goes on his sabbatical. We trust it will be a time of rest, refreshment and renewal:

May you enter trustingly into this sabbath space
May you enter quietly into this sabbath rest
May you enter joyfully into this sabbath play

Let your body unfold in this sabbath
Let your mind unwind into this sabbath
Let your spirit expand into this sabbath

May it reveal its secrets to you gently
May it embody its truth in you authentically
May it release new life in you abundantly

So go with gladness into this sabbath
Go with gratitude into this sabbath
And may the God who rests on the sabbath
Look at her labours in you
And proclaim, 'It is very good.'

FAMILY NEWS

It is with sadness to announce that

Allan Ramsden passed away suddenly. His funeral was on Tuesday 16th April. Allan's passing drew words of appreciation from far and wide, not just for what he did but for who he was, and the way that he lived his life. For all his many friends in so many places there is a huge sense of loss and that is of course greatest for his family. We remember especially Doreen, Stuart & Helen, Neil & Cath, Casey, Brody, Ally, Ryan & Mia



We were also saddened to hear of the passing of our dear friend Alan Nice recently.

His funeral service will take place on Monday 29th April at 10.30am in this church, followed by the Committal at the Crematorium.



Iris Hall who was a long standing member of this Church also passed away recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

ALLAN RAMSDEN, 1936 – 2019

Allan had such a full life that it is difficult to know where to start. He and his family moved to Upminster in 1977 from Ilford. He had been born and raised in the Brighouse area of Yorkshire but after serving in the RAF joined the Metropolitan Police, working mainly in the East End, where he met Doreen whom he married in 1959.

Once in Upminster Allan soon became one of the leaders of the Triune youth group. The young people clearly enjoyed the discussions which he led. Many also remember him for the time when after taking morning service at Dry Street Chapel we were cooking a stew on an open fire which wasn't going well. Allan got the fire going all right, with a liberal use of paraffin, but more than a hint of it could be detected when we tasted the stew!

The after thirty years service in the police Allan joined my firm where he worked preparing cases. When he started I don't think either of us realised he was going to be working with us for over 25 years after his first retirement!

Allan was a great team player and believed in having good a social bond with his colleagues in the office and previously in the police. He was enormously popular with everyone he met, and was hugely respected for his hard work, his commitment to the people he dealt with, his humanity and humility.

Allan loved sport. He was a football referee, and a West Ham season ticket holder. Most notably, he took up marathon running and completed marathons not just in London but across the world including New York, Athens (in blistering heat) and Berlin the first year they could run through the Brandenburg gate after the wall came down.

....cont'd

Allan had many other talents too. He was a fine artist and loved making models, especially his railway.

Allan's Christian faith took central place throughout his life. He served the Church in many ways. As well as being a youth leader he was a Church steward and led a fellowship group, initially with Margaret Pain, faithfully and regularly for more years than anyone can remember.

Probably Allan's biggest contribution to Church life was as a local preacher which he had done since 1963 – over 55 years. Many lay preachers take a service every three or four weeks but Allan did so virtually every single week right up until the end, both in the Romford Circuit and in the Barking Dagenham & Ilford circuit too.

Allan spoke often of the influence upon him of Doreen's father who had been a minister in the East End. He may perhaps not have realised then how many other people's lives he would go on to influence by his own preaching. This included the other preachers he mentored and encouraged. He often said that Christianity is as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago and he demonstrated this with his ability to use his wonderful store of everyday anecdotes, often from his Yorkshire childhood or from his working life in East London, to illustrate points. In this way he was able to really bring to life his deep faith and communicate it brilliantly to people of all ages.

cont'd....

...cont'd

Allan was very much a family man, and he was justifiably proud of the achievements of his children and grandchildren. Anyone who was present in the packed Church for the wonderful service of thanksgiving for his life cannot fail to have been moved by the wonderful tribute given by his grandson Brody on behalf of all the grandchildren, reminding us of the smile with which Allan did everything and the encouragement he had given to all of them.

Allan and Doreen formed a great partnership and he was always aware of and thankful for the way that she had been beside him in all that he did. In recent years when her health declined he was truly devoted in his care for her.

Allan's passing drew words of appreciation from far and wide, not just for what he did but for who he was, and the way that he lived his life.

For all his many friends in so many places there is a huge sense of loss and that is of course greatest for his family. We remember especially Doreen, Stuart & Helen, Neil & Cath, Casey, Brody, Ally, Ryan & Mia and pray that they will draw comfort from the knowledge that Allan was such a wonderful man who was such a positive influence for so many people.

He preached the love of God, and as David Jebb said in the memorial service he was someone who practised what he preached.

Gordon Reed

'SPRING CLEAN'

Spring has sprung and it's time to give the Church its annual Spring clean and get rid of any lingering pine needles and glitter!

We invite you to come along on the morning of Saturday 18th May from 9.30 am onwards until about lunchtime or for as long as you can spare. Any cleaning materials you can bring along would also be appreciated. Refreshments will be provided throughout the morning.

We look forward to welcoming you to what is a rewarding exercise and a good time for fellowship and getting to know new people. The congregation always comment on how fresh and clean the Church looks the next day!

With many thanks
The Stewards



HOLIDAY CLUB PLANNING

The planning meeting for Holiday club is Monday 20th May, even if you are unable to make the dates of the Holiday club it is always good to have extra people when planning for such a popular event.

HOLIDAY CLUB DATES

Holiday club Dates are set for primary school age children from 29th July to 2nd August and for children under five on 12th to 16th August.

Both clubs will be running in the morning and we will be looking for helpers for each day, not just with the children but also in kitchen preparations throughout the week and lunch on the Friday afternoon.

If you feel that you can give some time during these weeks please let me know.

Sarah Harris

BRENTWOOD HALF MARATHON

Peter Hobbs completed the Brentwood Half Marathon on 17th March and was running to raise funds for Methodist Homes for the Aged.

The amount of sponsorship was £520, plus Gift Aid.

Thank you to all sponsors for your support.



 The Methodist Church
London
ROMFORD CIRCUIT



Calling All Church Stewards!

Wendy Beard will be running a half-day training for church stewards on Saturday 1st June at Circuit Mission Outreach Project Centre, Clockhouse Lane, Collier Row, Romford RM5 3QP. Coffee and tea at 9.30am, starting at 10.00am and finishing before 1.00pm

*Duties and responsibilities,
What is a steward?*

Am I doing it right?

Tough issues!

What makes a good steward?



Please contact Rev David at djebb2003@gmail.com or call 07786907634 to book your place.

The training is for any stewards: those who have been doing it for many years and those who are just thinking about it or who are new to the role. The sharing of experiences, thoughts and examples are a vital part of the time together.

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL CIRCUIT BBQ!

Let's get together for no special reason. Just to celebrate, good food, good friends, good fellowship and an inspiring open-air Praise Worship.

You will enjoy BBQ, Fellowship and Summer Praise.

You are welcome to bring a dish to share, but you only need to bring your appetite and a welcoming smile.

When: Sunday 14th July 2019 at 4:30pm

Where: Circuit Mission Outreach Project Centre in Collier Row

Don't miss out on our delicious BBQ!

Offertory will be taken for the Circuit Mission Outreach Fund

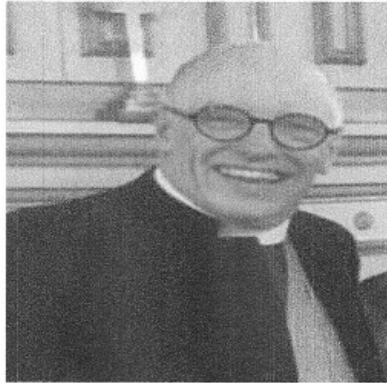
RSVP to David Jebb by 1st July 2019 01708 734005 email: djebb2003@gmail.com





ROMFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

MISSION WEEKEND 2019



*Saturday 15th June at 4:30 pm
at Hornchurch Methodist Church*

Afternoon Tea

*with the Rev Steve Wild,
former President of the Conference and
the Chair of the Cornwall District*

**All churches are invited to send five people to the afternoon tea ~
this will be a ticket event. for your tickets email: djebb2003@gmail.com**

Circuit Mission Celebration Service

**Sunday 16th June at 4.30 pm
Everyone is invited to the Circuit Mission Celebration
Service at CMOP Centre.**

Preacher: Rev Steve Wild

Refreshments will be served after the service.

Offertory will be taken for the Circuit Mission Fund.

THE EASTER OFFICER DEDICATION SERVICE

The Easter Officer Dedication Service on 12th May at 2019 at
4:30pm at Brentwood Methodist Church.

Theme for the service is '**Longer TABLES Lower FENCES.**'

Mrs Cathy Simmons is coordinating with the churches about
this service. We would like to encourage the churches to join
us at Brentwood on 12th May.

ROMFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT SERVICE

The Accreditation and Admission of
MRS CATHY SIMMONS
as a Methodist Local Preacher

Sunday 9th June 2019 at 4:30pm
at Brentwood Methodist Church,
Warley Hill, Brentwood CM14 5HA

Preacher
The Revd. Judith Maizel -Long

Led by
Rev. David Jebb & Mrs. Debby Freeman

You are warmly invited to attend the service and to stay for
refreshments after the service.

JMA COFFEE MORNING

On Saturday 11th May we will be holding a Coffee morning for JMA from 10.00am – 12 noon

We will be serving coffee, tea and cakes for £1. There will also be a cake stall, books and bric-a-brac.

Please keep this date in mind and come along and support us. Any items towards the stalls would be appreciated.

Thank-you
Jenny Smy JMA Co-ordinator



LIFEPATH SCHOOLS EVENT

Lifepath is an ecumenical schools event hosted at Upminster Methodist Church and planned by all the Churches involved.

Lifepath is a local schools event running this year with 2 different schools on Wednesday 12th June and Thursday 13th June from 9am to 2.30pm.

The children attend the Church all day and take part in five different workshops finishing with a time of reflection before they make their way back to school.

It is usually attended by year 6 children and they have a great time exploring how famous Christians live.

Any help you are able to offer on any of the days would be gratefully received, we need a number of helpers for the day and it is always a great event working with other Churches in the area.

Sarah Harris
Children's and Family Worker



The Wesley Players present

The 39 Steps



By John Buchan

Based on the classic novel by John Buchan and the 1935 Alfred Hitchcock thriller, the Wesley Players present “The 39 Steps”.

The plot finds our hero, Richard Hannay embroiled in espionage and a false accusation of murder. In a desperate attempt to prove his innocence, our hero escapes and finds himself on the run from dastardly murderers, double-crossing secret agents and a succession of hair raising escapades. The action includes an on stage plane crash, a death defying escape from the The Flying Scotsman over the Forth Bridge, handcuffs, missing fingers and some good old fashioned romance!

With only 4 actors playing multiple roles this is a fast paced and action packed adaption of one of the most famous spy novels ever written.

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 only) 07708 214742 or email tickets@wesley-players.co.uk.

Performances: are at 8.00pm on Thursday 16th, Friday 17th and Saturday 18th May 2019.

Location: Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane (next to 10 Hall Lane Dental Practice), Upminster, Essex. RM14 1AE.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPMINSTER, CRANHAM AND NORTH OCKENDON

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Dear All,

The Week of Prayer for our community this year will be held in the week beginning the 3rd June, with the United service on Sunday 9th June.

Rather than meeting every day at noon at Trinity Church as in past years, Churches Together are going to publicise the various events which will be taking place in our churches during that week and invite all to attend them. It is hoped that each church will incorporate the Week of Prayer into these events.

The programme for the week is still provisional.

Monday 3rd at 9.15am. Mass at St. Joseph's

Tuesday 4th at 8pm. Prayer Stations at Cranham Baptist Church

Wednesday 5th at 10am. Communion at Upminster Methodist Church

Wednesday 5th at 8pm. Prayer at Upminster Baptist Church

Thursday 6th at 10am. Mass at All Saints Church (followed by refreshments)

Thursday 6th at 7.30pm. Prayer walks beginning at St. Luke's Church and St. Laurence Church and meeting at 9pm. at All Saints church

Friday - tbc

Saturday 8th - Prayer as part of the Trinity URC coffee morning

Sunday 9th at 6pm. United service at All Saints Church (followed by refreshments .

We will update you in the weekly notices of the services.

For further information please speak to Val Kinder, Rosemary Connaughton or Judith Hall.



Hello, my name is Isabel Thomas, (Granddaughter of Keith and Hazel Nichols), and in 2020 I hope to be going on an expedition to Swaziland with the World Challenge Organization.

Part of this once in a lifetime experience also means that we get a chance to help the local community. This is a three-day period where we get to enjoy the Swaziland culture and immerse ourselves into the community. As we are so early in the fundraising process we do not know what the project will be yet, but we could be involved in, building or painting a school, teaching the children, tree planting and refurbishments to local buildings. We will also get to experience their day to day lives like trekking for water and learning how to make maize meals. As we have been told many times, the more we put in the more we get out!

That is why I am going to hold a coffee morning at the church, the more fundraising and participation I do, the more I will appreciate the experience.

Details of the coffee morning ...

When? Saturday 29th June

Where? In the church hall

Time? 10am – 12pm

What will be there? Hot and cold drinks, cakes, biscuits, plants, bric a brac, sweet cones, hand made gifts and lots more.

I really hope you will be able to come and I look forward to seeing you then and telling you about my exciting adventure.



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



Many thanks, as always, to both providers and arrangers:

	<u>Provider</u>	<u>Arranged by</u>
May 5th	Hazel & Keith Nichols	Judith Hall
12th	Carole & Brian Webb	Chris Hughes
19th	Grace Ababio	Grace Ababio
26th	Joyce Sarling	Sheila Toon

Very many thanks also to Julie & Ian Leadley, Joyce Carter, Rosemary Connaughton, Sheila Toon and Sue Eyre who all provided flowers during April.

Thank you to everyone who has added their name to the flower list at the back of the church following my plea last month. We are extremely grateful.



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 2019

5th

10.00am: Mrs Debbie Freeman
6.30pm: Revd. David Jebb Holy Communion

12th

10.00am: Racheal Reed All Age Worship
and Parade

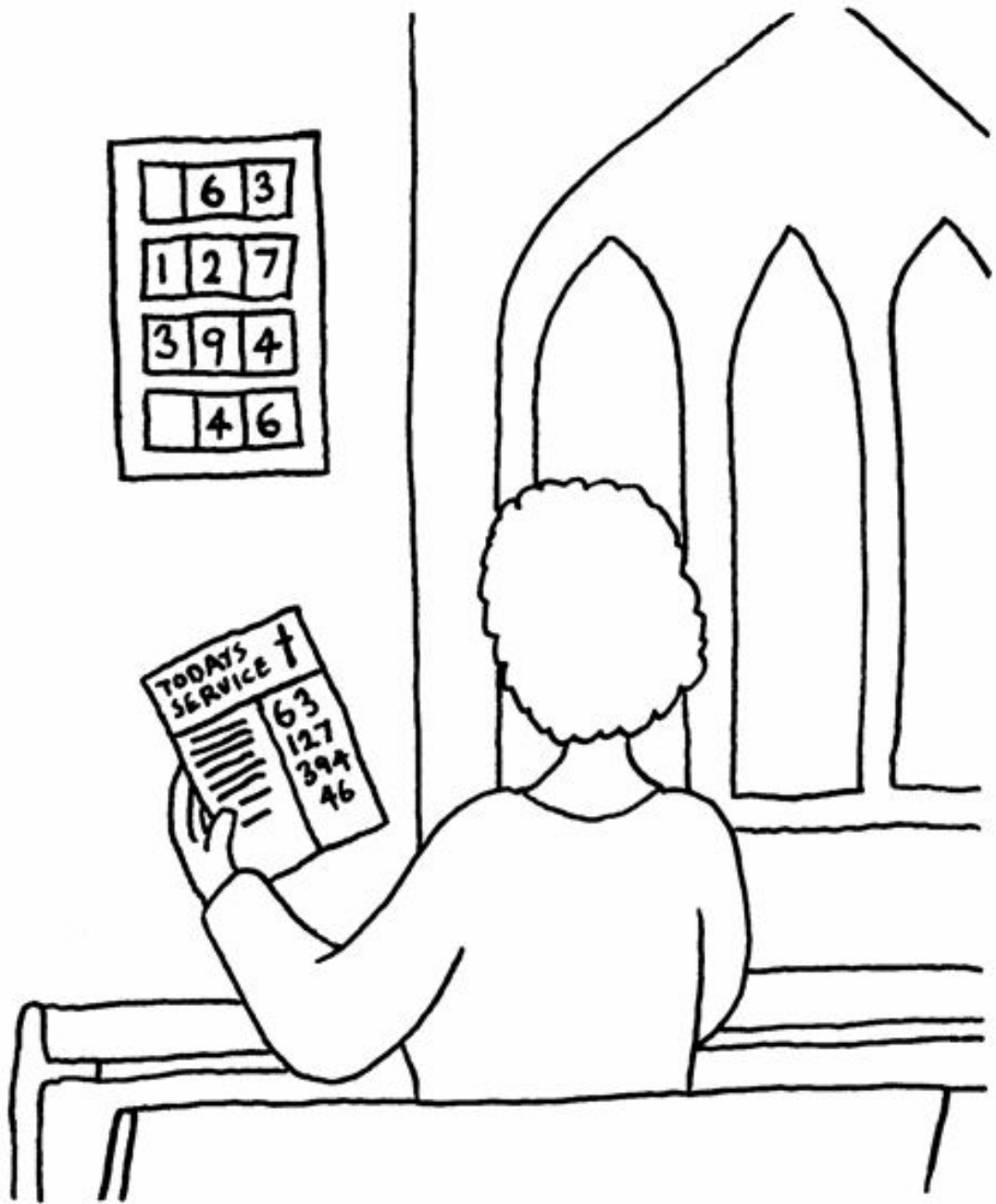
4.30pm: Service at Brentwood
Methodist Church Easter Offering
Dedication service

19th

10.00am: Mrs Regina Coleman
6.30pm: Mr Ricky Bull Lection Divina

26th

10.00am: Revd. John Chambers Holy Communion



SHE COULD HARDLY BELIEVE SHE HAD
WON ON HER FIRST VISIT TO CHURCH