

# Upminster Methodist Notices

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## **HARVEST 2021**

We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival at our 10 a.m. service on 10 October. This will be an All-Age service, led by Rev. Rohama, and we hope to welcome back our uniformed organisations on Parade.

Following the service there will be tea and coffee available in the Wesley Hall

As always, we invite you to bring gifts of food, as a means of expressing our thanks for all that we have been given.

Any fresh fruit and vegetables will be sent to St Frances Hospice.

Non-perishable produce will go to the Whitechapel Mission, to assist with their work with homeless people. The Mission has remained open and has served over 315,425 free meals during the pandemic! They are also seeing many new people, often facing new challenges, making use of their various services.

Whilst all non-perishable foods are welcomed, those most urgently needed are posted on their website:

<https://whitechapel.org.uk/>

As of 19 September, they were:

### **“We are desperate!”**

Porridge; Shredded Wheat; Peanut Butter; Brown Sauce; Chocolate Spread; Runny Honey; Nuttella; Pot Noodles; Biscuits; Baked Beans; Plum Tomatoes; Chopped Tomatoes; Sugar; Instant Hot Chocolate; Coffee; Squash.

### **“We need help!”**

Tinned Fruit; Tinned Soup; Weetabix; Any cereals; Bottled Water

We do hope that you will be able to support us with your donations this year.

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## **REPORTING POSITIVE COVID CASES**

With lots of the services resuming online rather than just zoom We would also be grateful if you could inform the Church Stewards via email [Upminster.Stewards@gmail.com](mailto:Upminster.Stewards@gmail.com) if you have tested positive within 72 hours of attending church so that people can be made aware of a positive case. This information will be treated in confidence. Just wanting to keep everyone safe

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**HELP !!!!! [please!]**

Now that we have at last been able to reopen our church, and look forward to resuming all the activities we have shared, we are inviting you to join us in making this possible.

We are a community of different talents and gifts, who come together to serve God and our neighbours; but we have reached a point where some of us are no longer able to continue in the ways they have done this, often over a long period.

We offer our heartfelt thanks for all the ways they have enriched our church life together.

Now we urgently need others who can join us, in any way – however large or small - to continue to support each other and the people around us, by giving a little of their skills and time.

Please consider whether any of these might apply to you:

I could offer a bit of DIY/decorating know-how to a group helping to maintain the church premises

I am into technology and social media, and could help those working on the church's ongoing communication with the community, and delivering online worship

I enjoy meeting people, and I'd like to take turns in helping to welcome people coming to Sunday worship, or to our Gateway community

I'm not sure where I'd fit in, but I'd like to help, and I have a bit of time I could offer, on a regular or occasional basis

If any of these might include you, please contact [upminster.stewards@gmail.com](mailto:upminster.stewards@gmail.com) or speak to any of us in church on a Sunday morning, and we can put you in contact with the right people.

Please give this some thought and prayer: the more, the merrier, and whatever you are able to offer will be most welcome!

Thank you!



This year's tree festival is back in the Church!

We are delighted and very excited to let you know that the Christmas Tree Festival will be held from Saturday 4 December until Sunday 12 December, with the theme: 'This is what Christmas means to us.'

We are delighted to have had lots of offers of help so far, but will need lots more volunteers from those who have helped before and those who are looking forward to being involved for the first time.

Our first request for help will be on Sunday 28 November after the morning service to get out all the boarding for the trees, get out the decorations and start putting them up in the Church, threading stars etc, there will be plenty of tasks for all ages and abilities!

Keep watching this space for other ways in which you could be involved or speak to Caroline Kinder, Michelle DeVido or Judith Hall with offers of help. Email: [upminstertreefest@gmail.com](mailto:upminstertreefest@gmail.com)

Thank you

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### **CHURCH KEYS**

For safeguarding and security reasons it is important that the number of church keys in circulation is limited to only those who need them for specific roles within the church. Please can anyone who has been issued with a key but no longer undertakes the role for which it was issued, return the key and fob to me. Please also note that keys should not be passed from one person to another without informing me and completing the required forms, so that we know who has keys and that our safeguarding records are accurate.

Thank you Peter Caton 'Keeper of the Keys'

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### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

After many months of lockdown it's so lovely to be back in Church although I know for some it will be a while before we can all be together again.

We would love to get the Sanctuary pedestal arrangement up and running again; we know it brings pleasure to the congregation and those watching on zoom.

I've put a list of dates on the notice board at the back of the church for people to add their name for donating money for the flowers or you can always speak with me in church or call me. It may be a special anniversary, a memorable date you would like to mark or just to give for the joy of the flowers. One of our small team of ladies will happily arrange them for you or maybe you would like to have a go yourself? Perhaps you would like to join our team, you would be very welcome.

Please consider donating for the flowers, we would be most grateful. Thank you.

### **Harvest Festival:**

We will be decorating the Church on Saturday 9th October from 9am if anyone would like to join us. You will be most welcome.

Chris Hughes

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### **WELL DONE MATTHEW!** **MARATHON FOR SANDS**

Last Sunday, our son Matthew completed the London Marathon, in 4 hours 41 minutes. He, and we, would like to thank you for your support, not only financial but also for willing him along, even to the extent of following him on the Marathon app. He has raised an incredible £11,000 (including Gift Aid) for SANDS, from 220 sponsors. In fact, he raised the greatest amount of the SANDS runners and was given 2 grandstand tickets close to the finishing line on the Mall, for Emma and her friend. We went up to London with Chris and his family and enjoyed close-up views from 3 spots on the Isle of Dogs and Blackfriars; we all had a great day. Thank you. Judith and Gordon.

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### **FAMILY NEWS**

Congratulations to proud grandparents Claudette and Dick, and to parents Luke and Beulah, on the safe arrival of Tafari Calypso Blu Lambeth-Dixon, on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Two grandsons in one year, wonderful news!

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### **FOODBANK DONATIONS**

Dear everyone,

Thank you once again for your incredible support this month. We delivered a car full of donations this morning to the Foodbank of much needed supplies... some of which they had just run out of yesterday!

This week, we donated **61.56kg** and our total climbs to **3,161.72kg**.

Visiting this morning, the team have asked for our help as they are especially running out of;

Shower Gels  
Toothpaste  
Toiletries

Anything you can spare and donate is greatly appreciated;

- \* Tinned Goods (Fish, Meat, Vegetables, Soups)
- \*Cooking Sauces, Sugar, Rice, Pasta
- \*Long Life Desserts (Rice Pudding, Custard, Jelly powder)
- \*Sponge Puddings
- \*Jams & Spreads
- \*Biscuits, Sweets & Chocolate
- \*Long Life Juices
- \*Long Life Milk
- \*Tea Bags, Coffee & Hot Chocolate
- \*Toilet Roll
- \*Kitchen Towel

Thank you,

Best,

Joanna

**Joanna Marie Skillett**

*Soprano*

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## **REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS**

We are now able to welcome back a little more normality to our services than we have over the last few weeks, and we look forward to more being able to join us within the Church.

If you enjoy singing this is now permitted and you will be able to mix and engage, if they are willing, with other members of the congregation.

However, we are mindful that not everyone is 100% comfortable with 'no restrictions' so we will be trying to accommodate those that are embracing the removal of restrictions and those that want to take things a bit slower.

We intend to do the following to help with the changes:

Our welcome/door stewards will continue to wear masks to greet you

Hand sanitiser will continue to be available at the door

You are asked to continue to scan the QR code or record your details on the forms provided

The windows and doors will continue to be open to provide ventilation  
Those not wishing to wear masks and wanting to sing will be asked to sit in the front pews,  
leaving the first two rows unoccupied  
Those wishing to wear masks and/or maintain social distance will be asked to sit in the rear  
pews  
There will currently be no distribution of hymn books or an offertory collection, please  
continue to give online  
At the end of services those at the rear of the Church will be offered to leave first

We want you to feel safe and relaxed, so please let a steward know if there is anything else  
they can do for you to achieve this when you are in the Church.  
While we would love to see you in person, you can continue to join the services via Zoom.

## THE STEWARDS

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### **PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

Guide and direct your Church, O Lord, that in essentials we may preserve our unity, in non-  
essentials we may live in liberty and diversity and in all things we may exist in love and charity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Rupertus Meldenius (1582-1651)*

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### **FACEBOOK**

[www.facebook.com/upminstermethodist](http://www.facebook.com/upminstermethodist)

Remember the facebook page has daily updates and new links

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### **MANY THANKS AND PEACE BE WITH YOU**

If you have anything you would like to include in future notices please email  
upminster.newsletter@gmail.com before **Wednesday morning** to be included on that weeks  
notices. Thank you!