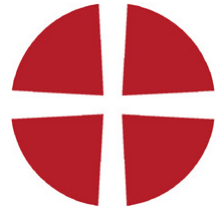


Upminster
Methodist Church



Newsletter
October 2016

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 800 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

We rely upon you, O God,
to be our companion when others are nowhere to be found.
We call upon you O God,
to be a voice when we struggle to find the words we need.
We rest upon you O God,
our haven when the walls of life close in on us.
For the times when we are alone,
or silenced by the moment,
or crushed by the weight,
we look to you, O God, our companion, voice and haven.
In the gatherings, noise and expanse,
may we never forget that you remain an ever-constant
presence,
the God of life, liberation and love. Amen.

Bruce Thompson, Lincolnshire 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



It's autumn, the Harvest is gathered: we have much to celebrate.

Deuteronomy 26: ...² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name... You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Whilst on holiday in August I decided to wake at 5 am to go and sit on the beach and watch the sunrise. Yvette, Jasmine and I (Lily the dog stayed in her bed) set off for the beach - a full 25 metre walk over a sand dune. We sat and waited. I was so sure of the exact place that the sun would rise that I wouldn't take my eyes from that spot on the horizon. I'll admit to thinking, "It's a bit of a misty morning, will we even see the sun this early?"

Jasmine, in the meantime, had gently said, "Dad, there's too much mist on the horizon, and anyway Dad, you're looking in the wrong place - the sun will rise over there".

I'll admit to thinking (again!) as the minutes ticked along, "Am I looking in the right place; is it *too* misty on the horizon?"

By about 7 am I had to admit that it must have been too misty as we still couldn't see the sun! And yes, wherever the sun had risen, it certainly wasn't near that bit that I'd been looking at!" Jasmine had been looking at another part of the horizon – that had many swirls and hues of colour - saying "the sun has risen and it's risen there". We went back to the house and drank tea.

The next morning at 5 am, a cool headed Jasmine said, "I'll sleep for a bit longer today, you go". Yvette and I set off with chairs, coffee and an assured manner that *believed* we'd see the sunrise - after-all we now knew where to look and we'd checked our smartphones for the exact time of the sunrise!

There was no mist on the horizon. Sure enough, 5:42 am on the dot – just as our smartphones had predicted - on the horizon there it was: stunning, awe-inspiring. The sun rose – just where Jasmine had said it would. The colours. The movement. The dawn and awakening. Then, the most wonderful blue sky and the warmth. Awesome!

As autumn approaches, is there a sunrise you need to see? Or, perhaps, a younger loved one you need to listen to and hear say “you need to look over there; you’re looking in the wrong direction”.

It’s autumn, the harvest is gathered: we have much to celebrate.

¹² When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God... ¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, ‘My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.’ ¹⁸ But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives...

We give-thanks for the harvest.

I bid you an autumn filled with a sunrise, a smile from a child, a gentle autumn breeze, the scent from a rain-fall, the rest of a falling leaf. And, where we need it, a daring to look in a different direction, a new horizon.

Oh, and not forgetting to use that smartphone!

Jason

MEMORIES

Memories are a treasure
The wealth we have inside
Special times and sad times
They're all part of life.

We often like to retreat
To the memories of yesterday
The tender moments we had
That can never be replaced.

When we see that the Lord
Was there throughout our lives
And see the turns we made
With Him as our guide.

We see the plan He had
To bring us where we are
We see the road we've travelled
Has brought us on this far.

So memories of the past
Help us trust to thee
Our future years with gladness
That we cannot yet see.

For if in the Father's care
We place each day we live
We will know His inner peace
And His grace He freely gives.

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST!!

We had only just got used to not having Sharon as a Steward, when Mark announced that he didn't think it was the right role for him in the Church.

Both underestimate the value of the contributions and input they have made in meetings, as they both came with useful and fresh ideas.

Mark hasn't been a Steward for long, but we appreciate and thank him for having put himself forward and having had a go.

We are lucky that at the AGM Sheila and Adrian volunteered to join the Steward team, so that the number in the team is still healthy.

Some of the Stewards have now been doing the role a while and, whilst they still enjoy doing it, a few new faces especially from new families to the Church would be welcome.

If you are interested in learning about the role of a Steward and possibly becoming one (or any other role within the Church) either now or in the near future, please speak to one of us.

The Stewards

WORDS FROM LILY REDRUP ABOUT LIFEPAATH

I had a great day coming along to Lifepath with my friends and teacher. I especially liked the prayer room workshop where we decorated and wrote a message on wafers and then ate them, but obviously most people liked that!

I learnt about William Derham and watched a film and saw how Upminster has changed a lot since his day.

I really enjoyed the sound experiment where we used a paper clip on top of a glass and ran our finger around the top of another one to show how sound vibrates from one glass to another. I also liked the experiment where we all played the National Anthem with our combs and paper.

The one thing I really want to know is how much Upminster will change when it is 3016.

Lily Redrup

QUOTES OF THE DAY

Riches that are in the heart cannot be stolen.

If my ship sails from sight, it doesn't mean my journey ends, it simply means the river bends.

Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it.

Those who believe they can do something and those who believe they can't are both right.

Whatever the mind of man can conceive, it can achieve.

A smile is the universal welcome.

Courage and resolution are the spirit and soul of virtue.

Life is short, so forgive quickly, believe slowly, love truly and laugh uncontrollably.

A MOTHER is someone who will love you unconditionally till her last breath!

.....and finally a PRAYER:

To my family and friends

Who listen when I'm angry,

Hug me when I'm sad and

Laugh with me or at me

Whenever possible.

Thanks for being there!



I would like to say a big thank you for ALL the prayers, flowers, cards and best wishes that I have received while I have not been well. I hope to be back in "full working order" quite soon now.

With many thanks again June Dutton

FAMILY COMMITTEE

Would Committee members please note that the next meeting is at 8 pm on Tuesday, 11 October, in the Scout Den

Friends of Upminster Mini Golf Quiz Night Monday 10 October 2016

7pm for 7.30pm start at

**The Crumpled Horn, 33-37 Corbets Tey Road Upminster,
RM14 2AJ**

The Friends of Upminster Mini Golf are hosting a Quiz Night to raise funds to refurbish the hut and crazy golf, so why not come along and have a fun evening!

£5 per person

There will be a raffle and bar, just bring your own snacks.

Tables of 4, 6 or 8

Contact: Bernice Scott Phone: 01708 640167 or Email:
upminigolf@virginmedia.com

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2016

We celebrate Harvest on Sunday 9th October, with our special **All-Age Harvest Festival Service** at 10a.m., followed by coffee and then a lunch to which all are invited. The Scout Group have kindly agreed to cook a BBQ, with salads & desserts also being provided. Please add your name to the lists at the back of the church if you are able to come along and/or to provide food. There will be a collection to cover the cost of the BBQ food.

You are invited to bring gifts of food to the Harvest Service as a means of expressing thanks for all of the good things we have received throughout the year. **Fresh produce** will be sent to **St Francis Hospice** and **non-perishable foods** to the **Whitechapel Mission**.

The Whitechapel Mission lists the items currently most needed on their website (<http://www.whitechapel.org.uk>); at the time of writing, food items were:

Instant Hot chocolate; tea; coffee;
sugar; squash;

Porridge; Breakfast cereals

Tinned tomatoes; baked beans;
Pot Noodles

Tinned meat; tinned fish/tuna;

Pepper; Tomato ketchup

Tinned fruit; biscuits; honey;
sandwich spread

Of course, other items of non-perishable food are also very welcome.

If you have other goods which may be of use, have a look at their website or speak to Jean Nicholls who is our main contact with the Mission.

The information below, from the Mission's website, illustrates why our support is so essential; sadly the need has continued to grow in recent years:

'The Whitechapel Mission has been serving the homeless and marginalised for 140 years – including a day centre, skills training and career advice, activity programmes and specialist support for complex needs. By encouraging each person to address the issues that caused their homelessness, we help them to gain the skills and confidence to make lasting changes in their lives.

We believe everyone deserves a chance, regardless of their background, race or religion.

We are open every day of the year and expect to see as many as 300 homeless and vulnerable men and women each day. And we do this without public funding.

We know that we can, and are, making a positive and lasting difference to the homeless who ask for our help.

When you donate goods, food or clothing to The Whitechapel Mission, you impact the lives of the poor and homeless in London'.

In 2015 alone:

108,184 breakfasts served, an average of 296 a day.

5332 different people used our services.

3007 people used our advice services; **380** were women.

184 people use the Whitechapel Mission's address to receive their post.

37 people were helped to find employment

44 were referred to drug or alcohol programmes.

272 people received help in claiming benefits.

98 people found a flat, **128 people** found a hostel.

17 birth certificates purchased.

37 people came to us without any form of ID at all.

19,932 people used our showers during this year.

38% of people using our services have been in prison.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to a wonderful Harvest Festival.

The Stewards

Ricky Bull: Service of Recognition as a Local Preacher, Sunday 30 Oct 4.30 pm

We are delighted that Ricky Bull has now completed his intensive studies and training for the important role of Local Preacher in the Methodist Church.

We would like to welcome everyone to come along to support Ricky at a special Circuit service of recognition as a Local Preacher on Sunday 30 October at 4.30 pm at Upminster Methodist Church.

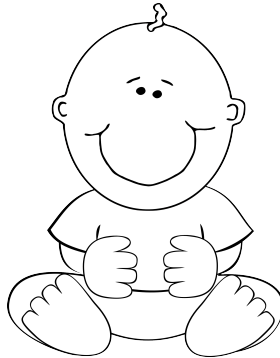
The service will be lead by Rev Jason with an address by Rev David Jebb .

The service will be followed by tea and cakes in the Wesley Hall.

FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations to Christine Wheeler ,and parents Richard and Maxine, on the birth of grandson, Rowan Henry Wheeler, born on the 6th September.

Also congratulations to Gill Cook who is also a grandma to baby Jessie.



UPMINSTER METHODIST CHURCH

FAMILY EVENT

**Everyone is invited to join us for an
Autumn Walk**



**at
Thorndon Country Park
on Sunday 2 October 2016
at 2.00pm**

**Please speak to Caroline Kinder
if you would like to join us.**

Christmas Tree Festival 2016

3rd December -11th December



Starting in 2010, the year of the Church centenary, we are now planning the 6th Christmas Tree festival.

During the week, we welcome many visitors and friends to the church and it provides a lovely introduction to the Christmas season for all ages.

The theme this year is "Lets Celebrate " and we will be inviting local schools and organisations from the church and community to decorate trees for this event using this idea.

The opening times are Saturdays 10-5pm. (*Saturday 10th closed between 12-2pm for a wedding)*

Sundays 2-5pm

Weekdays 2-6pm

The Festival opens on Saturday 3rd December at 10am

Refreshments will be available all day and there will be a market in the church halls from 10.00am - 2.30pm.

Please spread the word and tell your friends and family about the event. We welcome visits from community groups during the week to see the trees so if you are connected with a group who would like an outing around Christmas, please consider the festival. Entrance is free: donations to our chosen charities and the Building fund.

As usual we will be asking for volunteers to act as stewards in the Church whilst the festival is underway and for help with refreshments. We will be extremely glad for any offers of help.

Any enquiries to:

Judith Hall (228317), Gill Hare (223218) or email
upmethodistchurch@btinternet.com

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

People have been asking about whether the Church is doing the Shoebox appeal.

As we are raising funds for THE BIG BUILD we did not think it was fair to expect the church family to stretch their very generous support to Shoe Boxes as well.

However, I will be sending as many boxes as I can as usual as it is something very dear to my heart.

If anyone wants to contribute I will be more than pleased to accept any of the usual items; soap, flannels, crayons, pens, combs etc.

Thank you for your help, it is greatly appreciated.

Jill Avis



PLEASE 'LIKE' OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

Our church Facebook page is now active. It is another way in which we can help others around us discover our community and the many varied activities we offer here. There is a way in which you can help too, if you could 'LIKE' our page when you next log into Facebook. One way to do this is to type into the search bar on the top of the Facebook screen "Upminster Methodist Church", then hit 'enter'. Then click on the first 'page' link that comes up. It looks like this. Once you click this link, you will be given the option to 'LIKE' the page. Thank you in advance for your help.



Pages



Upminster Methodist Church

Church/Religious Organisation

01708 222 278

21 like this



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

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

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.

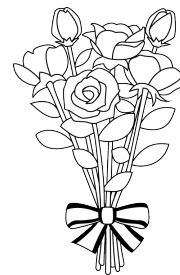
Weekly Notices - Items for the weekly Notices sheet should be sent to upmethdistchurch@btinternet.com or pass to Allyson Hill

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
October 2 nd	The Kinders	Caroline Kinder
9 th (Harvest)	George Tickner	The Flower Ladies
16 th	Joyce Harris	Jenny Smy or Chris Hughes
23 rd	Mary Edmundson	Sheila Toon
30 th	-	Chris Hughes

We shall be decorating the Church from 9.30a.m on Saturday 8th if anyone would like to join us. You will be most welcome.



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



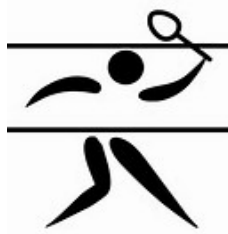
Choir and Band Practice

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



Children's Praise

We meet on the first Sunday of every month.

9.15am – 9.45am

Suitable for ages 2 – 10 years
split into two age groups

Games, story, craft and singing,
followed by drink and biscuit



Tots and Co

Tuesdays in term time
9.30am – 11.30am

Uniformed Groups

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



Sunday Worship

Dates for October

2nd

9.15am	Tots Praise
10.00am	Mr C Pearson
6.30pm	Revd. Jason Vinyard – Holy Communion

9th

10.00am	Revd. Jason Vinyard – All Age Worship and Harvest Festival
---------	--

16th

10.00am	Mr Allan Ramsden
6.30pm	Revd. Jason Vinyard – Contemplative Worship

23rd

10.00am	Revd. Jason Vinyard – Holy Communion
---------	--------------------------------------

30th

10.00am	Mr Freddie Sayer
4.30pm	Circuit LP Admission Service



"Mrs Pinkly, may we borrow your hat
for the harvest festival?"