



Emsworth Methodist Church & Pastoral Centre



**a serving and worshipping Christian church in the heart of Emsworth,
working closely with other churches and with the local community**

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Monthly news sheet

July 2018

Message from the Manse

At 11.55am on Thursday I was in Sainsbury's shopping for Munchies at the Manse. It was just an ordinary day and the supermarket was full of the usual hustle and bustle of shoppers. There were trolleys blocking aisles, babies crying and the usual beeping of checkouts and self-serve machines. Everything was as you would expect to find it and as it always is at that time of day.

At 12pm, following an announcement over the tannoy system, the entire store fell silent. You could have heard a pin drop. People stopped still. The checkouts stopped beeping. The deli stopped serving. For one whole minute nothing happened. For one whole minute we paused as a community to remember that terrible night one year ago when the Grenfell Tower caught fire, the 72 people who died and the many others whose lives were changed forever by the tragedy.

I don't mind telling you that I found this particular act of corporate remembering, experienced among strangers, immensely moving. Perhaps it was because it took place amongst and within the hum-drum nature of everyday life; the comfortable, homely activity of shopping for food interrupted by a stark reminder of those whose lives and homes were taken from them that night.

I'm sure that for many of those who survived, and perhaps for the 68 families still in emergency accommodation in particular, the concept of what makes a place 'home' will be forever changed.

What makes 'home' for you? Is it a place? Is it a person? Is it a feeling? Is it something else? What do you remember about your first home?

The importance of remembering, as well as the concept of 'home', is something that's been on my mind a great deal this week. At the moment the ongoing investigations into the circumstances of the fire mean that the victims and their loved ones are still at the forefront of the minds of many of us: the total silence I experienced in the supermarket has convinced me of that. Continuing to remember when the press coverage slows down and life appears from the outside to return to normal is more of a challenge.

Remembering Grenfell or any other tragedy or loss doesn't change what happened. It doesn't make the pain go away. What it does do is show that something important has happened, something is gone and there is a gap in its place. When we remember, whether individually or as a community, we show that the loss matters and we stand alongside those who grieve. What's more, when we as a church community remember we point to the fact that the loss matters to God.

Laura

Fun in the Sun: Our 'Holiday at Home'

Would you, or someone you know, like an opportunity this summer to make new friends, spend time taking part in fun activities and share lunch with like-minded people? If so, why not come along to our Holiday at Home?

**Tuesday 3rd – Thursday 5th July: 10.30am – 3.30pm
in the Pastoral Centre**

(There is a suggested donation of £3 per day to cover the cost of lunch)

The activities will be aimed at the over 60s and include a Beetle Drive, beginners art project, seated exercise class, film afternoon, hand massages, nail painting and simple cooking project. All of these activities will be suitable for any level of experience and capability – they can be adapted to suit those involved.



This will be a friendly and informal gathering and is a brilliant opportunity to invite a friend along to introduce them to the Church & Pastoral Centre. They will certainly receive a warm welcome and get a positive impression of life in this community.

A programme for the 3 days is already available so you can find out in advance what will be happening on which day. If you are interested in coming along, or know someone else who might be, then please do ask Mandy or Laura for programmes and/or booking forms. The deadline for bookings is 25th June.

Please spread the news as widely as possible!

Did I hear you say 'I want to learn to paint in watercolour?'

FREE BEGINNER WATERCOLOUR CLASSES!

Wednesdays 11th / 18th / 25th July
in the Pastoral Centre
12noon-1pm



Well-known artist Ben Smith will talk, demonstrate and teach some basic techniques of watercolour painting.

Absolutely no experience whatsoever is required. Don't worry if you don't know how to hold a paintbrush, or can't draw a straight line!

The classes are free but you will need to supply your own painting equipment. It need not be expensive!

Come along to an introductory session at **12pm on Wednesday 27th June** to find out what you need to bring. If you can't make this session contact Laura to book a place and find out all the details.

If these are successful, other classes may follow!

Christians Together in Emsworth

Christians Together in Emsworth has a new website - www.emsworthchristians.com. Flyers are available in the Pastoral Centre.

S.O.F.T.

Sharing Our Faith Together

48 people from around the circuit gathered together to hear Andy Frost from *'Share Jesus International'* share his wisdom on the subject of evangelism. Andy was an encouraging and powerful speaker who held the attention of the group, and his immense enthusiasm for the subject was infectious. I know many of us left Portchester that day with a bounce in our step and minds full of where we might go from here!

So, where do we go from here?

We're really aware that the idea of meeting with the SOFT Team may seem a bit intimidating. Please be assured that we're not here to tell you 'you're doing it wrong', or ask you to plan things that are beyond your capabilities. We are not 'The SOFT Police'! We simply provide an opportunity for you to talk to someone from outside your context about what you're doing or plan to do. We may be able to offer suggestions, provide funding or equip you in some other way. We're here to encourage and enable – not check up on you!

Perhaps your church was represented at the 'Share Jesus' event; perhaps it wasn't. If people from your church did attend then members of the SOFT Team would love to meet with you to discuss how what you heard relates to your context.

If your church wasn't represented then **it isn't too late.** The event on 2nd June was just part of an on-going conversation. The SOFT Team would be delighted to come and visit you to look through the material and discuss how it can be applied in your context.

If you want to know more, see the SOFT newsletter or speak to Laura.

Laura

United Anglican - Methodist walk

This month we will be doing a longer-than-usual walk on Saturday 14th July and 'Beating the Bounds' of the parish, led by the Rector.

This walk is about 8 miles long and starts from St James's at 11.30 am. We will stop for a picnic lunch on the way and later on for refreshments at Warblington Church followed by an optional short act of worship before completing the walk back to St James's. There will be opportunities to do part of the walk... details will be published in the weekly notices nearer the time. Please join us if you can for some part, or even the whole walk!

Beating the Bounds was an ancient tradition usually held around rogation tide. One of the traditions was to bump a boy's head (usually a choir boy) on stones marking the parish boundary! It was also an excuse for a celebration.

Christian Aid

This year the Emsworth Churches have raised £5013.91 during Christian Aid week, a magnificent amount considering we had 16 fewer collectors. Thanks must go to all those who delivered and collected envelopes and to all those who donated at the door and at the Church Anniversary lunch. As the publicity states: 'Together, we're stronger than the storms'.

Our next event is the summer sale on Saturday 21st July at 10am. If anyone feels able to bake a cake we would be most grateful. Donations can be left in International Hall on Friday 20th July between 4.30pm and 5.30pm. Many thanks.

Gill Cooper, Marian Hughes and Margaret Sawyer

Havant Wesley Guild: Walk and Light Supper

On Monday 9th July at 7.30 p.m., Havant Wesley Guild will lead a walk round Emsworth followed by a light supper in International Hall.

We extend a very warm invitation to Emsworth Methodist Church to join us; we would love to see you.

Margaret and David Sawyer (For Havant Wesley Guild)

Cream Tea!

On Tuesday 31st July between 2-3pm there will be a Special Cream Tea in International Hall. There will be scones, jam and cream, and strawberries and cream.

This is open to all, so why not bring a friend or neighbour. There will be no charge for the Tea but donations will be welcome.

Mandy

Circuit Service

Save the date..... There will be a Circuit Service on 2nd September 2018 at 3 pm at Hart Plain Church. More details will be circulated as they become available.

Margaret Heathcote

Food Bank

Our Food Bank collection box is emptied every week on Friday morning.

We are very grateful for the support of a couple who collect our donations and take them directly to Havant.

Please do keep supporting the Food Bank with your donations.

Mandy

A Message from Jonathan Hughes

I wish to express grateful thanks to everyone at the church who kindly helped with my mother's funeral and with the refreshments afterwards. You made our relatives and other friends feel warmly welcomed. Also your recent kind support to me has been appreciated.

Jonathan



Prayer Prompts - July

You are invited to use the suggestions listed below in your prayer times. The monthly diary is also an aid for our prayers.

People in Emsworth: holiday makers; shoppers, shop keepers and business people; the lonely, sad and struggling; those who mourn; all who come into the Pastoral Centre – the joyful and the fearful.

Carers: nurses and carers in our community; young and older people who care for a family member; aid workers overseas; medical staff working in war torn areas in the Middle East.

The homeless: those who sleep on the streets for whatever reason; Grenfell Tower survivors who still have no proper home; refugees and survivors of war.

Church: 'Christians Together in Emsworth' and all ecumenical activities; new people attending the Café Church Service and those who attend St James that morning; the Methodist Conference meeting in Nottingham, the new President and Vice President of Conference, all ordinands.

We have a small **Prayer Chain** working within the church. If you, or anyone you know, is in need of prayer please do contact Chris Walters on 01243 379254 or email c.walters5@homecall.co.uk

Church Calendar continued:

Friday	20	4.30pm	Christian Aid donations can be left in IH for tomorrow's Sale
Saturday	21	10.00am	Christian Aid Summer Sale (IH) see page

Sunday	22	10.00am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Milly Aquilina-Grey
		6.30pm	Holy Communion led by Rev Claire Simpson

Monday	23	10.00am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		11.00am	Chair-based Exercises (IH)

Tuesday	24	10.30am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		2.00pm	Activity Afternoon: Table Games (IH)

Wednesday	25	12noon	Free Beginner Watercolour Painting class (see page 3)
		2.00pm	'Let's Do It!'

Sunday	29	10.00am	Morning Worship led by Deacon Laura Evans
		6.30pm	United Christians Together in Emsworth service Led by Deacon Laura Evans

Monday	30	10.00am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		11.00am	Chair-based Exercises (IH)

Tuesday	31	10.30am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		2.00pm	Activity Afternoon: Special Cream Tea (IH) (see page 6)

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JULY 2018

All events in Emsworth Methodist Church & Pastoral Centre unless stated otherwise
 IH = International Hall, URC = United Reformed Church, Bath Road

Sunday	1	10.00am	Morning Worship led by Rev Bill Stillwell Followed by Traidcraft Stall
		6.30pm	United Holy Communion at St James' Celebrant tbc, Preacher Deacon Laura Evans
Monday	2	10.00am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		11.00am	Chair-based Exercises (IH)
Tuesday	3	10.30am	Holiday at Home 'Fun in the Sun' (IH) Morning and afternoon events from 10.30am – 3.30pm See page 2 and separate programme
		10.30am	Standing Exercises (IH)
Wednesday	4		Holiday at Home (IH) See above and page 2
		2.00pm	'Let's Do It!'
		6.15pm	Ecumenical Prayer Fellowship (URC)
Thursday	5		Holiday at Home (IH) See above and page 2
Sunday	8	10.00am	Café Church led by Deacon Laura Evans
		10.00am	United Holy Communion at St James' led by Rev David Rice, Anglican preacher tbc
		6.30pm	United Evening Worship led by Deacon Chris Walters, preacher tbc
Monday	9	10.00am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		11.00am	Chair-based Exercises (IH)
		7.30pm	Havant Wesley Guild Walk & Light Supper (IH) (see page 5)
Tuesday	10	10.30am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		2.00pm	Activity Afternoon: Knit for Charity and Table Games (IH)
Wednesday	11	12noon	Free Beginner Watercolour Painting class (see page 3)
		2.00pm	'Let's Do It!'
Saturday	14	11.30am	United Anglican-Methodist Walk from St James' (see page 5)
Sunday	15	10.00am	Holy Communion led by Rev Peter Cole
		6.30pm	United Evensong at St Thomas, Warblington Leader tbc
Monday	16	10.00am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		11.00am	Chair-based Exercises (IH)
Tuesday	17	10.30am	Standing Exercises (IH)
		2.00pm	Activity Afternoon: Beetle Drive (IH)
		2.00pm	'Let's Do It!'
Wednesday	18	12noon	Free Beginner Watercolour Painting class (see page 3)
		2.00pm	'Let's Do It!'



Church calendar continued on inside back page

Items for the August news-sheet should be in the folder in the post rack or emailed to dianaharris@btinternet.com by **Saturday 21 July**