



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**

Minister: Revd David Muskett

Tel: 01730 233436

Email: david.muskett@esanddcircuit.org.uk

Church Office: tel: 01243 373733

Website: www.emsworthmethodistchurch.org

Registered charity number 1127747

Newsletter

November 2025

“Peace, Peace” – where there is no peace?

‘They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious.
“Peace, peace,” they say, when there is no peace.’
(Jeremiah 6:14 and Jeremiah 8:11)

Much of our news is about some aspect of conflict. Some of it is about commemoration of conflicts past and some of it is about a conflict of ideas or policy or verbal conflict rather than armed conflict.

Some of the presentation of that news (possibly from both sides of any conflict) is to say that there is no conflict; it is all straightforward, ‘Our way is really the only one possible and any other view is not significant’. In other words, ‘All is well with the world – really’. Or ‘Peace, peace’ – but there is no peace.



The rise of a political view that asserts its rightness against any evidence that is put forward on the basis that any other view is 'fake news' is an example of 'Peace, peace... when there is no peace'.

At Remembrance time we commemorate and acknowledge a time when peace seemed a long way off. We usually also give thanks for the peace that we have – and that is a right thing to do.

It is also necessary that we acknowledge that it is a relative peace. There are deep divisions in many places over many issues. Sometimes they are dressed as though they were not serious. Sometimes the divisions are ignored in the hope that they will go away, but a tyranny of the majority – or even a voluble and powerful minority – will not heal the wounds.

Jeremiah spoke about public policy and the public statements of the leaders of the nation in his day. He calls those in similar positions to be honest about the nature of things in every age since.

But it is not just about public statements: it is also about our personal attitudes and relationships. Let's take any opportunity we have in the lead up to the celebrations of the birth of the Prince of Peace to acknowledge parts of our lives and our relationships where 'there is no peace' so that we can stop pretending – dressing the wound as though it were not serious – and do something about healing. It is not always an easy process – indeed it can be painful and involve hurt and rejection – but it is the way to peace, not only outwardly but also the deep inner peace that passes understanding. (Philippians 4:7)

The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you and those you love and all for whom you pray, now and always.

Amen.

David Muskett



Church Services in November

- 2 November 10.00am** **Café Church**
led by Revd David Muskett
- 9 November 10.00am** **Remembrance Sunday Service**
led by Revd Bill Stillwell
- 6.30pm** **Holy Communion at St James**
to which we are invited
- 16 November 10.00am** **Service of Holy Communion**
led by Revd David Muskett
- 6.30pm** **Evensong at St Thomas à Becket**
to which we are invited
- 23 November 10.00am** **Morning Worship**
led by Andrew Wilcock
- 6.30pm** **Reflective Evening Service**
led by Revd David Muskett
- 30 November 10.00am** **Advent Sunday**
Morning Worship
led by Revd Canon Richard Atkins-Greig
- 6.30pm** **CTiE Advent Service at St Thomas à Becket**



Special Days in November

1
All Saints Day

9
Remembrance Sunday *See page 6*

10–16
Interfaith Week

23 Sunday before Advent
Women Against Violence Sunday *See page 5*

30 Advent Sunday



Fifth-century mosaic from Basilica di Sant' Apollinare Nuovo, Ravenna

One in three women worldwide experience violence, mostly from an intimate partner. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, emerging data and reports from those on the front lines have shown that all types of violence against women and girls, particularly domestic violence, has intensified. On the Sunday before Advent we are reminded of the nature of the one who is to come. We call him 'king', but his kingdom is very different from what people expect.

John 18: 33–37 reminds us that God's kingdom is not one of power through violence (the model of kingship in Jesus' time); rather, God's kingdom is one where truth, life, and right relationships are valued.

A Prayer for Women Against Violence Sunday from the Methodist Church

We worship you, the God of love:
You hold the world in tender embrace,
You feel the hurt and sorrow we bear,
You comfort the wounded heart.

We thank you that in Jesus Christ
You held women in high esteem,
You understood their secret heartaches,
You inspired their love and trust.

We praise you, the Spirit of truth:
You uncover the lies and distortions,
You name the violence in our hearts,
You seek to transform the pain.

O God, we ask that you will reveal
The persistent wrong in our lives,
The reality we choose to ignore,
The abuse we tolerate of other people.

Change our heart and our lives, we pray,
That your image may grow in us
And in those we love.
Amen.



Remembrance Sunday provides an opportunity to remember the armed forces, and their families, from Britain and the Commonwealth, the vital role played by the emergency services, and those who have lost their lives as a result of conflict or terrorism.

Service of Memories at St Thomas à Becket, Warblington Sunday 2 November, 3.00pm

All are welcome to come to this service and remember someone who has died. If you wish, please send the names of those you wish to remember to the Parish Office: email parishoffice@warblingtonwithemsworth.org, or contact Maria McGannan on 07579 798010.

*Image: Home Office Armistice Day Event, 11 November 2021
from Wikimedia Commons*

fun and friendship

Thursday mornings at 10.30am in International Hall

6 November
Knit and Natter

13 November
Beetle Drive

20 November
**Making Christmas
cards**

27 November
'Gardeners'



Wednesday Group

**2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm in
International Hall**

12 November
A Fire in HMS Bulwark
with James Mant

26 November
Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital
with Alex Foster
Education and Outreach Coordinator

A Rocha – Eco Church

Here are A Rocha's suggestions for this month.



Measure your carbon footprint

Take an audit of your individual or household carbon footprint and repeat each year to see if you can reduce it. There are lots of ways to do this, from switching energy suppliers to making changes in your diet. Some great tools to use are available, for example the carbon calculators provided by Climate Stewards at <https://www.climatestewards.org/carbon-calculators/>, and Creation Care (<https://creationcare.org.uk>) offers a specific resource for households with ideas and ways to track your progress. As you look at different areas of your life, offer each area or action to God.

Action for Children

Our Café Church service on 7 December will be led by Margaret Sawyer and will celebrate the work of Action for Children. Envelopes will be left on tables, should you feel you would like to make a donation.

Poverty is relentless, and the harms caused by child poverty can last a lifetime. 4.5 million children live in poverty in the UK; that is nine children in a class of thirty. Last year Action for Children helped 687,755 children, young people and families. Our donations can help Action for Children reach those with the most need, from putting food in the fridge, to preventing neglect, abuse and homelessness.

'Every child should grow up safe and happy. We offer support to help them thrive, and step in to help when times get tough'.

Marilyn Carroll



Supporting our church through Internet shopping

Do you use the Internet to shop? If you do, please consider going through the charity fundraising site Easyfundraising.

Easyfundraising partners with over 8000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a charity of your choice. I set Emsworth Methodist Church up as a cause on their site several years ago, but the number of contributors from the church has dwindled and now consists of Geoffrey and myself!

Once you set up an account you have the option to download a donation reminder so that every time you visit a site where a donation is possible it will pop up to remind you. If you wish to know more ask me and I will send you a link.

Pamela



Image by Preisking from Pixabay

Did you know?

19 November is **International Men's Day**. It is marked across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales – and the whole world.

Many organisations and people hold events and activities in the week before and the week after, such as a conference on masculinity, and various events focusing on mental health.

There are three overarching core themes for International Men's Day in the UK:

- Making a positive difference to the wellbeing and lives of men and boys
- Raising awareness and/or funds for charities supporting men and boys' wellbeing
- Promoting a positive conversation about men, manhood and masculinity



For more information, see
<https://ukmensday.org.uk>

Worship Workshop Saturday 8 November

A series of Circuit Worship Workshops is being organised as an opportunity for people to develop their interest and understanding of worship, and also to help churches plan for Sundays when no preacher is available. The workshops will provide training and the opportunity to share service examples and ideas, and will be offered by our Circuit Supernumerary and Ministry Staff. Anyone from our Circuit Churches is welcome to attend.

The first Workshop is at Drayton United Church, PO6 1PA, on Saturday 8 November 2025, starting at 9.30 for 10.00am, with a focus on Advent Sunday. Tea and coffee will be provided; please bring a packed lunch. Further details will be available shortly, and will be published in the weekly emails.

Veronica Hickox



From the Methodist News

New Places for New People – online webinar

The UK government has pledged to build 1.5 million new homes by 2029. These new developments represent one of the biggest opportunities for mission in a generation. Almost every Methodist circuit will be touched by new housing in some way. How can your church respond? What does it look like to start a New Place for New People in these new communities?

Join our 90-minute webinar on **Wednesday 5 November** to explore vision, practical steps and stories from those already pioneering around new housing developments. Please use the link below.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/beginning-a-new-housing-nnpn-tickets-1718895836719?aff=oddttdtcreator&utm_campaign=15218136_Methodist+News+23%2F10%2F2025&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Methodist+Church+House&dm_i=BVI%2C926E0%2CEDCTOC%2C11VXL1%2C1

Christian Aid

There will be a Coffee, Cake and Tabletop sale on **Saturday 1 November** from **10.00am until noon**. Please come along and join us.

Gill, **Margaret** and **Marian**



Thank you from Methodist Homes

I have recently received a letter to say Thank You for the **£375.00** donation we sent following our special service to celebrate the work of Methodist Homes, when the theme was 'Living with Dementia'.

"Gifts such as these enable more people to be supported through our work, including through our specialist dementia care services. Residents not only need to be cared for, they need to be nourished spiritually"

Following our service, several people shared with me their personal experience of having people within their families or network of friends, who are living with dementia, and the challenge that brings. Recently, MHA have included more about dementia in their newsletters and on their website. There is a whole section devoted to information and resources which people may find helpful. Here is the link: <https://mha.org.uk/care-support/older-life-hub/dementia-awareness-support>

Dot

We have received the following contribution from Geoffrey Eardley.

David F Cockram 1930–2025

A few may recognise the name, but now there are very few of us in Emsworth who knew him. Having arrived in Emsworth as a young family in the 1960s, it is now about 40 years since Pat and David were relocated very unwillingly to The Wirral by Marconi. In the 1950s there were discussions about closure of the society here, which the trustees strongly resisted. Then in the early 60s, there was a small influx of several young families, attracted for work by what was then GEC. Among them was the Cockram family from the West Midlands. Emsworth Methodist Church had a new lease of life and slowly began to thrive again. Along with a few others, David with his wife Pat was a huge part of that revival. He was quiet, gentle, and sensitive, but a strong leader, and held almost every office except that of ordained Minister during his 25 or so years here. He was Sunday School Superintendent, Steward, Class Leader, Church Council Secretary, and Property Steward, as well as holding some Circuit offices. In addition, he took on the role of project leader for 'Project 80' – the project to convert the small flint-fronted Primitive Methodist Chapel, with a stable for the preacher's horse in the back yard, into the church building we see today.

Along with others, David's contribution to the life and witness of this church was enormous, and we give thanks for his life of dedicated faith and service to this community.

David died peacefully a few months before his 95th birthday, asking his son Tim in his last days, 'Will anyone remember me?'

From Christians Together in Emsworth

Volunteers Needed!

Each Christmas cards are distributed by Christians Together in Emsworth to every Emsworth home. As some previous volunteers are no longer able to deliver, we always need new ones. Delivering a single pack of cards could take less than 20 minutes, but there is always the opportunity to deliver more! Please contact Paul Chapman **before 8 November** – paul.chapman@blueyonder.co.uk or 07305 406566 – to offer your help.



From the Methodist News

Methodist leaders have welcomed the appointment of Bishop Sarah Mullally as the new Archbishop of Canterbury.

In a statement the President and Vice-President, and Secretary of the Methodist Conference expressed their encouragement at her appointment and the assurance of their prayers.

The full statement reads:

'We warmly welcome the news of Bishop Sarah Mullally's appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury. We pray God's blessing upon her for this profoundly important ministry. May God guide Archbishop Sarah in her leadership within our public life, within the Church of England and among the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Methodist Church and the Church of England are covenanted partners: in local communities across the country Methodists and Anglicans are growing together in responding to the gospel of God's love in Christ, enriching one another's discipleship, and sharing in worship and mission.



'As church leaders, we look forward to walking alongside Archbishop Mullally in that same spirit of partnership in the coming years. Our present age demands a confident and united witness by the Church, to the love and grace of God that can mend divisions and overcome the fears of our world. We are encouraged by Bishop Sarah's clear commitment to making the Church a safe space for all, where all are welcome and can thrive. We will keep Bishop Sarah and her family in our prayers as she takes up this significant and demanding global role.'

The Revd Richard Andrew, President of the Methodist Conference

Mr Matt Forsyth, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the Methodist Conference

Image by Roger Harris - <https://members-api.parliament.uk/api/Members/4696/Portrait?cropType=OneOneGallery>:<https://members.parliament.uk/member/4696/portrait>, CC BY 3.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=86632367>

NEW!! Emsworth Banners booklet

We are very grateful to David Harris for photographing our church banners and publishing a new booklet with high resolution photographs, which is now available. The printing costs have been covered by donations, so these are free to take; and to give away! Copies can be found in the church.

Geoffrey Eardley



Prayer Points

You are invited to use the suggestions listed below in your prayer times

1. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. *Amen.* (Ephesians 3:20–21)
What might God accomplish in and through you today?
2. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. (John 14:27)
What does Jesus's peace look like, sound like, smell like, taste like or feel like for you now?
3. Breathe in for three counts and out for three. Repeat a few times.
As you breathe in say, 'When I am worried ...'
As you breathe out say, 'I will trust in you.'
4. Take a slice of bread. Tear a piece off. As you eat it, pray for those whose lives are torn apart by:
Illness ... hunger ... loneliness ... war ... relationships ...
May they know that God is with them.

We have a small **Prayer Chain** working within the church. If you, or anyone you know, is in need of prayer, please do contact Judy Emerson on 02392 474656, or email ajemerson113@gmail.com

Please send contributions for the **December** Newsletter to jane@janegregory.co.uk or newsletter@emsworthmethodistchurch.org by **Saturday 29 November** – or earlier if you can!



Image by Flutie8211 from Pixabay

30 November Advent Sunday



Advent Sunday in Vaxholm church, Sweden, by Bengt Nyman – Creative Commons