



BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH
High Road South Benfleet SS7 5LH

Monthly Newsletter

FREE

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Visit the Church Website at www.benfleetmethodist.org.uk



DECEMBER 2020

We give a warm welcome to visitors to our Church and we invite everyone to our Services of Worship. We ask visitors to introduce themselves to the Church Stewards. Unfortunately at this time we cannot allow social gatherings following the services for tea or coffee but hope that we will be able to reintroduce these before too long. Thank you for your understanding.

SERVICES

Sunday 6 th : (2 nd of Advent)	10.30am	Toy & Gift Service – Mrs Pamela Smith (Please see additional information on Page 4)
Sunday 13 th : (3 rd of Advent)	08.30am 10.30am	Rev Chris Sandy – <i>Holy Communion</i> Rev Clifford Newman
Tuesday 15 th :	12noon	Light Worship led by Worship Leaders
Sunday 20 th : (4 th of Advent)	10.30am	Rev Chris Sandy – <i>Holy Communion</i>
Thursday 24 th : (Christmas Eve)	11.30pm	Rev Chris Sandy – <i>Holy Communion</i>
Friday 25 th : (Christmas Day)	11.00am	Rev Dr Martine Stemerick
Sunday 27 th : (1 st of Christmas)	10.30am	Service led by Worship Leaders

Your Stewards for these services are:

6 th : 10.30am – John and Kiki	20 th : 10.30am – Vernon and John
13 th : 8.30am – Diane	24 th : (Christmas Eve) 11.30pm – Vernon
10.30am – Daisy and Marie	25 th : (Christmas Day) 10.30am – Vernon
15 th : (Tuesday) 12 noon – Peter	27 th : 10.30am – Vernon and Peter



Grace and Peace to you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Day of the Lord – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Friends, as I ponder what to write at my desk, one of the questions that popped up was, 'what is the day of the Lord going to be like in the light of our new context and in the midst of the pandemic?' On further reflection, what is the day of the Lord like in your own life and context?

St. Paul reiterated Jesus' words by reminding the Thessalonians that no one knows the day or the hour, but the Father in heaven. Their enquiry was more or less to do with eschatology, the final judgement; what is your enquiry about? Could the day of the Lord be a time when we are called home through death? Could it be a time of disaster (*pandemic*) as the world is experiencing now? Could it be a time of answered prayers? Could it be similar to Jonah's expectations in Jonah chapters 3-4? Could it be a time of deliverance of the marginalised as experienced by the Israelites in Exodus from Egypt? Worrying about the look of Christmas this year? These and many more are for you to sit quietly and reflect what it may mean to you.

Friends, as Paul enjoins upon the Thessalonians, let us also put on the breastplate of faith in God, love of God and neighbour, and hope for a better tomorrow. Encourage one another, be strong in the Lord and remember, 'weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.' (Ps 30:5)

Jesus, healer of the sick, remember now our broken humanity, and touch with your tender love all those who cannot trust their bodies to be whole in Jesus's name. Amen.

Our next *Meet the Minister* will take place virtually on **Wednesday 20th January 2021 with Deacon Sarah McDowall taking the hot seat.**

Revd. Chris Sandy

Minister with Pastoral responsibility for Benfleet, Thundersley and Trinity.

WESLEY PRE-SCHOOL

We are open Monday and Tuesday from 9am to 1pm and Wednesday to Friday from 9am to 3pm. The entrance is via the rear Car Park in Hall Farm Road. We are inspected and approved by Ofsted. More details and information can be obtained by telephoning 07592 841634 during opening hours.

Our Minister is moving on.....

Those of us who attended the United Zoom Service with Thundersley and Trinity on Sunday 22nd November will have heard our Minister, Rev Chris Sandy, announce his move to pastures new in 2021. Chris has been selected by North Bedfordshire Methodist Circuit and has accepted their offer to take up ministry with them in September next year where he will take responsibility for five churches within the Circuit. Chris will be leaving us in July and we are sure you would wish to join with us in thanking him for his ministry to us here in Benfleet - not least his unfailing support in setting up united Zoom services and coffee mornings with Thundersley and Trinity churches and holding us together during these difficult times of Covid-19. Chris: we send our grateful thanks and prayers to you, Musonda and all the family and wish you every success in the future.

OUR CHURCH IS ONCE AGAIN OPEN FOR SERVICES

You will be aware of the Government's recent announcement that the current lockdown will be lifted on 2nd December and that places of worship will be permitted to re-open for services. We therefore look forward to welcoming you back to worship in the church on Sunday 6th December with all the health and safety guidelines that we have become familiar with in place. Please, therefore, continue to follow the guidelines below for your safety.

- entry to and exit from the building will be via the front and rear automatic doors
- all internal doors will be open and remain open
- a one way system will operate for entry to and exit from the church itself
- entry will be via the Welcome Area
- exit will be via the single door to the corridor
- please aim to arrive 5/10 minutes before the commencement of the service ensuring that social distancing is maintained at all times
- seats in the church should be taken immediately on arrival
- the seating in the church has been set out to ensure social distancing
- provision has been made for couples/families to sit together
- seats should be occupied from the front first working back and a steward will direct you to your seat
- once the service is over please exit promptly starting with the front row with each successive row following at a safe distance

KINDLY NOTE

- for the safety of all, everyone is asked to wear a face mask/covering. Spare face masks will be available in case of need
- hand sanitizer will be available and should be used on entry to and exit from the church
- singing is not permitted during the service
- if available our organist will play music of their choice for a few minutes before and at the end of the service
- all music/videos will be provided through the overhead projection system

- no water or other refreshments will be available but anyone who wishes can bring their own bottled water but must take it away with them afterwards
- access will be restricted to the church and the disabled toilets at the front and rear
- it is important that you try not to be late. Anyone arriving late might have to sit in the Welcome Area to avoid compromising social distancing.

These services will be live streamed through the church's Facebook page for those unable, or would prefer not, to attend in person for the time being. This will require you to open a Facebook account of your own if you don't already have one. You are merely required to have this facility; there is no need for you to build up a profile or be otherwise active on Facebook if you prefer not to be; then all you need to do is click on the following link <https://www.facebook.com/715363898657469/posts> which will connect you.

We are aware that there is a sound issue on our live streamed services for those of you watching from home. However, this problem is solved by using the earphones that would have come with your Computer, iPad or iPhone (they are just like the earphones handed out on flights that offer in-flight entertainment). Plug them in and you will be able to both hear and watch our services.

PLEASE REMEMBER ALSO.....

....to leave the church and the building immediately after all church services. While we all want to say hello to everyone please do so outside in the fresh air. An obvious added benefit of doing so is that you can remove your facemasks but remember to maintain social distancing. Please give the Coronavirus the respect that it requires!



**Toy and Gift Service
Sunday 6th December**

We are delighted that we will be able to hold this service in the church rather than on Zoom thereby enabling us to display the toys and gifts. However, we cannot have a Toy and Gift Service without toys and gifts!

Any toys or gifts can be dropped off at the Church in advance of this service on **Tuesday 1st December between 10 and 11am** when the Church will be open for private prayer/reflection.

If you cannot get down to the Church but would like to donate something please give me a call (01268 750532) and I will be happy to collect any gifts.

As a last resort you may bring your gifts with you on the day but you must keep them with you and leave them on your chair at the end of the service.

Due to Covid any toys/gifts must be new and all donations will go to **Changing Pathways**, a refuge service working in South and South West Essex providing safe accommodation to adult women and their children. **John Stokes**

Tuesday 15th December – Light Worship at 12 noon



As usual on the third Tuesday of the month we have our opportunity to separate ourselves from what's going on around us with a short service at 12 noon in the church. Everyone is welcome to attend this service which will last around 25 minutes. **Following the Light Worship a light lunch will be served at 12.30pm open to those attending the service.** Lunch will consist of a single course plus tea or coffee. This month it will be Cottage Pie served with Peas. There will be no set cost but donations to cover the cost of the food would be appreciated.



**CHRISTMAS AT
BENFLEET METHODIST
CHURCH**

In addition to our normal church services we will be holding the following events during December and over the Christmas period.

Friday 4th December at 6pm on the Church forecourt

Lighting up the Christmas tree at which a few carols will be played and a hot mug of soup will be served to keep out the cold.

Sunday 13th December at 12 noon in Wesley Hall

A traditional Christmas lunch will be served (pre-bookings only)

Friday 18th December at 7.30pm in the Church

There will be a Christmas tree carol service in aid of Cancer Research (pre-bookings only)

Saturday 19th December at 12 noon in Wesley Hall and possibly the Church

There will be a 'Bizarre Bazaar Brunch' (pre-bookings only)

Friday 25th December at 12.30pm in Wesley Hall

Christmas day lunch will be served (pre-bookings only)

Should you wish to attend any of these events requiring to be pre-booked please e-mail johnstokes660@yahoo.com or send a text message to 07593 677636. You can also phone Shelagh or John on 01268 750532. Places will be limited as a consequence of social distancing rules and allocated on a first come basis. In the event of any Government changes during this period a bulletin will be sent out so please monitor your e-mail regularly.



**Private Prayer and Coffee Morning
Every Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon
Just drop in!**

We continue to hold our Private Prayer and Coffee Morning every Tuesday while Covid regulations allow. Obviously this is subject to cancellation at a moment's notice in line with ever-changing government policy. Everybody is welcome.

NEW ARRIVALS.....



We are delighted to announce that Doreen Bartlett has another addition to her family. This time a great-grandson, Oakley, born on 18th November 2020 and weighing in at 6lbs 7oz. Both mother and baby are doing very well. Our congratulations go to Doreen and all the family for this wonderful news.



GOOD NEWS FOR A CHANGE!

All thanks and praise to God for the safe delivery of a baby girl to my eldest granddaughter, Roxanne and Sean. Baby Niamh (Irish – pronounced Neeve) was delivered by Caesarean section at 9.20pm on Friday 30th October. Both mum and baby are doing well and Poppy is excited to have a long-awaited and most welcome sister who weighed in at 7lbs 11oz. Our family send their grateful thanks to Southend General Hospital's maternity unit and surgical team for their loving care and support to Roxanne and Niamh during these extremely difficult times. God bless our NHS! What would we do without them! **Coral Rollisson**
(Our congratulations go to Coral and all the family)

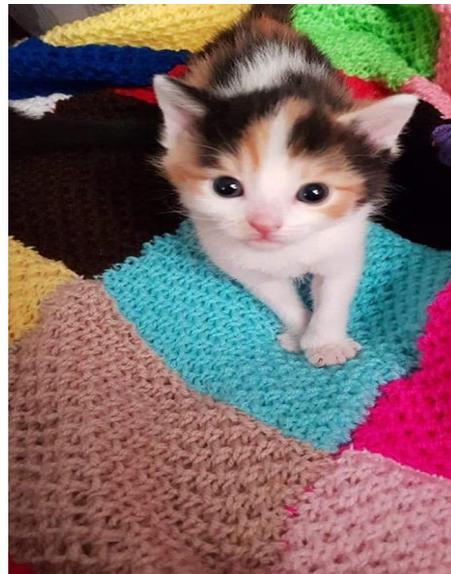
WIVES' CLUB

We will meet during **December**, subject to the government regulations in place when the current lockdown period ends on 2nd December. In the meantime I would like to send my grateful thanks to all of you for your donations towards the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. I have managed to do 20 boxes which I delivered to the collection centre during the week commencing 16th November. I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and we will hopefully resume our meetings in January 2021.

Hazel Cade 01268 751216

CALLING ALL KNITTERS.....

My 11-year-old daughter and I are just learning to knit but need **your help**. We have been inspired in this venture by Colchester Cat & Kitten Rescue Centre. Every cat and kitten coming into their care is given their own 'blankey' that stays with them and helps to settle them in their new home when they are adopted. As you can imagine the centre get through a huge amount of blankets. They desperately need people to knit squares that can then be sewn together to make blankets approx. 2-foot square.



If you can help knit squares that would be wonderful! Squares can be left for me to knit together if you prefer; or you can sew them together if you wish. Alternatively, if you just wish to knit one big square that would be wonderful. I do have a donated supply of wool for those that need it. Once we have enough, I will deliver them to the rescue centre. It maybe you don't knit yourself but know someone that does and can pass along details of our project.

Thank you in advance for your help and support.

Sharon Lawrence, Fusion Youth Club slawrence3287@gmail.com

Trustees' Report and Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2020

The following is an extract from the full Trustees' Report which has been finalised. Copies are available if anyone would like one together with the financial statements. Please contact reeves221@btinternet.com for a copy.

Review of the year

The year under review has been one that has been completely overtaken by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst activities were all underway in the autumn of 2019, very soon into 2020 the impact of the lockdown hit everyone, and the Church was closed for everything, including worship.

During that period the Pastoral Visitors kept in contact with their classes and generally there was a great deal of 'telephone visiting' and keeping in touch. Zoom Church services were started led by our own minister, Rev Chris Sandy, which were shared with Thundersley and Trinity Methodist Churches which were greatly welcomed as a means of keeping corporate worship going, as well as regular 'coffee mornings' on Zoom that allowed members to chat and have quizzes and generally socialise.

The premises were closed and the property stewards effectively locked it down whilst maintaining essential services. As soon as it was possible Preschool re-started, albeit with very few children and only after the building had been declared Covid-19 compliant and with safeguards in place for the children and their leaders.

As soon as it was allowed Church services recommenced, socially distanced which was very strange, but attendances were normally well over thirty and on occasions topped forty. I was glad when they said unto me 'Let us go unto the House of the Lord'. The worshipping community at Benfleet Methodist Church has been at the very core of everything we have done, whether in the field of fund raising for the new buildings, social activity, outreach or the involvement of the local community sharing the facilities.

To achieve the return to some semblance of normality has entailed a lot of practical work to ensure we complied with government and Methodist regulations for the premises, and grateful thanks go to the Church Stewards and the Property Stewards for this, and also to many members and friends who helped when asked, and followed the rules without grumbling.

The last week in August saw the resumption of a Tuesday Coffee mornings – all Covid-19 compliant, with a handful of attendees, but for those who came, it was very welcome. These continue and other activities will be introduced as soon as it is permitted. September also saw the start of one or two groups coming back, especially Headway and the Music Man project and it is expected that other activities will be re-starting later in the year or at the start of 2021.

It must be said that there is a high degree of resilience at Benfleet Methodist Church and its members remain in good heart looking forward to resuming our plans, and not looking at the missed opportunities. The Lord loves a 'cheerful giver' and members and friends have remained cheerful, mainly through the fact that a very high proportion of our Sunday offerings are paid through standing orders, and those which are not when we re-opened there were some sizeable cheques for the missed weeks.

When the lockdown was announced it was agreed that the users of our premises, themselves all charities, should cease paying their assessments until such time as they recommenced activities. This meant a shortfall in income of some £15,000, which together with a shortfall in fund raising of another £3,000 and slightly lower offerings means we incurred a deficit for the year of £12,000.

However, we had a sound level of reserves, and with some savings in some areas we remain well financed and able to move forward. The coming year will also be a difficult one financially as not all the groups will be back and paying for the premises, so we are looking at a further deficit of maybe £10,000. However, plans are under way to see what can be done to offset that.

At this point in our report we would normally comment on the work of the various groups: that is not possible, but lest we forget them they are listed below:

Fellowship

Church services, healing services, bible study group – Sunday worship and communion have restarted and the monthly Light Worship followed by a Light Lunch – hopefully the others will resume soon

Youth work

Fusion and Fusion plus for children and young people will be starting up in October under a slightly different guise – Fusion Film Nights

Wesley Preschool – a real credit to the team – have done a remarkable job

Uniformed groups – Rainbows, Brownies and Guides – sadly not planning to start up again just yet.

Social care

Mencap's Music Man project - the music therapy group – now restarted

OACS Counselling service – operating a telephone service since March but hoping to return soon

Headway – the Brain Injury Charity now back using the premises as their local office from September

Monday Lunch Club – forced to close – needed to re-open to meet a real local need

Sunday lunches – food for the body and company for those on their own – restarting in October

Whitechapel Mission – still receiving clothing that is taken up on a regular basis

Recreational and sporting activities

Waiting to learn when badminton can restart – greatly missed by the players

Yard Arm Folk Orchestra – need to be safe (but have been very generous during the shut-down)

Wesley Art and Wednesday Craft – all on hold till 2021

Wives Club, Women's Fellowship and Ladies Thursday Club – Wives are now back

The Welcome Area

Like the London theatres, the Welcome Area has been dark and we have not been able to operate our Ministry of Hospitality, not even being able to have a cup of coffee after Church at the moment. Started to have Tuesday coffee morning and some use, but yet to spring to life again.

The Ministry of Hospitality and Welcoming remains at the heart of the fellowship and the worshipping community is at the heart of all we do.

Plans for 2020/21

In October we have a part-time Children and Families Worker joining us, Adanna Johnson, and there are plans for starting a Sunday school, to working with the Fusion children and the local schools to draw the children in for fun, friendship and faith and through the children to reach out to the parents, so that families will once again be making up our church community.

As a Church it is acknowledged that we are an ageing congregation albeit still very busy and active, and we do not have within the fellowship enough people to lead and arrange activities that we would wish to see happen. Accordingly we must bring in the skills and expertise that we lack and meet the financial costs of so doing.

The Church has been a real centre and hub for the whole community and very much used by people who meet on the premises either for worship or for social and recreational purposes. There are many people living locally who would claim that Benfleet Methodist Church was “their” church although they do not attend on a Sunday morning! Not yet – and that is the challenge we have taken up for young and old.



Zoom Circuit Breakfast and Prayer Meeting

The next Zoom Circuit Breakfast and Prayer Meeting is on **Saturday 5th December at 8.30am** using the same access codes as last time. Just log in, have your breakfast and share in fellowship and prayer! Should you need a reminder, here are the log-in details.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81096524732?pwd=MFRSdC9Xb1NDQ2NLeFRjaUFEZDA5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 810 9652 4732

Passcode: 040486

One tap mobile

+442034815240,,81096524732#,,,,,0#,,040486# United Kingdom

+442039017895,,81096524732#,,,,,0#,,040486# United Kingdom

Dial by your location

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

+44 203 051 2874 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 810 9652 4732

Passcode: 040486

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kc8kcn4mil>



THURSDAY ZOOM COFFEE MORNINGS

We continue to hold our Thursday Zoom Coffee Mornings **but please note that the starting time is now 10.30am rather than 10am, finishing at 12noon.** Derek and Julie’s quiz will commence at 11am as usual. These are a lot of fun so do join us. We would like to say a huge thank you to Derek and Julie for continuing with these quizzes. Looking forward to seeing you. Here is the link should you require it:

<https://zoom.us/j/98120109379?pwd=WERoSm9haWxERUNua0h2OTF2QUIZUT09>

Meeting ID: 981 2010 9379

Password: 003222



DESERT ISLAND DISCS
By Marie Howard

DESERT ISLAND DISCS COMES TO BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH!

My thanks go to Marie Howard for sharing her lovely choices for Desert Island Discs this special month of December. We have so much enjoyed everyone's choices for this year and thank anyone who has been brave enough to put pen to paper. Traditionally, we begin again in February, and I have someone lined up for this month. I shall be scouting for new volunteers to try and complete next year. By December 2021 we would have had three years of reading and that is my goal that we keep this article going until then. If you haven't participated and would like to, please let me know. I would be delighted to hear from you. Thank you. Ruth

1. This Ole House - written by Stuart Hamblen

As a family of 6 children, we used to put sixpence in a pot and every 6 weeks we would take our turn to buy a record and that is the first one I ever bought.

2. Panis Angelicus - composer Cesar Franck

This was sung for us when we re-took our marriage vows by our very dear friend Jim Kinsella. The service was taken by the same minister who took our wedding, but now a Canon and member of my church, St Thomas, Old Charlton.

3. Shine Jesus Shine - written by Graham Kendrick

I love this hymn it reminds me of Canon George - old in years but very wise.

4. Bobby's Girl - sung by Susan Maughan

This song came out soon after I met Bob in 1963. He was at sea at the time.

5. Oh Jesus I have Promised - author - John Ernest Bode

My favourite hymn which reflects my faith.

6. You are my Sunshine- written by Jimmie Davis and Charles Mitchell

This song reminds me of my dad playing his squeezebox at family parties.

7. Half way to Paradise- written by Carole King and Gerry Goffin

Billy Fury is one of my favourite singers - I just love this song!

Favourite book -The Story of Gladys Aylward, the unlikely inspirational missionary to China.

Luxury item- Ukelele

Having come to play a musical instrument relatively recently, whether I play well or not, it gives me enormous pleasure

Favourite Bible passage/verse

1 Corinthians 13: verses 1-13

Verse 8. 'Love never ends'.

Past Desert Island Disc participants

2019 Feb – Ruth Dorrington, Mar - Shelagh Stokes, Apr– Doreen Bartlett, May – Vernon Murray, June – Diane Norton, July – John Stokes, Aug – Susan Downer, Sept- Richard Reeves, Oct – Christine Horton, Nov – Martine Stemerick and Dec – Julie Turner

2020 Feb – Joan Simpson, Mar – Janice Gray, April – Rosemarie Francis, May – Peter Wicken, June – Rob Gray, July – Stella Holden, August – Jackie Newman, September – Val Ryall, October – Daisy Humphreys, November – Lin Wicken.

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December Birthdays

We send Happy Birthday wishes this month to.....
Terry Beer (10th) and Erika Storey (29th)
A very Happy Birthday to you both!

For your enjoyment here are some recipes from Christine Horton. Many of you will know Christine who is from the Salvation Army and a very good friend of Benfleet.



Cowboy Pie

Ingredients:

1 pack of Hertza hotdogs
1 tin of baked beans
1 large onion chopped
Pinch of paprika/pepper
Potato mash (or frozen)
Grated cheese

Cost: £3-£4. Serves 4

Method:

Chop hotdogs into bitesize pieces
Add baked beans and onion
Mix all together in oven proof dish and season
Add a layer of cheese
Top with a good amount of mashed potato
Sprinkle with grated cheese
Place in a hot oven for 30-40 minutes until golden and crispy. Yummy!!



Sausage Patties/Pie

Ingredients:

Pack of sausage meat (Morrisons £2)
1 large onion finely chopped
1-2 fresh tomatoes finely chopped (optional)
1 beaten egg
Packet of fresh breadcrumbs
Season to taste

Mixture will make approx. 12-15 patties
Cost approx. £4 and will serve 4-6

Serves 4-6
Serve vegetables with both versions
Can be frozen or will keep in fridge for 3-4 days

Method:

In a large bowl mix all the ingredients together, minus the egg and breadcrumbs
When well mixed, add egg to bind
Put breadcrumbs in a bowl
Spoon mixture out in palm size amounts
Pat into round shapes then roll in the breadcrumbs
Shallow fry for about 10 mins turning once.

As an alternative:

Make as above (excluding breadcrumbs)
Line a pie baking tin with shortcrust pastry (fresh or frozen)
Pile in mixture, brush with a little egg saved from the mixing
Cook in hot oven for 30 mins until crust is golden



We pray for our families, friends and church family at this special time of the year. For those who are ill, recovering from illness; those who have been bereaved and coming to terms with their loss. Remember those who may not be able to celebrate Christmas with their families this year. Hold them in your prayers and thoughts at what could be a difficult, sad and lonely time for many. May God bless them and give them comfort. Amen.


Thank you!

Marie Howard would like to thank
all those who so generously
supported her
Benfleet Boot Sale Trail
event on Saturday 21st November.
The amount of **£150** was raised for
the Rayleigh and Canvey food banks.
Thank you!

NOTICE FROM SOUTHEND AND LEIGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

**ZOOM INVITATION FOR
CIRCUIT ADVENT SERVICE
SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2020 AT 4PM
MRS CAROLYN LAWRENCE
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE METHODIST CONFERENCE**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87695786707?pwd=RTdjYTVxMGJxL3g3c2JRMtE5BWVNgUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 9578 6707

Passcode: 747188

For those unable to connect via the internet, it is possible to join by phone using one of the following numbers:

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240

0203 901 7895

When prompted you will need to enter the Meeting ID and Passcode given above.

NOTICE FROM METHODIST CHURCH EAST ANGLIA DISTRICT

In response to Covid, the East Anglia District has announced an interesting light mission initiative with ideas as to how we might help ourselves and others throughout January (and perhaps beyond)! Full details can be found at - [January Light](#)

[PS – There was a picture attached to this which unfortunately I could not transfer to this Newsletter, but clicking on the January Light link above should get you through. Ed.]

Our current Church Stewards are:

Vernon Murray	07850 673478	vernon.murray@charlesderby.com
John Stokes	01268 750532	johnstokes660@yahoo.com
Daisy Humphreys	01268 565452	daisy.osborne66@tiscali.co.uk
Michael Otchere	07950 955790	michaelotchere22@outlook.com
Peter Wicken	01268 964906	linwicken@gmail.com
Marie Howard	07753 609158	mariejessica@me.com
Rosalind Klass	07748 323832	rosalindk@healthandsafetyclick.net
Kike Fadiya	07545 268313	kikefadiya@yahoo.com

and can be contacted in the absence of the Minister

There are three telephone lines at the Church and the numbers are –
The Church Office (although it is not always manned) (01268) 750571
Pre-School 07592 841634
First floor facilities (Counselling Suite) (01268) 792083

**Car Parking at
Benfleet Methodist Church**

There are some spaces at the rear of the Church off Hall Farm Road, SS7 5JR.

There is also limited parking at the front of the Church primarily for 'blue badge' holders and those with mobility difficulties.

There is a large public car park off School Lane, SS7 1NS at the bottom of Essex Way. Parking is free in the evenings but daily charges apply from Monday to Sunday. Then it is a short walk along the High Road to the Church.

There are some parking bays in the High Road but watch the one hour restriction (except on Sundays). There is no street parking in the vicinity of the Church (Monday to Friday) between 11am and 12 noon.

The **January** edition of our Newsletter will be available by **Sunday 27th December**. All material should be with the Editor by **Tuesday 15th December (earlier if possible)**, please.

Copy can be left in the letter rack or e-mailed to daisy.osborne66@tiscali.co.uk . Remember that the Newsletter can be e-mailed to you so that you have your copy earlier than its general availability. Please let the Editor have your e-mail address and leave the rest to us.

DATA PROTECTION

TO COMPLY WITH CURRENT DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU PLEASE DISPOSE OF THIS NEWSLETTER RESPONSIBLY WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WITH IT. THANK YOU.



Wishing you all a peaceful and Happy Christmas

