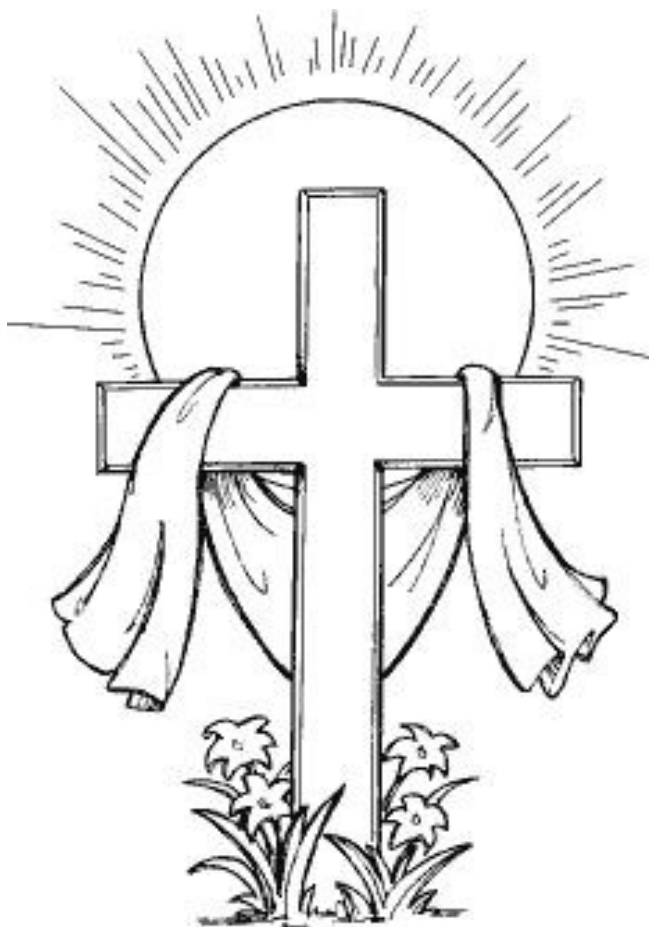


THE
OUTLOOK

MARCH TO MAY
2018



Emmanuel Church Sidcup
Methodist and United Reformed

Message from the Elders

Emmanuel is still in a period of interregnum. Our interim moderator Rev Raymond Singh assures us that we will hear very soon what the URC's future plans are for our Church. We will inform everyone when a decision has been reached.

We are grateful to Raymond for his support and to Rev David Gillman who has chaired our Elders' meetings, taken a funeral service, will conduct a wedding ceremony and is always willing to give advice.

The Elders

NEW WINE -NEW SKINS

2018 is a transitional year for our Circuit and for our individual churches. Already we have seen a reduction of those of our Ministers who take pastoral responsibility of churches from four to three. Our Deacon Maureen is a very welcome addition to the team but, as you know, her work is project based and she is not attached to any one particular church. September the 1st will see the number of Ministers reduced by one more. Both Rev. Alex and Rev. David move to pastures new to be replaced by Rev. Terry Wright who will be covering no less than four churches. Meanwhile Rev. Duncan will be overseeing Petts Wood in addition to New Eltham and Chislehurst. Duncan will also have additional work in his new role of Superintendent. Meanwhile Emmanuel Sidcup will be covered by a part time URC Minister. So, are these changes, threats, or opportunities? Problems or challenges? Will they bring gloom and doom or hope and fulfilment? This article sets out to face the issues involved squarely and to suggest that, given positive attitudes, we can use the next few months profitably to prepare what could become an exciting adventure of faith for us all.

THE CHALLENGES WE FACE. It easy to recognise quite a few. An increased quantity of work and responsibility could well mean less time for our Ministers to give attention to individuals, groups, business meetings and the manifest activities of our church; The difficulties of covering all the worshipping needs across the circuit will be heightened; Our Ministers will have less time to reflect, plan, prepare, and relax. There may well be threats to their time for personal devotions and for their family life; Altogether there will be more pace, more stress, more work and less time and, maybe, less energy, to do it.

The pressures on our Ministers will affect us, the members and the adherents of our churches. We may not have our services conducted by our own Minister as often as we would wish. We may not be able to meet with our Minister when we want to or need to. We may not be able to have our church meetings and groups at times which best suit us. We may come to feel that our Minister does not know each of us as well as we would wish. We may feel that we do not

know our Ministers as well as we would wish to either. We may feel that insufficient attention is being paid to our own special concerns - the youth of our church for example, or our church finances or our mission. We may even give way to anxiety, resentment or be tempted to moan that 'things aren't what they used to be'.

THE KEY CHANGE. Two years ago Di, my wife, and I were bird watching in the Camargue. We happened upon the largest flock of sheep we had ever seen. Several hundred at least. A shepherd appeared with his dog. He called and walked towards an open gate and a lane beyond. The sheep followed. All of them. It was an extraordinary sight. Psalm 23 came to mind. So too did Methodist churches of years ago. One minister, many followers. Now we must adjust to a new situation. The key change is that our minister has become a scarce resource. S/he will not be able to lead in the old way. Instead we sheep, sorry, members, must work out our own paths to pastures new and still waters. Sure, our minister will support us, facilitate us, inspire us, but we will have to do the planning and rather more of the work.

SO, WHERE IS THE UPSIDE? Let's change the metaphor. Are we on the Titanic or the Mayflower? Are we on a course that leads to disaster and the sinking of our ship or are we sailing through choppy seas to a new adventure in unknown territory? An adventure that will be different, scary perhaps, hard work certainly, but an adventure that will eventually bring rewards far greater than we can presently imagine. Surely, as Christians the answer is clear. We are not alone. We have each other, but that is the least of it. We have the Holy Spirit working with us and the promise that our little efforts will flourish as God's Kingdom on earth grows. Just as the Pilgrim Fathers did, we travel in faith with the certainty of a good outcome.

ACTION. It is tempting to put off our departure on this latest journey with Christ. To 'face it when we come to it'; To wait until Terry is here and Duncan has his new responsibilities. Of course, there is some merit in that point of view but I contend there is much we can do now to prepare ourselves.

Pray. Pray for our Ministers. Pray for our churches. Pray for ourselves. Pray for insight and wisdom. Pray for acceptance of the realities, to recognise that 'We are where we are'. Pray for solutions. Pray for a positive attitude to change.

Review our personal church activities. Whatever you do in your church, whatever groups or committees you belong to; however you are involved, think about how it could be done differently if needs be. We have to ask ourselves individually and collectively questions like 'Does the Minister really have to do this or be involved in that? What could we do, what indeed could I do, to lighten my Minister's burden? How might I contribute more, if not more in quantity, more effectively?' To use the jargon- 'Could we do it smarter?'

Some of our churches might want to consider identifying two people who could work together in order to help folk with these questions. They would do

this by asking those who give service to the church in any way 'What changes could be effected in the work that you do for the church to lighten the load that our Minister carries?' One way of doing this that the two might find useful is outlined in a paper available on request from your Minister or from Roger May. There is no reason why they should not start work now. The purpose would be only to make suggestions and support those who are thinking about how to make useful changes. The two doing this would need to be appointed by the church council or perhaps a short church meeting after a service.

Prepare ourselves for change. Things are certainly going to gradually become somewhat different and we should be preparing for that. For example, we have already started to change some of the times of Sunday morning services. Perhaps now we should be asking ourselves questions like – If I was asked, could I contribute more to the worshipping activities of my church? Am I equipped to take on more of the pastoral care and hospital visiting? Do we need to be more careful not to overburden our Minister or more aware of not intruding upon our Minister's free time? In short to prayerfully considering what does God want *me* to do about the situation in which we find ourselves?

The Circuit Leadership Team Feb 2018.

Baptism



Maya Harper Duguid, daughter of Emma Duguid and Steven Tapper was baptised by Rev Raymond Singh on Sunday 14th January.

Suffragettes and Suffragists

As I write this I have been listening and looking at programs about commemorating 100 years since the passing of the Representation of the People Act in February 1918. This Act granted the vote to all men over the age of 21 and to women over 30 who met certain property qualifications. It would be another 10 years before all women gained the vote.

Most of us have heard the stories of how the Suffragettes battled for voting rights for women, but not so much is known about the Suffragists. The National Society for Women Suffrage was founded in the 1850s and Millicent Fawcett was a leading light in this organisation. (Theresa May has campaigned hard for a statue of Millicent Fawcett to be erected in Parliament Square). The Suffragists campaigned vigorously for women's suffrage for several decades and their supporters included many aristocratic women as well as those who worked for a living. The Suffragist movement had to fight against the attitude of the majority of men at that time. Many influential men of the day spoke vehemently against giving women the vote as they considered women to be less clever and unable to deal with important matters, even discrediting Britain in the eyes of the world if women were allowed in Parliament. But the Suffragists were against violence and did not condone or agree with the actions of the Suffragettes. Whilst none of us approves of violence I suspect that without the actions and sufferings of the Suffragette women, the women of today would not have the freedom that we do.

During the last 100 years women's rights have increased considerably but even today there are still arguments over things like equal pay and employment rights. I have read that over 54,000 women every year lose their jobs as a result of maternity discrimination and on average 2 women are killed by a current or previous partner every week. On a good note, over the last few years we have seen the police and the justice systems review their attitude towards rape victims. When Mrs. May became Prime Minister, the national press started to comment on her dress and shoes. I don't ever remember reading anything about previous male Prime Ministers' attire.

Over all I think women in this country are treated much better than some other countries and I count myself fortunate to be living here, but it seems that there are still things that need to improve. Like the Suffragettes let us hope that our daughters and granddaughters will benefit from further improvement.

Jenni Thornton



**Emmanuel Church is excited to
bring to the Church again
Messy Church!!**

**"This is a Free, Fun, Family event
and will include:
Fun, Food and Worship!!!"**

**Where ? Emmanuel Church Hall,
Hadlow Road, Sidcup**

**When ? Saturday 4pm - 6pm
Next meetings**

March 10th Easter

April 14th Spring

May 12th Nature

Who ? All ages welcome

We look forward to seeing you all there

"Contact: rogerlatch@btinternet.com 020 8300 5758"

9th December Christmas

It was a bitterly cold but beautifully sunny day and there was a "Christmas Extravaganza" in Sidcup but we still had 36 children with their parents and Grandparents.

What a lovely team of dedicated, wonderful, talented people we have who put so much of their time, love and skill into making our Messy Church such a huge success.

We had a giant Christmas tree for everyone to have a go at decorating. I think the parents enjoy this more than the children.

We had cakes for the children to decorate with large marshmallows, icing sugar and sweets to make the most fantastic snowmen – yes, I think they all got eaten before being taken home.

We had Oranges for each child to make into a Christingle by wrapping red ribbon around it, attaching 4 cocktail sticks with sweets and raisins skewered on and some cloves stuck in to give a wonderful Christmassy smell.

The children made Father Christmases out of toilet roll middles, red tissue paper, cotton wool and cut out black gloves and boots and even stuck on eyes.

You can't have Christmas without Rudolf the red nosed reindeer, so we had some reindeer shapes to cut out with a hole where his nose should be and then a round lolly on

a stick was stuck on the back with the lolly poking through for his nose and the stick was for carrying home – some hope.

Black paper with a cut out in the shape of candle was used and by sticking coloured paper on behind made it look like a really colourful candle – brilliant.

Much cutting and sticking went on to produce some wonderful decorations for the children to take home to hang on their Christmas trees. They made beautiful baubles and stars. They also had cut out silver angels for the children to decorate and attach some ribbon to.

The children went out to the Green room at 5:15 to hear the story of Christmas, sing a hymn and say prayers for friends, family, neighbours and our war torn world.

The hall was quickly cleared and the tables laid for our second attempt at a hot meal which consisted of piping hot sausages or frankfurters in a roll and a large lashing of baked beans on the side. There was also cake, crisps and fruit. A special thank you to our wonderful catering staff.

After the meal we had a surprise visit from Father Christmas who had taken time out from his very busy schedule to visit us and he even had a present for every single child. What a fantastic guy he is.

13th January Winter

We would like to wish everyone a very wonderful and Messy New Year.

There wasn't any snow outside but we had many snowy scenes inside. Our craft tables were:

1) A giant mountain scene with a large frozen lake for everyone to decorate in any way they wished and a truly magnificent picture was created as you could see at the front of the church.

2) Pipe Cleaner people on skis or snowboards were made for the children to put on our giant picture or to take home.

3) Black card and chalk go together well and each child could create their own winter scene with a snowman and some cotton wool stuck on for falling snow.

4) Each child could make a Megaphone by rolling A4 card in the shape of a funnel and decorating to their own design. This was to go with our story of Samuel being called "One Dark Night"

5) Snowmen biscuits had been previously made and now the children were let loose to decorate with icing sugar and sprinkles (and usually eat before taking home)

6) Snowy Owl Pinecones – wow! How wonderful they looked. Cotton Wool stuffed into the pinecone gaps with stuck on eyes, beaks and even feet.

7) When we think of the cold we always think of penguins and our children produced some wonderful looking ones from rolled black paper, googly eyes, cut out beaks and feet.

8) It is hard for our garden birds at this time of the year so bird feeders were made from a lovely mess of fat and bird seed stuffed into a paper cup with a piece of string attached for the children to take home and have hung up outside their homes.

At 5:15 everybody went out to the Green room to hear the story of Samuel being called in the dark. Suddenly there was a loud pop and the lights went out so we had to transfer to the Rainbow room instead – what excitement. The story was told, a song was sung and prayers were said for friends, families and for our very troubled world.

Inside the hall the room was cleared and the tables laid for the meal and what a meal it was. We had 39 children with parents, grandparents and guardians and they were all presented with a feast of piping hot fish fingers and spaghetti hoops with buttered French bread followed by fruit, biscuits and cake. Masterchef – forget your fancy food, this was a true feast and every plate was licked clean.

10th February Our Caring Services

Well it was cold, wet and miserable outside as we set up our craft tables and our catering angels set to work in the kitchen preparing a hot meal for our Messy people so it was warm and cosy inside.

There were 44 children altogether with Mums, Dads, Nannies and Grandad's and we were worried that we wouldn't have enough food to eat and crafty things to do. It was quite strange that we had many new faces but lots of the regulars didn't turn up and we asked the question: what would we have done if they had all turned up.

The craft tables were:

1) A Giant Street scene representing Sidcup High Street with Queen Mary's Hospital, Morrisons, Our Church and the Fire Station amongst other things – the result is truly spectacular.

2) Postmen and Ladies are a very familiar and friendly sight along our streets and to celebrate their existence along with the nearness of Valentines Day, we had a table set up for everyone to create an envelope and design a card to give to someone they love.

3) Rectangular biscuits with red tomato sauce or red jam, black round biscuits for wheels and pretzels to form a ladder helped create the perfect fire engines which were mostly eaten before being taken home.

4) The Lollypop Ladies or Men are a very familiar sight to our children as they are seen across dangerous roads by them on their way to school so lollipops were made out of lolly sticks and printed round card.

5) A corner was set up so that the children could practice being a doctor or a nurse by putting bandages (toilet rolls) on one another or parents – it was quite funny to see people staggering around with heavily bandaged heads or arms.

6) Strings of people were created by cutting out carefully folded paper and the children set to with gusto to dress the people chains in the most imaginative ways.

7) We hear much nowadays about how our rubbish causes so much damage to the animals that we share our wonderful planet with so we had a junk/recycle table where all our rubbish could be turned into the most magnificent buildings, lorries, rockets and ships.

8) The Playdoh Table is always a children's favourite.

At 5:15 everybody went out to the Green room to hear the story "Down by the River", to sing a song and say some prayers for friends, families and for our very troubled world.

The hall was cleared and the tables laid for the meal and what a meal it was. What a wonderful feast they all had with Meatballs, Pasta, Tomato Sauce and Grated Cheese followed by fruit and cake. Everyone had something to eat.

Emmanuel Church should be very proud of their wonderful band of Angels who work so hard to make Messy Church the success it is. Thank you to them all.

Roger

Thank you Roger for these Messy Church reports.



EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Saturday March 24th
10.30 to 12 noon
Emmanuel Church Hall
CRAFTS CAKES RAFFLE GAMES
CARDS REFRESHMENTS
Easter Egg Hunt at 11 am
Admission Free

Mothering Sunday

11th March 2018

Remember your mother on this special day by putting flowers and a picture of her on a window sill in Church.



Letter from Dorset

Dear friends at Emmanuel

Once again, we are putting pen to paper or rather fingers to a computerized typewriter, so that we can send you our greetings and best wishes from the depths of the glorious Dorset Countryside where Methodism is becoming united with the Anglican and United Reformed churches who are now all working closely together to bring our faith to all those whom we feel are in need of knowing the love of God through his son Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

In our village alone we Methodists, Anglican and URC churches are well and truly working together and have noticed that our congregations have grown slightly, but that of course may just be in celebration of Christmas.

However the many events that our churches have been arranging in the village throughout the last year appear to have encouraged many of the villagers to come and see what it is all about. Our "Cinderella" Pantomime in the Village Hall in January and February was very well received with some members of all three churches in the cast!

So may we say without being boastful that we both do appear to spearhead many such events, probably because after having spent 40 years as members of "Emmanuel" prior to moving down to Dorset that has certainly given us a firm Methodist foothold after taking part in Plays and Concerts in the Church Hall under the Directorship of Cyril & Freda Skinner and Freda & George Fox.

Knowing Sidcup as we really do, we do wonder if "Emmanuel" also enjoy working together with other churches in the area? On New Year's Eve we held a United Service in our Methodist Chapel with the result that it became full to capacity.

We sign off by wishing you all a "Spirit Filled" New Year in the hope that you will set out in 2018 to fill your pews as we are managing to doing at the moment!

May the Lord be with you all

John & Frances Russell

Christmas Collections

Carol singing in the streets raised £175 for Action for Children. Christmas collections from Carols by Candlelight, the Christmas Tree morning coffee and Christmas day service raised £300 for Crisis.

Vera Howsam

Family, friends and members of the church gathered together at Eltham Crematorium on Wednesday 14th February for a service of thanksgiving for Vera Howsam. Peter Thornton gave a tribute to Vera reflecting on her involvement at Emmanuel and her friendship over the years.

Vera was born in Woodhouse just to the east of Sheffield in 1923. She moved to London in 1967 with Goff, her husband, having worked at the Coal Board as a short hand typist. She also used her administrative skills at the supplies department of Orpington Hospital.

Vera kept herself busy at church and at home - she enjoyed reading and crosswords and knitting. She had shared holidays across Europe travelling to places that Goff had visited in his war days. Clare read a passage by Henry Scott Holland that focused on the continuity of relationships even beyond death - the memories that we treasure remain with us and continue to be important for the shaping of our lives.

We remember Pat and Colin, Sarah, Emma and Clare and Erin and all the family in our prayers.

David Gillman

What a joy and a privilege it is to thank God for the life of Vera, whose Christian values were an example to us all. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

I've known Vera for fifty years, she was at this church when we arrived, she asked my wife to do the catering for her daughter's wedding.

When the women went shopping, her husband, Goff, asked me on a Saturday morning to go and play cribbage in the United Services club, of which he was a member, that was fun.

Vera always gave her time to the many activities the church put on over the years. She was an active member of the woman's hour on a Monday afternoon, and regularly manned the stalls at the Christmas fairs, Daffodil Day and other events that they were involved in.

Her pattern for life was honesty and respect. She loved talking about her younger life in Yorkshire. She was a joy to be with, I visited her just before Christmas, not knowing it was her 95th birthday. She also talked about her time working at a colliery.

She was so proud of her family and has left them a wonderful example of life. Her love will remain with them and us for ever.

God bless you Vera, and please God take great care of her.

Peter Thornton

Frank Midgley

The following is a composite of the tributes paid by his sons at Frank's funeral

Dad was born on 7th March 1924 in Keighley Yorkshire as the only child of his parents Ernest and Ada. For the first six years of his life they lived together in the house belonging to his grandmother Sarah Booth – hence Dad's unusual middle name. Dad described his father as a man who was always very kind – a man who taught him to tell the truth and be straight with people. Qualities that were evident throughout dad's life.

In childhood Dad was given a Meccano set in an original engraved wooden box (now in his son Andrew's possession) and perhaps then began to develop his skill in analysing the way things fitted together and worked.

When Dad was attending Halton Bank primary school in Salford a teacher gave him extra tuition so that he could sit the scholarship exam for Manchester Grammar school. In the end a broken leg from playing street football meant Dad never actually sat the exam, but he gained a place nevertheless and his years as a pupil at Manchester Grammar left a big impression on him and he was still attending school reunions well into his 80's. Dad, was good at maths and English and French but it was really the sciences that seem to have caught his attention.

At age 15 when war broke out, he left school and worked (unpaid) at his father's and uncle Frank's engineering firm. He then became a school apprentice at Metropolitan Vickers, a large Electrical Engineering firm which had some 13,000 employees. His work there was what was known as a reserved occupation which meant he was never called up to serve in the forces much to the relief of his own father who had seen the carnage of the first world war.

While he was at his father's firm he started as an external student at the Royal Technical College in Salford and gained a BSc degree in Mechanical Engineering, and then a post-graduate qualification in mathematics.

In the 1950s Dad had started worked for the Government Crown Agents and had been seconded to Birmingham, which is where he met Mum. Their relationship flourished so that when Dad was relocated to London it precipitated their decision to marry. We recently discovered that during that period as a bachelor in London, Dad lived right here in Sidcup, first in Lansdowne Road and then Carlton Road.

Mum and Dad were married in October 1954 and soon moved to Glenhurst Avenue in Bexley which was to be our family home. From there he joined the commuters travelling up to London where he worked as an Electrical Inspector at the Department of Trade and Industry in Whitehall.

Dad loved chess and was captain of a works team for many years. He also enjoyed badminton at a local club and in later years played snooker regularly with his good friend Douglas.

He loved to play the piano, particularly Chopin, and took great care of the Beulhoff piano that his father bought in 1930 for about £100 (it was a good one – he used to say!).

The large garden at Bernina was a huge source of enjoyment for Dad – growing vegetables, laying a path in the lower garden, building a conservatory and a shed. In later years Paul, their gardener, shared the tasks and in so doing became far more friend than gardener.

Throughout his life, Dad's handiwork skills were phenomenal – no DIY project was beyond him. What's more his electrical expertise meant any and every household item could be repaired (and generally was, usually several times.) Arriving at Bernina for a visit, we'd be met with the sight of Dad hunched over the kitchen table, surrounded by tools and adhesives as he set about the repair of whichever broken appliance currently needed his attention.

Dad's past meant a huge amount to him – perhaps that explains why so little was ever thrown away. As we have begun to sort out their home, we have found this 1935 diary (Dad aged 11), just about every school book he ever possessed, as well as his own childhood stamp albums and even his own mother's autograph book from 1905.

In recent years there were cruises and computers; as well as trips up north to track down old friends he hadn't seen for years. Dad loved to talk – I think it was Mark Williams from next door who said people round here will miss Dad – they will miss him doing what he loved most, just stopping to chat....

A few weeks ago dad overcame his reduced mobility to find his way out into the back garden in Cambridge waving his walking stick because he urgently needed to say that he had changed his mind and that even if it would mean a longer day and more walking he had decided he wanted mum's funeral here at Emmanuel at the church that had meant so much to him

That captures so much of Dad. He was loyal – he followed through on his commitments; he was relational – never happier than when he had found someone to chat to; and he was determined – once an idea had formed in his head, he would make it happen.

Dad's failing energies in later years were a sadness to him and to us – it is hard to see that happen. Three weeks ago at mum's funeral we quoted something from friends who had mum perfectly – by saying that she was interested and interesting. This time in a comment about dad, they said this

'We think he was devastated to be without Arline and would have found further years a struggle so we will cherish our memories and say goodbye.'

We are grateful to God for a father who demonstrated such faithfulness, such determination and taught us to notice and appreciate even the smallest joys – that has been a precious gift.

Julian, Andrew and Stephen

From the Church

It's a joy and a privilege to thank God for Frank's life as a Christian and his devotion to this church. He has been part of this church for forty years and been involved in many roles. He was for many years our property leader, and as you know this church is about 130 years old, but that did not mean anything to Frank, if it could be repaired, he did it, if necessary making a new part in his garage. Also nothing was thrown away, even screws that was old and past their sell by date he saved. Because of his diligence he saved this church thousand of pounds.

He sang in the choir and played the organ and the grand piano when Freda was not available. He was a very involved member of the men's supper club, giving various talks, the latest one , which he was so proud of was about climbing Haystacks, a mountain in the lake district, with his son and grandson.

He also had fun with our 'gang' of teenagers who are now in their thirties, helping them play badminton. Our American minister's wife Nancy ask the men in the supper club to put on a concert, which was called Nancy's Boys, he sang and played the piano and contributed in other group acts. We had such fun, especially in rehearsals. It was a sell out.

About thirty years ago Arline, who died recently, manned out church office for about a year. Both Frank and Arline have left their sons and grandchildren a wonderful example of life, and their love will remain with them and us for ever.

I shall missed my Monday morning visits, which I have enjoyed over the last two years, God bless you both.

Peter Thornton



Frank with Jennifer Willson and Pam Bush after Arline's funeral.

Revised Common Lectionary

Liturgical Date	Calendar Date	First Reading	Psalm Reading
3rd Sunday in Lent	Mar-04	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19
4th Sunday in Lent	Mar-11	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
5th Sunday in Lent	Mar-18	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16
Annunciation of the Lord	Mar-25	Isaiah 7:10-14	Psalm 45 or Psalm 40:5-10
Liturgy of the Palms	Mar-25		Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Liturgy of the Passion	Mar-25	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16
Maundy Thursday	Mar-29	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Good Friday	Mar-30	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22
Resurrection of the Lord	Apr-01	*Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Easter Evening	Apr-01	*Acts 4:32-35	Psalm 114
2nd Sunday of Easter	Apr-08	*Acts 4:32-35	Psalm 133
3rd Sunday of Easter	Apr-15	*Acts 3:12-19	Psalm 4
4th Sunday of Easter	Apr-22	*Acts 4:5-12	Psalm 23
5th Sunday of Easter	Apr-29	*Acts 8:26-40	Psalm 22:25-31
6th Sunday of Easter	May-06	*Acts 10:44-48	Psalm 98
7th Sunday of Easter	May-13	*Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	Psalm 1
Day of Pentecost	May-20	*Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Trinity Sunday	May-27	Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29	

Good Friday Walk of Witness

There will be the usual Good Friday Walk of Witness.

It will start at St Johns
at 9.30am. on 30th March.,

Refreshments will be served at Christchurch afterwards.

Revised Common Lectionary

Calendar Date	Second Reading	Gospel Reading
Mar-04	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
Mar-11	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
Mar-18	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
Mar-25	Hebrews 10:4-10	Luke 1:26-38
Mar-25		Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Mar-25	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)
Mar-29	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Mar-30	Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42
Apr-01	1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8
Apr-01	1 Corinthians 5:6b-8	Luke 24:13-49
Apr-08	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
Apr-15	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
Apr-22	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
Apr-29	1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8
May-06	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
May-13	1 John 5:9-13	John 17:6-19
May-20	Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
May-27	Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17

Annual General Meeting

**The AGM will take place on
Sunday 25th March**

Immediately after the morning service.

David Gillman will chair the meeting.

Please Note – The clocks go forward on the 25th March.

Remember Only My Best

*When I come to the end of my journey
And I travel my last weary mile,
Just forget if you can any frowns -
And remember only my smile.
Forget any dark words spoken,
But remember the good I have done.
Forget that there ever was heartache;
Just remember the laughter and fun.*

*Forget that I stumbled and blundered
And sometimes fell by the way;
Remember - I fought some hard battles,
And won some, by close of the day.
OR Remember when people are hurting,
They don't always mean what they say.*

*So do not grieve for my going,
And feel you forever must cry
But in summer just gather some flowers
And come to the place where I lie.*

*And then in the shade of the evening,
When the sun paints the sky in the west;
Stand for a moment beside me -
And remember only my best.*

Author unknown, provided by Pat Brace

Wednesday Lent Lunches

Churches Together in Sidcup will be holding Lent Lunches on:-

February 21 and 28

March 7, 14 and 21

At 12 noon. All are welcome at Christchurch

Visiting Juliet

In January, Jennifer and I went by train to visit Juliet in her new home. It turned out to be quite an eventful journey as the train doors of our carriage wouldn't open at Feltham station. There had not been an announcement to avoid the end carriages. We had to go on to Staines and come back. Juliet was waiting at the station, she was amused by our adventure!

Juliet was as delighted to see us as we were to see her. She is settling into a very different environment. She misses Emmanuel Church and sent her love and blessings to everyone and encouraged us to continue the good work at Emmanuel.

Judith

Sidcup Horticultural Association

The Association are again hosting a programme of monthly Illustrated Talks on the following Tuesday evenings throughout the autumn / winter to which you are cordially invited:

20 March **Open Social Evening - Favourite Plants, Shrubs, Trees, your Garden, etc** **Attendees Event**

The talks are held in the Green Room, Emmanuel Church at 7.30 pm (doors open 7.00 pm).

Single attendance for members is £2.00, for non-members £3.00. Notices will be placed in Sidcup Library and a few local shops.

Further details are available from Colin Brown, Chairman, 020 8302 6608.

In addition we have arranged a day trip to **Walmer Castle and Gardens on Saturday 21st April**. It will be preceded by a stop in Deal for a couple of hours to enjoy the town and seafront. Walmer Castle is an English Heritage managed centre and the total charge of £24 (coach and entry) will be reduced by £8 (the concessions entry charge) for English Heritage members.

Pick-up by DJ Coaches is at 9 am Jubilee Way (Station forecourt) and 9.15 am Elm Road (Blockbusters). Anyone interested should contact Colin Brown on 020 8302 6608 who can provide further details and booking arrangements.

Pastoral News

Congratulations to Pam and Lawrence Bush on the birth of their granddaughter, Neve Charlie on 9th September 2017, weighing 8lb 7oz.. She is the daughter of Gemma and Adam Bush and a welcome sister for Laurie.

Congratulations to Colin and Aurial Brown on the birth of their granddaughter, Amelia, daughter of Ann and Ashley Brown and sister for Hannah, born on 9th February 2018, weighing 7lb 6oz.

On a sadder note, there have been several deaths recently.

We remember Alicia Ince and her family, following the death of her husband on 30th September 2017.

Sheila Jackson, a former member of Emmanuel, died on 3rd December 2017. Her funeral was on the 5th at Teignmouth, Devon.

Sadly, Vera Howsam who lived in Abbotsleigh Mews died on the 13th January.

Arline Midgley died on 14th January. Her funeral was on 23rd January.

Frank Midgley died on 4th February. His funeral was on 15th February.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all those who have died recently. It has been a time of sadness in our Church and we miss them all.

We are very sorry to hear that Don Wiles is in hospital following a fall.

We remember Maryia Long and her family following the recent death of Maryia's mother. Our thoughts and love are with Maryia, Keith, Louise and James.

Doris Sawyer, Pam Bush's mother, has been in hospital recently. We wish her a good recovery when she comes home.

We remember those who are in care homes; Doris Parkin, in Northbourne Court, Winnie Webb, in Baugh House, Lorna New in St. Margaret's, and Josie Corcoran who has also had to go into care.

Continue to pray for Iris Wood, Heather Forsythe, and Dorothy Limeburner. Although they are not able to get to Church at the moment our thoughts are with them all.

Forthcoming Wedding

I am very pleased to announce that the wedding of my grand daughter Angharad Rees to Mark McDonauld will take place in the church at 12 noon on Saturday 31st March 2018.

Church members are very welcome to attend the service.



Saturday 26th May 2018
at 6.30pm

QUIZ

NIGHT



With a Ploughman's Supper
In
Emmanuel Church Hall

Tea and coffee included
Proceeds to the Outreach Projects

Tickets, £10 each.

Tickets will be available from 29th April
from members of the Outreach Group

Please buy early to assist
catering arrangements



The members of the Outreach Group include Pam Bush, Pat George,
Judith Howard., Christine Latch, Marion Parfitt, Jenni Thornton and
Jennifer Willson.



Services for March

2	11.00am		Women's World Day of Prayer
4	10.30am	Mr Ralph Brandhorst	
11	10.30am	Rev Jacqueline Quarmby	Family & Parade, Mother's Day
18	10.30pm	Ms Deborah Spinks	
25	10.30am	Rev David Gillman	Communion AGM
30	9.30am	CTIS	Good Friday Walk of Witness St Johns

Services for April

1	10.30am	Mr David Gloin	Easter Sunday
8	10.30am	Mr Peter Thornton	
15	10.30am	Rev Raymond Singh	Communion
22	10.30am	Mrs Pat Woodison	Family & Parade
29	10.30am	Mr David Ball	

Services for May

6	10.30am	Mrs Joan Mayes	
13	10.30am	Mrs Sue Cope	Family & Parade
20	0.30am	Rev Raymond Singh	Communion
27	10.30am	Deacon Maureen Spinks	

Women's World Day of Prayer

At Emmanuel Friday March 2nd at 11.00.

Each year, Christian women in a different country choose the theme and prepare the service. For 2018, the service has been prepared by women in Suriname, South America.

They have chosen the theme "All God's Creation is Very Good". There will be readings, prayer, singing, drama and more.

It is always exciting to think that for the 24 hours of this one day of the year, people are continuing a wave of prayer on the same theme around the whole world! Do come and be a part of it if you can.

Christian Aid Week 13-19 May 2018

Marcelin's story

Marcelin still hasn't recovered from Hurricane Matthew, which hit Haiti in September 2016, destroying his home, possessions and livestock.

"I lost pigs, goats, everything in the house. I have nothing left," he says

He now lives in an old concrete shower block, a tiny space he shares with his teenage daughters. There are no windows or doors, and the only furniture is a single bed that the girls sleep on.

"If another hurricane came through, we'd just die"

Marcelin has fought hard to raise his children alone but can no longer afford to send them all to school. He gets up at dawn each day to work the land, but the changing weather frequently destroys the food he grows and the family often goes hungry.

Marcelin fears his daughters' hunger could lead them to be exploited by predatory men in exchange for food.

How we are helping

Our local partner in Haiti is helping people prepare for disasters. Ahead of Hurricane Matthew, we warned communities, helping evacuate around 5,000 families, potentially saving many lives. We then gave out much-needed shelter kits, hygiene kits, food seeds and cash transfers.

We're also building disaster-resistant homes to give people safe, secure places to live. Of the dozens of new houses we built before the hurricane hit, only one lost its roof in the disaster.

But there are still lots of people like Marcelin we haven't yet reached, and we need your help.

Vilia's story

Vilia lost her mum and her home when the earthquake struck Port-au-Prince in 2010. Bereaved and homeless, she went back to her home town with her husband and children. But life was a struggle, and they had nowhere safe to live.

Our partner KORAL built Vilia a new home – safe, stable and strong enough to stand up to natural disasters. Vilia's new house has given protection to dozens of others, too.

On the terrifying night when Hurricane Matthew hit, Vilia's neighbours fled to shelter with her. As the storm raged, she shared her home with more than 50 neighbours for several days. Despite the ferocity of the hurricane, which swept away surrounding homes, her house was barely damaged.

Vilia is incredibly grateful for the help she's received, and she's used it to help others. But she knows that many of her neighbours are struggling and wishes they could receive help, too.

Christian Aid envelopes will be distributed in church.

Please give generously to help people like Marcelin and Vilia.

Ladies' Fellowship Hour

Mar	2 nd –	Women's World Day of Prayer
	5 th –	Daffodil Day
	12 th –	Mother's Day Photos & their backgrounds
	19 th –	Margaret Cufflin – Historian
	24 th –	Easter Eggstravaganza
Apr	26 th –	Easter Communion – Rev. David Gilman
	2 nd	Easter Monday, NO MEETING
	9 th	Bingo
	16 th	Astrid Stimmins - Quilt Presentation
	23 rd	T.B.A.
	30 th	Bob Bedwell – Poet
May	7 th	Bank Holiday
	14 th	Quiz
	21 st	Women's Hour Anniversary – 97 th year – Maureen Spinks (Deacon)
	28 th	Bank Holiday

Marion

Women's Hour

Valentines Coffee Morning 10th February 2018

When it was agreed to arrange another Valentines coffee morning, we hoped the weather would be kinder to us than last year when it snowed and we had to postpone until later in the year.

The morning was bitterly cold with rain in the wind, but we were very pleased after all the preparation that people came in to chat and enjoy the refreshments on offer.

There were a vast array of cakes and customers were spoilt for choice. The hall was decorated with red balloons and hearts strung round the walls. The Raffle manned by Pat did a roaring trade and everything from refreshments to bric-a-brac was not priced, just a donation put into the collection boxes provided by the British Heart Foundation as all the proceeds went to that charity.

All the helpers worked hard and Peter was on the door urging people to join us. The advertising seemed to pay off as people came in considering the very cold day.

The boxes were opened up by Tony Howard who is the local treasurer for the charity. Our final total was £250.00 - - Well Done!.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and supported us as Pat George works hard all the year dreaming up events to invite others in for fellowship.

Once again thank you to everyone who supported us.

Marion



OUR BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

MARCH

Hilda Morton-Hooper	1947
Charles Harrall	1959
Nigel Stuart Pont	1978
George Francis Fox	1981
Alice Annie Wilson	1984
Ada May Rippon	1984
Arthur Kenneth Mould	1984
Norman Fedrick	1985
Cecil Hastings Grimes	1988
Colin Liddicoat	1989
Lucy Irene Selvey	1991
Edith Clarke	1993
Peter Blades	1994
Eleanor Lilian Baker	1994
Marjorie May Gaunt	1994
Lily Sexton	1995
William Godfrey Howsam	2007
Ida Ramsey	2009
Bryn Williams	2011

APRIL

Percival Nathanielsz	1961
Gertrude Agnes Gennard	1973
Marjorie Jessie Verinder	1980
William Hutchinson	1986
James Herbert May	1986
Laura Ellen Barker	1988
Sydney Craford Barker	1988

MAY

John Stevenson Lawson Oswald	1981
Dorothey Pearl	1987
Alfred Sleeman Barnes	1989
Greville Millward	1989
Hubert Samuel Clarke	1993
Kathleen Carter	1994
Harry Cecil Parker	1998
Doreen Thompson	2000
Peter Geoffrey Hopkins	2007
Ethel Parker	2009

Music Events

SING GOSPEL CONCERT

The choir will be performing a variety of gospel hymns and songs. They will be directed by Ken Burton, the renowned gospel conductor and TV's 'The Choir' judge. Also singing will be The London Adventist Chorale, winners of UK Gospel Choir Of The Year, who have appeared on 'Songs Of Praise' and at The Proms.

**Sunday 25th March 2018
at The Mick Jagger Centre,
Shepherds Lane, Dartford DA1 2JZ**

**Time 8.00pm Cost £10
Tickets available online @
www.themickjaggercentre.com**

GILBERT & SULLIVAN's IOLANTHE

Ferrier Operatic Society

The classic G&S opera of the turmoil caused when the Fairy Queen takes control of the House of Lords in the cause of true love.

**Thursday 24th – Saturday 26th May 2018
Bob Hope Theatre, Wythfield Road, Eltham SE9 5TG**

**Time (eves) 7.45pm or 2.30pm (Sat matinee)
Cost £13 (eves.) £11 (matinee)
Tickets available by phone on 020 8850 3702
(Tues-Sat 10-1pm)
or online @ www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk**

If you are interested in either event, would like any further information or want to order tickets, please speak to Maddie Lake.

Coffee Morning

Every Friday in the Church Hall from 10.30am to Noon. Come in for a coffee & biscuit and have a chat with friends. On fine days there may also be a bric-a-brac stall outside. All for church funds.

More volunteers to serve coffee would be welcome.



Sunday Coffee

Coffee will continue to be served in the church after morning service every Sunday.

Donations to Church Funds

Coffee Rota

Mar	4	Judith & Mandy	Apr	15	Judith & Mandy
	11	Guides		22	Scouts? Pam & Jennifer?
	18	Pam & Jennifer		29	Roger & Christine
	25	Roger & Christine	May	6	Ann & Maryia
Apr	1	Ann & Maryia		13	Guides
	8	Pat & Marion		20	Pat & Marion
				27	Judith & Mandy

Please Note

The closing date for copy for the **Jun / July / Aug** Outlook will be

Thursday 17th May

Earlier contributions will be welcomed.

Please plan ahead and make sure that I am aware of any events or meetings that need to be included on the calendar.

Tony Howard

Emmanuel.church.outlook@gmail.com

Dates For Your Diary

MARCH

Thu	1		
Fri	2	Coffee morning 10.30 am	Womens' World Day of Prayer
Sat	3		
Sun	4	10.30 am Mr Ralph Brandhorst	
Mon	5	Daffodil Day	
Tue	6		
Wed	7	Lent Lunch	7.30pm Men's Supper Club
Thu	8		
Fri	9	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	10		4 - 6pm Messy Church (Easter)
Sun	11	10.30 am Rev Jacqueline Quarmby	Parade and Family, Mothering Sunday
Mon	12		
Tue	13		
Wed	14	Lent Lunch	
Thu	15		
Fri	16	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	17		
Sun	18	10.30 am Ms Deborah Spinks	
Mon	19	Women's hour 2.00 pm	
Tue	20		
Wed	21	Lent Lunch	
Thu	22		
Fri	23	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	24	10.00 am Easter Eggstravaganza	
Sun	25	10.30 am Rev David Gillman	Communion AGM
Mon	26	Women's hour 2.00 pm	
Tue	27		
Wed	28		
Thu	29		
Fri	30	9.30am Walk of Witness (CTIS)	Good Friday
Sat	31	12 noon Angharad Rees's Wedding	

Dates For Your Diary

APRIL

Sun	1	10.30 am	Mr David Gloin	Easter Sunday
Mon	2	Bank Holiday		
Tue	3			
Wed	4			
Thu	5			
Fri	6	Coffee morning 10.30 am		
Sat	7			
Sun	8	10.30 am	Mr Peter Thornton	Parade and Family service
Mon	9	Women's hour 2.00 pm		
Tue	10			
Wed	11			
Thu	12			
Fri	13	Coffee morning 10.30 am		
Sat	14			
Sun	15	10.30 am	Rev Raymond Singh	4 - 6pm Messy Church (Spring) Communion
Mon	16	Women's hour 2.00 pm		
Tue	17			
Wed	18			
Thu	19			
Fri	20	Coffee morning 10.30 am		
Sat	21			
Sun	22	10.30 am	Mrs Pat Woodison	St George's Day, Family & Parade
Mon	23	Women's hour 2.00 pm		
Tue	24			
Wed	25			
Thu	26			
Fri	27	Coffee morning 10.30 am		
Sat	28			
Sun	29	10.30 am	Mr David Ball	
Mon	30	Women's hour 2.00 pm		

Dates For Your Diary

MAY

Tue	1		
Wed	2		
Thu	3		
Fri	4	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	5		
Sun	6	10.30 am Mrs Joan Mayes	
Mon	7	Bank Holiday	
Tue	8		
Wed	9		
Thu	10		
Fri	11	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	12		4 - 6pm Messy Church (Nature)
Sun	13	10.30 am Mrs Sue Cope	Parade and Family service
Mon	14	Women's hour 2.00 pm	
Tue	15		
Wed	16		
Thu	17		Outlook Copy due
Fri	18	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	19		
Sun	20	10.30 am Rev Raymond Singh	Communion
Mon	21	Women's hour 2.00 pm	
Tue	22		
Wed	23		
Thu	24		
Fri	25	Coffee morning 10.30 am	
Sat	26		6.30 pm Outreach Quiz Night
Sun	27	10.30 am Deacon Maureen Spinks	
Mon	28	Bank Holiday	
Tue	29		
Wed	30		
Thu	31		

Weekday Activities

Monday	2.00pm 5.45pm 6.30pm 7.30pm	Woman's Hour (except Bank Hols) 3rd Sidcup Beavers 3rd Sidcup Cub Scouts 3rd Sidcup Scouts
Thursday	10.00am	Ladies Morning Club
Friday	10.30am—noon 1.30pm 6.00pm 7.30pm	Coffee Morning Parents & Toddlers Club 6th Sidcup Brownies 4th Sidcup Guides



MINISTER

We currently have no Minister.
Please contact the Church Secretary

INTERIM MODERATOR

Revd Raymond Singh
Tel: 07951 496842
raymondsingh213@gmail.com

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs Jennifer Willson
37 The Grove
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