

THE OUTLOOK

JUNE – AUGUST
2025



Emmanuel Church Sidcup
Methodist and United Reformed

Message From the Minister

Dear Friends,

After Pentecost, we enter the greatest period of the Christian year, the time of the Church. The story of Pentecost tells of the gift of the Spirit.

At Easter, we witnessed the resurrection of Jesus, and then his appearances among the disciples. There is something ambiguous and elusive about these appearances: Jesus is no longer there in the flesh, but he is nonetheless truly present. The disciples experience this presence. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper also reminds us, each time we celebrate it, of his presence as we share the bread, his body, and the wine, his blood. But how can we continue to be a disciple when the account in the Acts of the Apostles tells us that Jesus goes up into heaven in a cloud? It is at this point that the story of Pentecost helps us to move beyond the problem of the disappearance of Jesus.

The disciples receive the Spirit of God or Holy Spirit — it takes over when Jesus is no longer here in flesh with them. It is this inspirational force that helps them to make decisions, to act, to move wherever they receive the intuition to go. The Holy Spirit is the motivation of the disciples. For us who are the heirs and descendants of these disciples, the Holy Spirit is also our motivation.

Our Church life is still marked by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Our elders' meetings begin with a prayer invoking the Holy Spirit. We need to feel that Spirit flowing around us as we discuss and make decisions. If our ego took on too much importance in our interventions, then we would all feel that it was no longer the Holy Spirit who was inspiring us, but rather personal interests, contrary to the needs of Christian fellowship.

Our church meetings are also a place where the Holy Spirit should be present in everyone's mind. These meetings take place after a service, with the dynamic of Sunday prayers, hymns and spiritual reflections.

In our family and social life, it is also the Holy Spirit who should always inspire our words and decisions. If a word does not help someone to flourish, if it does not bless, if it does not announce grace or joy, then that word is not inspired by the Holy Spirit, and should not have been spoken. The Holy Spirit helps us to discern God's will. It's not always easy, but our experience as Christians helps us to do it better. God's will is always to favour life, friendship, service, care for the weakest, freeing others from what oppresses them.

It is this inspiration of the Holy Spirit along with the will of God and the life of Jesus recounted in the Gospels that should govern the life of our Church and of each one of us. All this cannot be confined to a few principles and traditions. It is a dynamic and a search that is never definitively acquired, but which must be renewed at every moment. We need to be creative. Our local churches have a future in so far as we know how to receive the inspiration of the Holy Spirit who makes us creative. This can only be done through prayer and thanks to the time that God gives us.

I wish you all a wonderful summer, filled with the creativity of the Holy Spirit!

Rev Rodolphe Blanchard-Kowal

Church Family News

Maggie, Pam and I visited Hilda in Horsham. Maggie, of course, being our driver!

We went straight to Hilda's flat and had a drink and a chat with her and her daughter, Jackie, before walking to a restaurant for lunch. Hilda was the same as ever and has settled in well. The flat seems ideal and the people we met were all very friendly. It is close to the centre of the town but also to the Garden of Remembrance which is a lovely space close to St. Mary's, the Parish church.

We walked through the garden on the way back to Hilda's flat. It is a peaceful area which was founded by a local lady, Nellie Laughton, in memory of those who died in World War I.

It was really good to see Hilda and we will definitely visit again.

Jennifer



Marion Parfitt had a bad fall resulting in a stay in hospital. She is now recovering at home, supported by carers. We remember her in our prayers.

Pat Brace is now living with her family in New Eltham. It was lovely to see her at church recently. Doreen Still also managed to get to church while a carer looked after of her husband

Remember Elaine Smith who is in Northbourne Court care home and George who faithfully visits regularly.

Think of those who are unable to worship with us each Sunday, Pat Brace, Colin Seal, Olive Lewis, Doreen Still, Eileen Taylor, Elaine and George Smith.

Judith

Spring Scenes in the Lake District



Landing stages on Derwentwater looking towards Catbells



Daffodils in Fitz Park, Keswick



Newlands Valley



Blencathra from Castlerigg Stone Circle



Greta River from the Railway Walk looking towards Blencathra

Lake District Inspirational Quotations

“The fleeting hour of life of those who love the hills is quickly spent, but the hills are eternal. Always there will be the lonely ridge, the dancing beck, the silent forest; always there will be the exhilaration of the summits. These are for the seeking, and those who seek and find while there is yet time will be blessed both in mind and body”

A W Wainwright

“The loveliest spot that Man hath ever found”

William Wordsworth

“So lovely was the loneliness of a wild lake, with black rock bound. “

Edgar Allen Poe

“The moonlight lay upon the hills like snow.”

Dorothy Wordsworth

“I climbed the dark brow of the mighty Helvellyn,
Lakes and mountains beneath me gleamed misty and wide;”

Sir Walter Scott

“There is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather.”

John Ruskin

“The Lake Country is a glorious region.”

Charlotte Bronte

Good Friday Walk of Witness 2025

The Good Friday Walk of Witness was well attended on April 18th. It was organised by Churches Together in Sidcup.

It started from St John's with several stops along Sidcup High Street with readings and hymns, and finished on the Green opposite Christchurch. St Lawrence's kindly provided tea, coffee and hot cross buns afterwards.



The Weekly Rations

My Mother has an order book
And in it she would write
All the things she wanted
From the Co-Op Friday night.

You didn't have a trolley
And go round and help yourself
You had to ask the man for it
To take it off the shelf.

Cheese and butter on a slab
Biscuits in shiny tins
Sugar weighed in little bags
The flour stored in bins.

There'd be tokens for your milk
Dolly Blue to wash the clothes
And all the different aromas (smells)
Would mingle up your nose.

You had to stand and wait your turn
But there would be a seat
So the older folk could take the weight
Off their poor old feet.

When my mother gave the man
Her little order book
He'd get the things she wanted
But what a time he took.

He then added it all up
Sometimes he'd do it twice
There were no girls on checkouts
No tills that showed the price.

The Co-Op had a "Divi"
Which they paid you twice a year
You also had a number
Which you told him loud and clear.

So when the grocery bag was packed
MY moment would arrive
I'd look at the man and I would say
Our number's 73425.

Elsie Goodman

Revised Common Lectionary

Calendar Date	Liturgical Date	First Reading	Psalm
Jun 1	7th Sun of Easter	Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97
Jun 8	Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Jun 15	Trinity Sun	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalm 8
Jun 22	2nd Sun after P'cost	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a	Psalm 42 and 43
Jun 29	3rd Sun after P'cost	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14	Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
July 6	4th Sun after P'cost	2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalm 30
July 13	5th Sun after P'cost	Amos 7:7-17	Psalm 82
July 20	6th Sun after P'cost	Amos 8:1-12	Psalm 52
July 27	7th Sun after P'cost	Hosea 1:2-10	Psalm 85
Aug 3	8th Sun after P'cost	Hosea 11:1-11	Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Aug 10	9th Sun after P'cost	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Aug 17	10th Sun after P'cost	Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Aug 24	11th Sun after P'cost	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6
Aug 31	12th Sun after P'cost	Jeremiah 2:4-13	Psalm 81:1, 10-16

Thank You

Letters of thanks were received from Action for Children for the £200 collected by carol singing at Christmas, and from Crisis, our main Christmas charity, for the £250 donated to them.

The full Lectionary can be accessed on line at
<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/index.php>
 Make sure you select the correct year (A, B or C)

Revised Common Lectionary

Calendar Date	Second Reading	Gospel Reading
Jun 1	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26
Jun 8	Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21	John 14:8-17, (25-27)
Jun 15	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
Jun 22	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
Jun 29	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62
July 6	Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 13	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
July 20	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42
July 27	Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13
Aug 3	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
Aug 10	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
Aug 17	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
Aug 24	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
Aug 31	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14

Lent Lunches

£1736 was raised for Christian Aid by the Lent Lunches at Christchurch.

Water Aid Lent Appeal 2025

A total of £145 was raised and sent to Water Aid by Pat George

A Vineyard With a Difference



In May this year we returned to the Elham Valley in our camper van. A friend recommended that we visit the vineyard at Barham, which we did on our way back from a walk. After enjoying a cup of tea and a piece of cake in the café, we wandered through the vines to investigate the activities that were taking place that afternoon and to meet students and volunteers. What a pleasant afternoon we spent there ! There was a very happy, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. We saw the music room, pottery, craft room and woodwork workshop. In the garden centre the shop sold a wide range of plants as well as work made by the students.

The Vineyard turned out to be the home of the Fifth Trust, a Kent based charity that has been supporting adults with learning disabilities for over 30 years. It has the oldest vineyard in the Kent Downs AONB, established in 1987.

The Fifth Trust provides a day care service for around 170 students at two skills centres in the beautiful Elham Valley near Canterbury, offering a huge range of activities and opportunities.

They take a person-centred approach, which means shaping what they offer and the way they work around each individual. Through creative, educational and practical sessions, and rewarding work in their Vineyard Garden Centre and Vineyard Café and out in the local community, their students develop essential life skills and the confidence to make their own choices, both large and small.

Across their two sites in the Elham Valley they now offer 20+ different activities including outdoor activities and gardening, cookery, music, computer skills, photography, pottery, woodwork and arts and crafts. Students aged 16 to

70+ from across east Kent, who live with their families, in residential homes, and in supported living. are catered for

The Fifth Trust's vision is "to create a world where everyone with a learning disability has access to life enhancing opportunities tailored to their individual needs".

Students, staff and volunteers all described it as a "Great Place to Be"!

Tony & Judith

A selection of pictures from their website.



The Cafe



The Music Room



Cookery



Woodwork



Working in the Vineyard



Pottery



Services for June

1	10.30am	Mr Martin Leonard	
8	10.30am	Revd Hannah Faal-Heim	
15	10.30am	Rev Rodolfe Blanchard-Kowal	Communion
22	10.30am	Mr Chris Price	
22	2.00pm	SENsation Church	Bromley
29	10.30am	Mrs Val Loader	

Services for July

6	10.30am	Elders	
13	10.30am	Rev Rodolfe Blanchard-Kowal	Communion
20	10.30am	Mr Paul Ayliffe	
27	10.30am	Mrs Val Loader	

Services for August

3	10.30am	Rev Rodolfe Blanchard-Kowal	Christening
10	10.30am	Mr John Twidale	
17	10.30am	Mr Ralph Brandhorst	
24	10.30am	To be Confirmed	
31	10.30am	Mrs Val Loader	

Friday Coffee Morning

Every Friday in the Church Hall from 10.00am to Noon.

Come for a coffee or tea and biscuits and have a chat with friends.

All donations for church funds.



Sunday Coffee Rota



Jun	1	Pat & Marion	Jly	20	Roger & Christine
	8	Roger & Christine		27	Ann and Maryia
	15	Ann and Maryia	Aug	3	Ethel and Maureen
	22	Ethel and Maureen		10	Pam & Jennifer
	29	Pam & Jennifer		17	Judith & Maddie
Jly	6	Judith & Maddie		24	Pat & Marion
	13	Pat & Marion		31	Roger & Christine

Pastorate Update

The London Walk for Christian Aid which was re-introduced this year and took place on May 10th was supported by Pastorate members. No-one from Emmanuel was able to take part, but we hope to do a sponsored local walk later in the year to support Christian Aid.

There will be an Away Day on Saturday 7th June at Footscray Baptist Church, Sidcup Hill. Refreshments at 10.00am, meeting starts at 10.30am. Finishes at 12.30pm with you own packed lunch.

Theme "Recommitting our Pastorate to Ecology and Going Beyond"

There will be a Midsummer Picnic at Hall Place from 12.00 noon on Saturday 12th July. Details will be announced later.

Judith

Food Bank Report 19th May 2025

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Avery Hill Christian Fellowship Church Food Bank. It is very much appreciated by the Food Bank and the people who find themselves in a very difficult situation.

As of this month they are opening to receive donations and give out food parcels between 12 -3pm on a Thursday.

Their Current Needs Are:

Cleaning Products including washing up liquid.

Small packets of washing Powder.

Deodorants Men & Women

Shampoo* Conditioner

Shaving foam

Bars of soap

Porridge

Meat in tins *

Tins of Fish *

Long life milk * Custard *

Fruit in tins

Noodles *

Vegetables in tins & Tomatoes *

Ready to eat Custard & Rice Puddings *

Fruit Juice in Cartons (Long Life) *

Toilet Rolls Kitchen Rolls

Small packets of sugar

Razors Men

Coffee Tea

Biscuits, sweets and crisps *

Jam, chocolate spread, peanut butter

Potatoes in tins or mash

Female Hygiene products Tampons

Tinned Spaghetti

Squash to dilute

Toothpaste

Tins of Soup

• means these are urgently needed

Forthcoming Christening

Sunday 3rd August

A christening is planned for three children from Florida who will be visiting family in Sidcup. Their father was christened at Emmanuel in the 1980s.



OUR BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

JUNE

Nancy Mary Martin	1980
Esme Muriel Heath	1989
Raymond Edwin John Heath	1990
David Victor Martin	1990
John Treacher	1981
Eleanor Caroline Norman	1986
Ethel Louise Davies	1988
Dorothy Harris Kelley	1988
Harold Gerrard Kelley	1988
William John Baker	1980
Henrietta Millward	1992
Leonard George Griffiths	2002
Kenneth Greenway	2004
Georgina Griffiths	2006
Sidney Charles Howlett	2021

JULY

Arthur Cecil Morton-Hooper	1969
Emily May Kearsley	1973
Percival Charles Gibbs	1977
Edith Elizabeth Newman	1983
W. Arthur Young	1984
William T. Rippon	1987
Gilbert Greenway	1967
Gertrude Greenway	1980
Raymond Greenway	1971
Thomas Lenard Allen	1972
Frederick Sydney Morley	1989
Colin Vaughan	2001
Ronald Sidney Hall	2001
Dorothy Brawn	2004
Andrew John Mulliss	2008
Doris Gertrude Willson	2022

AUGUST

Henry Carl Osborne	1965
Elizabeth Edith Osborne	1980
Amelia Emma Long	1998
Doreen Ida Blades	2001
David Oatridge	2010

(David's name will be found in the Book of Remembrance
below his wife Margaret's entry in December)

Summer Barn Dance at
New Eltham Methodist Church

Saturday 21st June 7:30 to 10:pm

Adults £12 Children (under 16) £2

Includes Ploughman's , mini ploughman's / hot dog for children

Proceeds to The Railway Children charity

For tickets 020 3581 1139 newelthammethodist@gmail.com

Quiz Night at New Eltham Methodist Church

Saturday 28th June 7:30

£7.50 per person Book as a team of 6 or as individuals

Light Refreshments provided.

Bring your own snacks and non alcoholic drinks

We look forward to seeing you at
Foots Cray Baptist Church
on Saturday 7th June 2025 from 10am-12noon
Come for Breakfast
& buy home-made cakes, cards & other gifts & goodies

Macmillan Cream Tea

at Foots Cray Baptist Church, Sidcup Hill

on Saturday 21st June 2025 from 2-4pm

Everyone is Welcome Please come to support the great
work of the Macmillan Cancer Fund

*Remember that Douglas Macmillan, who founded the above, lived
in Sidcup - his first wife Mary is buried in the churchyard*



A **dementia-friendly** café-style **worship** service in **Orpington**
every **1st Tuesday** from **10:00am-12:00pm**

Soul Space

The Link Café, Orpington Methodist Church
Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, BR6 9JH
On-site and roadside parking (some restrictions)

Includes:

Worship & Refreshments
Fellowship & Support

To find out more or to RSVP:

Email:

office@om.church

Call:

01689 828391

Save these 2025 dates!

3 June

1 July

5 August

2 September

7 October

4 November

2 December



SENsational Church

A new community

Fun Fellowship Crafts Music

Refreshments Dance Play

Sensory Room Prayer Tent
Chat & Chill

Singing & Signing

Creative Worship

Venue: Bromley Methodist
Church, BR1 1SB (North St.)

Time: 2-4pm

Sundays:

22 June 16 November

for all ages and abilities

To register, please email: SENSationalchurch@proton.me
or leave a message via: 020 8313 1029



Weekday Activities

Monday	9.30 - 11.00am	Toddler's Play Group
	5.45pm	3 rd Sidcup Beavers
	6.30pm	3 rd Sidcup Cub Scouts
	7.30pm	3 rd Sidcup Scouts
Thursday	10.00am	Ladies Morning Club
Friday	10.00am—noon	Coffee Morning
	4.45pm	6 th Sidcup Rainbows
	6.00pm	6 th Sidcup Brownies
	7.30pm	4 th Sidcup Guides



MINISTER

Rev Rodolphe Blanchard-Kowal
Tel: 07484 257534

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs Jennifer Willson
37 The Grove
North Cray,
DA14 5NG Tel: 020 8302 0059
emmanuelchurchsidcup@gmail.com

HALL BOOKINGS

Mr. Peter Lake Tel: 020 8300 6181
07711 043876
lettings@emmanuelchurchsidcup.org.uk

EDITORS

Tony and Judith Howard
9 Priestlands Park Road
Sidcup, DA15 7HR
Tel: 020 8300 6936
Emmanuel.church.outlook2@gmail.com

CIRCUIT WEB SITE CHURCH WEB SITE

widmorecircuit.com
www.emmanuelchurchsidcup.org.uk