



# Rustington Methodist Church Your church in the community

# God is with you, wherever you may be and whatever you may choose to do.

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Holy Spirit, fill us up.

Holy Spirit, fill us up.

Give us strength, give us power.

Holy Spirit, fill us up.

Make us one, sisters and brothers.

Holy Spirit, fill us up.

Give us strength to share your truth.

Holy Spirit, fill us up. Send us out, to live for you. Amen.

©Sam Hargreaves/ Engage Worship

Dear Friends,

I have not been very adventurous with my day off lately, so feeling that I should rectify that situation I decided to go on a trip to Brighton. Sounds fairly straight forward doesn't it? I love train travel and the parking in Brighton is very expensive, so I drove to the station car park and encountered my first hurdle. I had downloaded the stations parking app a while ago, so the debit card registered was an old one. I managed to update the card, pay for my parking and then proceeded to the ticket machine where I purchased my off peak return tickets. So far so good. The trains to Brighton are very frequent and so without too much of a wait the train arrived. I found a seat facing in the direction of travel, except it had a handbag on it. I waited for a little while and then asked the person if they would mind moving their bag so that I could sit down, this was answered with a grunt. I squeezed into the seat as the person was also sitting with their legs crossed and half in my space. This lasted for a little while until I stretched my legs out a little in front of me for comfort, which necessitated the person moving their leg back over to their allotted space. All this happened without words as they were engrossed in their phone. Before you jump to any conclusions it was evident to me that this person was equally my age if not older, so not a young person.

I love looking out of the window at the passing scenery on a train trip, past the airport; looking over to the magnificent cathedral like building of Lancing College; over the bridge spanning the river Adur watching the boats moored in the estuary ; and then catching glimpses of the sea at Shoreham harbour and finally passing the iconic building of the Dubarry perfumery in Hove before pulling into Brighton station, itself a wonderful feat of engineering. It was clear that none of my travelling companions had any interest in the delightful surroundings, as for the entire journey they had been absorbed in their technology. I have been reflecting on this experience in a week when we will mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the second world war, and thinking of the words of Jesus who said, 'The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full' (John 10:10).

I had managed my whole trip without much human contact at all. Is this what life in all its fullness looks like? Is technology the thief that comes to steal, kill and destroy natural communication. During my day I could also have ordered my meal by scanning a QR code and my bus pass to get me back up the hill to the station (yes I really am that old now) robbing me of more social interaction. I couldn't help missing all the little pleasantries from the people who have been replaced by machines who don't give helpful directions or hope you 'have a nice journey' or give a smile as they invite you to 'enjoy your meal.' I am not someone who longs for the good old days, I don't think they were that good, so I embrace change and encourage others to do the same, (my congregation are never quite sure what configuration the church chairs will be in when they arrive at worship each Sunday,) but that doesn't mean we have to leave behind those things like communication and relational living that celebrate and define our humanness. Let's be thankful to all those who sacrificed so much so that we might live life in all its fullness.

What does that look like for you?

With Every Blessing,

Revd Dawn Carn

I have come so that you might have life in all its fullness

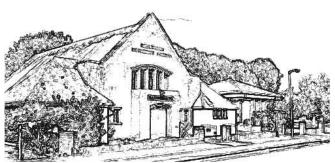
VE day 80 years since the end of the second world war.

# Worship at RMC during June, July and August 2025

Date & Month	Timings	Preacher/Leader	
	9.30 &	Cook	
Sun. June 1st	10.45am	Cook	
	9.30 &	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	HC
Sun. June 8th	10.45am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	HC
Sun. June 15th	10.45am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	GCM
	9.30 &	Amphlett	
Sun. June 22nd	10.45am	Amphlett	
	9.30 &	Quint	
Sun. June 29th	10.45am	Quint	
	9.30 &	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	HC
Sun. July 6th	10.45am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	HC B
	9.30 &	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	
Sun. July 13th	10.45am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	
	9.30 &	Revd. Richard Tanner	
Sun. July 20th	10.45am	Revd. Richard Tanner	
	9.30 &	Boyce	
Sun. July 27th	10.45am	Boyce	
Sun. August 3rd	10 am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	HC
Sun. August 10th	10 am	L. Barnes	
Sun. August 17th	10 am	Revd. John Scrivens	
Sun. August 24th	10am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	
Sun. August 31st	10am	Revd. Rosemarie Clarke	

# **General Church Meeting**

# Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June during the 10.45 service



(please note that there is only one service on this Sunday)

This is an opportunity to worship and reflect together on the ministry and witness of Rustington Methodist Church. We will find out what has been happening through the last year as well as looking to the future.

There is an Annual Report which will be available in the weeks leading up to this date. Please do take one and read about our church and its activities and aims.

At the meeting appointments will be made, as appropriate, of Church Stewards and Congregational Representatives to the Church Council. Nominations, with the nominee's agreement, should be received by Rev Rosemarie Clarke by 9<sup>th</sup> June. Nomination forms are available from the Church Office and are printed on the inside back page of the Annual Report. Only those eligible to vote and present at the meeting, may exercise their right to vote. Please note that Church Council Members are Trustees and the Charity Commission will need to be notified of new appointments.

There are several vacancies for Congregational Representatives to the Church Council.

If you would be interested in becoming a Church Steward or Congregational Representative, do please speak with Rosemarie or Elizabeth or one of the other stewards who will tell you what is involved.

Elizabeth Slatter



Bible Seased Discussions

**Topical** 

A friendly and informal group who meet to explore the relevance of God's Word in our lives in today's world.

The subjects are varied and chosen by each one of the group

**Themes have included:** Time, Rituals and Symbols, Rivers & Water, Faith and Healing, The 'I AM' sayings, Advent, The Way The Truth The Life, Light, Trees, and much more.

If you feel that this sort of Group would suit you, please join us - we have refreshments and laughter too!

> Meetings are fortnightly on a Monday from 10.30am in Room 1

For more information please contact Anne via the Church Office.

### **Updates from Rustington Methodist Church**

#### A New Small Group has been formed

Following her item in a previous issue of *The Link*, Bec has been leading a Small Group with the focus on looking at *The Prayer Course*. With resources from the 24-7 Prayer Team, *The Prayer Course* is "an eight week journey that will help you and your community to grow and deepen your prayer life."

Beginning on May 15<sup>th</sup>, the group have been meeting on Thursday afternoons from 1.30 to 3pm.

Although already started, if you wish to know more about this course, or are interested in attending the Small Group,

please speak to Bec for further information.

Bec



New Website for Rustington Methodist Church Thanks to Gemma, our new website is now up and running! On the site, you can find out more about all that happens at Rustington Methodist Church.

Take a look at,

rustington-methodist.co.uk

### Audio Visuals in Church

Over the last few months our church has had the audio-visual equipment updated which we hope you have made use of and enjoyed using the new large screens on either side at the front of the church.

We thank the AV Team for their work getting the new system up to speed, and we thank the Church Office for helping to ensure that we are copyright compliant.

#### **Event:**

### Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humanity: a Christian Perspective Everyone welcome!

When: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June from 18.00 to 20.00

Where: St Peter and St Paul Parish Church, Rustington

**Churches Together in Rustington and East Preston** is organising an evening to explore the meaning of artificial intelligence (AI), together with the benefits and challenges, from a Christian perspective.

We live in a world which is being transformed by explosive developments in AI. What will be the implications for our personal lives, our families, our workplaces and society as a whole? What does it mean to be human in a world of intelligent machines? If machines do all the work what will humans do? How can we use sophisticated technology to protect and enhance human flourishing? What is the end-game for continuing technological advances? What kind of world do we wish to create for the future?

Our speaker **John Wyatt** is Emeritus Professor at of Neonatal Paediatrics, Ethics and Perinatology, University College London and a Senior Researcher at the Faraday Institute, Cambridge. He has a long-standing interest in ethical dilemmas raised by advances in biomedical and information technology from the perspective of the Christian faith. He has studied the philosophical and theological implications of advanced AI. His edited volume: The Robot will See You Now - Artificial Intelligence and Christian Faith is published by SPCK.

After John's talk there will be ample opportunity for questions and discussion. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

There is no charge to attend and you can turn up on the night, space permitting. However, to help us with arrangements and secure a seat please (preferably) indicate your plan to attend on the Eventbrite website link:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/artificial-intelligence-and-the-future-of-humanity-achristian-perspective-tickets-1295965199799

Alternatively please let us know by sending an email with your name and postcode to: <u>CTREP2025@proton.me</u>

We look forward to seeing you there! Elliot Crippen

digital@yorkshirenemethodist.org

**Churches Together in Rustington and East Preston** 

# Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humanity: a Christian Perspective

with Prof. John Wyatt Doctor, author and researcher at the Faraday Institute, Cambridge

> Sunday 8th June from 6pm to 8pm

at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Rustington

Reserve advance tickets through Eventbrite website

# THE FRIENDSHIP SINGERS

INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR A CONCERT OF POPULAR MUSIC, INCLUDING A SING-ALONG (AND AN ICE CREAM!)



DONATIONS TO RMC KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT

# WED 2 JULY 2:30PM

RUSTINGTON METHODIST CHURCH HALL, CLAIGMAR ROAD

# **Church Kitchen Update**

As you will all know, we held a successful Gift Day in March and fundraising continues. Thank you to all who have contributed to this project so far and to those who have taken part in, or are organising, further fundraising events. Including Gift Aid, our Fundraising efforts now amount to £9,210.

The refurbish is planned during the school holidays, this summer. Please be aware that to facilitate this and allow as much time as possible to get everything done, the Church Hall Kitchen will be unavailable from 20<sup>th</sup> July until the end of August.

It is planned to strip out the existing kitchen from 21<sup>st</sup> July.

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

As the Church Hall Kitchen will be stripped of all the cupboards, if you have anything stored in the room, please arrange to have the contents removed. Those who have large cupboards backing onto Room 2 will be given new cupboards in Room 2, well in advance, to allow for the transfer of items. Maybe this will be an opportune time to have a good sort out too!

If you have any queries about this,

please speak with Bob Slatter 07710709725.



My sister Jan's Poem (From Margaret W)

# I FEEL JESUS

Whenever I'm quiet, the memories begin The happy and sad times come tumbling in, Remembering my family no longer here and I feel alone, then I sense someone's near I feel the arms of Jesus

When walking in beautiful countryside woods down paths used less often, in peaceful mood, where trees tower above me in summer leaf green majestic around me, a beautiful scene and it's there, in that place, I feel Jesus

Wherever I am, I don't feel alone Whatever I'm doing, when out or at home And challenges come that give cause for concern I don't rush to solve them, I wait, and in turn an answer comes, and I feel Jesus

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JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>, JULY 6<sup>TH</sup>, AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>



Following the 10.45/10am service in the Coffee Lounge Raising Funds for the Church Hall Kitchen Renovation





JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF







18th June, at 2.30 pm

S





TEA AND CAKES

AT RUSTINGTON METHODIST CHURCH, IN THE HALL



Donations for the Upgrade of the Kitchen gratefully received







9.30-3.30	Rascals F		Playgroup - During Te acey Hubbard	erm Time Only 07546 584314
10.00-11.00	Topical <b>F</b>	<b>Bible Based</b> followed b	<b>Discussion Group</b> y refreshments – Meet Church Office	
<u>Tuesdays</u>				
9.30-3.30	Rascals F		Playgroup - During T Tracey Hubbard	erm Time Only 07546 584314
Wednesdays	<u>s</u>			
9.55am <u>Thursdays</u>	Mod Mu		g Term Time Only oup with crèches for ba	abies and toddlers
9.30-12.30		Contact	<b>Playgroup -</b> During T Tracey Hubbard	07546 584314
10.30-12.30	Collee a	Contact	n the coffee lounge for Brigette Alexander	C/o Church Office
2.15	Stepping		<sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of rrive in the Hall from 2	the month,
	$5^{\mathrm{th}}$ $19^{\mathrm{th}}$	Contact	Wendy Warrington plays with Michelle.	07526 433755 Karen Harrison
1.30	Stitcher	Meet in the	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of t <i>Lounge to enjoy need</i> Elizabeth Slatter	llecraft and chat
<u>Fridays</u>				
9.30-12.30 2.30-3.30		Contact	<b>v</b> 0	07546 584314 h, in the Coffee Lounge
<u>Sundays</u>				
9.30 & 10.45	5 Churc	h Services -	- more details on Page	Worship at RMC

J.JU & 10.4J	Church Services – more details on rage worship a
10.30	Junior Church – during term time only

In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different. –John Steinbeck

Suly <del>%</del>
Mondays
9.30-3.30 Rascals Pre-School Playgroup - During Term Time Only
Contact Tracey Hubbard 07546 584314 10.00-11.00 <b>Topical Bible Based Discussion Group</b> followed by refreshments – Meets fortnightly Contact Church Office <b>Tuesdays</b>
9.30-3.30 <b>Rascals Pre School Playgroup -</b> During Term Time Only
Contact Tracey Hubbard 07546 584314
Wednesdays
9.55am Mod Mums - During Term Time Only
Parents' group with crèches for babies and toddlers
<u>Thursdays</u>
9.30-12.30Rascals Pre School Playgroup - During Term Time Only Contact Tracey Hubbard07546 584314
10.30-12.30 <b>Coffee and Games</b> in the coffee lounge for EVERYONE Contact Brigette Alexander C/o Church Office
2.15 <b>Stepping Stones -</b> $1^{st}$ and $3^{rd}$ Thursdays of the month,
arrive in the Hall from 2.00 pm
Contact Wendy Warrington 07526 433755 3 <sup>rd</sup> A Chief Guide's Adventure Amanda Medler
3rdA Chief Guide's AdventureAmanda Medler17thCake sale (in aid of our charity) and a fun quiz
Returning on September 4th with a social get together
and welcome back bingo.
1.30 <b>Stitchers Group</b> $-2^{nd}$ & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the Month,
Meet in the Lounge to enjoy needlecraft and chat
10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> Contact Elizabeth Slatter 01903 776707 Fridays
9.30-12.30 Rascals Pre School Playgroup - During Term Time Only Contact Tracey Hubbard 07546 584314
2.30-3.30 <b>Come and Sing</b> – 1st Friday of each month, in the Coffee Lounge
Contact Lindsey Tilbrook 01903 724393
<u>Sundays</u>
<ul> <li>9.30 &amp; 10.45 Church Services – more details on Page Worship at RMC</li> <li>10.30 Junior Church – during term time only</li> </ul>
July is a blind date with summer. Hal Borland

ľ



Mondays 10.00-11.00 Topical Bible Based Discussion Group followed by refreshments – Meets fortnightly Contact Church Office

Tuesuays				
10.00-3.00	Summer Holi	day at Home	5 <sup>th</sup> August	t
	Contact	Brigette Alexa	nder	C/o Church Office

#### **Wednesdays**

- 9.55am Mod Mums Meet in the building during term time only Parents' Group with crèche for babies and toddlers Contact via Facebook, search 'Modmums'
- 10.00-3.00 Summer Holiday at Home 6<sup>th</sup> August Contact Brigette Alexander C/o Church Office

#### <u>Thursdays</u>

 10.30-12.30 Coffee and Games in the coffee lounge for EVERYONE Contact Brigette Alexander C/o Church Office
 10.00-3.00 Summer Holiday at Home 7<sup>th</sup> August Contact Brigette Alexander C/o Church Office

#### **Fridays**

2.30-3.30 Come and Sing – 1st Friday of each month, in the Coffee Lounge Contact Lindsey Tilbrook 01903 724393

#### <u>Sundays</u>

10.00 **Church Services** – more details on Page Worship at RMC Junior Church is term time only - no children's Groups in August

#### Please note

The Church Hall Kitchen and Hall are not available for daytime meetings. However, please speak to Elizabeth if you would like to schedule an evening meeting in the Hall without the use of the Kitchen. Bangers and Mash

Eat your way to a new kitchen!

When? Saturday 5th July from 12:30 to 2pm

Where? Church Coffee Lounge

RUSTINGTON RUSTINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Why? To support our fundraising for a refurbished kitchen, we are offering you a lovely lunchtime meal

What? Bangers, mash, gravy, peas/baked beans, followed by either apple crumble and custard or jelly and ice-cream

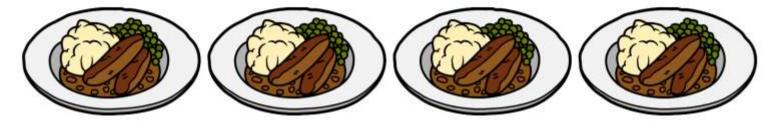
### How? Ticketed in advance to help with catering: adults £10, smaller portion (child) £5

All proceeds go straight to fundraising for a new kitchen as the food is kindly being donated

Get your ticket today from Brigette and Pam on a Sunday, or via Church Office: rustingtonmethodistchurch@gmail.com

# Don't delay, get your tickets today!

Let us know any dietary needs at the time of ticket collection



# **The 3rd Annual**



Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th August

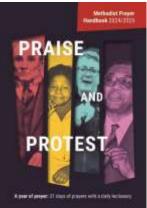
Crafts, Entertainment, Fellowship, Cake and Lunch!

Reserve your place now

Speak to Brigette when you see her or in the office 01903 776900



### **Bible Study Notes and Methodist Prayer Handbooks**



In August the Church Office will be ordering the Bible

Study Notes for the next period. We will automatically

order for those who have them regularly, however if you wish to change your order, or are interested in having Bible Study Notes, please have a word with

either Brigette.

If you would like to view previous copies of the Bible Study Notes to see if you like them, please let the Church Office know as we may be able to find some for you.

We are also able to order Methodist Prayer Handbooks. So, if you would like Bible Study Notes or a Methodist Prayer Handbook please let Alish or Brigette know.

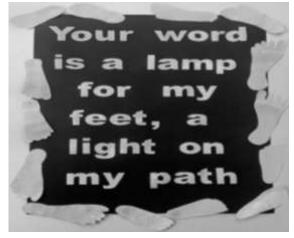
# **Flower Rota**

June, July and August 2025

Date	<b>Donated by</b>	Arranged by
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	S Baker	M Cocker
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	M Domoney	A Waters
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	J Clarke	D Straw
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	P Carr	M Cocker
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	E & B Slatter	P Chapple
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	W Walton	I Eleveld
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	S Spurgin	M Cocker
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	M Lax	A Waters
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	P Warren	P Chapple
Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup>	M Cocker	M Cocker
Aug 10 <sup>th</sup>	P Flook	D Straw
Aug 17 <sup>th</sup>	J Suter	A Waters

# **Junior Church**

Songs, crafts and stories from the Bible For children aged 3 –16 years old Arrive from 10.30am (term time only)



We also have a crèche for younger children

If you like singing hymns and worship songs, then come along and join us in the Coffee Lounge at 2.30pm for about an hour COM

RST FRIDAY OF

EACH MONTH

**EVERYONE WELCOME** 

### STITCHER'S GROUP

### Meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month

We love to create things using all types of needles and materials, be it fabric, wool, or cotton. Knitting, crochet, embroidery and patchwork are our main interests. We also enjoy making things and seeing what

we can do with scraps, as well as creating things from our new materials.

This is a scrappy quilt made up from the 'left overs' from 3 other children's quilts with the addition of a border to make it of a usable size.





We have also been making table runners this spring. This is a large one, unfinished at present.

We support each other in what we do, learning different techniques and giving each other tips. We love to 'show and tell' and get support from each other when we meet a challenge.

Along with the cups of tea there is lots of chat and laughter.

The upcoming dates are:

June	12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>
July	10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>
August	No sessions
September	<sup>•</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>

If you are interested in needlecrafts in any form and want to know more about our group please contact Elizabeth Slatter Email: <u>bobelizabethslatter@gmail.com</u> or call 07954 371148 or pop in on one of our sessions to see what we are doing.

# Stepping Stones Ladies Club



An afternoon group for ladies of any age

who like hearing about a variety of interesting subjects, with speakers and occasional "do it yourself" sessions.

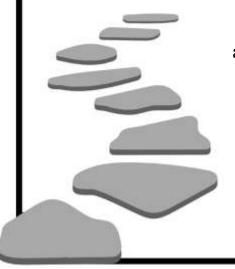
Members pay £2 an afternoon, or you can be a visitor, twice only for £3.

# We finish the meeting with refreshments which are extra special for *special* occasions!

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 2.30pm (arrive from 2pm) in the Hall.

Our programme for June and July.

- June 5thPresentation by Wick Flowers Florist Michelle.Flowers to be auctioned off afterwards.
- June 19<sup>th</sup> Karen Harrison on Childline.
- July 3<sup>rd</sup> Amanda Medler on her years as a Chief Guide.
- July 17<sup>th</sup> End of Term Get-together. Cake stall for our charity.
- Sept 4<sup>th</sup> Club Social with Welcome back Bingo.



All money raised from auctions, raffles and bring and buy table sales will go to '4Sight'a local charity who support and advise blind and partially sighted people across West Sussex, enabling them to

If you require more information, please call Wendy: 07526 433755.

# MOD MUMS PARENTS & CARERS

A baby group with a difference, and everyone is welcome!

Making friends & having a break, with our safe baby & toddler crèches

FIRST WEEK IS FREE!

For parents, carers & grandparents of 0-4 year olds Our safe, friendly, inclusive group has a drink (whilst it's hot!), a laugh & chat and occasionally an activity. Your child will be cared for in the next room by DBS checked, regular trusted volunteers TERM TIME WEDNESDAYS 9,50am- 11,30am

Rustington Methodist Church Hall, Claigmar Road, Rustington, BN16 2NL

£2.50 per week or £2 with membership (£2.50 per 12 week term)

### Don't forget your travel coffee cup!

Mod Mum is run by a committee who have safe guarding training. Our volunteers are DBS checked by MM. Check out our About section on Facebook for more info!

### Holy Spirit, move among us (Pentecost Hymn)

Holy Spirit, move among us, may your presence fill this place. Rushing wind and breath of heaven, breathe upon your church again. Tongues of fire relight our passion, kindle us as on that day. Fan the heat of our commitment, reignite our hearts, we pray.

As at Pentecost, anoint us, sons and daughters, young and old, speak your word through dreams and visions, give us courage, make us bold. Help us tell of Christ, the saviour, perfect human, crucified, raised from death that could not hold him, pouring out the Spirit's life.

God who calls in every language, free our tongues to speak your word. May the nations sing your praises, let your gospel song be heard. Fill our hearts with true devotion for your world, your church, your Son. Fill our souls with awe and wonder, as we see your Kingdom come.

Holy Spirit, move among us, revive your church again, revive your church again.

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# The relationship between Pentecost and the Law

At Pentecost, we remember when God's Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples and they were given power to share boldly that Jesus had been raised to life and that he was, and is, the Messiah (the one promised to the Jewish people throughout what we now call the Old Testament). Those who believed where baptised and filled with the Holy Spirit themselves.

Some Christians suggest that in the light of Jesus and the Holy Spirit now dwelling within us, the Old Testament, and especially the Old Testament Law, is completely redundant: almost as if it was a ridiculous idea in the first place. Some point to Romans 10:4 which in the King James Version is translated as 'Christ is the end of the Law'. However, without the Old Testament, we cannot properly make sense of the New Testament. It would be like only watching the second half of a play or movie where we might be able to get the gist of what is going on, but we will not have the full picture, or understand fully what has happened or why. Perhaps a more helpful translation of Romans 10:4 then is 'Christ is the culmination of the Law' or even 'Christ is the **goal** of the Law'.

A new series of 'Race Across the World' is on our TV screens, where four or five pairs of people race each other across the world on a limited budget. As they go, they pass through checkpoints and on each leg of the journey, the goal is to get to the next checkpoint. When a team reaches their goal of the next checkpoint, they would not say 'that coach trip was pointless' or 'I wish that train we got did not exist' as it was a crucial and necessary part of their journey.

The Old Testament, including the Law, was a necessary part of the overarching narrative, or journey, of the Bible and now at Pentecost we have reached a significant checkpoint. The purpose of the Law was to set out the terms of a covenant agreement between God and God's people, outlining how they were going to relate to one another, so that God's people might have a restored relationship with God. Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit achieved the goal of the Law: restored relationship with God. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on those first Christians they were transformed, as they became people in whom the Law's original intention was being fulfilled. The relationship between those Spirit filled Christians and God had been restored.

The link between the Law and a restored relationship with God would have been known to the disciples. Pentecost was not a 'new' festival that was instigated when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples, it was already a Jewish festival. During the festival, the Israelites would bring the first fruit of the wheat crop as a sign of thankfulness for the harvest. In some Jewish traditions it can be known as 'The Feast of the Giving of the Law' as they also remember the Law being first given to the Israelites on mount Saini after they had been led out of slavery in Egypt. God chose this festival (while people were celebrating the giving of the Law) to pour his Holy Spirit out bringing the Law into fulfilment.

The opportunity for a restored relationship with God is still available to us today. We can accept the Holy Spirit in our lives (maybe for the first time maybe for the hundredth time) and have a restored relationship with God as we are transformed and became people in whom the Law's original intention is continually being fulfilled.

Jesus says, 'Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in' (Revelation 3:20). Jesus waits at the door for us to ask Him into our lives to build a relationship with Him. All we need to do is connect with God and ask Him to fill us with His Holy Spirit. God is waiting for us, ready to fill us, to teach us, and to mould us.

'But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my Law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people' (Jeremiah 31:33).



Dwell

# Worship Night

1<sup>st</sup> June 6<sup>th</sup> July

| 5pm

# Worship - Refreshment - Connection

A relaxed time of worship to dwell in the presence of God

> Goring Methodist Church BNI2 4XB

#### Fire Evacuation from the Church Premises

To comply with various directives we need to carry out Fire Evacuation practices from the church building.

To that end we will be carrying out a practice over the summer months. This is to inform you of what is likely to happen and how you should re-act and help with the exercise.

At the beginning of the service you will be informed that we will be carrying out a fire evacuation at the end of the service – though you may find it comes as a surprise then anyway!! Any other users of the premises will also be informed that this will be taking place and told what they should be doing as they may evacuate the building via a different route and have a different Assembly Point.

At the end of the service a steward will announce that a fire has been located in the building and which doors you should exit by. Please leave quickly and quietly via this exit. DO NOT STOP TO SPEAK TO ANYONE/DELAY AS YOU LEAVE. If you have impaired movement or have other difficulties, please wait until someone comes along to give you a hand. If you are able bodied, please offer assistance to the Stewarding Team on duty.

*Where should you go?* From the church, the Fire Assembly Point is at the far end of the car park near the library and the road. The preacher will be there to greet you and assist in that position.

#### YOU SHOULD NOT GO HOME AT THIS POINT.

You may be aware that we count the congregation each Sunday, and if we do not have the right number of people someone could well re-enter the building to find you in case of fire and incur danger to themselves.

Should you decide to drive off at this moment, not only could you endanger the lives of those evacuating, but should this be a real fire, you could obstruct the entrance way for the Emergency Services.

**You should not re-enter the building** or leave the grounds until you are told by a church official that it is safe to do so. In case of a practice, we will try to make this as quick as possible.

**Please note** that though we will plan the days in advance, should the weather be inclement we will defer it until a future date. The Stewards on duty are in charge of this exercise rather than the preacher, as, in a real fire, this could be a visiting preacher who would not be aware of the procedure.

Thank you for your co-operation when the time comes. The Stewarding Team

### <u>VE Day</u>

Victory in Europe Day marks the day when the Second World War officially ended in Europe. It is celebrated on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1945 following Germany's surrender to the Allied forces on May 7<sup>th</sup> 1945.

VE Day commemorates the formal surrender of Nazi Germany and the cessation of hostilities in Europe. While not the end of the war globally, VE Day was a significant moment of celebration and relief following years of conflict, Nazi aggression and occupation, before the return of liberty to Western Europe, including Britain.

### Remember, Remember the 8<sup>th</sup> of May

Remember, Remember the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, The German Surrender, The Victory Day. But in our rejoicing, never forget, That wars are raging around us yet, And lives destroyed in this brutal way, Hold on to hope <u>this</u> Victory Day.

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# Co-ordinator & Editor: The Church Office

Contributions for the **September/October** issue to reach the Church Office by 12 noon

### on Monday 11th August 2025

Email your contributions to: rustingtonmethodistchurch@gmail.com

It is requested that items for THE LINK be produced using **Times New Roman, size 16 font** Any pictures or images used must have the appropriate copyright permissions.

DEADLINES - THE LINK is produced to very tight deadlines. Submitting your contribution on time or earlier can make the editorial job easier.

The Church Office will do their best to include contributions however, we may not be able to include material if it is submitted late. The Church Office reserve the right to make editorial decisions.

Donations towards the cost of THE LINK are welcomed.



#### YOUR CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY



KNOW GOD'S LOVE, GROW IN GOD'S LOVE, SHOW GOD'S LOVE TO ALL

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