

Southville Methodist Church



ChristChurch Feltham



St. Dunstan's Church, Feltham





Ashford Common Methodist Church



Clarendon Road

March – April 2022 Edition 28 Minister Rev Juliet Ushewokunze 2020-8890 2783 rev.juliet@sfmc.org.uk

Many thanks to all those who contribute; new contributors always welcome, remember to include photos if possible. Front Cover: Andrew Griffiths and the late Alan Cuthbert

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FROM OUR MINISTER



Dear Friends.

First and foremost, I would like to thank you all for your support and carrying me in prayers, whilst I travelled to Joburg and Harare in December and January. It was a journey I undertook with all the doubts and anxieties that were associated with the Pandemic. I was on a journey to South Africa where a

new variant had erupted and no one knew what effects it would create, in all this I was trusting God my great Shepherd to shield me. I travelled and arrived safely in Southern Africa. It was business as usual people wore their masks, exercised social distancing with Sanitizers in every building. The mortality rates were very low. Most people were getting vaccinated. The same scenario was in Harare people were carrying on with activities of daily living. In those essential services, the staff members were tested and those who were positive were to isolate. I went for worship at Trinity Methodist Church, people wore masks and observed social distancing. It seems the battle with COVID 19 is slowly being won. We thank God for delivering us from the deadly virus.

The journey I made home was with mixed feelings. Feelings of joy to see my granddaughter Anaya Nandi now 19months for the first time. It was a significant moment to see her in Joburg. She stunned me, I was expecting a baby not a little baby girl, who repeats the sentences I utter, can read and write the alphabet, loves water and can swim, has favourite baby stories on the Television and knows them by name. I am sitting there – she looks at me and says, Gogo (grandma) what's the matter? She can reflect on the activities she has for the day. It was great to see her and share her activities of daily living. I had a great time with her, though she kept me on my toes because she is super active.



When I left Joburg for Harare I was ambivalent- there were feeling of sorrow and sadness as I wrestle with the thoughts of those close to me who had been claimed by COVID 19 and other health conditions whom I had to accept they have gone. The first thing I did was to travel Wedza Zviyambe to my father's farm where I grow up to see where my niece

Rugare was buried. Just being at my home ground was therapeutic in itself. The Methodist Church in Zviyambe Circuit came with their Superintendent Revd Surupu who led us in a thanksgiving and celebration service for my niece Rugare and my sister Dorcas at such a short notice. It was comforting and uplifting reminding us as Christians we do not die in vain, our hope is a robust





anticipation of eternal life with Christ. I am eternally grateful to the Church in Zviyambe for coming to comfort us. From Wedza I went to Harare where I had to visit close family and pass my condolences. I managed to visit some of the graves and lay flowers. It was a

difficult time- when it comes to death it is in God's jurisdiction we cannot intrude. However, I am grateful that I had the opportunity to go home and mourn for my family who have passed on. I came back much refreshed and ready to look to the future and move on, by God's grace.

I would like now to focus on the here and now by acknowledging and appreciating what God Almighty the source of all our success did for us this February 2022. We had an inauguration Service of thanksgiving and celebration on Sunday the 13th of February 2022 for the merger of Ashford Methodist Church in Clarendon Road and Laleham Methodist Church in Edinburgh Drive to become ONE Church worshipping in on two sites. It was a memorable special occasion; the most powerful Holy Spirit came down and the brilliance of His glory flooded the sanctuary. His presence complimented the Circuit Choir conducted by Mrs Roz Sendorek they sung with powerful Seraphim voices the roof of the sanctuary was about to come off. The Guest Speaker Revd Conrad Hicks held the attention of the congregation by his powerful spirit filled voice using the analogy of the conditions of a royal marriage in psalm 45. He preached prophetically and prepared our hearts for the work to be done at Woodthorpe Methodist Church as we move forward into the future. He did not leave any stones unturned- those with ears heard what the Spirit was saying to the Church. It was a memorable act of worship and celebration it will stay within my heart for a long time to come.

I would like to say a big thank to those who participated in the planning and execution of this Service. The Hospitality team was very gracious and lavish. There was plenty of food to eat, they catered for all requirements of dietary needs. Most people seemed to enjoy and were relaxed during the fellowship as they partake in the refreshments. People were not in a hurry to leave, and they was so much food they could not finish it. I would like to thank most sincerely the hospitality team for making the inauguration service so special. I was delighted and I believed the presence of the Lord was among us. Speaking and listening to others who attended they felt the service was an awesome occasion.

Well in two weeks' time , on the 2nd of March 2022 we enter into Ash Wednesday on this significant day we are reminded of our mortality *dust you are and to dust you will return*, these solemn words about dust speak not only of our humble beginnings, also of our divine origins. It is God who created us, that he turned dust to life. However, when we sometimes think too highly of ourselves, we are called to remember we are, but dust and we need to remember the Cross.

The Cross is the focus during this period. The Cross is a hard wood on which our Lord Jesus Christ bled and died for our sake. We need to stand at Calvary and reflect deeper into the death of Christ. It will help us to deal with our own suffering and the suffering of others. It is a time when we seek to understand the magnitude of Christ's offering on the cross and the power of His resurrection.

The Lenten journey is a significant pilgrimage. There are three main themes for us as disciples of Christ to consider, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These themes help us to examine our lives.

Prayer time creates a space for us to enter into the stillness with the God of love. Prayer is the channel through which God's greatest gifts enter our souls It is imperative that we keep this channel open and spend time with God.

Fasting is crucial, it turns our spiritual hearts to focus on God Almighty. To say we give up chocolates, sweets, wine and so on without a defined purpose trivialises Lent. In our contemporary times obsessed with happiness, self-gratification the idea of selfdenial can feel strange even alien. The Lord Jesus fasted he is our mentor. "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights and afterwards he was famished. (Matthew 4:1-2). Fasting to be beneficial is a means, not an end. It is a way, by which we may look for something much more important, be it health, spiritual wholeness or salvation. The Lord Jesus taught us not to display such acts.

Almsgiving is a sign of generosity. It often results from prayer and fasting. The closer we come to God the closer we are drawn to each other.

As we enter this holy time of Lent. God is with us. Let us cooperate with him, creating quiet space during this time so God can transform us and our world. Christ is at the heart of our faith. He is waiting for us to leave ordinary time and follow Him on the journey that brought him to the cross.

Whatever, the demands upon us let us find quality time, to be alone with God so that as we come to celebrate Easter morn we will resurrect with Christ because we know him. I leave you with two questions, what type of activities do you undertake that engage your whole heart? Of these three Lenten disciplines prayer, fasting and almsgiving which one do you feel is important for you?

May this season of Lent help you to grow in your discipleship as you experience His presence.

God bless you at Easter.

Juliet

From the Circuit Office – and Beyond

Dear Friends

Spring is on the horizon and as I look out of the window here at the Office in Staines, the sun is shining out of a blue sky. Spring is the time when we see the signs of new growth. Here in the Staines and Feltham Circuit we seem to have been waiting for quite a while of all sorts of things to come to fruition. As I look back over earlier comments in Eastern End News, some issues have been around for a very long time and we still have not seen the end result. This letter acts as a reminder of the topics that take our interest, but also of the fact that we need to rely upon God as well as on our own abilities.

Three projects that are of interest still remain unresolved, but the fact is that they are nearer resolution now. Here is the latest update as at the 14th February 2022.

The documentation for the purchase of the Manse at Feltham has been signed and passed to our Solicitors. I am now just waiting to hear from them when the process will be completed.

I am pleased to let you know that the papers for the sale of Wendover Road have been signed and are now the hands of our Solicitor. I do know that there is a query on one document and that we need to provide an Electrical Certificate for the building. By the time you read this that should be in the hands of the prospective purchasers and their Solicitor. Once again, I find myself hoping that by the time you read this or shortly after, the sale will have been completed.

Final consideration of the Sharing Agreement and the Mission Initiative Agreement for the Partnership at Christchurch, Feltham is currently with Solicitors acting for both denominations. In March 2022 the Committee overseeing this work is due to meet to confirm that the documentation is in order. Later on in the year we will be able to have a Service to celebrate the creation of the Partnership.

Your prayers for the successful outcome of these three matters is very much appreciated.

I was pleased to be able to attend the Inauguration and Celebration Service of Thanksgiving held at Woodthorpe Methodist Church on Sunday 13th February 2022. It was good to be able to welcome Rev. Conrad Hicks to address us and his sermon gave us all plenty to consider as the shoots of growth continue to flourish both at Woodthrope and elsewhere in the Circuit. Rev. Juliet Ushewokunze led the Service for us and an augmented Choir from Staines Methodist Church led by Dr. Roz Sendoreck sang three items and led the congregation in singing the hymns which I know was very much appreciated.

I hope that you have an enjoyable spring and that as we approach Easter, you will be able to reflect on the love of God expressed most clearly in the gift of His Son. Please keep an eye open for Lent and Easter events taking place either in your Church or in a neighbouring one.

God bless.

Andrew

THE VILLAGE CENTRE - ENGLEFIELD GREEN



My name is Ali Watts and I am the manager of the Village Centre in Englefield Green. Like many of you in churches locally, we have endured very strange times here recently due to the

pandemic, but we are happy to say that our Café is getting busier and we are still seeing a great demand for our Outreach Programmes and activities.



Our greatest achievement of 2021 was the opening of the Village Centre Community Fridge & Kitchen. Following our involvement in the community Covid-19 response during

lockdown, we recognised that there was a huge need for the provision of fresh food, to help those families who were struggling in a time of crisis. We now have a large bank of volunteers, run by a newly appointed Project Manager, who collect fresh surplus food from supermarkets and other charities. The food is then made available to everyone through our Community Fridge on a Monday and Friday morning. We also cook some of the surplus food on a weekly basis and distribute home cooked meals to those in need in Englefield Green, as well as provide portioned meals for collection through the Fridge. Since opening on the 21st Feb 21, to the 10th January 22, we redistributed 7.87 tonnes of surplus food that would otherwise have gone to waste. Our Community Christmas Lunch saw us delivering 69 homemade dinners to local families as well as Syrian and Afghan families who have recently arrived in our area – A huge success!

Our exciting project for 2022 is the refurbishment of our Café area. After securing a huge grant from the Local Authority and months of discussions with the Methodist building consents department, we are set to go ahead in April. The Café will close for approx one month whilst the serving area is pulled out and replaced, new appliances installed, new floors put down, new lighting hung and the new tables and chairs are put into residence. The refurbishment will give us the opportunity to expand our services even further!

Did you know we offer the following at the Village Centre:

 Community Café
 Computer Drop In
 Pilates, Ballet & Music
classes
 Jazz Club
• Film Club
 Foodbank
• Halls & meeting rooms to
hire

Why don't you come in and visit us soon!



ASHFORD COMMON METHODIST CHURCH

Saxon Road (Off Feltham Hill Road), Ashford, Middlesex. TW17 1LW Church Contact Mrs. Kait Sanger 07941 540214 ashford-common@sfmc.org.uk

On January 16 this year we again embroidered the Annual Church Meeting into our morning worship that was led by Rev Andrew Reed. We delivered this through a presentation of slides and pictures in an effort to celebrate and reflect on the work of our Church in as engaging a manner as possible. The following week the Church Council were pleased to be able

to meet in person at the Church.

Mothering Sunday on 27 March this year will be a Family and Parade Service. Two weeks later The Boys' Brigade will be joining our Palm Sunday Service direct from their Weekend Camp at Box Hill. This will be their first residential activity since August 2019. To make this possible, Leaders have had to have their mini bus driving skills re-assessed and requalify their Camp and Holiday Leadership qualifications.



We send special good wishes to David and June Mitchell for 2 March as they celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on David's 90th birthday – great planning David, getting married on your birthday reduces the risk of forgetting your anniversary.

Additionally birthday greetings are offered to Jo Rutter and Michelle Camis who have birthdays in March. We also say Happy Birthday to Joshua Camis, Aaron Gaunt, Cheryl Hughes and Ryan Fuller who celebrate in April.



The Boys' Brigade 7th North Surrey Company

If our records have been accurately deciphered, there has been a Boys Brigade Company at Ashford Common since September 1964. Originally designated the 1st Ashford Company we soon became 7th North Surrey when Battalions were re- arranged.



Our founding Captain was Harold Searle who led until he retired in 1974 after a 51 year career in The Boys' Brigade.

> Press cutting from 27 September 1974 recording a retirement for Harold Searle

George Chambers took over as Captain from Harold Searle and in 1975 established our Anchor Section, the first member being his son Adrian. Under his leadership the Company went from strength to strength as can be seen from this picture taken in the BB Centenary year of 1983.



7th North Surrey during the BB Centenary year of 1983

Mr Chambers sadly died in 1985 and Mrs Chambers led the Company for a year before Geoff Barrow became Captain in 1986 – the work remained vibrant, here's a picture from 1989.



Our BB Company in the Church Garden in 1989

In 1992 Mr Barrow transferred to Wendover Road Methodist Church and established the 3rd North Surrey Company there which operated until 1999. Tony McKenner took on the leadership of our Company at this point.

In October 1993 Tony led the Battalion Church Parade which was hosted at Ashford Common.



North Surrey Battalion Parades at Ashford Common

Mr McKenner served as Captain until 2002 and, while remaining a valuable member of the Company staff, transferred Captaincy to Justin Camis.

There have been some challenging times in the 58 years of our Company, none more so than the last couple of years when meeting in person would have been illegal. It's likely more than 1000 young people and their families have been touched by the work of The Boys' Brigade at Ashford Common. This has been achieved by successive generations of dedicated and enthusiastic leaders who continue to provide interesting, exciting and challenging activities for young people. The work continues today and this picture from October 2021 shows almost the entire Company.



The Boys' Brigade at Ashford Common 4 October 2021

SERVICES @ ASHFORD COMMON METHODIST CHURCH Please watch our Church and the Circuit Website and Social Media for details of what is happening



SOUTHVILLE METHODIST CHURCH Tachbrook Road (off Bedfont Lane), Feltham, Middlesex TW14 9NX Church Contact: Mrs Maggie Netto 07956 553974

Happy Birthday to Roger Griffiths, Marilyn Woodley and Mary Windo in April

Church Anniversary

On Sunday 20th February we celebrated our Anniversary.

Many changes to the building have taken place over the life of the church, not least the closure of the 'Hall' which is now used by another Church.

The original church was modified and extended at the rear to provide additional space.

The Service was led by Rev Barbara McIntivey who developed the current debates about 'inside church and outside mission'

Food Bank Collections

Throughout the pandemic members have still been supporting the Storehouse either through dropping off donations individually when possible or donating cash through their online payment system.

We are pleased to say that we are now able to receive weekly food donations each Sunday morning.







Clarendon Road.

Ashford.

Edinburgh Drive, Laleham. Middlesex. TW18 1PH Mr

LPH Church Contact: Middlesex. TW15 2QR Mr Graham Wells 01784 258785

Celebration of the Long-Awaited Launch and First Anniversary of Woodthorpe Methodist Church



When we began to decide whom to invite, Covid restrictions were more severe than now. As rules got relaxed and we got a better idea of likely numbers we added to our list, but as it turned out we could have fitted 20 extra people in very comfortably. More than fifty came, half the number invited.

How do you celebrate a beginning? Do you find a way of travelling forward in time so that you can look back over a fruitful decade or so? Or do you invite someone to bring God's message of encouragement and challenge, with unsettling revelations as to what it means to be God's servants in a broken world?

Fortunately, we chose the second option and enjoyed the privilege of having Revd Conrad Hicks coming to preach to us. Revd Juliet Ushewokunze, Revd Andrew Reed, and the Circuit choir (put together swiftly by Roz Sendorek) shared the leading of worship, and an efficient team of people put together a wonderful tea that brought folk together after the service in a way that seemed too good to be allowed.

MESSAGE FROM REV SAM FUNNEL

Dear Friends,

I was delighted to hear of your plans to mark the inauguration of Woodthorpe Methodist Church, with a Circuit service of Thanksgiving and Celebration, just sorry that I was not able to be with you on the day as District business called me to another part of my 'patch'.

I trust that the service went well, was a time of blessing and encouragement to you all but especially to the new Woodthorpe Church as it starts its new beginning in your midst. I'm sure that with Conrad, you will have had a wonderful time and that he will have offered you a thought-provoking and inspiring message.

Juliet kindly sent me a copy of the service and two things struck me – mention of the road that links the buildings, helps you be One Church in Two Places and gave rise to the new church name AND that there were lots of questions – in the hymns and thoughts at the end of the service sheet.

Might I encourage you to <u>keep travelling</u> your road – not only as you deepen your partnership at Woodthorpe Church and it's two venues, in the communities around you and the Circuit as a wider whole – looking forward, with excitement, to where God may lead you next.

Also – <u>keep asking questions</u> and looking for interesting answers – so that you may discern what, and where, and to whom the Spirit is leading you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Sending you all every blessing! Sam.

Rev Sam Funnell - Assistant District Chair (Western Area)

CLARENDON ROAD

CHURCH GARDEN

We have finished our project of making our garden into a more usable space.

As you can see from the photos it looks quite different.

The memorial garden is now a place where people can come and sit if they wish.

It got the community talking about it. When we were working on it so many people stopped to chat.

It was a great opportunity for outreach and to meet some of our neighbours.





I would like to thank all those that helped with it.





Sandra

EDINBURGH DRIVE



1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. We are not sufficiently organised yet to give you a programme of events, but each meeting has a different speaker or activity, everyone is welcome, and there is tea and cake afterwards.

Thursday morning Bible Study

will give way to our Lent Study beginning on 3rd March Details to be announced.

g.wells988@gmail.com Graham Wells 01784258785



Wednesday Morning at Edinburgh Drive run by Kingdom Living Church 9.30 am – 12 noon, EVERY Wednesday

SERVICES @ WOODTHORPE METHODIST CHURCH

Please watch our Local Church and Circuit Website and Social Media for details of what is happening

Services: 1st Sunday of each month at Edinburgh Drive all other Sundays at Clarendon Road

PRAYER IN THE CHURCHES



If you know of anyone or of any circumstance requiring our prayers, phone Bobby (from Woodthorpe) 01784 251944 *Or Email: prayer@easternendnews.info*

If you would like to be added to the prayer chain please phone or email

The Furnace

Worship together and pray for Feltham

Every Wednesday at 19:45

Everyone is welcome at Christchurch Feltham

Please see our website https://www.christchurchfeltham.org/

SOUTHVILLE CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER First Saturday of the Month at 09:30 – 10:30

at Southville Methodist Church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10:00 ALL WELCOME

For further details contact Rev Juliet Ushewokunze



Tuesday at 20:00 alternate weeks Please contact Jill Britton to join

AND

Thursdays at 10:00 weekly. All are welcome!!! Please contact Graham Wells to join

What we are doing in our local community?

THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS



List of our current shortages:

Long-life Semi-Skimmed Milk (Green) Long-life Juice Small Tomato Ketchup

Instant Mashed Potato (Smash-type) Crackers Tinned: Rice Pudding, Custard Vegetables (we have plenty of sweetcorn thank you!) & Baked Beans Children's Toothbrushes/Toothpaste, Toilet Rolls& Liquid Soap

From all the volunteers at Manna

THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS

At Southville we continue with our weekly collection of food for the **Riverside Vineyard Storehouse** and **Hounslow Probation Service**.

The following items are in popular demand:

Long-life milkTinned Fish (tuna, salmon) meat (meatballs,
corned beef etc) Soups,Pasta Sauces, Ricecorned beef etc) Soups,Small bags of sugarvegetables/fruit/beans/tomatoesSmall bottles of oilSmall boxes of Breakfast cerealsPuddings – Rice/CustardBiscuits/sweet snack, Tea/Coffee/juice/squashTea/Coffee/juice/squashToiletriesNO PERISHABLESORALCOHOL PLEASEANDNOT OUT OF DATEConsider: The size of items as guests travel by public transport

CHURCH CONTACTS AND ACTIVITIES

ASHFORD COMMON METHODIST CHURCH Saxon Road, Ashford Common, TW17 1LW

Mrs. Kait Sanger - 07941 540214 ashfordcommon@sfmc.org.uk

MONDAY	Term Time	Boys' Brigade Anchor Section / Junior Section	17:30 / 18:30
TUESDAY	Weekly	Music	18:15
THURSDAY	Term Time	Boys' Brigade Company Section	19:00
SATURDAY	1 st of Month	Coffee Morning	10:00 - 12:00
SUNDAY	Maakhy	Morning Worship & Sunday School	10:30
	Weekly	Evening Worship	18:30

CHRIST CHURCH FELTHAMChrist Church, Hanworth Road, Feltham. TW13 5AERev Andy Watkinshello@christchurchfeltham.orgwww.christchurchfeltham.orgWEDNESDAYWeeklyThe Furnace - worship together and pray for Feltham19:45SUNDAYWeeklyInformal Service with Kids GroupsDoor Open 10:003rd SundayCommunity Lunch everyone is welcome, bring some food to share!After Church

<u>SOUTHVILLE METHODIST CHURCH</u> Tachbrook Road, Feltham, Middlesex. TW14 9NX Mrs. Maggie Netto – 07956 553974 contact-us@southvillemethodistchurch.org.uk www.southvillemethodistchurch.org.uk

TUESDAY	1 st & 3 rd	House Group / Bible Study	19:45
	2 nd	TALC (Tuesday Adult Leisure Club)	14:00 - 16:00
WEDNESDAY	Weekly	Bible Study	10:00
SATURDAY	1 st	Private Prayer	09:30 - 10:30
SUNDAY	Weekly	Morning Worship	10:30

ST DUNSTAN'S FELTHAM St Dunstans Road, Feltham, Middlesex. TW13 4JY

Rev Anne Dollery - 020-8890 2011

admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk www.stdunstansfeltham.org.uk

MONDAY	Weekly	Drop-in	10:00-12:00	
MONDAT	Fortnightly	Bible study on Zoom	20:00	
WEDNESDAY	Weekly	Holy Communion	10:00	See Weekly Notices for
THURSDAY	Monthly	WOT (Women on Thursdays)	14:00-16:00	Details
SUNDAY	Weekly	Parish Communion in church	09:45	
	vveekiy	Morning prayer on Zoom	09:30	

WOODTHORPE METHODIST CHURCH

Clarendon Road, Ashford. TW15 2QR and Edinburgh Drive, Laleham. TW18 1PH

Mr Graham Wells - 01784 258785 woodthorpe@sfmc.org.uk

MONDAY			Rainbows (Aged 5 – 7)	16:30 - 17:30
	Clarendon Road	Road Term Time	Brownies (Aged 7 – 10)	17:50 - 19:30
			Guides (Aged 10 – 15)	19:00 - 21:00
TUESDAY	Zoom	Alternate weeks	Bible Study	20:00
WEDNESDAY	Clarendon Road	2 nd Wednesday	Clarendon Ladies Group	12:00
	Edinburgh Drive	Weekly	Coffee Morning (KLC)	09:30 -12:00
THURSDAY	Zoom	Weekly	Bible Study	10:00
	Edinburgh Drive	Weekly	Fellowship	14:30
SUNDAY	Edinburgh Drive	1 st Week	– Morning Worship	10:00
	Clarendon Rd	Other Weeks		10:30