



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 152

February 2023

Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on 11th February and again on 11th March. Do come along for a cup of tea and a chat and have a look round. This is also an opportunity to discuss Baptisms, Weddings and perhaps Confirmation.

Wednesday Warm-up

During the month of February we aim to provide the opportunity for those who wish to do so to enjoy a hot drink and a piece of cake or similar on a Wednesday lunchtime in the warmth of our Monsell Room.

We shall continue with our weekly Wednesday morning service of Holy Communion at 10.00am (either in Church, or within the Monsell Room itself) and you are welcome to join us at this service. But from 11am-1pm we are offering an informal opportunity for tea and chat in a comfortable space. And – if you wish – you are more than welcome to bring your knitting, your book, crossword or equivalent! We look forward very much to seeing you.

The Wednesday dates in February are: 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd.

Food Bank

Please continue to help us support the work of our local Runnymede Food Bank. Contributions of non-perishable goods can be left in our Food Bank crate in our Monsell Room and are regularly taken by Geoff Chew to the Food Bank Collection and Distribution Centre. Your amazing generosity is hugely appreciated.

Community Concert

of words and music

Saturday 4th February

4.00pm

St Jude's Church

Admission free

Refreshments provided

Donations welcome

Proverbs

When I was training to become a Minister in the Methodist Church I was required to attend a service in the Chapel of the College each and every morning. It was not a long service and I enjoyed them. One of my tasks was to ring the bell that I knew would waken students all around the campus and summon them to the Chapel. Often there would be a rush of people just before the service was due to begin. You will not be surprised that each day a passage was read from the Bible. I am not stretching the truth when I state that this was not always the most popular part of the Service especially when working our way through passages taken from the Old Testament. One book that people found particularly challenging was the Book of Proverbs. King Solomon is said to have written three thousand proverbs, but the book of Proverbs contains just eight hundred that are directly attributed to him. Over a period of several weeks all thirty one chapters were read and I can understand why some students commented that it was just so difficult to listen to so many proverbs delivered back to back. On the other hand, I know of people for whom these same passages contain words that speak of common experience and make sense whether or not they would claim to have a faith. For me, they do indeed provide a framework for the way that I seek to live. Here are some examples taken from Proverbs which may be familiar to you.

- 1 A gentle answer turns away wrath. But a harsh word stirs up anger.
- 2 Pride goes before destruction and arrogance to downfall.
- 3 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.
- 4 As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.
- 5 Where there is no vision the people get out of hand; happy are they who keep the law.
- 6 A friend loves at all times, and kinsfolk are born to share adversity.
- 7 If one gives answer before hearing it is folly and shame.
- 8 The one who first states a case seems right until the other comes and cross examines
- 9 Go to the ant, you lazybones; consider its ways, and be wise.
- 10 Like clouds and wind without rain is one who boasts of a gift never given.

I think I get the point that having to read or listen to a lot of proverbs all at the same is difficult. However, I have given you just ten to look at and may be during this month you might like to think about each of these proverbs and see if you agree with them and how they may help you day by day. Quite a few of them have two parts; one of which is positive and the other negative. Others express just a single idea and one at least invites us to go and do something. I hope that these examples might encourage you to open the book of Proverbs to explore more of these fascinating pieces of advice.

God bless.

Andrew Reed

St Jude's Church AV Project

Exciting news! The installation of our new system by Distributed Sound and Video Limited is now complete! We shall need a bit of time to train volunteers to operate the system but hopefully we shall be able to "go live" within the next few weeks! We remain very grateful to Claudia Tubb and to Guy Bunce for their significant lead on this project.

We still need to make up a shortfall of approximately £2200 on the cost of the installation and if you do feel able to help us please do let us know. You can contact our Treasurer, Brian Hooker, at brian.hooker@stjudeschurch.info or you can get in touch via our website: www.stjudeschurch.info. Thank you so much – and thank you to all who have already given.

And – are you interested in learning how to operate the system? We shall need volunteers to support us with future live-streaming and if this is something that appeals to you, we should be really glad to hear from you. Again – please get in touch via our website – or contact our Vicar on 01784 434133. Thank you!

In Remembrance

The early weeks of 2023 have already proved a time of sadness for a number of people in our community. Our hearts go out to those who have lost loved ones and especially to those whose Funeral Services for someone dear to them have recently taken place at St Jude's.

Among those who have gone before us into eternity is our very own Tess Wood. Tess was a long-standing member of the congregation at St Jude's and she died in December, just over a fortnight after her 95th Birthday! We remembered Tess with great thanksgiving at her Funeral Service in January. Tess' faith was of paramount importance to her and shaped the way in which she lived her life. Her involvement in the life of St Jude's Church meant a very great deal to her, as it did to those who worshipped alongside her and got to know her well. Tess was the first woman to serve as a Churchwarden at St Jude's, paving the way for the service of others.

Tess planned her own Funeral Service with typical courage and forethought. The Bible reading she chose, from Romans 8, included God's wonderful promise that nothing, not even death itself, can separate us from his love in the Lord Jesus Christ. As we remember Tess, with great thanksgiving, our prayers are with those closest of all to her: Ann, David, Chrissy and their families and Tess' special St Jude's friends: Margaret, Brian and Ann.

May God comfort all who mourn.

Readings at Communion

5th February (3rd Sunday before Lent)	Isaiah 58. 1-9a Psalm 112 1 Corinthians 2. 1-12 Matthew 5. 13-20
12th February (2nd Sunday before Lent)	Genesis 1. 1-2.3 Psalm 136 Romans 8. 18-25 Matthew 6. 25-end
19th February (Sunday next before Lent)	Exodus 24. 12-end Psalm 2 or 99 2 Peter 1. 16-end Matthew 17. 1-9
26th February (First Sunday of Lent)	Genesis 2.15-17, 3. 1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5. 12-19 Matthew 4. 1-11

From the Registers

Funerals:

(13th January) Iris Ann Miles
(13th January) Teresa Margaret Wood
(19th January) Charles Harris
(23rd January) John Lyndon McLeod Hawk

The Village Centre

www.villagecentre.org.uk 01784 471110

Whilst enjoying (a delicious) lunch in the Village Centre the other day I was privileged to find myself sitting at the next table to a prospective volunteer. It was her first visit to the Centre and she was clearly delighted by the appearance and ambience of our café and the buzz of lunchtime activity. She was pleased to see the toy area provided for our younger visitors to the Centre, including the ball pit! But she was especially thrilled to be told of some of the wide range of volunteering opportunities offered by the Centre – ranging from a weekly shift serving in the cafe itself to a session in our Community Kitchen and Fridge with many other possibilities in between! It was great to meet her and of course we hope she will join our Volunteer Team! And we always have space for more!

The work of the Village Centre is overseen by a Management Committee. The Village Centre is a shared venture between St Jude's Church and the Staines and Feltham Methodist circuit. The Committee is jointly chaired by our Methodist Minister, the Revd Andrew Reed and our Vicar, the Revd Judith Allford. The committee membership includes representatives from both the Anglican and Methodist denominations, as well as other representatives of our local community. We are grateful to them all.

But the real work of the Centre continues to be done by Ali Watts and the Team – both staff and volunteers! At the regular meetings of the Management Committee we receive from Ali updates not only about the performance of the Café, but about all the other outreach projects and initiatives which continue to flourish and to impact our local community. The level of engagement with our village and with a multiplicity of other agencies, both local and beyond is enormous. Thank you to all the Team.

However, none of this would be possible without the regular support, both financial and practical, that we receive from our wider community, including readers of this Newsletter.

We are looking to re-launch our "Friends of the Village Centre" scheme some time later in the year. Please do let us know if you would like more details of that scheme.

As always, if you have any queries, suggestions, requests for bookings, or if you would like to offer your help to the Centre please contact Ali Watts, our Centre Manager, manager@villagecentre.org.uk. And, if like many prospective volunteers, you haven't yet made your first visit to the Centre, please come along and meet us. You will receive a warm welcome and your first visit will probably lead to many more!

Thank you all.

Diary for February

- 1 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 4 Saturday 4.00pm Community Concert with refreshments – all welcome
- 5 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Family Holy Communion
- 8 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 12 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Holy Communion
- 11 Saturday 2.00-4.00pm Church open
- 15 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 19 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Holy Communion
- 22 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Holy Communion – both services include imposition of ashes
- 26 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service

Please note that there will always be either a live-streamed service or a pre-recorded reflection on our YouTube Channel each Sunday from 9.30am. If you are unable to join us in church we warmly invite you to tune in.

St Jude's Schools

"Excellence in Education, Kindness in Community, Courage through Faith"

The Federation of St Jude's Junior and Infant Schools takes effect from 20th February 2023. The schools will of course remain on their present sites in Bagshot Road and Barley Mow Road but they will from now on have a joint Governing Body. A great deal of work is going on at present to align policies, protocol and curriculum across the two schools. One significant advantage is that the transition of pupils between the Infant and Junior schools should become significantly smoother.

Many of you, I know, use Facebook. Both schools at present have their own Facebook page which are a really good way to keep up with their inspiring and creative activities. Please search Facebook for St Judes C of E Junior School and St Judes C of E Infant School. And both have their own websites: <https://www.stjudes.surrey.sch.uk/> and <https://stjudesinfant.surrey.sch.uk/>

You may be considering future education options for your child – or you may know someone who is doing just that. Both schools greatly welcome visits from prospective parents and someone from their Leadership Teams will always find time to meet with you.

If you want to know more, please contact:

Miss Michelle McNamee head@stjudesinfant.surrey.sch.uk 01784 435586

Mrs Vicki Chiverton head@stjudes.surrey.sch.uk 01784 432180

Easyfundraising.org.uk

Please do remember that if you register with [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and select St Jude's Church, Englefield Green as your chosen charity, you can then shop online with many organisations (including Amazon, John Lewis, etc) and make money for St Jude's at the same time without costing you a penny. So far we have raised over £1200 by this scheme.