

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH MAGAZINE



Changing lives for good through the power of God's word



Spring 2020

A Word from the Editor:



As I write the coronavirus is having quite an effect on our lives with church services suspended and social distancing requiring us all to keep 2 metres apart from each other when outdoors. Whilst we, the KMC family, are not able to worship together for the time being, that does not mean we cannot keep in touch. There are various ways that this can be done not least communicating by means of the KMC Magazine. Not everyone has access to a computer and the internet, so at a time like this I am pleased that we do have this method in place that allows us to relay what we want others to know. As for the fact that we cannot meet regularly, see Dave Faulkner's article about what he is considering might be possible in the absence of our weekly services.

We know that the coronavirus, or as it should be called COVID-19, is having an effect worldwide, so it should be no surprise that in her Newsletter, Ruth Pugh makes mention of the effect it is having on her and her students in India.

Elsewhere in this issue our very own organist, cheerleader and good egg, Ian Kelly features prominently. We are indebted too, to Sheila Mynard for the information she provided about Frank Topping.

It remains unknown as to whether our church services will be able to resume by May. However, whether they do or not please enjoy reading the profile on Local Preacher Jane Briggs who is due to visit us at the end of May. She has kindly put pen to paper for us about her life and times for which I thank her very much. If we do not see her in May, hopefully it will not be too long before she will be leading one of our services at KMC, God willing.

Finally, may you find the hope and strength that your faith provides to carry you through the coming weeks and months. We must pray that by the time it comes to publish the Summer issue of this Magazine the worst will be over, and things will be gradually getting back to normal. In the meantime look after yourselves and stay as well as you can.

Robin Spice, Editor.

KMC MAGAZINE

Editor: Robin Spice. Layout & design: Allan Wright. Proof Reader: Yvette Wright

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Copy to: Robin Spice - magazine@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

Message from Dave:



Dear Friends,

I sometimes tell those who are newer to the ordained ministry than someone like me who is now rather long in the ministerial tooth that you never know what kind of ministry tasks you will end up getting stuck into. Until the last year or so I had never been involved with anything to do with refugees, immigration, and nationality. But KMC and I have found ourselves in just such circumstances, haven't we? Clothes4U has had a lot to do with helping Syrian refugee families. The church has facilitated meetings for the council with refugees. We have had Raj finding himself stateless, and we had Loghman among us, a political refugee from the evil Iranian regime.

I don't mind telling you that quietly I had considerable trepidation about how our campaigns for Raj and Loghman might go. There have been so many cases reported of the 'hostile environment' at the Home Office leading to people being deported who – to my eyes, at least – had a just reason to seek residence in this country. And the racism that came out of the woodwork after the Brexit referendum has at times made me ashamed to be British.

But we have seen some victories. Raj became a naturalised citizen of the United Kingdom. And he now has his British passport. Loghman has been given Leave To Remain for five years, with the opportunity soon to apply to bring his family here, and then seek Indefinite Leave To Remain at the end of the five years. Oh – and I had also supported a naturalisation application from an Argentinean member at Weybridge Methodist Church. He, too, was successful, and recently attended his Citizenship Ceremony.

Why do we do this? Because there is plenty of biblical material that commands us to do so. Let's go back to the Old Testament law, where three texts in different books say much the same:

Do not oppress a foreigner; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt. (Exodus 23:9)

The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God. (Leviticus 19:34)

And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. (Deuteronomy 10:19)

So Israel's experience of being an oppressed minority is to give her a compassion for others in a similar situation. If we as Christians feel like a minority in our culture, then that is more reason for us to care for others among us.

There is also a strong biblical strand of teaching about welcome and hospitality:

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. (1 Peter 4:9)

I was a stranger and you invited me in (Matthew 25:35)

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. (Romans 15:7)

These texts show us a call to hospitality that is rooted in the way Christ has been hospitable to sinners such as us. How powerful a motive is that?

Ultimately, it's about the nature of the church herself:

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28)

There are other texts I could quote. (See <https://www.christiantoday.com/article/welcoming-the-stranger-in-our-midst-10-bible-verses/104300.htm> if you want more.) But at a time when many people in our culture have sought scapegoats among minority groups from other cultures and nationalities, it is time for Christians to show that the Gospel of the Kingdom means that we are called to treat people very differently.

It all stems from the Judaeo-Christian belief in Genesis 1 that all human beings are made in the image of God. Once that is rejected, a society starts to treat all sorts of minorities as less than fully human and less worthy of dignity or even life. (For a chilling take on what this means for disabled people, such as those with Down's Syndrome, see this article by the evangelist Glen Scrivener about his debate with a leading atheist: <https://www.premierchristianity.com/Past-Issues/2020/March-2020/Heidi-Crowter-Matt-Dillahunty-Down-syndrome-and-the-disturbing-consequences-of-getting-rid-of-God>)

Friends, it is so important to our witness to Jesus Christ today that we advocate for the poor and the marginalised, including those who are used as victimised by the gutter press and popular society. (At the time of writing, Chinatown in London is losing business from people who think that all Chinese are possible carriers of Coronavirus COVID-19.)

And we've been doing something in that area with our concerns for those in need, whether they originated from these shores or not. By the grace of God let us keep on going and let us see where else God leads us.

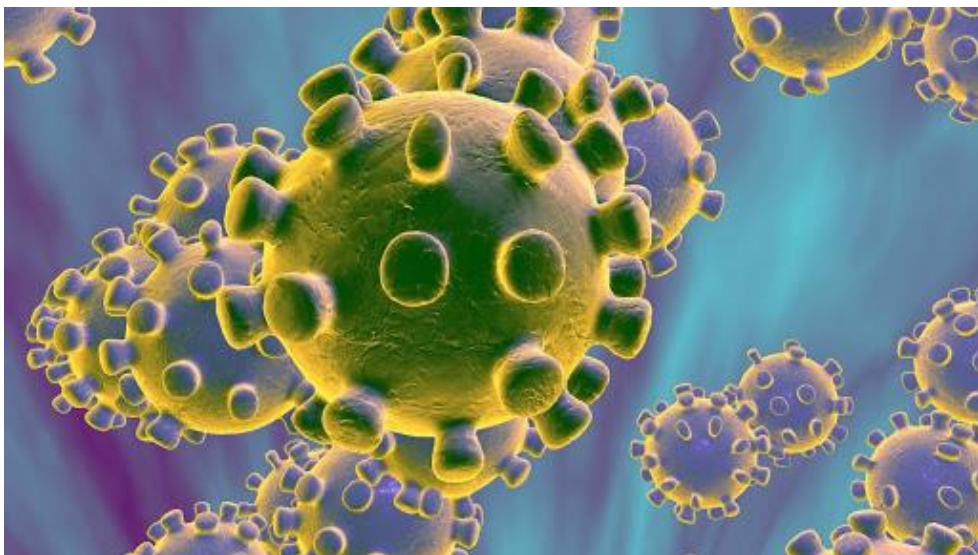
Your friend and minister,



Dave Faulkner

minister@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP AND CORONAVIRUS



I wrote my lead article for this edition of the magazine a few weeks before the coronavirus pandemic became so critical that the Government sought the closure of public gatherings, such as church services.

These are unprecedented times. Some Christians have railed against the closure of public worship, seeing it as a lack of faith. However, remember what happened in South Korea a few weeks before things exploded in the UK: a church was reckless in its approach to the virus and caused a massive increase in the infection rate there. No: complying with the Government's request is a way to show love of neighbour. It is not an act of faith to keep meeting, claiming that God will heal us: that isn't so much faith, it's more like the testing of God that Jesus condemned in the wilderness temptations.

Not only that, the outbreak makes us look at the depth of our faith. I know Christianity has a lot of proper emphasis on gathering together and supporting each other (which for the time being we have to do in different and more restricted ways) but consider this story. During the Spanish Flu outbreak of 2018, the authorities in Seattle banned public gatherings ranging from dances to church services. When some ministers protested, Mayor Ole Hanson responded, "Religion which won't keep for two weeks isn't worth having."

So is our religion worth having? Yes, we shall for a season miss the important corporate dimension of it in Sunday worship and midweek fellowship, and we wouldn't want to be without those elements forever. At time of writing I'm looking into the practicalities of making videos available for those of you who are online, and Methodism nationally is providing weekly service outlines for worship at home. But we ought to be able to sustain our faith in the meantime with our own personal spiritual routines – the daily prayer and Bible reading, our desire to model our lives on Jesus, and so on. Someone once said that it's easy to look like we have a deep faith in the good times, but the bad times show how deep our faith truly is.

Naturally, our instinctive reactions partly include fear. We don't know what will happen. Will we or our loved ones catch the virus, and if so, how badly? What about our finances – and those of the church, for that matter? What will happen to our nation and others, if we end up in another global recession?

These are some of the typical fears at present in our world, and they affect us, too. But we have an opportunity as Christians here to display the hope we have in Christ. His death and resurrection are the reason we know that 'nothing can separate us from the love of God'. There will surely be occasions when we can commend our hope and faith in him to troubled friends – even if we have to do that by phone or email, rather than ordinary conversation.

As Christians let us take this crisis seriously but let us do so in the hope of Christ, not in despair. And may we reflect the generous love of God in our love of neighbour.

Come to think of it, those are the two qualities I urged when I took what now transpires to be the last service at Knaphill for the time being, on 15th March – hope and generosity. Let us practise them well.

Finally, some practical thoughts about staying in touch. We will endeavour to cascade information to you at the very least by passing on messages for the pastoral visitors to relay to everyone on their lists. However, if you have an email address that isn't included in the church directory, would you mind giving it to Yvette Wright (admin@knaphillmethodist.co.uk)? We intend broadcasting some messages to as many people as we can by email. If you are on Facebook, please make sure to 'like' the church Facebook page at www.facebook.com/knaphillmethodistchurch -that channel will also be used., as well as our web site www.knaphill-methodist-church.com

Dave Faulkner

The Lamb of God

Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
He came the sinless Son of God
To cleanse our hearts within.

He hung upon the blood-stained cross
Thinking of you and me,
Dying like some hardened criminal,
His body in agony.

His blood flowed down from the cross;
His body tormented with pain
He cried out to His heavenly Father,
But it seemed no answer came.

People stood and jeered at Him,
Mocking to the end
Who Jesus was and why He came,
They couldn't comprehend.

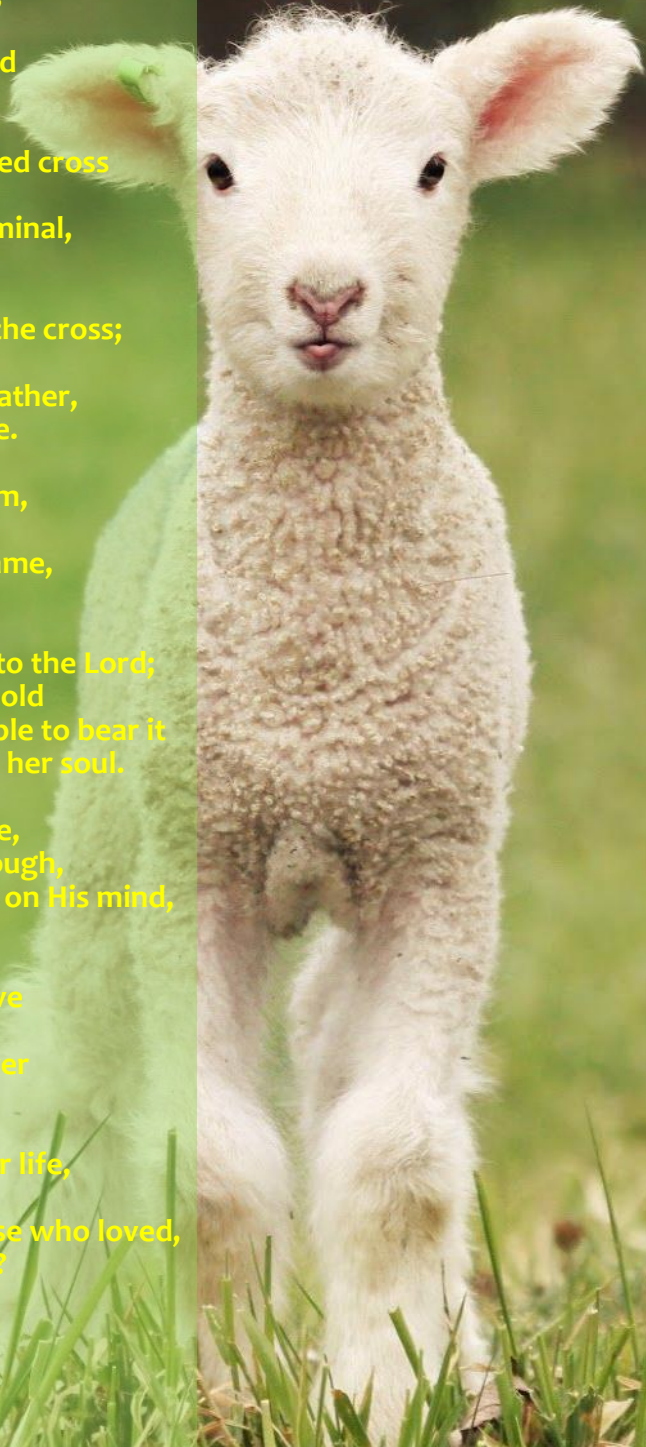
Their hearts were indifferent to the Lord;
Their consciences grew ever cold
His mother watched on – unable to bear it
As the sword pierced through her soul.

As you try to grasp this picture,
The pain that Christ went through,
Remember that day you were on His mind,
He endured it all for you.

Just so you could know His love
And forgiveness for your sins,
To know his resurrection power
And to have His life within.

He cares that much about your life,
He endured the cross for you
Like those who jeered, or those who loved,
With Jesus – what will you do?

© by MS Lowndes



Local Preacher Profile:

Jane Briggs

I was born in Guildford and have now come full circle back to the Guildford area.

I have moved around 34 times, so far, with about 2 more moves left in me!

I have been in the areas of Eastbourne, where I grew up for 12 years, Wiltshire, Plymouth in Devon, Herefordshire, Lancashire and now back here. Gordon and I married in 1978 and 2018. Either my husband's job or mine, meant a move.

I worked for the Inland Revenue for 23 years, and they supported us wonderfully whilst we produced three children, Tom, Alexander and Victoria. Note they spell VAT backwards!

Coming back to Dorking in 2000, to an independent accountancy firm, after nine months I decided to work for myself and started Oakwood Business Consultants on 1 October 2000. Incorporated in 2004, we now have 9 employees and are as busy as ever! Our daughter Victoria works in the firm, following both her brothers who moved on, and she will take over eventually when I decide I've had enough.

Tom, aged 35 died in February 2016 of cancer, leaving an ex-wife, a widow and three children. Victoria has a partner and two children and Alex is with his girlfriend and her two boys.

I became a local preacher in 2011 in the old Guildford Circuit and I enjoy preaching about once a month, anywhere in the circuit.

I am active in the locality for Christian Aid, Fairtrade, three local churches, pastoral secretary at Cranleigh Methodist church as well as editor of our quarterly publication and the Circuit MHA representative. I am a Rotarian and a Lontamer.

We recently lost our dog Chester but intend to get another one soon. I am secretary to the local In Bloom group and am Deputy Chairman of Elmbridge Retirement Village!

I think that is more than enough of me, I'm sure to have lots to talk about with anyone of you who read this!

(Jane is planned to be leading our service on 31st May, 2020)



God & Prayer



We have learned to live with “voice mail” as a necessary part of modern life. But have you ever wondered what would happen if God decided to install voice mail? Imagine praying and hearing this.....



“Thank you for calling My Father’s House. Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for Requests

Press 2 for Thanksgiving

Press 3 for Complaints

Press 4 for all other enquiries”

What if God used the familiar excuse...

“I’m sorry, all our angels are busy helping other saints right now; however, your prayer is important to us, and will be answered in the order it was received, so please, stay on the line.”

This might be followed by any one or more of these....

“If you would like to speak to Gabriel, press 1, for Michael press 2. For a directory of other angels, press 3”.

“If you’d like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, press 4.”

“To find out if a loved one has been assigned to Heaven, press 5, enter his or her social security number then press the hash key.”

“For reservations at My Father’s House, please enter J-O-H-N-3-1-6.”

“For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth and where Noah’s Ark is, please wait until you arrive here.”

“Our computers show that you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow so that others may have a chance to get through.”

“This office is closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again from Monday after 9.30am. If you need emergency assistance when this office is closed, contact your local minister.”

Thank God (today) that He doesn’t have voice mail, and that He listens whenever we pray and that will never change!!

From: A Bucket of Surprises, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books.

People in Profile:

Ian Kelly



I'm really Irish – I was born in Dublin, the second of two boys. When I was aged two, my brother Derrick, aged three, caught meningitis and alas died. My parents wanted to escape the place in which this tragedy had taken place, so we moved to London, where I lived and was brought up and educated, and made my first set of friends.

I was interested in music and science and reading – lots of reading – at a young age. My parents sent me to piano and violin teachers and made sure I had access to books (we were fortunate to live immediately opposite a library). More importantly, they sent me to Sunday School, and then Church. The particular church I attended was Kensington Chapel Congregational Church (it's now a United Reformed church, after the Congregationalists and Presbyterians merged in 1972). The minister who was there for a long time was Rev. Caryl Micklem, who brought the message of the Gospel to life, and fire and focus into our church in Allen Street (and new hymns too, many of which I played on the organ there). To start with I was in the Sunday School, and then in the youth group,

and then in the “late teens and twenties” group (The Eden Fellowship). In each of these there was worship and teaching and encouragement – a truly blessed place.

I went to Sloane School – the best boy's grammar school in Chelsea – actually, it was the *only* boy's grammar school in Chelsea, so “best” was inevitable. There were wonderful teachers there, who deserve much thanks from me for what they taught and what they demonstrated in their





actions, and what they persuaded their pupils to aim at. And it was not just general science, but mathematics, in particular that grabbed my interest. I was fortunate to receive a scholarship, and I was able to go to University College to study just that subject for three years – and no it is not boring!

In my holiday jobs I worked with the CEBG (the electricity board), learning about the generation of electricity, how it is carried around by power lines, what chemists do in power stations, how planning for future power stations is done, how

they decide the cheapest way to generate electricity each day – and computers. I completely fell in love with computers and took that as a specialist subject at college (where we used the Atlas computer – so powerful that it was against the law to export it. The computers in your mobile phones now are much more than two million times faster than the Atlas: how times change!). When I left college, I went to work with the CEBG, using the (then) largest and fastest computer in Europe – even faster than Atlas. The start of my career exposed me to more computing power than I had ever imagined.

One of my school friends did competitive ballroom dancing: it was at his twenty-first birthday party that I met his dancing partner – and the rest is history....Gay and I have been married for over fifty years. We have lived in Walton-on-Thames, Weybridge, and now for over 35 years in Chobham, overlooking the green, next door to a pub.

In 1969, the year Gay and I married, one thousand pounds a year was a very respectable salary – but at the CEBG I made a mere £985 a year. One of my college friends had started working for a small computer service bureau (no – don't ask for a description – that is boring!), and he “poached” me to work with them. My salary went up to a whole £1,000 and I was delighted. Unfortunately, just a year later that company, one Friday, went bust – Gay was dismayed about that, until I told her that on the Monday I would be starting a job at £2,000 per year: my salary had doubled overnight. I (foolishly) thought that this sort of increase would continue for ever – well, it didn't....the next three companies I worked for also went bust (was that something to do with me, I wonder? I hope not!).

Amongst my jobs and contracts I designed and managed the creation of an operating system (there's not many of us who can say that!), and wrote programs to help telephone interviewers. Yes, friends, the follow-on of

some of my past work is used even now by the people making those wretched unsolicited phone calls. Sorry. I wrote two books on the subject of computers translating between human languages and was for some years the chairman of the specialist group in the British Computer Society on that topic.

In 1983 I stopped working for small, fragile, companies, and started working with **gsi**, which was a French computer service bureau, but a big one. They had nine mainframe computers in five countries when I joined them, and they grew and grew – more computers, more countries. It was a technical job that I loved, and which forced me to learn French properly – especially as my final two years with them were in Paris.

When I left **gsi** I started my own consultancy company, which had its ups and its downs. Its biggest “up” was a three-month contract that I signed – which lasted eight years! This was the design, creation and support of the Met Office database. A challenging and supremely interesting project that I loved, and which made me commute to Exeter for four days each week. That database was (at the time) the largest relational database in the world – so I started my career on the most powerful computers in Europe, and ended it on the largest database – very neat, and undeserved, brackets to my professional life.

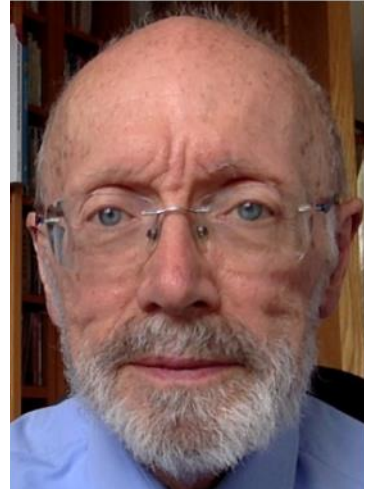
Now that I am retired, I am getting back to writing music, and studying the piano with more attention, giving it more time. And I am doing some research into mathematical physics, scribbling strange symbols in notebooks: I’m looking at the mathematics of the first few minutes of the universe, after the Big Bang. I’m only looking at the science and not (in this case) Genesis – but the more of the science I look at the more exact “Let there be Light” appears to be.

But so far, I have not told you about the more important things in my life.

Gay and I have been blessed with two children, Benjamin and Miranda, who were, and still are, our delight. We also, now, have two grandsons, Sonny and Fionn – more wonderful gifts to our family.

And in those important things in my life, some negative things: in late Spring 1990 I got a headache, which was very unusual for me. The headache kept getting worse and worse, and our doctor dismissed it, saying it would go away. It didn’t go away. I collapsed at home, and was taken urgently by ambulance to hospital, where Gay and the rest of the family were told that my survival was doubtful: I had a huge abscess in

my brain. I shall spare you the details of my time in hospital (several months, including some weeks in intensive care, and some more transfers between hospitals under blue flashing lights), and my gradual – and initially unexpected – recovery. For those of you that wonder why I stagger when I walk, and sometimes am not allowed to drive, that illness is the root cause. I have to give my deepest and most sincere thanks to all the doctors, surgeons and nurses who saved my life when it was right on the edge: without their skill and dedication (financially supported by the NHS) I would not be here. And above all I have to thank Almighty God who saw fit to keep me here on Earth – to learn what and do what I do not yet know.



And I have not mentioned the church for a while: that is because I gradually let it drift away, and stopped going – oh, I'll go next week, or perhaps the week after that – and it turned out that the only times I was in church were when I was playing the organ for weddings and funerals.

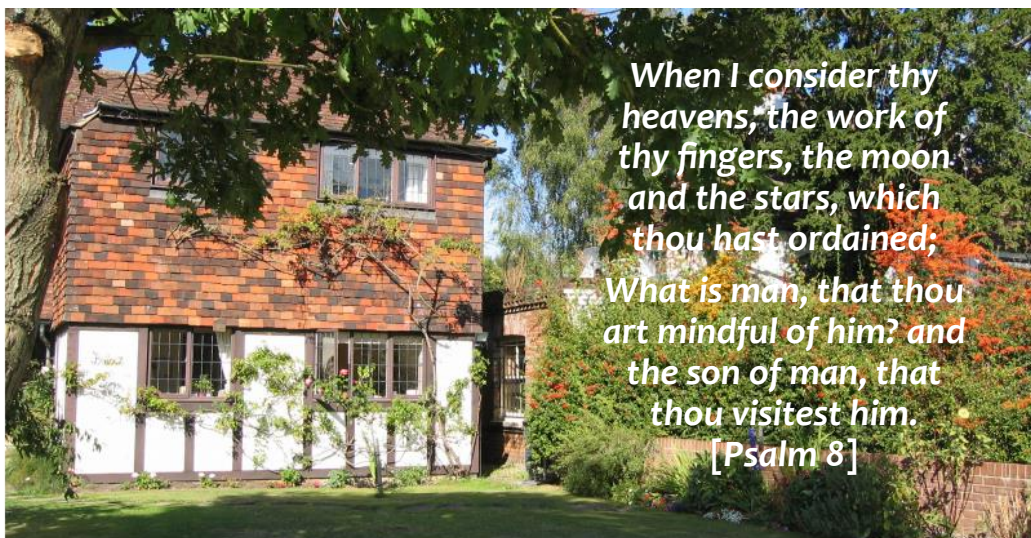
In 1999, just before the start of my contract with The Met Office, I played the organ here at Knaphill for a couple of services, and as a consequence of that began firstly to conduct the Bisley Ladies Choir, and secondly (and more importantly) to come to church every week. One of the (many) reasons I now come regularly, is that I have given myself a job – that of providing musical support for the services – which forces me to come every week. I know the limits of my self-discipline are very low, and without a non-negotiable reason to come, whatever my mood, I might again put it off.

One of the blessings of being on the organ stool is participating in the Worship Group. Other congregations have choirs, but here at KMC we have a group that not only sings, but also considers aspects of our worship, outside of the music, of our congregation – if you want to know more about this group, just speak to me (or any other member) about it: who knows, it may be something you personally will be drawn to. And as organist I occasionally get to play – and enjoy hugely – my favourite hymn: *“Praise, my soul, the King of heaven”* – which some of you may remember as being my choice at the service marking my acceptance into membership here. It is a hymn with splendid music, that speaks of some of the reasons we should praise God, of our our own mortal weakness, and of God's full

knowledge through participation of that frailty, His care for us, and the raising of glorious eternal praise to Him.

And with the serious things, I also take part in KMC's social activities: I have been writing and publishing books since the 1980s, and some of you will remember our two pantomimes about 15 years ago (*Aladdin* and *Cinderella*) where you had the pleasure (is that the right word??) of seeing me dress up as the pantomime dame – but I had no-one else to blame, as I had written those scripts! (“*Oh no you didn't!*” “*Oh yes I did!*”) By the way, if anyone has any ideas for some future pantomime, do let me know...

There have been two rather different services here, with me at the organ. One was about six years ago just after Christmas, when during the service my organ playing became a bit... erratic? That was another stay in hospital for me. And the other service was when I had warned people beforehand that I would not be there to play the last hymn: Miranda was to be baptised at the church she attended, and Gay and I would not have missed that service for anything. It was one of the most moving services I have ever attended. Those of you who were at Loghman's baptism on Easter Day will know how a service can grab your attention and your will to praise, glorify and pray and yet be over all too quickly, irrespective of what the clock says. One hour a week is less than one percent of your time, and I reckon that the Good Lord deserves more than one percent!



...and I shall continually try to remember His care and love for us.

Ian Kelly, March 2020.

Christmas Tea Afternoon Review

Another successful Christmas Afternoon Tea was held on 8th December last year. Over 50 people enjoyed a variety of sandwiches and cakes, sang Carols and took part in a quiz. Many were very complimentary about the event. Here are some of the comments made during the Afternoon and afterwards which confirm how much all those who attended enjoyed the event:

“Don’t the tables look lovely”.

“What super pictures being projected on the screen.”

“How hard everyone works to make us welcome”.

“What a good idea to have a quiz”.

“We love the Carols and appreciate the large print booklet”.

“The food was great”.

“Who made the delicious cheese scones?”

“The Christmas cake was great. Where did it come from?”

“We did enjoy your Christmas Party at Knaphill Methodist Church. It was like the old days when we met each other to sing Carols”.

“Please say thank you for us”.

“We hope there will be another one!”

Eileen Lane



The Atheist & the Bear

An atheist was walking through the woods.

“What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals!” he said to himself.

As he was walking along beside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him.

He turned to look and saw a 7ft grizzly bear charge towards him. The man ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him. He tripped and fell to the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up, but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

At that instant the atheist cried out, “Oh my God!”

Time stopped... the bear froze... the forest was silent.

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky.

“You deny my existence for all these years, teach others I don’t exist and even credit creation to cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?”

The atheist looked directly into the light.

“It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps you could make the BEAR a Christian?”

“Very well”, said the voice.

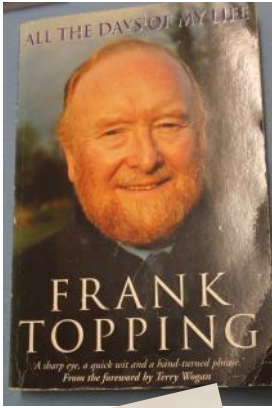
The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed, and the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke:

“For what I am about to receive, may the Lord make me truly thankful. Amen”.



FRANK TOPPING

The Sunday morning service on 1 March was led by Rosemary Lee in her usual interesting and inspiring way and was a great pleasure for me. Also for a friend I know who needs to hear those words and will be able to listen to them on the KMC website. During the service, Rosemary mentioned Frank Topping, and quoted an article from his book.



Way back in 1995 Frank came to KMC and gave us an entertaining evening, with his wife doing the hard work of setting up lighting etc. They were very friendly and those of us who were there have never forgotten the occasion. At the time I bought one of each of his books, which he autographed for us. He was surprised and said nobody had ever done that before, but I said “I have missed things before when I have said I’ll buy it later, and then the item was not

available, so I won’t be caught out again”.

These books have remained beside my bed, for quick reference and inspiration.



Now that was a very long time ago!!! So I thought I would draw this to your attention, as I think you would all enjoy his work. I have sent off for a copy of Frank’s main titles, which will be available for anyone to borrow from me. The smaller books

that he wrote are here already.

Finally, just to let you know Frank was a Methodist Minister, actor and performer.

He played the Vicar in Coronation Street and “married” Ken & Deidrie Barlow.

He worked for years on Terry Wogan’s radio show with “Pause for Thought” and performed songs with Donald Swann.

Sheila Mynard

TOO BUSY TO LOVE

In this morning light I seem to be hurrying into the day.
I see about me those who share my life,
Yet in the hustle for bathroom, breakfast and bus,
They only merit a glance or a brief word.
Eye on the clock toast in my hand
It takes too much time to say “I love you”.
Lord in the morning rush, help me.

Lord of the morning moments like these are rare,
Moments when I stop to ask myself, “What am I hurrying for?”
The days are so busy, working, earning, getting,
That I almost have no time for living.
No time to enjoy the company of my wife and children.
I waste precious moments,
Moments that could live with me for the rest of the day,
Moments when we touch or there’s a meeting of eyes.
Lord help me to be still with them at least one moment today.

Lord in this moment of stillness
Help me to remember that I am loved
Even though I don’t deserve it.
I am loved by family and friends
And, amazingly, I am loved by you.

Lord of the morning help me to stop rushing
I can’t love my family in a hurry.
Help me to take time off to love.

*(Taken from Frank Topping’s book “Pause for Thought” page 35
and originally in his book “Lord of the Morning”.)*

Further Success at another Coffee Morning!





Ann, Helen & Linda provided tea and hot snacks



Mark with his Bric-a-brac stall



Sue & Jo selling cakes

Tarina Berry masterminded the organisation of another fund raising coffee morning which raised £426. Between this and the one last October Tarnia has raised over £1000!

The pictures are from the *Woking News & Mail*.

CAMEO

Come And Meet Each Other



CAMEO meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Hall (as we had outgrown Room 3!) at KMC.

We have had a good term since Christmas, with all our speakers turning up with varied and interesting topics. Providing the Coronavirus outbreak lets us, we have another interesting term planned for the next few months. All are most welcome.

6TH MAY A talk on the work of the Surrey, Sussex and Kent Air Ambulance

20TH MAY Duncan Twigg (a local artist) will give a talk entitled 'Travels and Adventures as an artist'

3RD JUNE A talk on the work of Mission to Seafarers

17TH JUNE Hopefully a talk on someone's travels but this is to be confirmed. Watch this space.

1ST JULY Outing to Forest Lodge Garden Centre

15TH JULY Beetle Drive/social time

Look forward to seeing you at any of the above.

Please be aware that much of this programme will be affected by the Coronavirus close down we are experiencing at the time of publication. Please keep a check on the KMC web site for more information, or give me a ring. **Barbara Humphries**

News about Amie Humphries

Many of you will remember Amie and have read about her travels and adventures in previous magazines. Thought I might just give you a quick update. She passed her undergraduate degree in Wildlife Conservation with honours in May 2018 (graduation ceremony held at Canterbury Cathedral) then studied at UCL for her Masters degree in Conservation which she passed with a merit in Sept 2019. Next was a 6 week holiday, travelling around Australia on her own! Finally, she has just found a job as an Assistant Ecologist for a firm in Guildford, where she will be undertaking surveys of endangered British species such as bats and greater crested newts, so right up her street!

Barbara Humphries

Refugees

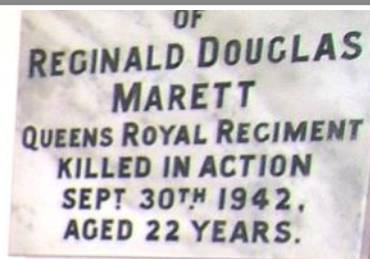
This poem was discovered in a church magazine in Hampshire. It has been very cleverly drafted so once you have read it, read it again but in reverse. Two messages in one poem and something to think about...

Read this way first

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cutthroats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should belong to those who are born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way....

Then read this way...

Lance Corporal Reginald Douglas Marett



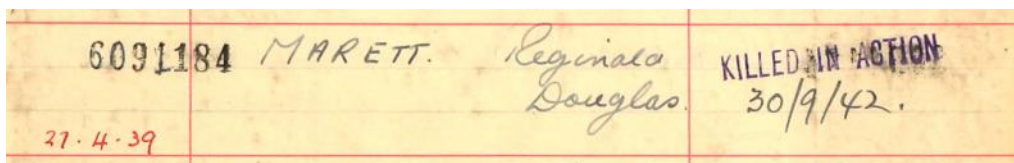
Did you know that located in the Tower area of KMC is a memorial to Lance Corporal Reginald Douglas Marett of the Queens Royal Regiment? You will not have seen it recently because it is now enclosed within the large built-in cupboard. Above, you will see a picture of part of the memorial to this young man who was killed in action aged 22 on 30 September 1942 in El Alamein in Egypt.

It was last year that the subject of this memorial came up in discussion because KMC was asked if there were any memorials within the church. Luckily Sheila Mynard remembered about this memorial and as a result of this discussion Sheila did some research and this is what she found out.

Reginald was born in Chertsey in 1920 and in June 1941 married Mara Clarke. They lived in Uckfield, Sussex. After Reginald's death in 1942 she remarried and had four children. She died in December 1984.

Sheila was also able to find the Army Roll of Honour and Regiment sheet in which Reginald name appears. Those eagle-eyed amongst you might also see that there is a difference in the month quoted of when he was killed. It is believed however that that the correct date is 30 September. Both of these documents are pictured below.

The question remains as to why this memorial is in our church. It would seem reasonable to assume that Reginald had family in the local area and had a connection with KMC. Who they were exactly however remains unknown... unless you know different!



MARETT Reginald Douglas of Field View Mill Drove Uckfield
Sussex died 30 August 1942 on war service Administration
(with Will) **Llandudno** 20 February to Mara Thompson Marett
widow. Effects £98 5s. 6d.

In Memory of Victor Henry Berry

by Tarina Berry

My Dad was born on the 11th November 1920 at “The Cottage” , Heatherside Corner, Camberley, Surrey.

He had 2 brothers John (Jack) and Tom, who were both in the Surrey Police Force and 4 sisters, Eva, Con, Ida and Millicent. Millicent passed away aged just over a year old.

In 1932, Dad’s parents took over a Tobacconists Confectioners / Café in West End (near to the Inn at West End – formerly called The Wheatsheaf).



Dad’s father passed away in November 1940 and his mum in February 1956. Dad took over the shop in 1956 until the lease ran out in 1970. It was left empty for many years and the site was cleared ready for new build offices built in the late 1980s.

Dad was in the Royal Airforce Police and was known as Cpl V. H. Berry. He was stationed in Uxbridge and Carlisle before going to South Africa for three and a half years.

Whilst in South Africa, he went to Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Durban and Kimberley (the Diamond Mines). He also visited a place

called “Uvongo”, which is a seaside resort south of Port Shepstone at the mouth of the Vungu River.

During his time in South Africa, Dad stayed with and befriended a lady called “Nana Powell” and each year following his return to the UK, he used to receive a crate of grapes from her.

Dad met my Mum because she used to call in at the Café when she was a bus conductress for the Aldershot & District Bus Company.

They were married on 1st September 1956 at St. John’s Church.

They lived in a house along the Bagshot Road in Knaphill (where Sunnyside Flats are now) and moved to “Uvongo” 132, High Street in October 1958 - a house built by a local builder A. J. Simmons.

When Dad finished at the shop, he worked for F.C. Brown in Bisley from 1970 until he retired in 1985.

Mum & Dad used to clean the Church and Dad did the carpet on his knees so as not leave any wheel marks on it!

Dad went to Church every Sunday and he used to open up the doors for weddings and funerals.



When Mum passed away in August 1976, he bought a brass plate for the offertory and had her name put on it, with a space left to add his name at a later date.

Dad passed away peacefully in St. Peter’s Hospital, Chertsey on Sunday 14th March 2004.

The funeral was held at KMC on 22nd March conducted by Rev. Nigel Wright.



Knaphill Methodist Church has long supported Action for Children. We used to do the house-to-house collection for many years, going right back to when the organization was known as National Children's Homes. Recent years, however, had seen our support fall to quite small amounts, so Sue Findlay, our Action for Children representative, asked if we could have a special service devoted to this cause.

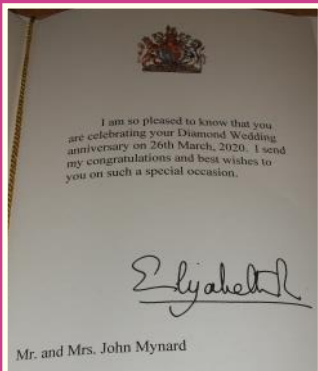
The ideal opportunity came with a Local Arrangement Service on 11th August 2019. Elizabeth Gurd kindly agreed to lead the service and various members of the Missions Committee contributed. It was a lovely service which informed us of the broad nature of the current work of Action for Children and raised £318.02 for the charity by a retiring collection.

This was just the beginning, however, because Elizabeth had the brilliant idea of making small collecting boxes and distributing them after the service with the challenge of filling them over the following 150 days to mark Action for Children's 150th Anniversary. We collected them in on 12th January 2020, at a second service, themed around homelessness, and Action for Children's work here specifically, and counted the contents. The magnificent sum of £566.37 was raised through the boxes! Altogether, with a small collection at Christmas, we have been able to send £955.79 to Action for Children since last August, so we are very pleased to have been able to support them substantially, especially in their 150th Anniversary year.

Lynda Shore, Treasurer

Many congratulations to Sheila & John Mynard who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 26th March 2020.

Although not many of us may have known about this wonderful event in advance, it seems the Queen did! So Sheila and John were delighted to receive a card from Her Majesty as pictured.



Here's hoping they had a wonderful day despite the current restrictions.



News from Ruth Pugh in Dragapur

Ruth is working in India for the Diocese of Durgapur, under the Church of North India (CNI) part of the Methodist Church. Her main role is to teach children music, specifically to play string instruments. She also trains them to be Cathedral musicians enabling them to play for all the services at the Cathedral. Ruth also coaches them to take The Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM) and Trinity College London (TCL) exams. The ultimate aim is so they can get jobs as teachers teaching Western Music or playing professionally in orchestras. Ruth also works as a music teacher at a school in Perulia and at another school to help with music in pre-primary classes.



Dear Friends and family,

I am well here (with diet and medicine sugar levels now under control) and various measures now taking place but am watching what is happening around the world at this time. It is very quiet as the hostel is shut, all schools and colleges are shut. Events are being cancelled just like the rest of the world. At the moment Durgapur is free of coronavirus but it is expected to spread throughout India, but it is much more prevalent in the West. The Board exams were continuing (equivalent to our GCSEs and A levels) but from today the remainder have been cancelled until further notice. Priyanka was our first English Medium student to be taking Class X Board exams so we wait to see what will happen. Otherwise all other students are not in school because the Board exams are taking place and it is the end of the Academic year. Normally we would return to school in the first week of April. If they delay any further then they won't return till the end of June after the summer vacation.

At the moment we are being told schools can re-open on 14th April. That means if we are able to do any services in the cathedral, we have no musicians except myself. As with the rest of the world we are taking it day by day.

We have had a good time since Christmas. We had our usual inter centre Cultural Dance show on 31st January. It was a wonderful colourful event with a great mix of styles of dancing and music.

On 1st February we had the Tribal Awards with the usual tribal music, dance and songs accompanying it. We had no international guests this year, but we did have our new Bishop, Rt Rev Sameer Isaac Khimla present.

In the evening I was invited with various staff members to a Dinner at Fortune Hotel in Durgapur along with the Moderator, Deputy Moderator, General Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and a couple of other members of CNI Synod. A very pleasant evening was spent and very good food, (I couldn't have the Mississippi mud pie though!!). The General Secretary was interested in how my musicians are doing. He was surprised I only had 20 now. He has seen them a few times over the years and also met the 12 we took to Delhi two years ago as he spent an afternoon with them at that time.

Sunday dawned a beautiful day for our Annual Thanksgiving service, with all the Church of North India (CNI) Synod officers, The Bishop of Calcutta and all the Office Bearers of the Diocese of Calcutta and Barrackpore. As usual my string quintet had an important part to play in the service with all the music. I arranged a three-part version (SAB) and string quintet for my children of Amazing Grace (my chains are gone) and they sang and played it beautifully. As I now work at St Peter's in Durgapur, I was also involved in arranging and conducting their song and St Michael's were the third school choir. The Moderator gave a wonderful message (some in English but a lot in Hindi) and after the service the procession went to open the Prayer Tower.



Ruth conducting the orchestra playing at Thanksgiving service

This is a place open for prayer every day and 24/7 prayer requests are also taken by two pastors. After the service I then went off to help with the Diocesan Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (DWFCS) lottery and raffle stalls. This is the biggest fundraiser for the DWFCS to run its projects every year. I won a prize on the lottery again - another iron, that's three irons I have won over the years (I don't like ironing!!!). The boys room has one, the girls room has one and I have two because I bought my own steam iron.

It was wonderful that many of the parents came for the weekend events and for the children to spend time with them. They are now spending more time with their families, hopefully keeping well and safe.

The middle of February was when the 16th Diocesan Council was held. This is the third one I have sat through as an invitee. It is interesting to see what the Diocese has done over three years and what lies ahead. We have new office bearers, Vice President Rev. S. Saren, Diocesan Secretary Rev. S.

Halder and Honorary Treasurer Mr A Mondal. With Father Sam having extra responsibilities and two offices (don't know where to look first these days) I have taken on the mid-week Lenten Prayer/bible study meetings in the cathedral. I still preach at least once a month in the cathedral and often do the prayers of intercession. At the moment I have two services to plan for Holy week, as well as preaching two of the seven words on Good Friday - but we wait to see if it will take place. This work is keeping me busy with preparation while the children are not here, and I am also tidying up the music and redoing some of the files as they are falling apart with so much use over the last 7 years.

At the end of February, we set off very early one Saturday morning with 11 musicians (all Bengali medium students except for Priyanka as English medium students had their final year exams) to Sarenga. It was the Golden Jubilee of KSN Nursing Training School. We played the music for the Thanksgiving service that launched the three-day event. They did a wonderful job and they were thrilled at how the music lifted the level of worship. They stayed for the rest of the morning events and had lunch before they returned. I was able to stay for three nights. It was wonderful as I stayed in a bungalow with six people from Dunstable Methodist Church. It was great to have time to relax and to share fellowship with them. We also got used as judges for some of the events happening.

At the beginning of March, six of my students took Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM) theory exams so we are waiting for their results. That is the last time I saw my students. It is the time when I am usually busy teaching them new things for their next practical exams. This year it is a completely new syllabus. The music for all the violins has been purchased plus some for the high-level cellist and one for my Grade 7 violist. For this I put in a plea, if anyone can help with donating towards the cost of this that would be great as I need more music for the viola and double bass which at this time is not available in India. I also have Priyanka working for her ABRSM and so need music for that too. Also, as it is a new syllabus I need to buy, from the exam board, all the new piano backing tracks for them to practice too. ABRSM are very good in supplying these and an app in which you can slow the music down when they first start to practice with it. They only get to practice with the pianist once, the day before the exam. To cover all of this I am needing about £300. If you are able to help could you please send cheques payable to Mrs R. Pugh, c/o Rev. N Oborski, 19 Blackoak Road, Cardiff CF23 6QT (he holds an account for me just for India).

With all that is happening with Coronavirus I am now not planning on coming back to the UK as usual in May.

Please continue to pray for my health, that it continues to stay strong,

for the children as they are at home, and for everyone everywhere with coronavirus which is disrupting our daily lives.

Yours in Christ, God bless you. **Ruth Pugh**



The Moderator, deputy moderator, two bishops and clergy waiting to process in for start of the Thanksgiving service

A collage for Coffee Mornings. It features the KMC logo (Knaphill Methodist Church) with the text 'OUR CALLING IS TO SERVE'. A large brown sign says 'COFFEE MORNING'. Below it is a white coffee cup with a saucer and a 'BACON BUTTIES!' label. A red sign lists items: '✓ PLANTS', '✓ CAKES', '✓ BOOKS', '✓ DVD/CDs', '✓ CARDS', and '✓ BRIC-A-BRAC'. To the right is a cartoon illustration of a server behind a counter with a menu listing 'TEA', 'COFFEE', and 'CAKE'.

Coffee Mornings are suspended at the moment

See KMC web site for news of future Coffee Mornings

www.knaphill-methodist-church.com



The Cross in my Pocket

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be

This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm

It's not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my saviour and me

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful
For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
In all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care.

So, I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
If only I'll let Him be.

The Wey Valley Methodist Circuit

V3RS3: & VOIC3 IV

"Sing to him a *new* song; play skilfully,
and shout for joy." Psalms 33:3

"Come to the table"

Come and worship God through
Scriptures & Songs
in an alternative style of service.
Learn and sing newer songs on the
theme of



Holy



Communion

from Singing the Faith and other
sources.

Knaphill Methodist Church

6:30pm

(Refreshments from 5:30pm)

Sunday 31st May 2020

(subject to Coronavirus restrictions -
look for news on the KMC web site)



Meetings currently suspended
Contact Rebecca Ward – 07843 283830

Ofsted
Registered

DreamCatcher

Preschool

Imagine, Create, Participate

Knaphill Methodist Church
The Broadway
Knaphill
GU21 2DR

Spaces Available
Ages 1-5

Dreamcatchers is currently closed.
For more information contact 01276 504892
www.dcpreschool.co.uk
enquiries@dreamcatcherspreschool.com

Help out when you check out

Collect **FREE** donations for
Knaphill Methodist Church
every time you shop online



**It really is easy as
1, 2, 3...**

1. Head to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/knaphillmethodistchurch/ and join for free
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for **no extra cost whatsoever!**

There are **no catches or hidden charges** and KMC will be really grateful for your donations.

KNAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH



Knaphill Methodist Church, Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey.

GU21 2DR Minister: Rev Dave Faulkner 01483 472524

minister@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

www.knaphill-methodist-church.com

Church Mobile 07756 711236

SUNDAY SERVICES

This is a Q code - scan it with your Smartphone to go straight to our website



10am - Morning Worship *(includes facilities for children)*

Our services are warm and cordial. We include traditional and contemporary hymns and songs, led by our Worship Group.

The sermons are Bible based and are sometimes themed over several weeks. Holy Communion is generally on the 2nd Sunday of every month. After the service everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments; a time for a chat and to get to know each other.

We have a special Family Area at the back of the church with lots of things for children to do.

6.30pm - Monthly Evening Holy Communion

This is usually the 4th Sunday of the month, and is a small intimate service of Communion with about 15 or so people, some from other churches in the village. You are welcome to join us.

If you would like to worship on a Sunday evening when we do not have a service, our local Anglican church, Holy Trinity, Chobham Road, has a service at 6.30pm on the 1st Sunday of the month.

For further information see the notice boards outside the church or contact: admin@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

ALL SERVICES ARE CURRENTLY SUSPENDED (SEE BACK PAGE)

Services @ KMC

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic we have suspended all church services, as well as coffee mornings, Clothes4U and other meetings.

Alternative methods of worship will be available on our web site.

We'll be back to normal as soon as we are able to!

Contacts:

Minister - Rev Dave Faulkner

minister@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

Administrator:

admin@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

07556 711236

Clothes4U:

clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

"Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

John 14:27 (NRSV)

WWW.KNAPHILL-METHODIST-CHURCH.COM