



Notices for Sunday 24th September 2023

We welcome you to our Service this Sunday. If you are a visitor, we hope to see you again.
Tea, coffee and squash will be served in the hall after the service.

Lord, we are your people. You have gathered us together to share in your purpose and advance your kingdom of love, justice and peace. In our worship and devotion open our minds to know your will. In the name of Jesus, accept our praise. Amen.

This Sunday 24th September at 10am

Preacher: **Rev. Bryan Tolhurst**

HOLY COMMUNION

Steward: **Wendy O'Leary**
Welcome Steward: **Ian Bartley**
Bible Reader: **Audrey Harris**
Intercessions: Provided by **Jacky Trice**
Organist: **Rob Wilding**

Next Sunday 1st October at 9am

BREAKFAST CHURCH

Leader: **Monica Wilding**

Steward: **Alan Wood**

6.30pm

Own Arrangement

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Led by: **Valerie Thornevell** assisted by
Sylvia Ratcliff

Steward: **Valerie Thornevell**

Please Note: Unfortunately there will not be any Sunday Club this week as there are no leaders available. If there is anyone willing to volunteer to help on any second or fourth Sundays please get in touch with Helen Newell via email.

The on-line circuit service on Sunday will be led by **Rev. Robin Selmes** at 10.30am. The link and service sheets can be found at: <https://www.nkmethodists.org.uk/news/invitation-to-worship-from-home.html>

Those without the Internet can now dial in from a landline or mobile and listen to the service, using these simple steps:

Step 1: Between 10.15 and 10.30, dial 020 3481 5237 from a mobile or landline - this number is charged at the standard national rate.

Step 2: When requested, enter the meeting ID (742 958 8134) followed by #

You do not need a 'participant ID' - just press #. Between 10.15 and 10.30 there will be an opportunity for those dialling in to chat; the lines will be muted at 10.30 so everyone can listen to the service. If you have a laptop, iPad or phone, you can also get into the service on these devices with just one click using the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/99987643710?pwd=bmhvSlh2Nk45QUZXS2JubXgxbElydz09>

Larkfield and East Malling Methodist Church

Breakfast Church Harvest Festival



Sunday 1st October at 9am

Enjoy Continental breakfast, fruit and bacon butties.
Then we celebrate Harvest with songs, stories and crafts for adults and children.

If you can, please help us support Maidstone Homeless Care by bringing packets or tins of food, tea, coffee etc.

All Welcome!



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Harvest Service

On **Sunday evening 1st October** there will be an Own Arrangement **Harvest Service starting at 6.30pm**, led by Valerie Thornewell and assisted by Sylvia Ratcliff. Please bring along your donations of non-perishable food in tins or packets, which will go to Maidstone Homeless Care. As Harvest is a time of Thanksgiving, we would also like you to bring along something to show everyone (and take home again afterwards) that you are thankful to God for. It could be a photo of your family; a picture; something you have made with your God-given creative gift, etc.

HARVEST QUIZ



Saturday 7th October

At 6.00pm with Supper at 7.00pm

Suggested donation £8

Teams of 6 to be organised on the night.

If anyone can make an apple dessert, please let Gwen know.

A message from Naomi:

Many of you very generously sponsored me to take part in the 'Swim Serpentine' challenge on Saturday 16 September. I'm delighted to report that I swam a mile, and even more delighted to report that (as of 9pm on 16 September) you lovely sponsors have raised £850 to help Housing Justice combat homelessness in all its forms. Thank you!

The observant among you might spot that my 'before and after' photos weren't taken in Hyde Park. In the week preceding the challenge, the Serpentine was closed for public swimming and the organisers of the Swim Serpentine challenge were considering calling off the event because of dangerously high levels of blue-green algae. Although, at the last minute, they decided to go ahead, I chose to defer my place because the toxins from the algae can be rather nasty and can be passed on through breastmilk. It just wasn't worth the risk to Abigail.

So, instead, I headed down to St Andrews Lakes so I could keep my promise to swim a mile outdoors on 16 September. The water was a balmy 21.5 degrees - 14.5 degrees warmer than when I started training back in March!

Hopefully, this time next year I'll be donning my wetsuit to join the crowds in Hyde Park. In the meantime, thank you again for your generosity. If you haven't yet got round to sponsoring me, and would like to do so, here's the link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/naomi-oates>

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Coffee Morning - Muffins and More will be holding a Coffee Morning on Tuesday 3rd October from 10.30—12.00 in the Church Welcome area for the **RNLI**, the charity chosen by Monica and family in memory of Joy.

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A Note from Sylvia: Please see this lovely note from **Making Miracles** and an attachment of the items that our craft group sent to them.

"I'm Sally, Chairman of Making Miracles and understand you dropped off some knitted donations to our shop Handmade with Love recently.

I just wanted to send you a note to say thank you so much and I know you're part of Sycamore Tree Craft Group so please pass on my thanks to them too.

We give talks to local groups and as you're in Larkfield I didn't know if you would like us to come and talk to your members? If you would do feel free to come back to me.

I've also copied in Julie, who also is a volunteer at the shop as well as a Trustee. Julie will always come and pick up items from your group if you needed her to."



Sal-

Community Hub

The Community Hub is now open Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am to 4pm. Do call in for a cuppa, cake or light snack. Please see Monica if you would like to volunteer regularly or occasionally. Do encourage friends and neighbours to come along, especially anybody who is on their own.

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Dates for your diaries!

Autumn Church Council. This will be held on Thursday 2nd November 2023 at 7.30pm and will be chaired by Naomi.

Praise before Lunch Remembrance, led by Naomi on Thursday 9 November at 12.30pm

Pastoral Meeting on 28 November at 2pm in the church

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The Larkfield Community Group invite you to a **MacMillan coffee morning** on Friday 29th September at the Dorcas Centre from 10.00-12.00.

Holy Trinity's Fundraising QUIZ NIGHT! Saturday 14th October at Larkfield Scout Hut
Arrive from 7pm for a 7.30p.m start. £5 a person – Teams of 6 Bring your own nibbles and drinks.
Contact Anita on 01732 845660 to book.

There will be a **Family Quiz Evening** in the Wesley Hall at Gravesend Methodist Church, on Saturday 7th October starting at 6.45 p.m. £8.00 per person. The price includes a Ploughmans Platter. Please bring your own nibbles & soft drinks – (sorry, no alcohol), To register a team: Please register by emailing : roberthardy33@gmail.com

Allington Baptist Church invite you to an evening with Christian comedian **Andy Kind** on Saturday 14th October from 7—9.30pm with light refreshments provided. Tickets cost £10 per person or £15 per couple, or £7 for under 18s. For tickets, please contact Martyn Colley on 07835 390466.

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More volunteers, please!

We have been fortunate to have a small number of members who have been willing to provide some cleaning assistance during the period when our regular cleaner, Michelle, is on holiday. However, due to work and other commitments this help cannot always be available at the time it is needed. It would make a really big difference if we could increase the number of volunteers willing to provide up to an hour and a half of light cleaning during Michelle's absence.

It is important, not only for our own comfort, that our premises are clean and tidy, but also to assist in promoting them to outside hirers.

Will you please consider if you can help in any way and speak to Margaret if you would like more information.

Thank you.

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Cashless donations

Many thanks to Martin, who has arranged a system for those who join us at church and wish to make a donation, but don't have cash with them. If you have a smartphone, you can now scan a QR code and donate quickly and easily online. You will find posters with the QR code around our church buildings.

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at LARKFIELD

Sunday

First Sunday in month **Breakfast Church** from 9am—10.30am

Second Sunday **Sunday Club** at 10am

Third Sunday **All Age Worship** at 10am

Fourth Sunday **Sunday Club** at 10am plus **Messy Church**

Café Church second Sunday of the month at 3pm.

Monday

Larkfield Community Hub, 10am to 4pm in the Sycamore Tree. Come and spend a short time or all day with us, with free refreshments, things to do and a warm welcome.

Expressions Dance September 25th Zoom Dance 2.30 – 3.30 pm

Girls' Brigade 5.00—6.30pm then 7.00—8.30pm Term time only, contact Val Burnage for details

Tuesday

Muffins & More 10.00am—2.00pm contact Gwen Bartley

Sycamore Tree Craft Group will recommence Tuesday 5th September – 2.00 – 3.30 pm (term time only)

All invited, all crafts, to this Knit and natter.

Wednesday

Larkfield Community Hub 10am to 4pm in the Sycamore Tree.

Little Larks Toddlers' Club is having a little rest for the time being. Hope to be back soon.

Boys' Brigade term time only, contact Tracy Lambert for details.

Thursday

Dial-in services on the phone or internet monthly at 10.00am.

Chuckles Fellowship Group: meet each Thursday from 2 to 3.30pm. Contact Christine for details.

All are welcome to join in the following events:

Tuesdays between 8.30 - 10pm: Zoom Bible study <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86393041488>

Wednesdays between 7.30 - 9pm: Zoom Prayer meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/121873130>

Thursdays between 6.30 - 8.00pm: Accountability group. In person at King's Reach School, St. Hilary's House, Reculver Walk, Maidstone ME15 8SW or join on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/260631405>

Sundays between 1.45 - 3.00pm: Time of Worship. In person at King's Reach School, or join on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/260631405>

Many Congratulations to Emily Lee who has been appointed Deputy Head Girl at her school.

Our Prayers for this week. We pray for:

- ◇ **Rev. Naomi, Luke, Rachel and Baby Abigail**
- ◇ **Rev. Bryan Tolhurst** leading our Holy Communion service this Sunday;
- ◇ **Rev. Robin Selmes** leading our on-line circuit service this Sunday;
- ◇ Richard's brother-in-law, Roland, unwell in hospital;
- ◇ We remember those who have died, and we think especially of **Joy Brown** and **Delphine Priest** and pray for their families who miss them;
- ◇ The folk of Morocco who have lost loved ones in the earthquake and the dreadful loss of life in Libya as a result of the floods;
- ◇ Those who are struggling with poverty or loneliness, or other difficult issues;
- ◇ For volunteers and guests at our Community Hub;
- ◇ The people of Ukraine who have lost loved ones in the war, those caught up in the conflict and those trying to find refuge in another country. We pray for peace and reconciliation;
- ◇ Folk whose lives are filled with pain and anxiety and despair;
- ◇ Folk in care homes, together with friends and all residents and staff in Lawson House;
- ◇ Our friends who are housebound and unable to leave their homes and we think especially of **Ian Bruce** as well as **Don and Jill Beevis**;
- ◇ Doctors, nurses, all who work for the NHS, carers in homes and those who visit patients at home.
- ◇ Folk living in Bellingham Way, Betjeman Close, Blacklands, Blacklands Drive, Blatchford Close and Bondfield Road;
- ◇ Our church for growth, in faith and numbers and we ask God's blessing on each and everyone of us, that we might fulfil our calling to be the people of God working for Him.

*We give you thanks, Lord God, for your teaching and your example which opens our eyes to your truth.
Amen.*

Helen will be preparing the on-line prayers next week. If you wish for a prayer to be included, please contact her at: hrwarren@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer Wheel - If you wish for a prayer in an emergency, you can email Monica on 07704 105447 or email monicawilding@outlook.com

Church Website - the website address is: larkfieldmethodist.org
Contact Martin White at quantum.martin@btinternet.com to include an item on the website.

Church Notices Please contact Christine on email cvmalins@gmail.com if you wish to have a notice included.

Hall and Sycamore Tree Hiring

Please contact Mike Winsor to book the Church Hall or Sycamore Tree. All planned church meetings or activities should be notified and booked through him to avoid the possibility of double booking. You can email Mike at winsor.michael@gmail.com or telephone him on 07971 738 685.