



# Messenger

*Solihull Methodist Church*

April 2026

## Easter Services

### Holy Week

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 pm**

**Holy Week Reflection Rev Chris Giles**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March Maundy 7.30 pm**

**Holy Week Reflection Rev Nigel Collinson**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7.30 pm**

**Holy Week Reflection Rev Peter Bates**

### Maundy Thursday

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 7.30 pm Tenebrae and Communion**

### Good Friday

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 11.00 am**

**Walk of Witness starting at St Augustine's church**



The **Walk of Witness** starts outside St Augustine's church (Station Road) with a hymn and a prayer. The wooden cross is then carried down the High St to Mell Square with everyone following in silence. A short service is held in Mell Square. After the service, the procession continues down Drury Lane to the High St for the final hymn and prayer. Hot drinks and hot cross buns will be served in the Oliver Bird Hall.

All are welcome to come along. You can join at the start or anywhere along the route. We hope the weather will be better than when this photo was taken 2 years ago!

### Easter Sunday

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

**10.30 am**

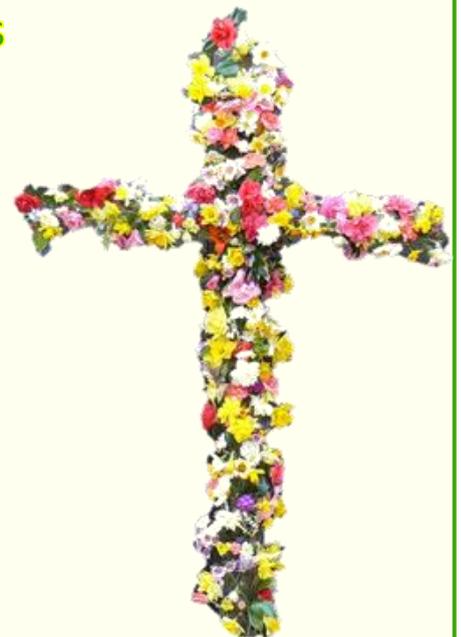
**Easter Celebration with Communion**

## The Easter Flower Cross

On Easter Sunday the bare wooden cross which had various items put on it during the Lent Liturgy is taken outside the church.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a flower to the Sunday morning service. The flower is then inserted into the wire on the cross as they enter the church. The decorated cross is taken into the church during the service.

After the service, the cross is put outside on the steps of the church so that passers by can see its beauty and the glorious message of Easter



# Church Family News

## Celebration



The Thakor family celebrated their joy at being granted permanent UK visas as well as Rubina gaining her UK registration as a nurse by bringing refreshments to have with coffee after the morning service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Rubina is a qualified nurse but it has been necessary for her to get her qualifications accepted by the UK authorities before she could get a job commensurate with her qualifications.

Congratulations.

*Vikas, Rubina, Aarohi and Neel Thakor are seen in this photo with Chris and Derek Giles when they first came to Solihull in 2024*

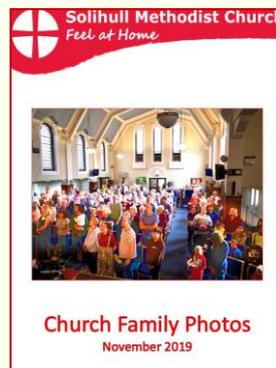
## Prayer Box



We pray for:

- Susan Shore who has injured her hand and for Danielle in hospital
- Rebecca Lo who has been in hospital for two weeks undergoing tests
- Kit Cosgrove as she adjusts to her new surroundings
- Joan Parman who is very poorly in hospital after a couple of falls
- Pam Beattie as she awaits further wrist surgery
- Stan and Ivy Field as they settle into their care home
- All our friends in care homes and those unable to worship with us, that they may experience the joy of Easter

## Church Family Photos



We are preparing a new Church family photo book for when our new minister, Rev Andy Moffoot, comes in September. It will be an excellent opportunity for us to learn everyone's name.

Over the coming weeks, photos will be taken after the morning service in the Community Hall. Photos can be of individuals, friends, couples or families. You will be asked to sign a form giving your permission for your photo to be taken and put in our new photo book.

## Lent Breakfasts

The Lent Breakfasts organised by Central Solihull Churches Together were hosted at Solihull Methodist Church and were well supported. The clergy from each church took turns in leading the discussion each Saturday morning.



The discussions on the Lord's Prayer were based on the Study book from the Pilgrim series. Each week a different line of the Lords Prayer was examined in great detail and how it affects our lives. It promoted very interesting discussions on each table.

Thank you to the catering committee and the helpers from the other churches for providing the breakfast each Saturday.

# Minister's Message



I love the BBC programme Countryfile. On a Sunday evening, around 6 o'clock or so, I watch it if I possibly can. And, maybe because I'm a farmer's grandson and spent the summers of my youth on the farm, I've a special soft spot for Adam Henson, who farms in the Cotswolds. In times past we've been to his farm park more than once. Whenever we have been there it has tended to be Spring, and so we have headed for the lambing shed.

From the comfort of my armchair this year I think I've also seen quite a lot of lambs being born – all on the TV of course. What's really striking is the constant, 24 hour care that Adam and the other farmers and shepherds featured are giving them. Are they being born safely? Will their mother bond with them? Will they get the colostrum and then the food they need? Will they remain healthy? And the whole point of this effort? So that they live. It's all about them having life.

"I have come that they may have life – and have it to the full." Those are the words from Jesus, found in John 10:10, that really stand out for me in this Easter Season.

Later on this month we'll hear the passage in which Jesus uses a couple of different pictures on the theme of sheep and those who care for them. He builds one picture on top of another to make the point. They are pictures of contrasts – the shepherd whom the sheep know over against the stranger; the shepherd who acts as a gateway and guide to sustenance for the flock over against the thief whose concern is simply for his own gain. They are parables about leadership, coming straight after an incident when a blind man whom Jesus had healed was thrown out of the synagogue and thus deprived of many of his lifelines. True leadership is concerned to make life better for everyone.

I wonder if you recognize the stained glass window? It's in our church in Solihull, and it's a gentle picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In many ways it picks up a promise which we find in the prophet Isaiah about the God who feeds his flock, carries the lambs in his arms and gently leads their mothers. Jesus can claim to be this good, honest, reliable shepherd because, beyond anything else, he has given himself totally for us. He has laid down his life for us. And in this Easter Season, as we sing of his resurrection life, he wants us to know that life for ourselves.

This is what our Church family is all about. We can think of ourselves as Easter people because the risen Lord Jesus offers us life. It was a costly offer for him, because it meant the journey to the cross. But it's a wholehearted gift, which we can discover, explore and live for ourselves. May you have a joyous Easter and be filled with the life and hope of Christ.

Rev Donald Ker



christian aid coffee morning

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May: 10.00am - 2.00pm

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH HALL

PLANTS TOYS PLOUGHMANS' LUNCHES COFFEES & TEAS

BOOKS JAMS & PRESERVES CAKES

BOOK STALL CAR WASH

WOW! This Christian Aid Coffee Morning is fab!

# Church Project News

## Quiz Night

The latest quiz night on Saturday 28th February, from Ian and Rosemary Stimson, was attended by a record number of 88 participants split over 13 teams. The quiz comprised 10 rounds as well as a table round with a range of questions from the fun to the serious. This year the music round had a "river" theme.

Part way through we broke off for a jacket potato supper. The potatoes were colossal! Jacki Lancaster had been working hard all afternoon cooking all the potatoes as well as preparing fillings such as chilli, tuna mayonnaise, cheese and beans.

We also had a marvellous selection of cakes and cookies for desert with a welcome hot drink. Thanks go to Karen Robertson for her assistance helping Jacki in the kitchen, serving food and making drinks.

It was a very close finish with only 2.5 points between 1st and 2nd place but in the end the winning team that took away the main prize were "We're only here for the cake" (made up of the Kers, Colemans, David Grey and the Beadles). Prizes also went to the runners up and the winners of the table round.

## SMASH concert

This year SMASH staged a one-night concert to raise money for the church project. This small space does not give enough room for the credit richly deserved for such an enjoyable evening. There was a wide variety of items including singing and instrumental solos and in groups, monologues, dance, the SMASH choir and the Cantonese choir. It would be unfair to single out any one performance, they were so good, with amazing talent on display. There was hardly a dry eye in the church when the Cantonese choir sang about their welcome to Solihull – it was extremely moving.

It was a memorable evening's entertainment and raised over £1,000 for the church project. Thank you to SMASH for organising it.



An enjoyable night was had by all and we made £730 profit for the church project from the ticket sales and cake donation money.

Thank you to all who supported us.

Rosemary Stimson

## More fund raising events

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**To a Night of Escape Rooms**

Can you solve the clues before time runs out?  
Enter a world of mystery, teamwork, and excitement.

**SATURDAY 18 APRIL**  
**6PM**  
**SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

Join us for a night filled with puzzles, laughter, suspense - and supper!

**TICKETS £10 PER PERSON**



## Piano Recital

by KK Hung  
Saturday 20th June  
3.00 pm  
In the church

# Church Annual General Meeting

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 1.30 pm**

The Church Annual General Meeting is an important meeting in the life of the church. It reviews the work of the church throughout the previous year and it receives reports from the organisations associated with the church, the annual accounts and elects the representatives to the church council and the church stewards.

It will be preceded with a  
**Church Family Lunch**  
**12.30 pm**

Everyone is invited to the lunch and the meeting



## Steward and Church Council Nominations

Nominations are needed for the church's Annual General Meeting. Do you want to find out how the church works? Do you want to be involved in decision making for the church? Then this could be a role for you.

**Church Council member** needs to be

- ✓ A church member
- ✓ Free for just 3 meetings a year in the evening
- ✓ Prepared to be a trustee of the church
- ✓ Able to consider the views of church members when making decisions at meetings

**Church Steward** needs to be

- ✓ A church member
- ✓ Willing to attend monthly meetings and liaise with other committees
- ✓ Support worship on Sunday morning (on a rota basis)
- ✓ Prepared to be a trustee of the church
- ✓ Willing to think strategically about church life.

Each role is for 3 years.

Nomination forms are available from

[cc.secretary@solihull-methodist.org.uk](mailto:cc.secretary@solihull-methodist.org.uk) and must be completed by **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April**. For more information speak to one of the stewards or Helen Banks, the church council secretary.

2025 Impact  
Certificate

**ALL  
WE  
CAN**

Methodist  
relief and  
development

## Solihull Methodist Church

has gifted

**£1000**

between January-December 2025. Together, Methodist Churches and other organisations in the UK have raised, £405,915

**\*Thank you** for your commitment to challenge what harms and nurture what heals, and for striving for a world where every community has the power, dignity and resources to lead their own future – creating just societies!

# Belonging Together Ministers' Group, a response to the conflict in the Middle East.

The Belonging Together Ministers' Group (BTMG) of the Methodist Church in Britain releases this statement with heavy hearts as violence in the Middle East escalates to distressing and painful new levels. Reports of large-scale attacks, assassinations of political and religious leaders and devastating retaliatory strikes weigh deeply upon us. In this hour of global trembling, the BTMG raises its voice with grief, clarity and unwavering conviction. The escalating violence in the Middle East – including the devastating strikes, assassinations and retaliations reported in recent days – represents a tragic unravelling of our shared humanity, a terrible indictment of our civilisation. We cannot remain silent while God's children are crushed beneath the machinery of war driven by political decisions and military ambition.

As an ethnically diverse fellowship whose members bear the histories, memories and wounds of many nations, we feel the shock waves of this conflict in our bones; its poison curdles our blood. Our global connectedness gives us painful nerve endings that cannot ignore the cries of widows, the terror of children, the devastation of families and communities, and the desecration of human dignity across the lands of the Middle East. History continues to show that armed conflict does not yield lasting peace, justice or security.

We **proclaim with prophetic urgency that war is a lie**. It promises security but brings only fear and anxiety. It claims to resolve conflict but multiplies hatred and hostility. It asserts strength but exposes the frailty of our moral imagination and the mutability of our human conscience. We lament the **futility of war** and reject the illusion that peace can ever be born through fire and steel, through bombs and drones. The shock waves threaten global safety, deepen geopolitical fragility and make the world an increasingly unstable and dangerous place for all people. The blood of innocents testifies against every nation and every leader who believes

the world can be healed by weapons.

We **condemn the killing of civilians** – God's image-bearers, whoever they are – whose lives are extinguished by decisions made far from their homes, their prayers, their aspirations and their hopes. Each lost life is a divine tragedy; each extinguished flame is a celestial funeral. Each shattered family is an open and gaping wound in the heart of creation.

We **decry the carnage and havoc being unleashed**, not only for those in this present moment but for the generations who will inherit broken cities, poisoned trust, psychological scars and a world rendered more unstable and more dangerous. Destruction is easy; reconstruction – of cities, of societies, of the human spirit – takes decades, beyond the murky horizon of political expediency.

We speak now not as geopolitical analysts or political commentators but as disciples of Jesus Christ, who commanded us to love our enemies and who wept for a city that chose violence over peace. We **call upon all leaders and nations** involved, directly or indirectly, to turn away from the reckless path of escalation. We urge a return to diplomacy, restraint, humanitarian action and the sacred priority of human life. We implore the international community to reject the (il)logic of vengeance and to pursue the hard, holy work of peace-making. As a people belonging together across nations and cultures, the BTMG remains committed to standing with the suffering, amplifying the silenced, and praying without ceasing for a peace rooted in justice, dignity, solidarity, truth and compassion.

May the Spirit of God afflict the powerful, comfort the afflicted and spark the healing of the nations.

*For and on behalf of the Belonging Together Ministers'  
Group of the Methodist Church in Britain  
The Revd Dr Vincent Jambawo*



# A Prayer for Peace, Justice and the Healing of the Nations

God of all peoples and generations,  
God whose heart breaks with every mother who mourns,  
God who watches over every shattered city and every terrified child –

## Hear our cry.

In this moment of violence and fear,  
stretch your protecting hands over the Middle East,  
over every land where missiles fall,  
over every border where hatred grows,  
over every home where families tremble.

## Lord, have mercy.

We pray for the innocent and the vulnerable –  
for those who have not chosen this path yet bear its highest costs.

Wrap them in your powerful protection.  
Hold their fear in your loving embrace.  
Guard their lives with your gentle compassion.

## Christ, have mercy.

We pray for leaders and nations –  
break the pride that seeks victory through destruction and at  
all costs, that trusts in weapons more than wisdom, and stir in  
every heart the reverence and respect for human life that  
cannot be ignored or silenced.

## Lord, have mercy.

We pray for peace that does not deny justice,  
for justice that does not require revenge,

for reconciliation that is more resilient than the history of  
wounds.

Let swords be beaten into ploughshares.

Let rhetoric surrender to dialogue.

Let fear be overcome by hope.

Let hatred yield to love.

**Spirit of God, move among us.**

**Make us instruments of your peace, witnesses of your truth,  
bearers of your light in a world shadowed by conflict.**

We pray for the healing of every nation, the mending of every  
heart

and the dawning of the peace that passes all understanding.

**In the name of Jesus Christ,**

**the Prince of Peace, the Lover of Sinners, the Pilgrim**

**Neighbour.**

**Amen.**

*For and on behalf of the Belonging Together Ministers'*

*Group of the Methodist Church in Britain*

*The Revd Dr Vincent Jambawo*

## Circuit Vacancy

We are currently looking to appoint a new **Circuit Safeguarding Officer**.

We invite you to prayerfully consider whether this might be a role you could undertake, with the exception of ministers. If you would like to have an informal conversation about the role, please contact **Farai Mapamula**, Superintendent Minister with Safeguarding oversight, directly on; [farai.mapamula@methodist.org.uk](mailto:farai.mapamula@methodist.org.uk)

## Our Story, Our Song: Growing your Calling in Worship

With the President of the Methodist Conference

Do you feel called to lead worship or see it flourish in your church?

Join us for a day designed to encourage, equip and inspire everyone involved in worship across our churches.

**Saturday 9 May | 9:30–15:30**  
**Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster, DY10 2JL**

Save the date! More information coming soon...



Mark your  
calendar!

The Methodist Church  
West Midlands District

## FAMILY SUPPORT CENTRE, SHIRLEY

### HEARING YOU HEARING ME

An interactive course on listening well

*The Family Support Centre is offering training to anyone who wants to improve their listening skills. The four week course will give you information, develop your skills and self awareness. You will get notes each week and opportunity to try things out.*

**When?** Sat - 16th May, 13th & 27th June, 11th July 2026 - 9:15-4:15

**Where?** Shirley Baptist Church **Cost?** £30

**Who is it for?** Anyone that would like to be a better listener (18+). That could be at home, work, with friends or in a pastoral role.

We know that sometimes it is difficult to attend all four weeks but we can work around this.

#### Comments from previous attendees

*A great course. I have learnt lots and look forwards to practising all I have learnt I enjoyed learning more about myself and my listening skills*

**For more details or a registration form please get in touch.**

*The Family Support Centre in Shirley works with the local community offering confidential support to individuals struggling with life issues.*

Registered charity No: 1080331



Email: [admin@fscshirley.co.uk](mailto:admin@fscshirley.co.uk)

Tel: 0121 744 8838

or speak to Rosie or Fiona

Get in touch for more information!

[www.fscshirley.co.uk](http://www.fscshirley.co.uk)

# Green Matters



## Use Mains not Batteries if Possible

We know that small batteries can be recycled: indeed they really must be recycled because they contain poisonous metals, those metals are mostly in short supply, and 95% of them, could be retrieved if properly recycled. Lithium is in particularly short supply. It is also a fire hazard. In 2023, damaged lithium batteries were responsible for 1,200 fires and toxic smoke in refuse trucks and landfill sites. And, of course, if a battery gets as far as landfill it can still corrode and leak chemicals into the ground.

Unfortunately, only 30% of all portable batteries are being recycled. The government had hoped to reach 45% by now. Current law says that all shops that sell more than 32 kg of batteries in a year (that's only about 5 AA batteries a day) must provide a recycling service. Some shops comply but tuck a bin away somewhere, so don't be afraid to ask.

There are some simple rules which can help us

- Never, ever, put a used battery in the general waste.
- Use rechargeable rather than non-rechargeable batteries wherever you can. It is more of a faff and the chemicals are more toxic but a far smaller volume is used.
- Use the mains for all items that stay in position or are not often carried around. A unit of electricity is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh). A kWh is the electricity used by a one bar electric fire for one hour. You would need around 250,000 Duracell AA batteries to give you just 1 kWh of electricity and **each** battery would cost about 75p, **3 times** just one unit of electricity. In other words batteries cost around 750,000 (250,000 x 3) times as much as mains electricity? Wow! We pay a lot for convenience.
- Please continue to recycle your batteries at the Church if that is easier for you. The Church is proud to have helped safely dispose of over 100,000 batteries now, reducing the risk of pollution and allowing precious metals to be reclaimed.

## Some Good News about Lithium and Cornwall

There is an awful lot of horrible news in the World today but there is good news as well. Behind the scenes companies, universities and governments are beavering away searching for cleaner energy solutions.

Over 40 years ago I worked in Saudi Arabia with a geologist. He had previously been in Cornwall trying to produce electricity using the heat in the granite rocks under much of

that county. 2 boreholes were drilled. Explosive charges at the bottom fractured the rock there. Water was pumped down one to be retrieved much hotter at the other and that hot water was used to generate electricity. His team failed. He joked wryly that only half the water came back and what came was radioactive.

However geologists and engineers didn't give up. Today in Cornwall boreholes have been drilled 5 kilometres deep. What has changed the economics is that they have found the water there is rich in lithium. Lithium (see above) is crucial for electric car batteries and battery stores as well the billions of iPhones, chargers and so on that use them. The output will only supply about 10,000 homes, at the moment, but it is reliable and can be scaled up in many areas across the UK.

## Big New Year Recycling Results

Thank you to all who brought electric cables and hearing aids. 15 pairs of hearing aids came and 43 lbs (20 kg) of cables (probably about 200 yards). About a third of that weight is **pure** copper. Every little bit helps.



*Richard Balmer: On behalf of the Greener Church Group: John and Linda Innes, Pam Beattie, Bryan Fitter, Anthony Gough, Sue Kelley, Derek Giles, Sue Balmer, Glen Mullineux, Sandra Ker.*

*A sign of spring in the church grounds with daffodils round the base of a small tree.*



**We are proud to be a GREEN CHURCH caring for God's Creation**

# Investment Approved to Strengthen the Future of The Wesley Hotel in Euston



The Methodist Church has approved a £1.2 million investment package to support new development work at The Wesley Hotel in Euston, marking a major investment in securing the long-term sustainability and mission-driven impact of the Wesley hospitality enterprise.

The money, drawn from the MIC Trust (which is made up of the profits from the hotel) will enable Methodist International Centre Limited (MICL) to undertake essential upgrades across the Euston site.

This investment, along with other investment by the company, gives The Wesley the opportunity to implement a rolling programme of refurbishment over the next few years, including bedroom upgrades, improvements to communal areas and enhancements to the building's external facade.

This work will strengthen the hotel's net zero aspirations as well as improving guest experience and ensuring the property continues to generate strong financial returns for the Church's wider mission.

*"The investment allows us to take the next step in The Wesley's evolution. Over the coming years, we'll deliver a carefully phased refurbishment programme that enhances our bedrooms and shared spaces while strengthening our environmental commitments. It's about investing in the hotel's long-term future, ensuring we continue to offer a distinctive, values-led stay in one of London's most dynamic locations."*

**James Barr, General Manager at The Wesley**

At a recent meeting, the trustee body of the Methodist Church, the Connexional Council, heard that clearer governance structures and renewed investment is needed after a decade in which capital improvements were limited. The Wesley hotel in Camden and its sister-site in Euston play a vital role in generating income that supports Methodist work across the Connexion.

*"The investment underlines the Methodist Church's mission and the Wesley Hotels in Euston and Camden Town provide a distinctive model of ethical hospitality, generating profits that directly support the Church's work. By approving this investment, the Council is reaffirming its commitment to safeguarding these assets and enabling MICL to operate from a position of strength. The improvements at Euston will complement the wider investment strategy for the Wesley portfolio, ensuring that both hotels remain competitive in London's hospitality market while continuing to embody the Church's values, including ethical employment practices and environmental responsibility."*

**The Revd Sonia Hicks, Chair of the Connexional Council**

The approved funding will allow work to begin on the Euston site in the coming period, with MICL and the Council working closely together to ensure the project strengthens both the hotel's commercial performance and its contribution to the Church's mission. In line with the Action for Hope strategy, this will enable investment in decarbonisation and sustainability measures at the Wesley Hotel in Euston.



# Soupa Talks



Light lunch, chat and an interesting talk  
1.00 pm in the Community Centre

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**      **History of Becketts Farm**  
*Simon Beckett*

## Spring Cream Tea

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

With piano duets from  
Two's Harmony



In the church.  
Tickets £10 from Sue Balmer

Proceeds will go to 'Blood Bikes'

*Blood Bikers are keen motor bikers who support the NHS by transporting blood and tissues around the country to where they are needed urgently.*

## Church Mission Statement

We believe that to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, we need to be brave in God's changing world so that all can belong and find hope

## Anxious? Concerned?

Contact the confidential

## Prayer Chain

via Chris Giles

via the church office



## The Messenger Team

Sue Balmer, Rev Donald Ker, Bryan Fitter,  
Jeff Horton, Sue Kelley,  
Glen Mullineux, and Lawrie Rumens

Please send material for publication to  
[messenger@solihull-methodist.org.uk](mailto:messenger@solihull-methodist.org.uk)

We reserve the right to edit articles if  
necessary.

Please send photographs **separately** as jpeg  
files

**NB. Last date for the May Messenger items  
is  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

## Church Team



**Rev Donald Ker**  
Minister  
Day off - Friday



**Abi Godfree**  
Children, Youth and  
Families worker



**Janice Smith**  
Church Administrator  
Tuesday - Friday



**Wai Kong**  
Finance Assistant



**Diane Webb**  
Pastoral and Community Worker



**Chris Giles**  
Pastoral Coordinator



**Deborah Webb**  
Church Lettings Officer

**Church Office**  
0121 705 7367  
[www.solihull-methodist.org.uk](http://www.solihull-methodist.org.uk)



# April Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29 March Palm Sunday</b> 10.30 Morning service Rev Donald Ker	<b>30</b> 7.30 Holy Week Reflection Rev Chris Giles	<b>31</b> 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee 7.30 Holy Week Reflection Rev Nigel Collinson	<b>1</b> 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom 7.30 Holy Week Reflection Rev Peter Bates	<b>2 Maundy Thursday</b> 7.30 Tenebrae and communion service	<b>3 Good Friday</b> 11.00 Walk of Witness	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Easter Sunday</b> 10.30 Easter Celebration with Holy Communion Rev Donald Ker	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee	<b>8</b> 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom 1.00 Soupa Talks	<b>9</b> 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs 8.15 Badminton	<b>10</b> 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 10.30 Friendship cafe 6.30 Youth Club	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10.30 Morning service Rev Helen Cameron 6.30 Prayer Space	<b>13</b> 9.45 Pushchair Club 10.00 Shall we talk? 7.30 Scouts	<b>14</b> 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee 5.00 Rainbows 6.00 Brownies 7.00 Youth study	<b>15</b> 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom 3.00 Soupa Talks cream tea	<b>16</b> 9.30 Ramble 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs 8.15 Badminton	<b>17</b> 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 6.30 Youth Club	<b>18</b> 6.00 Night of Escape Rooms
<b>19</b> 10.30 Morning service Spring Harvest feedback	<b>20</b> 9.45 Pushchair Club 10.00 Shall we talk? 7.30 Scouts	<b>21</b> 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee 5.00 Rainbows 6.00 Brownies	<b>22</b> 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	<b>23</b> 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs 8.15 Badminton	<b>24</b> 10.00 Cantonese Fellowship 10.30 Friendship café 6.30 Youth Club	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10.30 Morning service Rev Donald Ker 12.30 Church Family lunch 1.30 Church AGM 6.30 Reflective communion service with prayers for healing Rev Donald Ker	<b>27</b> 9.45 Pushchair Club 10.00 Shall we talk? 7.30 Scouts	<b>28</b> 9.30 Communion 10.00 Bible Study 10.30 Men's Coffee 5.00 Rainbows 6.00 Brownies 7.00 Youth study	<b>29</b> 9.30 Morning prayers by Zoom	<b>30</b> 6.00 Beavers 6.30 Cubs 8.15 Badminton		



There was a bumper turnout of ramblers for the March ramble. They were attracted by the prospect of a bright sunny day. The walk was round the Arrow Country Park in Redditch and they ended up having an excellent carvery lunch at the Golden Goose.

# Young Church News

## On the Way

As many people know, our young people are studying a Methodist Way of Life course 'On the Way' as part of the course's Pilot. The course is designed for Adults. Our youth leadership team are working hard to add and choose elements which support our young people's growth.

We have already studied 'Tell, Flourish, Live and Share' We have discussed our story, Our faith and sharing glimpses of God's Kingdom.

## Red Nose Day



At Youth Club our young people have been finding out about Red Nose Day and Comic relief, after research into the charity and a crash course in comedy sketch writing they spent time writing their own scripts. The following week They practiced their sketches and performed to parents, They then took donations and raised £57.70, They look forward to watching the TV marathon on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.



A graphic featuring a blue wavy line that starts at the top left and curves down towards the bottom right. There are three black circles on the line. To the right of the line, the text "on the way." is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the line, the text "Begin, refresh, or reconstruct your journey with God." is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, the text "The Methodist Church" is written in a red, sans-serif font, with a small red cross icon to its right.

## Growing Children's Church

I want to also talk about our growing Children's church, The team has been diligent and loyal showing consistency and gentle care to a small group of children.

This is now growing in number and we rejoice with them. The most precious of friendships are emerging, God's love is being shared and fun and laughter fills the air. Please enjoy this photo of three of our girls in prayer in our main service.

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