

SHRIVENHAM METHODIST CHURCH SUNDAY 20th December 2015

Welcome to our Church

Our Website: www.shrivenhammethodistchurch.co.uk

Our Vision: "To be an active part of the body of God, and to spread the Good News of Christ by word and deed in the local Community at every opportunity."

Services Sunday 20th December

10.30 am	Family Carol Service
6.30 pm	United Carol Service St Andrews
Steward	Janet Mawer
Door	Harold Taylor
Organ	Stella Tidmarsh
Readers	Harold & Helen Taylor
Creche	Linda Hood
Coffee	Harold & Helen Taylor
Garden	Harold Taylor

Service for Christmas Day

10.30 am	Family Service with Revd Keith Osborn
Steward	Linda Hood
Door	Bob Mawer
Organ	Stella Tidmarsh
Readers	Bob Mawer/Paul Holloway

Service for Sunday 27th December

10.30 am	Robin Phoenix-Stone
(No evening service)	
Steward	Janet Mawer
Door	Lynn Pembroke
Organ	Stella Tidmarsh
Readers	Lynn Pembroke/Sue Colyer
Creche	Nicki Norris
Flowers	Tree
Garden	Stella Tidmarsh

Prayers this week

Circuit: Braydon
Rota: Children's education and care world wide - Phakamisa Educare

Local Roads: Martens Close, Damson Trees, Forrest Close, Farleigh Road

Events this Week

Monday 21st

Tuesday 22nd

Refreshers 8.30 am in front room
Church Open - 10-12

Wednesday 23rd

Church Open - 10-12

Thursday 24th

Church Open + Silent Communion*
Prayer meeting 7pm in front room

Friday 25th

Christmas Day morning service

Saturday 26th

NO Prayer breakfast!

Saturday 2nd January

NO Prayer breakfast

NO Coffee Shop

Church Open - the Church will be open in the mornings of 22nd, 23rd, and 24th - at least one person needs to be on duty to serve coffee - rota at back of Church to sign up - mince pies still needed

***Silent Communion 24th December** - an explanation from Keith

Dear Friends,

Several people have come up to me recently with a similar question: What on earth is a silent communion? So here briefly I am going to try to describe the indescribable.

On Christmas Eve, between 10am and 12noon the Methodist Church will be open for refreshments and for Silent Communion.

You may arrive at any time during this period and leave whenever you are ready. I would advise that you allow between 15 minutes and Half an hour for communion, longer if you would like it.

We will be playing quiet Christmas music in the background and you will be given a booklet/leaflet with the words of the communion and a few hymns/poems for reflection. Whenever you are ready you make your way to the front where I will serve you with bread and wine.

Everyone is welcome to come and to join in as much or as little as they choose and of course there will be light refreshments serve in the other rooms also.

I look forward to seeing you all there. God bless. Keith

CHRISTMAS CARE (Crisis at Christmas) Huge thanks to all those who have contributed to this appeal

Methodist Flood Appeal - Following people's comments, it has been decided that the money collected will be divided in half between Sandylands Methodist Church (they are supporting people with practical help locally) and the Cumbria Community Foundation, a charity helping across the area. Thank you to those who have already given at the Wednesday Carol Service and a collection bowl for Sunday's Carol Service will be put out with gift aid.

Helen Jack's funeral will be at our church on Monday 21st December at 11.30, (followed by a short service at the Cemetery). Refreshments will be in the back room afterwards.

Songs and Stories – new for 2016 - please pray for this new venture:

"A new Wednesday fun morning group for babies, toddlers and pre-school children is starting on 6 January. There will be nursery rhymes, action songs and stories for the children, followed by a healthy snack, with some small toys to play with. Coffee or tea will then be available for the adults. Songs and Stories will be held in the front rooms of the Methodist Church for about an hour. Doors will be open from 8.45 am, with the first sessions beginning at about 9.05 am to cater for those adults who drop older children off at school or playgroup. There will be no charge, but a small donation to cover drinks/snacks would be appreciated but not essential. It is hoped that in due course some parents/carers may want to contribute a song or story themselves, or to help out with the catering. Of course, this would be entirely up to you! So do come along with your children and enjoy Songs and Stories on a Wednesday."

A reminder about the next Alpha Course - Building on the success of the recent Alpha course, the Churches together in Shrivvenham are now planning a morning course, starting on the 11th January from 9.15 am to 11.15 am in the Methodist Church. If you would like more information, please pick up an invitation in the vestibule or contact Gill or Paul Sharpe on 01793 782178.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NO Coffee Shop Saturday 2 January

Ecumenical Covenant Service at SMC - Sunday 3 January 10.30 am

Longcot Ecumenical Service - Sunday 3 January 3.00 pm

(NO evening service at Shrivvenham Sunday 3 January)

Worship Consultation Meeting - Tuesday 5th January - 7.30 at Stella's

Bible Study 2016 - Saturday 23rd January with Revd Steve Wild (President of the Methodist Conference)

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Heavenly Father, in Jesus' name we ask for a fresh outpouring of your Holy Spirit on your church in our community. Help us to grow in our experience of your love, forgiveness and healing. Challenge our contentment to stay as we are. Renew our vision of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, that through our words and the way we live, others may be drawn to your way. Give us the wisdom to seek your will and grant us the joy that comes from wholeheartedly following it. For your glory and the good of all your people.
Amen

Next Notices will be out on Friday 1st January so please let Morva by Thursday 31st December: morvawhite@supanet.com if there is anything to include