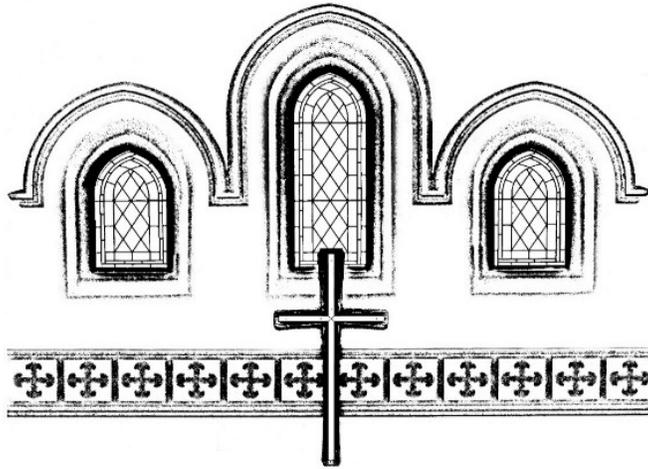


Newsletter from the....



MIDHURST METHODIST CHURCH

+++++

December/January 2020

+++++

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.00am – MORNING WORSHIP

For morning service with **HOLY COMMUNION**
Please see Church Diary printed inside this Newsletter

Requests for **BAPTISMS** and **WEDDINGS** should be
made to the Minister

The calling of
MIDHURST METHODIST CHURCH

is to
love God
and to
love our neighbours

* * * * *

We are committed to:

Spreading the good news of Jesus Christ
As expressed in God's word from the Bible
The worship of God at the centre of our lives
Demonstrating God's love for everyone
Helping people grow in the Christian faith
Challenging injustices
Blessing the local community

from our minister...

ARE YOU READY YET?

Do you ever get asked whether you're ready yet? Are you ready for school? Are you ready to go out? Are you ready for the exam or the test? Are you ready for the performance? Are you ready for those visitors? Are you ready for Christmas? Are you ready yet?

Some people seem to have been ready for Christmas for months: presents bought, cards made or bought and written, food planned if not already bought and put in the freezer... Others take a delight in telling you that they've done nothing yet – “still a month to go” they say. And they're right there's plenty of time for all those things... isn't there?

But that's not really what I mean. We can be as ready as we like for the celebrations, able to tell people that all the practical preparations are done well in advance and still be caught out.

Being ready at this time of year is also about being ready to meet the Jesus who was born on the first Christmas, to worship him as angels and shepherds did then because he is God come to meet us, to be in touch, to open communication with his wandering people.

Being ready at this time of year is also about preparation for Jesus' return as King and Judge. When Jesus returns, he expects us to be ready for him. That means doing the things he wants of us and being the kind of people he wants. Put off the attitudes that display a lack of faith or betray a mind untransformed by his presence and power -resentment, anxiety, greed (yes even at Christmas!), and superiority. These St Paul calls the rags that are to be replaced with the pure white garments of Christ.

Christmas will be a good time to meet with Him and put on joy, peace, and humility just as He did.

David



Methodist
relief and
development

ALL WE CAN

With our Harvest weekend at the end of September we started a new partnership with a rural community in central Ethiopia.

At the Harvest Supper on the Saturday evening we had a display of all the information about our previous partnership with a community in Malawi while in the church there was a display about the new project in Ethiopia.

After supper we had a very interesting talk about both projects by Angela Zamaere-Smith, Programmes Director at All We Can. She gave us an update on the community in Malawi following the devastation caused by Cyclone 'Idai' in March when they lost their harvest. All We Can was able to supply emergency food for the community which meant they could stay in the area and work on their fields and, with the new seeds provided, plant for the next harvest in the dry season. The irrigation systems had been saved so the crops could be watered during the dry months. They are also working to repair and rebuild their homes. Support from All We Can has meant that the community has been able to stay in their own area and gradually rebuild their lives, unlike other communities who had to leave in search of food and help.

Angela also told us about the Cherkos community in Ethiopia. For years they have had poor harvest caused by drought due to climate change and so are often starving and live below the poverty line. They are being taught modern farming techniques, provided with simple tools, drought resistant seeds and a 'superspud' that will grow in hot dry conditions. This will provide a vital food supply in the 'hunger gap' between harvests. They are also encouraged to listen to the radio to find out when the rains are coming and not just plant seeds at a certain time of year because

they have always done so. Better harvests will mean they have food for their families and an income from selling crops.

Donations to All We Can from the Harvest supper, the envelope collection and gift aid amounted to £575.75.

This sum will provide 12 families with enough 'superspuds', a variety of seeds better suited to the environment, and hand tools to prepare the land to ensure healthy harvests.

JP



All We Can's "Extraordinary Gifts" Catalogues are available in Church

Please consider giving these gifts to family and friends to support vulnerable communities - particularly in Africa. There are many different suggestions eg 'superspud' seeds for our community in Ethiopia, cooking stoves, simple tools, chickens, pigs or even a goat!!

New Year Party



Our New Year Party will be in the Hall on 18th January starting at 6pm. After a hot supper we are looking forward to hearing William's presentation about his trip to America last summer for the 24th World Scout Jamboree.

The usual list will be going up on the noticeboard in the Church shortly. Please add your name if you are going to be there, to help with the catering. There is no charge for the supper, but please make a donation to cover the costs.



Christmas 2019

at Midhurst Methodist Church

Sunday 1st December at 10am - Advent Sunday - Rev David Muskett.

Wednesday 4th December at 12:30pm - Body & Soul Christmas. A big celebration; Body & Soul's swansong.

Saturday 14th December at 9:30am - decorating the Church and trees. Please speak to Barbara, Pat or Gayle if you can help with greenery etc.

Sunday 15th December at 10am - Gift Service - Rev David Rice. Your donations on the tree will go to Sanctuary in Chichester.

Sunday 15th December at 12:30pm - Christmas Lunch - turkey and all the trimmings. £23. Please put your name on the list in the Church.

Thursday 19th December at 11:15am - Mischief Makers' Christmas Celebration

Sunday 22nd December at 4pm - Carols by Candlelight - Rev David Muskett and featuring Midhurst Musical Mayhem. Followed by tea and mince pies in the Hall. A retiring collection for Stonepillow.

Wednesday 25th December at 10am - Christmas Day Celebration led by Rev David Coote. Includes a "Scratch Nativity". Collection for Action for Children.



How Time Flies!!

Way back in the summer of 2010 Penny and I started thinking of doing something different and so Body & Soul was born.

We approached Angela (Peter came as an extra very welcome bonus), discussed our plans at Church Meeting, met with the Environmental Health Officer to see what we needed to do, and on the 6th October 2010 Body & Soul met for the first time.

Jessica helped out in the early years – to cover holidays and sickness – then in 2015 Alison joined the team and finally Sian in 2018.

By the 4th December we will have served 172 lunches to anything between 15 and 30 guests averaging around 22 each time. Our speakers have been an interesting mix and, without exception, love to come and join us.

On only two occasions have we been without a speaker and then, heaven help us, everyone had to put up with me!

We've had our ups and downs – no electricity on one morning we will never forget – but on the whole the team, which includes our 'unique' waiters and dish washers, have enjoyed the experience.

However now, more than nine years later we must regretfully close the door. Age, health, home commitments (including 16 grandchildren and counting) as well as all the Church commitments have all taken their toll so 4th December will be our last Body & Soul - but who knows Never say Never??

JF



Church Christmas Dinner 15th December

The list is now on the noticeboard in the Church for our Church Christmas Dinner, which will be after the Gift Service on 15th December. The turkey main course will be supplied by Alexandra's Kitchen and we will be doing our own 'befores' and 'afters'. The cost is £23; please put your name on the list; Alison will be asking for your payment very soon.

Prayer Focus

Sunday 1st December is the first day of advent when we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ. The story of Christ's nativity is so familiar that there is a danger that we just celebrate how it happened and tend to put aside why it happened. What was God's reason to become mortal and live amongst us on earth? On a more personal level, what effect has Emmanuel had on our lives? Pray that whilst singing the advent hymns and carols and listening to the readings describing the events of Christ's birth, we may be given a deeper understanding of the significance of these events. Pray that we may be able to share this gift with others so that they too may come to know Christ and really celebrate Christmas.

The next few weeks could be very important to our nation with the election of a new government. Pray that the candidates should have the welfare of the people as their primary goal, and that they conduct themselves in a manner which shows respect for others. Pray also that the country as a whole should work towards a reconciliation to heal the divisions that have opened up over the last few years

Pray for the world. At present we are beset with bushfires, floods and drought to the extent that many species are in danger of extinction. We have failed in our task as stewards of the earth. Pray that we look at our own lifestyles and we contribute less to pollution. Pray for and petition those who make far-reaching decisions, that they do so with the safety of the earth and not profit as their driving force.

Pray and give thanks for all those who work to maintain this planet on which we live. Locally, volunteers are planting trees and hedges, cleaning the South pond and its surrounds and doing clearance work on Midhurst common.

Pray for those we know who are suffering either physically or mentally, that they may find comfort and wholeness. Give thanks for all who tend them in any way that they may find fulfilment as they perform their daily tasks.

In the New Year pray for all Christians, especially those who face persecution both physically and mentally. Give us all the strength and resolve to serve Christ better and bring about God's Kingdom on earth. Pray for our church and other churches in Midhurst that we may be beacons of God's light in this area.

As the weather turns colder, pray for all those in need, the homeless, those who use the Foodbanks, the unemployed, the lonely and all who find life difficult at this time. Give thanks for all those who work to bring a little comfort into their lives.

Finally pray for ourselves, we all have different needs, God is aware of our needs and will meet them in his way.

Rest in His loving care.

DS



Foodbank Update

Since my last report to you, Mike and Chrissie Abbott have stepped down from running the Midhurst Foodbank. Replacing them was never going to be easy but with a lot of thought and prayer, a new way ahead has emerged.

Midhurst is a satellite of The Trussell Trust in Chichester and is now being overseen by an experienced volunteer from Chichester - Andrew Polsom.

The Midhurst volunteers who run the Foodbank on a Friday have been split into 4 teams, each with responsibility for the Friday afternoons at St Anne's Hill, on a monthly basis. Mike and Chrissie form a part of one team.

We have an excellent volunteer warehouseman, Vernon, who looks after the donations which are stored and sorted in a house at Church Hill which Lord Cowdray kindly allows us to use free of charge.

Our new administrator is Lyn Stevens - known to us at Midhurst Methodist as partner of Graham Tutt, one of our organists. She is finding her feet in the job at the moment and also attends meetings at the Chichester branch.

The lunch boxes for schoolchildren receiving free school meals are now the responsibility of Karen Lovatt and Liz Willing, both retired school teachers from Midhurst Primary School. They will be organising their first holiday donations at Christmas. This is a huge task but extra volunteers will be put to use in delivering many of these boxes far and wide - from Hammer to Milland and Heyshott to Fernhurst. This year Midhurst and Petworth Rotary Club will be helping with the driving.

At Christmas we are always glad to receive your generous donations. All the usual items are still needed such as UHT semi skimmed milk, washing powder, toiletries for men and women, toilet rolls and tinned goods. Christmas goodies are also welcome!

There is a comprehensive list in the collecting box at church.

Thank you for all your support over the last year, with best wishes to all who help the Midhurst Foodbank in any way.

Sian



Leon Schmidt

On the 22nd October our good friend Leon died. It was totally unexpected and came as a great shock to Wendy and the boys.

He had, until recently, been working in various roles for the Cowdray Estate after he and the family arrived from KwaZulu Natal in South Africa in 1999, where he had run the family farm.

He had lived a very active and full life including active duty whilst on National Service as a paratrooper on the Namibia/Angola border, during the latter country's independence struggle. He was an ultra-athlete, having completed the 108-mile Comrades Marathon from Pietermaritzburg to Durban a total of three times and the Duzi Canoe Marathon between the same two towns on no less than 14 occasions. He was a rugby player most of his life, as a flanker, having been captain of the first XV at school. A linguist, Leon spoke four languages fluently – German (spoken at home as a boy, his family being a fifth generation German/South African farming family), Zulu (with which he communicated with their farmhands who lived on the farm), Afrikaans (which is taught in all schools) and English.

Leon had a strong Christian faith. Even as boy he was not shy to say so in front of his school friends. This faith he maintained all his life and before every meal, grace was said.

His memorial service was held on the 7th November and the church was full to overflowing with in excess of 250 people attending. His sons Warrick, Guy and Cameron paid moving and at times, humorous tributes to their father with whom they clearly had a very close bond.

The Three Forms of Denial

When Peter and I were staying in New Zealand recently the New Zealand Herald produced a supplement about the impact of global warming on NZ. Various government departments and companies talked about what they were doing to reduce their carbon footprint. NZ is fortunate not to suffer from traffic pollution, apart from central Auckland, and most of their electricity is hydro-powered. The problem they have is huge herds of sheep and cattle on which they depend for their main exports.

The NZ government is now going to tax farmers on their emissions and the money will be used to put other strategies in place. It was a tough decision to make.

One of the articles in the supplement caught my eye. It was about a consortium of companies in Australia who rejected the scientific consensus on climate change and had written to the United Nations telling them to "stop using costly and unnecessary attempts at mitigation".

The writers of the article, Iain Walker and Zoe Leviston*, said that this stance reminded them of the three forms of denial recognised by psychoanalysts who worked on genocide and other atrocity cases.

The first form of denial is the simple, conscious, outright rejection that something has happened or is happening - that is, lying.

The second form of denial is interpretive denial. Here people do not contest the facts but interpret them in ways that distort their meaning and importance. For instance, they might say that climate change is just a natural fluctuation. This is what we saw in the letter from the Australian companies.

The third and most insidious form is implicatory denial. The facts of climate change are not denied or interpreted to be something else. What is denied, or minimised, are the psychological, political and moral implications of the facts for us. We fail to accept responsibility for responding. We fail to act when the information says we should.

Of course, some are unable to respond, financially or otherwise, but for many implicatory denial is a kind of dissociation. Ignoring the moral imperative to act is as damning a denial as any other.

In the case of climate change, implicatory denial allows us to use a reusable coffee cup, recycle our plastic and catch a bus and pretend that we are doing our bit. (I am afraid I can relate to that.)

Almost none of us individually, apart from the likes of Greta Thunberg or Sir David Attenborough, or nationally has acted as we ought on the science of climate change.

Instead of congratulating ourselves on agreeing with the basic scientific facts of climate change, we need to push ourselves to action.

AC

*Iain Walker is a professor of psychology at the University of Canberra and Zoe Leviston is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Edith Cowan University in Western Australia.



Worship Planning

Worship Planning sessions give us the opportunity to contribute to David's services with us. The meetings are as follows:

Wednesday 27th November (for 1st December – Advent Sunday)

Wednesday 18th December (for 5th January – Covenant Service)

Monday 20th January (for 26th January)

Wednesday 29th January (for 2nd February)

The group will meet in the 76 room at 2:30pm. Please come along and add your thoughts to David's preparations.

Youth versus age



(Heather Tomlinson comments on the rise of Greta Thunberg, the 16 year old climate activist who believes the planet is facing an ecological crisis.)

As I'm happily straddling that age between "old" and "young", I enjoy the benefits that heading into middle age brings. I feel more secure, much wiser and happier than I did in my misspent youth. I understand why the Bible so often embraces age and encourages us to listen to the old. In many cultures around the world this is the norm: the older generations are respected and seen as a source of wisdom. Often they are given authority without question.

In the West, we've gone in completely the opposite direction. Since teenage culture took on a life of its own in the 1950s, we've gradually become more in awe of the young, and suspicious of the old. Everyone wants to look younger, the opinion formers on TV often appear to be just out of university; anything old-fashioned is seen as boring or even evil, and everyone seems to want change all the time. The Brexit bitterness has brought all of this out in the open. Hatred towards the older generations is voiced regularly.

Then of course we have the youngster of the moment, Greta Thunberg. As the mouthpiece of a youth movement that demands more action on climate change, she's become one of the most powerful women in the world, regularly given audiences with world leaders, and all over the news. Democratic senator Ed Markey recently told the 16 year-old: "We need your leadership." That's quite a mantle to hand to anyone, never mind a teenager.

I hope no-one paid too much attention to my political opinions when I was her age. The advice I gave – all too quickly – was patchy at best, and no wonder. I had little life experience, I hadn't read much, I had little exposure to opinions other than my parents and a few teachers, and even worse, I had the over-confidence of the young. I thought I was absolutely right about everything. I'm now more aware of my limitations, though there's still plenty of way to go on that one! But I'm so glad I've grown up and that many of those opinions have changed. For example, now I believe in Jesus. I'm incredibly grateful that God showed me where I was going wrong.

Of course there are plenty of older people who agree with Greta on climate change. So why not listen to them, and have a thorough debate between people of different opinions on the subject? Why has this girl been thrust into the spotlight and treated as if she is a guru? For the older people who agree with her, it's a useful phenomenon: climate change is getting a lot of attention due to her celebrity. But that's hardly fair on her, and it doesn't seem a very healthy way to influence public opinion either. To give younger people a louder say than the old, or to heap the responsibility of changing the world onto one girl, is bizarre, and a little sinister. Let's hope for a better dialogue between the generations, as well as those of different political opinions – we need this much more than we need a young and vulnerable girl being put on a very high pedestal, that it's all too easy to fall off.

In happy moments – praise God; in difficult moments – seek God; in quiet moments – worship God; in painful moments – trust God; and in every moment – thank God

Marriage and Relationships



At our AGM in March I spoke about a workshop I had attended at Chandlers Ford about the process being undertaken by the Methodist Conference to discuss and redefine marriage and the Methodist approach to this subject as it evolves in modern society and with recent legislation. The Methodist Church has long shown itself to be flexible on subjects like interfaith marriage, remarriage of divorced people, and equality within marriage. Now it is time to consider the subject of Marriage and Relationships further.

In 2013 legislation gave churches and other religious groups the legal opportunity to 'opt-in' to conducting single-sex marriages. The Methodists have not been hasty in considering this.

At last Conference has issued a report on this subject. This is a formidable document. Towards the back are conclusions and recommendations. The online version also has provisional resolutions. There are enough copies of the Report available at Church for everyone and we also have copies of a smaller document: a 'Study Guide'.

Conference is concerned that all Methodist churches should be involved in the discussion and have some kind of ownership of the final outcome. Methodist Churches are each asked to consider the subject prayerfully, come to a consensus and let the Circuit know their conclusion. This will then be forwarded to District Synod and on to Conference in 2020. Midhurst Methodist Church will have to consider its approach and pass its opinion on via the Circuit.

We will be asked for our opinion and decision, as to whether our Church will allow same-sex marriages or not. To help with this process the Circuit is running a series of workshops on the subject of "God in Love Unites Us" and the nearest one to us will be at Petersfield on Saturday 15th February at 2pm.

Midhurst Methodist Church will not be able to opt-in to conducting single-sex marriages unless both our Church Meeting and Conference agree. Whichever way we eventually decide, the minister has the option of declining to solemnise such a marriage.

I had hoped for something rather more concise than the huge document that has been issued by Conference. I ask you, please, find a comfortable chair and take the time to have a look at the Conference Report. This will need to be discussed and a consensus reached sometime in the future.

AG



Christmas Day Service at 10am Scratch Nativity

On Christmas day our service at 10am will be led by Rev David Coote, and will include our now-traditional **Scratch Nativity**. One of our Mischief Makers mums, Jess, and her daughter Bethany are going to be Mary and baby Jesus. But we need volunteers to fill all the other roles. If you would like to, come prepared to take part as a shepherd, wise man, king or even an angel or animal in the nativity stable.

Or just come and join in the celebration!

We will sing some Christmas songs, share a reflection and say some prayers as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Children are welcome to bring a Christmas present to show.

We look forward to welcoming you and all the family (no matter what age) to our Christmas Day service as we celebrate GOD WITH US.

Don't miss it – all are welcome!



Latest Information from Sanctuary in Chichester

SiC set up a fundraising team in 2018, with the aim of raising £40,000 by the end of 2019. They achieved this half-way through the year, but of course there are still plenty of activities which need our on-going support. To help them, SiC suggests enlisting in online shopping sites that support them, holding fundraising events, volunteering, donating direct by standing order (or otherwise), as well as spreading the word on Twitter and Facebook. £15 raised would pay for an English language textbook. £25 would cover the monthly cost of broadband internet so a refugee family is able to contact loved ones. £100 would provide a destitute asylum seeker with food for a month.

Here are some of the major projects SiC is running at present:

- 'Drop-in' facilities for refugee and asylum-seeking families and individuals
- Providing expert help for refugees to learn how we do things here
- Helping more Syrian families arrive and settle in West Sussex
- An English learning service
- A 'Pathways to Work' programme helps refugees into employment
- Shelter for destitute asylum-seekers, sometimes needed at short notice
- Increasing awareness of, and access to, their services
- Boosting understanding among local residents of the issues that refugees and asylum seekers face.
- Developing services for women and girls

During the Summer they organized a series of outings, to places like the beach at East Wittering, a cruise on Chichester Harbour, a Games day in Priory Park, and a visit to the sights in London's West End.

During Refugee Week, several SiC refugees went into schools to explain their experiences and to answer questions. They received a very positive response from the children, and messages from the

students were later read at a drop-in session. This was very much appreciated by the families who were there.

The Nations United football team serves as a reliable constant in the players' uncertain lives. It is a place for children and young men to meet and a safe space to develop friendships, team work, self-worth, responsibility, aspirations and confidence. They are trained by the staff at University of Chichester.

Nations United has received a 3-year grant which puts it on a steady footing. The extra funds will help SiC work out just how the football initiative is helping, and how it can be improved.

20% of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are girls. SiC is working on a new project which will help girls and young women in the same way as the football is helping boys and young men. This is just starting and they are looking for volunteers and funds.

As the work of SiC gets busier, more involved and more varied, they have an endless need for volunteers in all sorts of areas – fundraisers; painters & decorators; interpreters & translators; benefits advisors; outings & drop-in organisers; English tutors; management workers; mentors; traders offering work experience, internships, short-term work or jobs for refugees; emergency accommodation providers. The list goes on...

SiC contacts:

email: sanctuaryinchichester@gmail.com

website: <https://sanctuaryinchichester.org>

Donations:

please make Cheques payable to “Sanctuary in Chichester”
and send to:

Sanctuary in Chichester, PO Box 794, CHICHESTER, PO19 9UL

This is a nurse's response to the poem in our last newsletter...

There's too few of us

What do we see, you ask, what do we do?

Yes, we are thinking, when looking at you;
We may seem quite hard when we hurry and fuss,
But there's many of you and too few of us.

We'd like far more time to sit by you and talk,
To bathe you and feed you and help you to walk,
To hear of your lives and the things you have done;
Your childhood, your husband, your daughter, your son.
But time is against us, there's too much to do
Patients too many and nurses too few.

We grieve when we see you so sad and alone,
With nobody near you, no friends of your own.
We feel all your pain, and know of your fear,
That nobody cares now your end is so near.
But nurses are people with feelings as well,
And when we're together you'll often hear tell
Of the dearest old gran in the very end bed,
And the lovely old dad and the things that he said.
We speak with compassion and love, and feel sad
When we think of your lives and the joy that you've had.

When the time has arrived for you to depart,
You're leaving behind an ache in our heart.
When you sleep the long sleep, no more worry or care.
There are other old people, and we must be there.
So please understand if we hurry and fuss
There are many of you, and too few of us.



THE GODALMING COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR

Will be singing

on SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER at 7.30pm

in MIDHURST PARISH CHURCH

Tickets, Adults £12/Under 16's £5, available from

The Upholsterer, 15 North Street, Midhurst

email: boxoffice@midhurstparishchurch.net

or phone 01730 815071

Time for a Smile



Rodney was a pillar of the church and the local community. His will provided £25,000 for an elaborate funeral. When he died, and as the visitors departed the service, his wife, Ethel, said to her friend Mary, "Well, I think Rodney would be pleased with that." Her friend replied in a whispered voice, "Sure, but how much did the whole thing cost?" Rodney's wife said, "All of the £25,000 he set aside." Mary's jaw dropped. "Yes," Ethel said, "the funeral, with the carriages and flowers was £5,000; I donated £1,000 to the church, and the wake came to £1,000." What happened to the rest" Mary asked. Ethel explained that the rest will go on a memorial stone. "My goodness," exclaimed Mary, and how big will that be?" Mary replied, "I guess it will be several carats."

Haslemere Methodist Church
Saturday 30th November
at 7pm

A Concert

with

Organ Recital by
Malcolm Brinson

and

Songs and Anthems by
The Sussex Songsmiths

Join us for what promises to be a
spectacular Concert
in our beautifully refurbished church

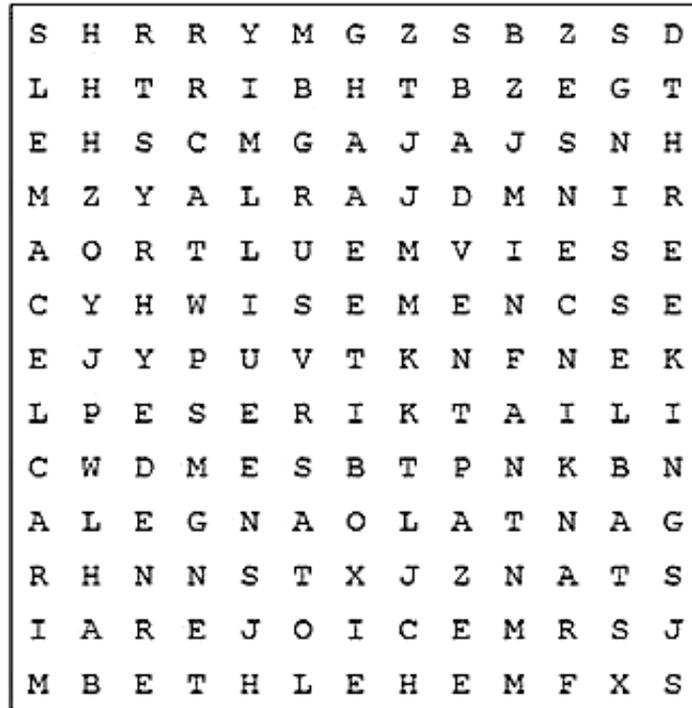
Organ works to include
pieces by composers such as Liszt & Beliere.
While the choir will sing music by Purcell, Bach, Ireland and
others.

The concert will finish with an opportunity for the audience to
join in the singing.

Tickets £10 – available at the Open Door Coffee Lounge Tues. Wed. Fri. Sat.
10am-12noon
or from Malcolm Harris – call 01428 483054



Joy to the World



ADVENT
ANGEL
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
BLESSINGS
CAMELS
FRANKINCENSE

INFANT
JESUS
JOSEPH
MAGI
MANGER
MARY
MIRACLE

MYRRH
NATIVITY
REJOICE
STABLE
STAR
THREE KINGS
WISE MEN



Fundraising News

Your regular update on our charitable fundraising efforts

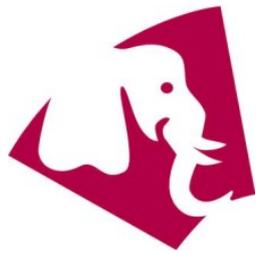
Our Harvest Supper was well-attended, and you were obviously inspired by our speaker from All We Can, as the donations towards the supper (less expenses) came to £195. The envelope collection donations were also very generous, coming to £316. The total for All We Can from our Harvest celebrations exceeded £500. Thank You.

We had a good crowd to our Autumn Fair, which was a great success with all stalls doing well. Thank you to staff and customers for supporting this event. We'll have to find more space for the coffee tables in future! So far we've made more than £950 for Church funds.

There will be plenty of opportunities for charitable giving during our Christmas celebrations. The donations of money on the tree at our Gift Service on 15th December will go to Sanctuary in Chichester. As usual, at the Carol Service on 22nd December there will be a retiring collection for Stonepillow to help their work with the homeless. The Christmas Day collection traditionally goes to Action for Children. We'll have a Church Christmas Card for you to send greetings to your friends in the Church, and any donations in lieu of cards and postage will also go the Action for Children.

2020 starts with our annual Giant Bric-a-Brac sale on 15th February. Please let one of the fundraisers know if you have any white elephants you'd like to donate that need to be collected. If you have any unused greeting cards that you feel are now surplus to your needs, please give them to me, to add to those already donated by Caroline.

Many thanks to you all for your ongoing support.



**GIANT
BRIC-a-BRAC SALE**

**with Books, Toys,
Greeting Cards,
Bacon Sandwiches**

**Saturday
15th February
10am – Noon**

**Entrance £1 includes a free
cup of coffee**

Diary Dates

December

Sun 1st	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev D Muskett
Wed 4th	12.30pm	Body & Soul	Church Hall
Thurs 5th	10-11.30am	Mischief Makers	Church Hall
Sun 8th	10.00am	Morning Service	Mrs F Jenkins
Thurs 12th	10-11.30am	Mischief Makers	Church Hall
Sat 14th	9.30am	Christmas Decorations	
Sun 15th	10.00am	Christmas Gift Service	Rev D Rice
	12.30pm	Christmas Dinner	Church Hall
Wed 18th	2.30pm	Worship Planning	76 Room
Thurs 19th	10-11.30am	Mischief Makers	Church Hall
Sun 22nd	10.00am	Morning Service	Mrs M A-Grey
	4.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	Rev D Muskett
Wed 25th	10.00am	Christmas Day Service	Rev D Coote
Sun 29th	10.00am	Morning Service	Mrs M Fair

January

Sun 5th	10.00am	Covenant Service	Rev D Muskett
Thurs 9th	10-11.30am	Mischief Makers	Church Hall
Sun 12th	10.00am	Morning Service	Rev B Davies
Thurs 16th	10-11.30am	Mischief Makers	Church Hall

Copydate February/March Newsletter

Sat 18th	6pm	New Year Party	Church Hall
Sun 19th	10.00am	Morning Service	Rev D Coote
Mon 20th	2:30pm	Worship Planning	76 Room
Thurs 23rd	10-11.30am	Mischief Makers	Church Hall
Sun 26th	10.00am	Morning Service	Rev D Muskett
Wed 29th	2.30pm	Worship Planning	76 Room

Midhurst Methodist Church

North Street
Midhurst
GU29 9DU

 01730 816206

www.midhurstmethodist.com

 [Midhurst-Methodist-Church-390730361066030/](https://www.facebook.com/Midhurst-Methodist-Church-390730361066030/)

MINISTER:

Rev David Muskett

Tel: 01428 642921

Email: david.muskett41@btinternet.com

Minister's day off – Friday

Steward:

Alison Griffiths

Church Treasurer:

Rodney Bond

Hall Bookings:

Angela Clarke