

FAREHAM

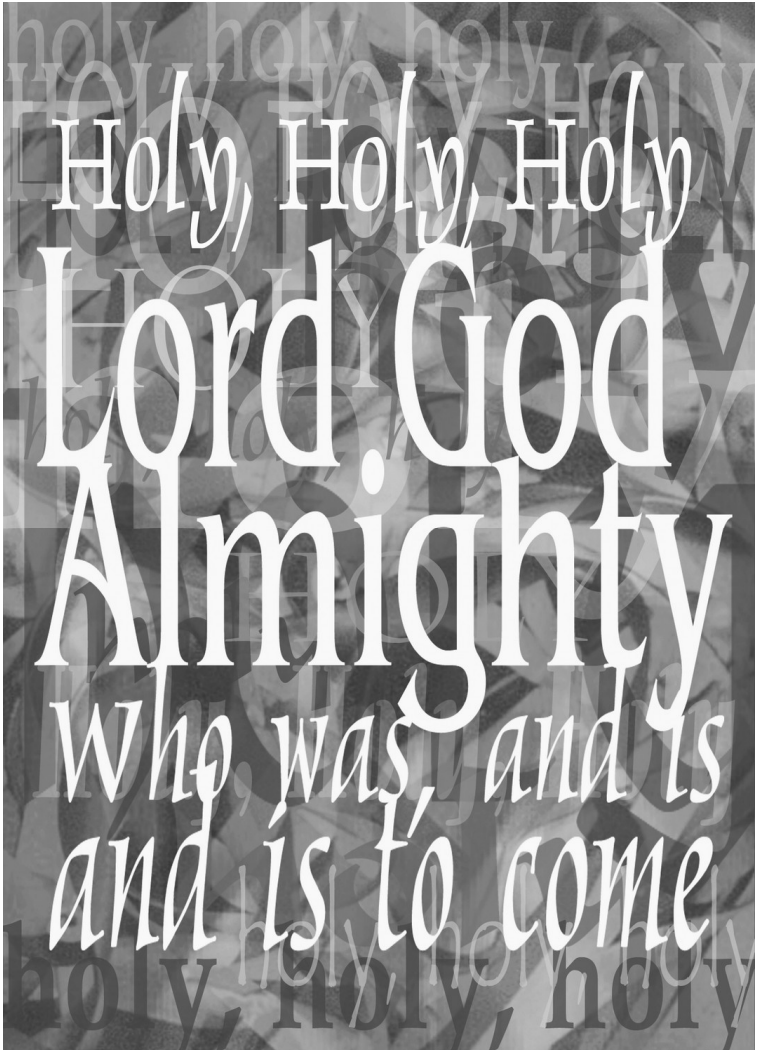
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NOVEMBER 2015

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Fareham Methodist Church
Magazine



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SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

NOV

1st	10.30	Revd Jeanette Richardson Holy Communion
	15.00	Revd Claire Simpson Remembrance of loved ones
8th	10.30	Gerry Williams Remembrance Sunday
12th	14.30	Red House
15th	10.30	Kevin and Linda Foster All Age worship
22nd	10.30	Revd Claire Simpson Baptism
	18.00	Revd Claire Simpson Iona Holy Communion
29th	10.30	Andrew Wilcock 1st Sun in Advent

LOCAL PREACHERS' & TEAM APPOINTMENTS

1st Nov	Fareham Team	10.15	Stubbington
8th Nov	Tracey Cooper	10.45	Lee on Solent
22nd Nov	Andrew Wilcock	10.15	Stubbington

Please remember these preachers in your prayers, as they prepare and

Dear friends,

One of the joys of being in full time ministry is that you get to meet a lot of lovely people - both in the church and in the wider community. I was contacted a while ago by a man called David Farndale, the Shops Manager for the Southern region of the Trussell Trust asking if we could meet up and talk about opportunities to share information and look at how churches might be able to support the Trussell Trust locally. As many of you are aware the Trussell Trust, which has a Christian foundation, works nationally and is probably most well known for its Food Bank initiative of which there are over 400 across Great Britain working to support people in our communities who are living in poverty. However, in our region, the organisation is expanding in other ways too. There are now 14 shops open in Hampshire along with a furniture 'upcycling' unit near Salisbury that looks to improve the quality of some of the donated furniture before it is passed on to be sold in their shops. Some of you will have noticed that there is now a shop next to Cafe Imbizo in West Street, Fareham, and in retail terms it is still early days for this enterprise. The shop is in need of stock to sell, mainly furniture, but other things too. They have a good band of volunteers but more are always welcome and our prayers for their work is also much appreciated.

Last month I wrote about the needs of refugees and migrants. This month, I'm writing about the needs of people in our own communities and country. Jesus said 'You will always have the poor with you....' and we are called to respond to those less fortunate than ourselves in whatever ways we can. Please see below the details of how to go about donating items to the Trussell Trust locally.

Blessings

Claire

The Trussell Trust shop at 169 West Street, Fareham is open, Monday to Saturday 9.30am - 5.00pm, and is wanting any household furniture and items that are in good condition and meet their safety requirements. They can collect from your home and can be contacted on 01329 822941 or 07557528129.

CHURCH NEWS

Vestry Jottings November 2015

Firstly a reminder that on Sunday 8th November (Remembrance Sunday) it is expected that roads around the church will be closed as usual. To avoid problems the car park will be opened earlier on that morning, from about 9.15 am.

As we approach the festive season we would like to share that this year there will not be a Toy Service. This is open for review and if we can find a suitable outlet for the toys we will restart in the coming years.

The Christmas post box will be available from Sunday November 29th with last posting date December 13th. Please only use the box for people attending church as we are unable to distribute further, please name the cards clearly including the surname. Cards will be available from Sunday 13th for collection.

The Church Christmas card will be available later this month, please share this with others as it advertises the services over the festive period.

Looking forward to 3rd to 5th December, we wish the Christmas Tree Festival well and hope it will be well supported by the church community as we welcome many visitors to our premises.

Looking ahead to next year, plans are being made to run a Foundation Safeguarding Course at our church on Saturday 16th April 2016. If you feel you wish to attend training sooner there are other dates available in the circuit (see page 12 for details)

If we can be of any help please contact us.

A Note from the Editor

As in previous years the December/January issue of Focus will cover two months. So please where possible plan ahead and give me input for two months. Also if you submit an article in the post box will you please include your name on it as I need to know who submitted it.

Also on another note, I would like to remind you of the church library based in the snug. It is there so that resources can be shared and used. So if you have any books of a faith nature which you no longer require but could be of use to others, then please pass them to Mark Brooks, who has spent a great deal of time sorting books for our use. Thank you Mark.

The next Healing Prayer Group is on Wednesday November 4th at 10 am at Joan and Jeff Padley's home. All are welcome, as are requests for prayers.

Rita Jackson

Treasurer's Role

I am grateful to Mike and Jean Petter, Rae Shepherd and Kevin Foster who, together with Patrick Watson, have agreed to cover the various aspects of the Church Treasurer's responsibilities. As a first stage of the handover, I am now relinquishing responsibility for banking cash. The church stewards retain responsibility for banking collections received at public worship. Would anyone else with money to be paid into the church bank account please hand it to Patrick, Rae or Jean and not to me.

Antony Hollinghurst

Snug House Group

The next meeting of the Tuesday (Snug) Housegroup will be on 17th November. At 10.15.

We will be looking at Jesus, the Source of Power, Mark 9:2 - 32 and Jesus, the Servant Leader, Mark 10:32-45. If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome.

Linda Press



Wednesday, November 11th 2015

Fareham Methodist Church, Kings Road, Fareham PO16 0NU

**Remembering
4.00pm – 6.00pm**



**Everyone is welcome to join us for games, craft,
worship and a meal.
See us on Facebook**

USA 2015

As many of you know, I spent a month in the USA primarily to visit my family over there. I began, however, with a coach tour of the Colorado Rockies, seeing some marvelous scenery. We



visited Arches National Park, many natural arches eroded in the sandstone, and Mesa Verde, where a tribe had built houses, some 3 storeys high, in clefts in the sandstone cliffs. I enjoyed a ride on a

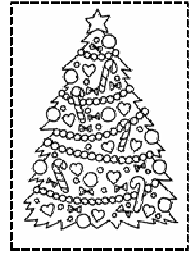
vintage steam railway, but the highlight was getting up to 14110 feet on Pikes Peak.



I then spent 12 days with my granddaughter and family, 4 delightful great-grandchildren. Finally a long weekend with my son and another granddaughter, “chilling

out” in his grand retirement home.

Christmas Tree Festival 3,4 and 5 December



Christmas is around the corner so thank you to those who have replied. Our small committee have set the organising in motion, Christmas Gifts and Cake Stalls will be in the Welcome Area, so please offer contributions. Judges are invited and the Mayor and Mayoress have accepted our invitation for Friday morning, so we are hoping you will join us.

The Christmas tree festival will be open from 10am to 5pm on Thursday and Friday and from 10am till 4pm on Saturday.

The Signing up board for helping set up, stewarding and tidying up, will be out in the Welcome Area from early November. Please offer to help; we are show casing our Church and raising funds for worthy charities.

Janice and Alan

Offers of cakes for the cake stall will be welcomed by Margaret. Large or small cakes and biscuits should be noted with a list of ingredients.

Please bring cakes to the Church on Wednesday afternoon 2nd Dec from 15.00 or Thursday morning the 3rd. Thanking you for any support you can give, it will be appreciated as it has been in previous years.

Margaret Temple

Christmas Gift Stall

I will again be running the Gift Stall at the Christmas Tree Festival and would be grateful for any Donations of goods to sell. They can be brought to Church at any time as I do have some storage.

Proceeds from this stall are to cover the Church costs so that all other income received is divided among the various Charities.

Thank you all,

Shirley Henderson

SUNDAY LUNCH 15th November at 12.15 p.m.approx.

This is open to all members of the congregation and all family and friends. There is no set charge for the meal we just ask for donations for MHA this month. If you would like to make a pudding of your choice and bring it along that would be very good – thank you.

The Menu

Starter: Soup or Pate

Main Course: Chicken breasts in gravy or BBQ sauce,
Roast Potatoes, , Vegetables

Puddings: Variety

There will be a list in the vestibule for you to sign. Please come along and enjoy a Sunday Roast!



If you would like to send one Christmas card to all your church friends and give a donation for Action for Children I will be putting up a display to which your cards may be added and I will be collecting donations.

Catherine Stevenson

Mission of Love

Can you knit? Do you have some odd balls of double knitting wool and a pair of number 7 (4.5mm) needles? I do have some wool and a few pairs of needles if you want to use them. So what are we doing? Yes, we are knitting squares for blankets - 40 stitches, plain knitting, 8 inch squares. Some of the ladies who came to the Holiday at Home last August have been busy knitting and this week we will be giving out the first three blankets. They will be going to people who need our thoughts and prayers and hopefully the blanket with its message of love from the church will bring them some comfort.

So why are we doing it? I was so touched earlier this year when a friend from a church in Bishopstoke gave me a blanket with a card to pass on to my daughter in law who was about to start a course of chemotherapy. The message with the blanket was simple. The blanket was made with love by ladies connected to the church and sent with the love and the prayers of the church family. I knew that I had many odd balls of wool and decided to 'test the water' last August. I have received many squares as well as the complete blankets. If you would like to help with this outreach please let me know or just hand over your completed squares to me!

Garry Bagshaw

GOD'S GARDEN?

A short while ago Ruth and I visited Hinton Ampner, the National Trust House near Winchester; one of our many regular outings to this lovely place. It was one of those bright, cool, high silver clouded, blue sky days so typical of early Autumn. The colours of the many flowers and berries in the gardens sparkled in the clear air, offset by the multi-toned greens and browns of the plants and trees lending an aura of peace and tranquillity. Walking down one of the many hedge lined avenues made me wonder if this was what heaven could be like. However even this paradise in Hampshire has to be worked; planned, dug, planted, weeded and trimmed time and again for each season. I wonder if the real heaven is like that? So when your time comes and you are looking forward to some rest and peace in the 'Promised Land' you might find yourself reaching for the garden fork and the pruning shears! Just a thought!

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Prayer I

This is the first of a series of articles on different ways of praying. Subjects to be covered are being and doing, meditation, Lectio Divina, imaginative contemplation of scripture, intercessory prayer, prayer and social justice. First of all, here are some introductory comments.

Rowan Williams has recently said that ‘prayer is never a skill that we learn, it is much more an environment we come to live in, something we inhabit’. In other words, prayer is how we relate to God in the whole of our lives, not just when we ‘turn to God in prayer.’ We can be very loving when we go to church on Sunday but if we behave very differently on Monday morning, wherever we are, then we become Jekyll and Hyde Christians. Rowan Williams is reminding us that prayer is an environment we inhabit all the time.

Prayer is also not a matter of saying the right words - whatever they are. More is it a case of simply being ourselves before God. The main thing in prayer is that we don’t try to be what we are not. Many years ago, I heard about a school that was to be visited by the Queen. I was struck by all the preparation that went into her visit. Graffiti was scrubbed away, flowers and bushes planted, litter removed, rooms painted, and pupils and teachers were on their best behaviour. The Queen, being an official visitor, never sees things as they are. She sees things as we would like them to be. The point is that God is not an official visitor. God sees us precisely as we are so there is no point in trying to be something other than we are. Therefore we pray as we are, not as we aren’t. We are ourselves, with all our failings and vulnerabilities. Prayer is letting go of our defences and letting God in. Furthermore, prayer is not an examination. You don’t need a theology degree to speak to God anymore than you need a medical degree to speak to a doctor. Prayer is for amateurs and we remain amateurs all our lives. Somebody has written ‘that prayer is merely the word we use to describe the practical way we allow God’s love to enter into our lives.’ (David Torkington, *Wisdom from the Western Isles*). Amateurs do things because they love doing them. Christians pray because it is a loving thing to do. In prayer we remember that God loves us just as we are and that we do our best to love God with all that we have.

CIRCUIT INFORMATION

Creating a Safer Space - Foundation Training -

Details copied from the circuit website :

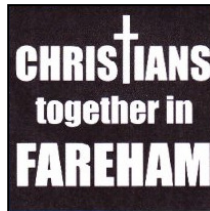
www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

Creating Safer Space Foundation training to be held at Bedhampton Methodist Church on Friday 6 November. Please arrive 6pm for 6.30 pm - training will take approximately 3 hours If you would like to attend please contact Jean Pannell by email - jpannell@hotmail.co.uk There will be a limited number of people able to attend on this occasion, but other dates can be arranged through Jean

Creating Safer Space Foundation training to be held at Copnor Methodist Church on Friday 27th November. Please arrive 6pm for 6.30 pm - training will take approximately 3 hours If you would like to attend please contact Jean Pannell by email - jpannell@hotmail.co.uk There will be a limited number of people able to attend on this occasion, but other dates can be arranged

The Boy From The Boro - Play

This is a play to be held at Drayton United Church on Saturday 7th November at 4.30pm including food. Free tickets available from Rev Andrew de Ville either by phone; 023 9237 6057 or email andrew@devilles.plus.com.



Several events are planned over the Christmas period

- A sheep trail, to be launched on 29th November. Sheep to be in shop windows in the centre and along West Street, details will be included in the Council publication that goes out to the borough. There will be a sheet to record the sheep's names available from leaflet holders in the centre, on the reverse will be the Christmas story.
- Christingle Stall, this is booked for 5th December between 11am and 2pm in one of the community areas in the shopping centre. Children will make a Christingle to take away along with a leaflet about Christingle.

Christmas Present wrapping service is booked for 21st December, from 4pm – 8pm in the centre.

Carols in bandstand. There will be a variety of items on Thursday 17th December from 4.30. Holy Trinity will lead carols with accordion accompaniment from 4.45-5.15. All singers are most welcome to join



VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE

**An Evening of Entertainment at
Fareham United Reformed Church
Osborn Road Fareham**

7pm

Saturday 14 November 2015

Tickets £2

All proceeds to the Alzheimer's Support Group

Sarah Miller
and
Neil Roxburgh
Music for Clarinet and Piano
Sunday 15th November
3pm
Soothing classics,
post-Sunday Lunch



Free Admission

**Holy Trinity Church,
West Street,**

Fareham PO16 0EL

***Retiring Collection in aid of the Church Refur-
bishment Fund***

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN



POPPIES

Poppies flower in the summer, don't they? So why poppies in November? You will see them everywhere in the next week or so, and everyone from the smallest Rainbow or Beaver to the Queen will be wearing a poppy on Remembrance Sunday.

We wear poppies because, among all the mud and chaos of the battlefields of the Great War, men were amazed to see the humble field flower of home spring up where the earth was disturbed – a blood red splash of colour in a sea of khaki.



When the British Legion started an appeal to help those whose bodies or minds had been smashed by war, the poppy seemed an ideal symbol. And even now, when World War I and II seem so far away, our troops are fighting, being wounded and dying; reminding us that the poppy is also a symbol of sacrifice.

PRINT A POPPY

How? Well the answer lies in your own hands. You will need a white paper plate, red and black finger or poster paint and two margarine lids or saucers to put the paint on.

Put some newspaper on the table and start. Squeeze some red paint onto one lid or saucer and put black paint on the other one. Put your thumb into the red paint and use it to make 5 overlapping petals in a circle on the edge of your plate. Put your index finger into the black paint and use it to stamp a centre for your poppy.

Continue printing poppies all round the edge of your plate to make a wreath. Leave it to dry and then you can write 'Lest We Forget' or 'Remembrance' in the middle of the plate. You could hang the plate in your front window to share with others.



When is the first food fight mentioned in the Bible?

'I looked and behold a flying roll!'
(Zech 5:1 KJV)

Do you know the phone number for the Garden of Eden?

Adam 8-1-2

Did you know that Paul was the 1st surfer in the Bible?

Remember in Acts when he 'came ashore on a board'?

**“Life Expo” - Outreach in the Lord’s name by the
Fareham Western Wards Church Network**

This interactive exhibition where year 5 and 6 school children can get their hands on some technical gadgets and through these discover the story of Jesus, is all ready to go at St John’s Church, Church Road, Locks Heath, SO31 6LW both mornings and afternoons Monday to Friday 9th to 13th November. 700 children from six schools are expected to be bussed to and from the exhibition, for free.

Paul Bedford and others will be at St Johns between 7 and 9pm on Monday 9 November to welcome anyone who would like to know more. Allow an hour for your visit. You might like to consider if it could be offered elsewhere around Fareham

An event presented by IBEX—The Churches Working with the Economy.

**This will take place at Fareham United Reformed Church
At 19.30 on Thursday 5th November 2015**

Paul Morrison, a member of the National Joint Public Issues Team, will be speaking on the subject of:

**New Government—
New challenges for churches
Committed to Social Justice**

The first majority Conservative Government in 18 years
Changes the political landscape - what does that mean for churches?

Paul Morrison is the JPIT’s policy advisor on issues around the economy including poverty and inequality, and author of “The Lies we tell ourselves” report. (JPIT is a group combining expertise from the Baptist, Methodist, URC and Church of Scotland.)

I do not know who submitted this information so I take it as seen

FLOWER MINISTRY



Thanks to Joan, Margaret and Bob for their visits and beautiful flowers and to Una for sending notes and copies of Focus, and for all your kind thoughts and prayers.

Shirley and Eric Grant

We send special love to Shirley following the death of her sister . We also pray for her and the caring role that she has.

I'd like to say thank you for the church flowers given to me after the service on Oct. 4th. They gave me pleasure for the whole week.

I very much appreciated receiving church flowers and talking to Marian when she stayed to chat.

Mavis Parish

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers given to me by Joan. They have been much admired by my friends.

Gillian and Cliff Hawkins were delighted to receive church flowers on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Margaret Temple was grateful for the kind wishes and church flowers she received recently.

Thankyou for the plant I was given, it was a lovely surprise. It was a gift for the work with the children and I'm disappointed that I'm unable to continue. Edith Livingstone

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
NOV 2 9.30 Mini-market	3 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	4 10an Healing Prayer group at Padley's	5 9.30 Coffee 10.00 Transport Enthusiasts 10.15 Prayer C. 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	6	7 18.30 Quiz at St John's
9 9.30 Mini-Market	10 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	11 14.00 Wed. Fellowship 16.00 Messy Church	12 9.30 Coffee 14.30 Red House Service 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	13	14 19.00 Concert at URC
16 9.30 Mini-Market	17 9.45 Parent & Toddlers 10.15 Snug HG	18	19 9.30 Coffee 10.15 Prayer C. 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	20	21 10am Porches- ter Christ- mas Fair
23 9.30 Mini-Market	24 9.45 Parent & Toddlers	25 14.00 Wed. Fellowship	26 9.30 Coffee 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	27	28
30 9.30 Mini-Market	DEC 1 9.45 Par- ent & Toddlers	2	3 Christmas Tree Festival 10.00 17.30 Brownies 19.30 Singing	4 Christ- mas Tree Festival 10.00	5 Christ- mas Tree Festival 10.00

The diary dates as displayed are presented in the same format as the Church website. They are as accurate as the information provided at the time of going to press, but should only be used as a guide, which can be updated with information from the weekly notice sheet..

I've Been Coming Here on Sundays

I've been coming here on Sundays for seventy year or so,
"Twas here that I was Christened and 'tis here I'll want to go."

Now I know you all gets vexed about changes in belief.
Well frills on top don't matter if you're comfy underneath.
I never lets it bother if I'm High or Low or what,
While I've got me Ten Commandments,
I shan't go wrong a lot.

All these guitars and instruments—
It's no more than they had
Afore they put the organ in,
When my Granddad was a lad,
And I don't suppose God'll worry,
He wouldn't make a fuss,
As long as all the singing's meant for Him and not for us.

We've had clergy coming straight from college, Full of summat new,
From candles on the altar to posters in the pew,
And I lets 'em all get on with it, 'cos all these fashions pass,
And you'll still do the flowers, me dears,
And I'll still clean the brass.

I got this seat I always have, no draughts and nice and near,
So I can hear the organ and see the preacher clear,
And I tells God what's been happening, And what a week I've had,
And I thanks Him for the good times,
And He helps me through the bad,
'Cos all that really matters, as far as I can see,
Is that I, down here, remembers Him, And He remembers me.

*An abridged /amended version of a poem by Barbara Robinson
Thank you Mary for finding the original version while visiting another*

DOOR STEWARDS

NOV	1st	Margaret and Bob Temple
	8th	Liz Haigh and Lynda Hayden-Jones
	15th	Liz Avison and Irene Russell
	22nd	Eric Wheeler / Watsons
	29th	Bessie and Daniel Taabu
DEC	6th	Lynda Young and Mary Bailey

REFRESHMENT ROTA

NOV	1st	Sheila Dyer and Sarah Brooks and Meg Cox
	8th	Margaret Boyd and Jenny Chalmers
	15th	Margaret Temple, Sally Bland and Brenda Bennett
	22nd	Cath Stevenson and Judith Bramall
	29th	Pat Croker and Mary Bailey
DEC	6th	Liz Haigh and Liz Avison

FLOWER ROTA

NOV	1st.	Margaret Fielder
	8th.	Marilyn Woodrow
	15th.	Flower Fund
	22nd.	Una Peters

PRESS DATE

All items for the DEC/JAN Focus should be emailed to ruthelvery@yahoo.co.uk or if this is not possible placed in the box in the Welcome Area by noon of **Thurs 26 November.**

Fareham Focus is available on the Fareham Church Website