

FAREHAM EFOCUS FEBRUARY 2026



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www.farehammethodist.org.uk

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**Services for the Month of
February 2026**

08th Feb. 10:30 am
Local Arrangement.

15th Feb. 10:30 am
Revd. Pauline Crispin.
All Age Worship.

18th Feb. 3:00 pm
Ash Wednesday Service at
Stubbington Methodist Church.

22nd Feb. 10:30 am
Mr David Arnott.

6:00 pm
Revd. Dr. John Illsley.
Holy Communion.

**Sunday Coffee and Tea Rota
February 2026**

08th Feb. Meg Cox and
Brenda Bennett.

15th Feb. Irene Russell and
Sue Gibson.

22nd Feb. Jean and Mike Petter.

01st Mar. Alison Humby and
Liz Avison.

Flower Rota February 2026

08th Feb.

15th Feb.

22nd Feb. Lin Woodhams.

01st Mar.

**Meet and Greet on a Sunday.
February 2026**

08th Feb. Christine Fielding.

15th Feb. Christine Fielding.

22nd Feb. Simon Potter.

01st Mar. Christine Fielding.

UPCOMING CHURCH MEETINGS

12th February – 7:30 pm Church Council Meeting.

Please send Heather reports of any meetings held since the last Church Council.

Sunday Lunch 15th February 2026 at 12.15 approx.

This is open to all members of the congregation and all family and friends. We ask for a donation (of at least £5 each if you are able, please) towards the cost of the meal and any profits will go to **Charity**. If you would like to make, for our lunch, a pudding of your choice and bring it along that would be very good – thank you.

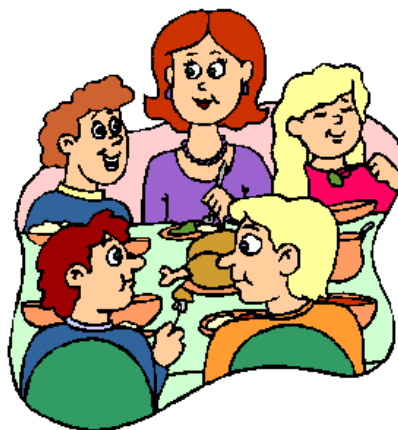
The Menu

Starter: Soup or Pâté

Main Course: Pork, Sausages, Roast Potatoes, Vegetables.

Puddings: Variety.

There will be a list in the Welcome area for you to sign.
Please come along and enjoy a Sunday roast.



THANK YOU, MESSAGES FROM OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Many thanks to the person who left the empty jam jars outside the church kitchen I presumed they were meant for me, and I am pleased to report they have been refilled with marmalade ready for the Spring sale. Lynda HJ

Many thanks for all the prayers during my recent stay in hospital - they made a difference!

Also, for the cards, good wishes and flowers delivered by Liz Avison on my return home.
Linda (F)

Many thanks for the church flowers delivered to me today. It gives a little lift to the soul knowing that someone has thought about you.

I have felt pretty useless lately but luckily am on the mend so thank you again.

Penny (Garrett)

Please note: From 28th January our address will be 43 Cyprus Road,
Titchfield Common, PO14 4JZ

Best Wishes

Peter & Frances Moody 07785528514

EFOCUS DEADLINE 23RD FEBRUARY.

DATES OF EVENTS HAPPENING IN OUR CHURCH

BEETLE DRIVE – 11th February

CRAFT DAY – 18th March

HOLIDAY AT HOME – 20th March

SPRING FAYRE – 2nd May

VALUE IT – 20th June

Watch out for the posters advertising these events.

Put them in your diaries

Help needed on Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday (5th April) there will be the usual Communion service on the beach at Hill Head at 8am. Jill Groom will need help preparing beforehand and serving bacon butties and hot drinks after the service, in The Wheelhouse.

If you can help please let Jill know as soon as possible.

World Day of Prayer



Friday 7th March

More than 170 countries participate in an annual day of prayer. This year's service has been prepared by a group of Christian women in Nigeria. The theme is: 'I will give you rest, come'.

The services are at St John the Evangelist 1A Upper Saint Michael's Grove, Fareham PO14 1DN at **2.00pm** and **7.30pm**. Everyone is welcome. Light refreshments will be served after each service.

If you would like a lift to either service, please let me know.

Linda Foster

Vestry Jottings

Hello everyone, another month gone, where does time go to... there are only a few messages for this month:- please look out for the minutes from Rev. John Illsley's last 'workshop'. We will be discussing it at the ACM on 29th March, and we really would love your input, ideas, thoughts etc. .

It is Lent soon and there are lots of services coming up. We are pleased to say that we are invited to two joint services with our brothers and sisters in Stubbington for joint Ash Wednesday 18th February at 3:00 pm and Maundy Thursday 2nd April at 6:30pm. Both services in Stubbington will be led by Pauline.

If you have problems getting there have a word with one of us.



On another note, anyone interested in joining our Thursday prayer and Bible Study groups would be most welcome.

On the 29th March the service is now a Local Arrangement, if anyone has any ideas or suggestions, please see Jean.

Audrey Mann



News from the website

In the last month

- 709 different people have accessed our website.
- 701 people were new users.
- 148 new people were directly searching for "Fareham Methodist Church"
- 129 new website visitors were from the UK. (The rest were from across the world - USA, China, Germany, Brazil, Vietnam, Singapore, Holland, Argentina and Ecuador.)
- The website "Calendar" was the most viewed page, with the "Home" page, "Photos", "Contact Us" and "Leadership Team" pages following closely.

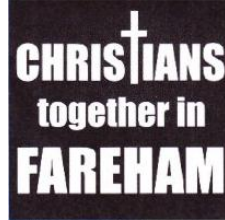
As you can see from these results, relatively few of our members use our website regularly. This, I would guess, is probably because we are so well informed about events, etc., by other means like weekly notices. This is good (and well done to **Judith** for the weekly notices and **Lin** for the eFocus and Facebook pages!). However, we can't ignore over 700 people a month who visit our website for information.

So please

- Would those responsible for activities (Regular or One-off) please continue to keep me informed of dates and changes.
- Let me know of any other changes that affect the information displayed on the website.

Many thanks,

Email: malcolm.groom@methodist.org.uk



LENT LUNCHES

Five Thursdays

starting

26th February 2026 12.15

to 1.00pm

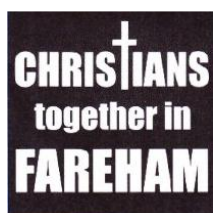
at Fareham United Reformed Church,
Osborn Road South

Homemade soup, bread, fruit, tea and coffee

Donations to:



We believe in life before death



Lent Study Groups 2026

CTiF are pleased to offer five study groups during Lent using the York Course 'Daring to see God now' by Bishop Nick Baines.

Mark's Gospel begins with Jesus 'proclaiming the Good news of God'. But what is this 'good news', and who is it for?

Taking Mark 1.14-15 as a starting point, this course raises important questions about change, repentance, and how we can become in ourselves living evidence of the good news. Examples are taken from the rest of Mark's Gospel as well as contemporary and historic Christians.

There are 5 sessions:

- The Good News of God
- The time is now
- God is present
- Change your mind
- Live it!

The course starts in the week beginning 23rd February and runs for 5 weeks, each attendee will receive the course book at the first session – please bring £5.00 with you to cover this.

If you wish to join with Christians from across the town, please fill in the form below and return it to Liz Dunning, 8 Frosthole Crescent, Fareham, PO15 6AD or by email elizdunning@ntlworld.com by Friday 13th February please.

Name _____ Phone number _____

Email _____ (please print clearly)

Church attended _____

Any special needs or requirements? _____

Please tick all the days/venues that you could attend – you will be notified by the host for your session in the week commencing 16th February at the latest.

Tuesday	10am	Frosthole Crescent	
Tuesday	7.00pm	Odell Close	
Wednesday	10am	Purbeck Drive	
Wednesday	2pm	Bentley Crescent	
Thursday	10am	Southampton Road	

Will you share a course book with spouse/partner?

If you have any questions or require more information please call Liz on 07879 685556.

The Prayer Tree



The Prayer Tree is in the Welcome Area. Anyone who would like the Prayer Circle to pray for them, or others, please write your request on a leaf and hang it on the tree. These will be collected each month when the group meets.

The Thursday prayer group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.

All are welcome to join us, for five minutes or for as long as you wish. We will pray with or for you or you may prefer to just listen and pray silently. Our prayers will include any from the prayer tree left during the month.

5 February	Bobby
5 March	Jill Race
2 April	Rev Pauline
7 May	Bob Temple
4 June	Rev Pauline
2 July	Jill Race



THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

We are nearing the end of our Bible study on 'The Women of the New Testament'. We have some ideas for new studies and wondered if anyone would like to join us and study some of these themes; like:- The sermon on the mount, the 12 disciples, Heaven, Questions God asks, Hope, Listening to God or Forgiveness. These are just a few of our ideas and would love your input, ideas or thoughts. If you'd like to study a particular book of the Bible instead of a theme all are available. We have used the Lifebuilder Bible Study Notes. Looking forward to hearing from you with lots of ideas or thoughts, all requests or ideas welcome.

If you'd like to join us on the 3rd Thursday (10-11am) of the month (usually) please pop along.

Thank you, Audrey.

COME AND ENJOY A



At Fareham

Methodist Church

Wednesday 11th February

Starting at 2.30 p.m.



£5.00



includes tea/coffee and
delicious cakes!



Fareham Methodist Church



**Come along at
Spring Half Term
Tuesday 17th Feb 2026
10am – 12:30
including Lunch**



***Games and Activities and All Together Time
at***



Messy Church

NEW YEAR,
NEW MESSY CHURCH!

NEW LOOK,

We can be proud that for over 13 years our Messy Church has met on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 3:30 pm until 6:00 pm.

Our 14th Birthday Celebrations will be a new look Messy Church, at a new time., with (we hope!) new families joining us on the TUESDAY MORNING of the FEBRUARY HALF-TERM. From 10:00 am to 12.30 pm on Tuesday 17th February come along for fun, food and Altogether Time.

Dear Jill Groom

As a member of Fareham Methodist Church who has appreciated many of your lovely Sunday lunches. I would like you to say thank you to those behind the scenes that do some of the more boring jobs.

With grateful thanks. Marion.



The Ladie's Club
Christmas celebration
having fun at
Palmerston Bowling
Club.

Fareham Methodist Church
Mission Meeting 2: 1st November 2025

Notes to our discussions

1. In thinking about Mission, we continued to think about the good things our church has to offer. These included:

The many people with whom the church already has contact every week and the opportunities to build on that; the church building is a community resource.

Good social contact through our Monday and Thursday groups

Inclusivity

The range of talents in the church

Good range of groups

Welcoming church in a diverse community and a good community spirit

Pastoral team

Flower ministry

Messy Church

Sharing meals

2. We then looked at the community we serve:

What is good about our community?

Good transport links, housing for older generations, leisure centre, Fareham Live, a new town plan is anticipated, more affordable housing, good library, banks.

What is less good about our community?

General accessibility with having to pay to park, empty shops, road works, lack of a sense of community and hence loneliness, lack of facilities for younger people, social divisions, many churches very close together.

What might the church offer?

Advertising what is already offered

Better communications with leaflets, visiting and online presence.

Engage more with Churches Together

Offer worship in local residential homes/sheltered accommodation.

Outreach to Welbourne

3. And finally, trying to put together our discussions, where could we focus to build on the good things we have in reaching to our community and the needs we see?

One idea was to focus on Families, engaging with the groups that use the church, offering possibly a homework club. To enable this, we need to consider employing a Family Worker. A second idea was to focus on older people living in retirement complexes, offering meals and fellowship.

A third idea was a drop-in day once a week, offering fellowship and a listening ear. This might develop into some sort of advice centre.

We need to focus on enabling people to have a relationship with God, exploring with our local community ways to so engage.

Final Comments (and these are personal comments):

A number of good ideas came out from our discussion, but there is now the need for continued momentum. And there needs to be a focus; you cannot do everything at once. This process must not be the end - it needs action to move things forward. And in this our people need to catch the vision. It needs our people to step up, be willing to be involved and to take the risk that not every idea will work out. It needs the church as a whole to embrace this as a worthwhile mission and to recognise this as outreach.

The idea of employing someone was mentioned. Employing someone can work really well as a way to kick-start something new, to provide expertise that is not available otherwise, or to work alongside the members of the church to develop something already happening but with potential. As we said, the church is not the building but the people, and mission and ministry is for all; it would not work to pay someone to do something in terms of mission that the church was not both committed to and involved in.

I am available and willing to help more if you feel that might help. John Illsley



A year ago, we took delivery of the textile recycling bin and located it at the side of the church. The arrangement with the recycling company is that we get paid for clothing and textiles put into the bin. The company sorts the donations with the best quality being sold, and the rest sent to eastern Europe and Africa. The lowest grade items are sent to Asia for use as recycled rag. Clothes, shoes, bed linen, soft toys and accessories (belts, hats, scarfs gloves) can all be put into the bin. Off cuts, duvets, cushions, carpets and curtains cannot.

During the year nearly 1 tonne of textile has been put into our bin, and the church has received £145 from the recycler. Many thanks to everyone who has used the textile bank. If you want to find out more about the scheme, please visit Astra Recycling's website. www.astrarecycling.co.uk

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THE FAREHAM WELL

Registered Charity Number: 1074045

A Grant Awarding Charity in Fareham

Purpose

The Fareham Well is a grant-making charity established for the prevention or relief of poverty of people living in the borough of Fareham. This purpose is delivered principally, but not exclusively, by providing grants, items and services to Christian and other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty or respond to community need.

Grants will only be awarded to organisations and cannot be made to individuals.

Who can apply?

We make grants to a wide range of organisations. We are particularly keen to help churches, other religious organisations, grassroots community groups and small to-medium-sized voluntary organisations.

You do not have to be a registered charity to apply, but the work you ask us to support must be legally charitable.

You must have a governing body with a constitution and comprising at least three unrelated individuals as well as a bank account in your group's name with at least two unrelated signatories.

Our grants are normally awarded for activities that benefit the people of Fareham, but the trustees will consider the merits of applications in support of activities that benefit neighbouring communities.

Grant-making process

1. **Application** – which should be made using the online form. This is available on our website at www.farehamwell.org.uk/apply
2. **Assessment** – to determine whether the request meets the criteria of our grants. Requests that do not meet the criteria will be rejected or, at the trustees' discretion, may be returned with a request for further information.
3. **Review and recommendation** – of the assessment by our Grants Committee which makes a recommendation to the trustees.
4. **Decision** – by a majority of the trustees. We will let you know the trustees' decision as soon as possible after it has been taken.
5. **Award and Completion of Grant Agreement.**

How can you help?

1. Tell organisations about **our grants**
 2. Put yourself forward to be a **community representative** to serve on the Grants Committee
 3. Recommend **other people** to serve as a **community representative**
- For further details about The Fareham Well, our Grant Making Policy, our Grants Committee and the role of a community representative, visit our website at www.farehamwell.org.uk.