

FAREHAM EFOCUS MAY 2026



Fareham Methodist Church
Efocus May 2026
Registered Charity No 1127814

MINISTER: The Revd. Pauline Crispin

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EDITOR: Lin Woodhams

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Fareham Church Website:

www.farehammethodist.org.uk

Circuit website: www.esanddcircuit.org.uk

Services for the Month of
May 2026

10 th May	10:30 am. Mrs Imelda Temple 6 th of Easter
17 th May	10:30 am Revd. Elize Goddess All Age/Church Anniversary 7 th of Easter
24 th May	10:30 am. Local Arrangement. Pentecost
	6:00 pm. Revd. David Faulkner Holy Communion.
31 st May	10:30 am. Revd. Pauline Crispin 9 th Trinity.
7 th June	10:30 am Revd. Pauline Crispin Holy Communion 10 th in Ordinary Time.

Sunday Coffee and Tea Rota
May 2026

10 th May	Irene Russell and Sue Gibson.
17 th May	Jean and Mike Petter.
24 th May	Alison Humby and Liz Avison.
31 st May	Edith Livingstone and Liz Avison.
7 th June	Cath Stevenson and Margaret Boyd.

Meet and Greet on a Sunday.
May 2026

10 th May	Heather Murphy.
17 th May	Simon Potter.
24 th May	Christine Fielding.
31 st May	Christine Fielding.
7 th June	Christine Fielding.

Flower Rota May 2026

10 th May	Edith Livingstone.
17 th May	
24 th May	Lynda Haydon-Jones.
31 st May	
7 th June	Lin and Chris Woodhams



Sunday Lunch 17th May 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.

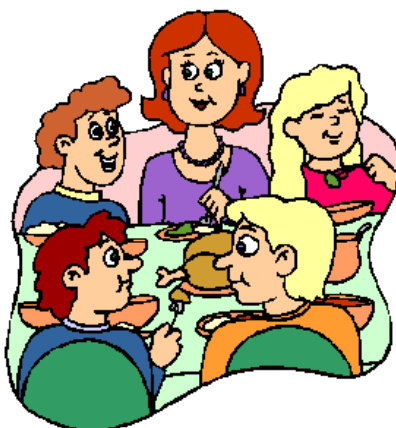
The Menu

Starter: Soup or Pâté

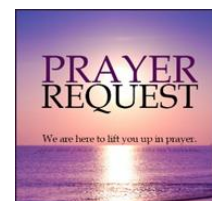
Main Course: Pork, Sausages, Roast Potatoes, Vegetables.

Puddings: Variety.

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



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.

7 th May	Bob Temple
4 th June	Rev. Pauline
2 nd 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, e.g. - 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.

messy CHURCH

Fareham Methodist Church

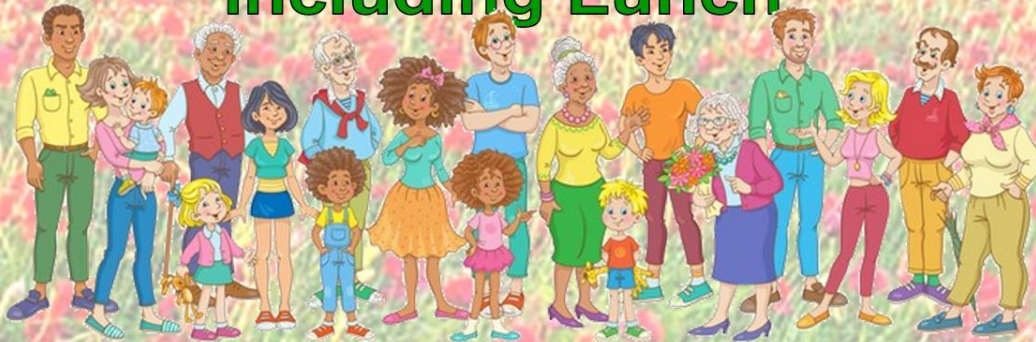


**Come along during
the Summer Half-term**

Tuesday 26th May 2026

10am – 12:30

including Lunch



Games and Activities and All Together Time

at



Messages from Church Members

I was so very pleased to see Irene, and she brought me church flowers which were lovely and I was very grateful. I cannot get to church as often as I would like, at the moment, but hope to come as often as I can.

Joan Moore



Pictures from Marion Bright's garden. I couldn't decide which one to use as they were all so beautiful. So put in all three.

Sylvia and Julie would like to say thank you for the lovely flowers from our church family delivered by Tony and Liz. Sylvia enjoyed chatting with Tony very much. The flower ministry of the church is appreciated by so many people, and we would both like to say thank you to everyone who makes it possible.

Julie Kettle



Christmas Angels

Calling all knitters.

Will **you** knit some angels as part of an outreach programme we plan to run in December?

We need lots of angels, as many as you can knit between now and 10th December.

Each Angel will then be labelled with a Christmas message of hope for the world. A team will then place the Angels in a chosen area of Fareham where they will be left for the public to find.

Knitting patterns are available in the Welcome Area or from Maggie or Pauline.

If there are any knitters with spare wool at home, please consider placing it in the box in the welcome area. This will allow others to knit an angel or a hat without incurring any cost to themselves.

Happy Knitting.

We will be knitting the angels at the Thursday Coffee Centre.
Come and join us

VESTRY JOTTINGS

Hello folks,

Well, this is my final offering as Steward. I'd like to thank everyone for taking the time to read my missives each month. It has been a good experience writing the jottings for the past few years. It has been great to be part of the Stewards' team, and I thank you for your prayers and support.

We are very pleased to welcome Lanre to the team this month, and I'm sure you'll join with us in welcoming her in person. We are also pleased that Richard Atkins-Greig will be participating in the service on 3rd May. 'Welcome back Richard'.

At the AGM last month, we broke into smaller groups and discussed the outcomes of the 'mission' work we have been doing with John Ilesley. As Stewards, we believe we 'fit' the 'C' box, which is as follows:-

- * We offer weekly worship and pastoral care
- * We are willing to consider changes and adapting
- * We currently run good activities, but without specific aims focussed on Missional and numeric growth
- * We are willing to grow but perhaps lack tangible ideas, resources or understanding
- * Mission plans are becoming clearer; they are not yet embedded but we do regularly discuss this
- * We are able to fill key posts
- * We are open to taking risks in regard to opportunities for growth in depth and numbers.

At the next Church Council Meeting these bullet points and how we might move forward will be discussed. If you have any views or insight, please speak to one of the Stewards.

Audrey, on behalf of the Stewards.

Dear Friends,

There are few things worse than reading a book and finding that a page is missing. It is worst of all when it is the last page. Few of us would even start to read a book if we knew it would be cut short, yet, with Jesus, we sometimes do something very similar, celebrating his resurrection, and the gift of his Spirit at Pentecost, but virtually overlook his Ascension, which this year is May 14th. The Ascension, however, is of the utmost importance: it marks a new stage in the ministry of Jesus and a new stage in the history of humankind. Jesus did not come down just to walk the earth and be friendly; he came down to lift us up that we might share with him in his kingdom. At Christmas we celebrate 'God made flesh'; at Ascension we celebrate our humanity being raised to God. Jesus became human that we might share in the divine!

One reason why the Ascension might be overlooked, perhaps, is that our account of the Ascension is caught in a time-warp, reflecting the cosmology of days gone by. God is seen as 'up there' and so Jesus is portrayed as vanishing up into heaven, the disciples staring bewildered into the sky (as one of my college tutors would have said it is "*up theology*"). Such language serves to obscure the underlying message of Ascension as surely as the cloud hid Jesus from the Apostles' sight. Yet, if the details of what happened are a mystery, the significance is clear enough. This was a watershed moment for the Apostles when they realised, for the first time, the full magnitude of who Jesus was. They had followed him during his ministry, believing him to be the Messiah; they had rejoiced at his resurrection, greeting him as the risen Lord; but now they recognised that he was the Son of God, the King of Kings and Lord of all.

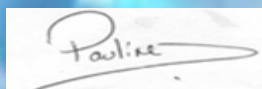
When on earth, Jesus, like all humans, was restricted by space and time. There was no way that Jesus could be in two places at once: if he was in Jerusalem, he could not be in Nazareth; while he was in Galilee, he could not be at Bethany. After the resurrection it seems to be a little different as he suddenly appears in the room with the disciples or in the garden to Mary. But he still seems to be in one place at a time. A new stage is marked by the Ascension: it is summarised in the words, 'Remember, I am with you always' (Matthew 28:20).

Jesus is freed from the restrictions of space and time; he is now available to us wherever we are. He is here and with us now. Some churches begin their services by saying, 'The Lord is here. His Spirit is with us.' It is sad that we often do not acknowledge the wonder and the full meaning of this great truth: The Lord is here.

Above all, don't forget what Ascension Day means, for it reminds us that Jesus is greater than words can begin to express, sovereign overall. It gives us the complete picture, without which our faith is infinitely the poorer.

Jesus came down that we might be raised up on high.

Every Blessing

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pauline". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.



Christian Aid Week 10th – 16th May

There will be a Christian Aid stall in Fareham Shopping Centre from Monday to Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm. Collectors are needed! Many of those who have helped in the past are no longer able to do this. So, please think about helping and let me know if you can spare an hour or two during the week.

There will be an opportunity to donate at the end of the service on 10th May or the following week on 17th May.

Many thanks,
Linda Foster



VALUE IT

Come along to
Fareham Methodist Church,
Kings Road, Fareham.

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE

From 10 am – 4 pm.

to have your family

Heirlooms, etc.

**Valued by
Nesbit's Auctioneers**



£1.00 per item valued.
Refreshments available

CHRISTIANS together in FAREHAM

HOLIDAY CLUB

BRIGHT SPARKS

2026

27th to 31st July
9:45am to 1:15pm
For children in years R to 6

Booking opens
Wednesday 6th May

farehamchristians.org.uk
07749 023776

ONLY £15 FOR THE WEEK

Saying Goodbye Remembrance Service Chichester, West Sussex

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL
SATURDAY, 9TH OF MAY,
2026 - 3PM

A SERVICE FOR ANYONE WHO HAS LOST A BABY IN PREGNANCY, AT BIRTH OR IN EARLY YEARS, WHETHER THE LOSS WAS YESTERDAY OR 80 YEARS AGO. THIS EVENT IS ALSO FOR THOSE GRIEVING THAT THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO HAVE A CHILD.

SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG

SAYING GOODBYE IS A DIVISION OF MARIPOSA INTERNATIONAL



Fareham Borough Council
MAYOR 2025-2026
Councillor Mrs Louise Clubley

Mayor's Office
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Fareham
Hants PO16 7AZ

Tel: 01329 824303
Email: mayorsoffice@fareham.gov.uk

Jeremy Hicks
Christians Together in Fareham
5 Odell Close
Fareham
PO16 7RL

7 April 2026

Dear Jeremy

I convey my thanks to you for the kind invitation to the Good Friday Service of Witness held at the Podium in Fareham Town Centre. My Consort Jonathan and I thought that the service was very well organised and full of the meaning of the day. It was lovely to involve several readers and the drama piece was fun with such an important message, the players for the musical complement added a beautiful touch.

The weather was a little chilly, but again made people think of the pain and suffering we all must understand from that time. Such a pleasure to join the many from our church communities and beyond that joined in with the service or took a moment to reflect the day.

I was pleased to meet Henry and also Canon John to hear of how congregations are building in the area.

My best wishes and prayers to all those within Christians Together in Fareham.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mrs Louise Clubley
Mayor of Fareham