



Welcome to Stoneleigh Methodist Church

Welcome to all, especially any visitors,
as we worship God together

Today's Service Sunday 25 December 2016

Christmas Day

**10:30am: Family Worship
with the Rev Emma Aikins**

We welcome and thank Emma for leading our service today.

Hymns: StF 212, 330, 202, 215

Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10, John 1:1-14

Thanks this morning to:

Our Stewards - Val and Denise

Our Welcome team - Lesley

Music - Hilda, Sound - Robin

We have an audio loop system, large print hymn books and bibles, and a wheelchair - also our current Church magazine and our information leaflet - just ask the Welcome Team at the door for anything you need.

Our Collection today is for Action for Children.

Candle Lighting - Advent Response

All: Come to us, Lord Jesus: Be born in us this night/day, in our hearts, our minds and our lives. May the light of your life be kindled in us and lead us to the shining truth of God with us, God for us, God in us. Amen.

Prayers

Please pray for Emma leading our service this morning.

Please pray also for those of the Church family who are unwell or finding their mobility limited, and consider also whether they might welcome a call or visit from friends.

We think of those volunteers at Ruxley today providing the Churches Together in Ewell 'Together at Christmas' meal and entertainment, and of those receiving this outreach from our local Churches.

Notices

The Link magazine - contributions for the February/March issue should be with Vivienne by 10th January.

Stuart Veitch. Stuart has written to members of Church offering love and best wishes for Christmas and 2017 - an extract follows:-

"The blessed festival of Christmas and New Year are nearly upon us again. Of course there is all the business of getting ready that always takes us by surprise, even though we have done it for years, but it is a festival that takes us out of the day to day routine and, for many, casts together families and friends for a celebration that marks the opening up of new possibilities. So we will be travelling up to Edinburgh for Christmas to be with Ian and Ailsa and their family this year, and then, not doing what many others will do, leave Scotland for London for the New Year, to be with the other parts of our family.

We have done a bit of travelling this year, with several holidays at the holiday home on the West Coast of Scotland, but have also used our caravan again to stay at Glendaruel, not far from Dunoon on the Clyde estuary. But our main holiday has been on

the west coast of America. Brenda was attending a conference for Methodist women at Houston at the end of August, so we joined up at Los Angeles, hired a car, and tracked from one National Park to another in a half circle embracing Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce, Teton, and Yellow Stone, and then on to the north west coast at Portland via the Columbia River Gorge. Amazing scenery!! But how big is America? 4100 miles and we didn't divert much from our course.

I have had a busy church year, as the Minister in my Circuit had a four month sabbatical last summer and I took his place, so, apart from a lot of preaching, which I would be doing anyway, I had lots of pastoral visiting to do and quite a lot of meetings to chair whilst he was away. My work with the YMCA has been busy too as we have had to restructure our staff this year, to be better positioned to cope with the challenges we face as a result of Government policy. I am still a Pension Trustee for my old firm Notcutts, and that too helps to keep me out of mischief!!

Brenda still works hard to promote Traidcraft products to family, friends and church members, as well as being greatly involved in the Methodist Women in Britain movement. That and keeping up with the family is a full time job! If only we all had the energy we once had!! *Stuart & Brenda*"

Stan & Mary Brown have sent a Christmas card and letter to all at SMC. It's on the vestibule notice board.

In case you missed it . . .

Jumble Sale. Our next jumble sale is on Saturday 4th February from noon until 2:00pm. I have put the volunteers' list up on the Church notice board beside the flower rota so please sign up. Once Christmas is over it will come upon us before you know it; please don't leave it until the last minute, sign up now. *Lesley*

<p>Church Centre Closure. Like Network Rail, we take advantage of periods of low usage to carry out repairs and maintenance with no disruption to the members and users. The building will be closed to all after today until 31st December so that work can proceed as quickly as possible – <i>Happy Christmas!</i></p>

Our next . . .

Covenant Service – Sunday 8th January, 10:30am

Conquest Art – Monday 9th January, 2:00pm

Knit & Natter – 11th January, 10:00am

Monday Night Group (at Helen's) – 9th January, 8:00pm

Tuesday Fellowship – 10th January, 2:30pm

Thursday Afternoon Group – 5th January, 2:00pm

Stewards' Meeting – Monday 9th January

The coming week at SMC

Monday-Friday

The Church Centre will be closed. As there are no bookings for this week between Christmas and the New Year, I shall be taking advantage of the opportunity to 'tidy up' the electrics in the kitchen and some other bits and pieces which are best (and safer) done with no-one about. Should you feel the need to come up for anything, please let me know. Robin (020 8393 2155)

Sunday 1st January

Morning Worship - 10:30am with David Eagle

Stewards - Catherine and Debbie, Welcome - Miriam

Music - Jean, Sound - Robin, Refreshments - Gloria

Contact Details

Contact Stewards: Catherine Draper (020 8224 7966) and Denise Gould (020 8393 2155) contact@stoneleighmethodist.church

In any other instance contact any member of the Stewards' Team Debbie Woolford, Val Farley, Marion & Ernie Baker

Minister: minister@stoneleighmethodist.church

News Sheet submissions: (news, meeting/duty changes etc) should be sent to Ernie (news@stoneleighmethodist.church) as soon as possible. Also any names (no details) for the prayers section.

Website: stoneleighmethodist.church – full details of all groups and activities, including the Church Centre usage calendar.