

We recently attended a family funeral, and although the family concerned are not overtly "religious", they were keen to include the hymn 'The Old Rugged Cross' ."The Old Rugged Cross" is a popular hymn written in 1912 by evangelist and song-leader George Bennard and it speaks of the writer's adoration of Christ and His sacrifice at Calvary. (Wikipedia). The deeper meaning of the cross in Christianity lies in its representation of Jesus' sacrifice and ultimate victory over sin and death. It symbolizes God's love, for-giveness, and the hope of eternal life offered through faith in Jesus Christ. The cross also represents the intersection of God's justice and mercy, where He delivers both punishment for sin and salvation for those who believe. In our small group at King's Somborne, we have been considering paradoxes within the Bible stories, what a paradox Easter presents to us! So what does this mean for us at Easter? How can we use such a sacrifice to generate a positive outlook for the future?

Easter is a time for reflection on renewal and hope, offering a chance to consider how Jesus' resurrection impacts our lives and the world. It's a period to examine personal growth, renew faith, and embrace the promise of new beginnings, even amidst challenges.

Easter symbolizes a rebirth and a fresh start. It's an opportunity to examine past actions and make conscious choices for a more positive future. We should consider what aspects of our lives we would like to renew or change, aligning with the spirit of Easter.

We can personally reflect and take time for prayer and contemplation, allowing ourselves to connect with the spiritual significance of Easter. We can reflect on our relationship with God and how we can deepen our faith. How can we live out the principle of love, forgiveness and hope in our daily lives?

Easter is a time for fellowship and community, sharing the joy of the resurrection with loved ones. We can consider how we can extend compassion and support to those in need, mirroring the love and compassion of Jesus.

As we walk through Easter week, let us never forget the sacrifice made for us by Jesus on the cross. Let that memory harness our enthusiasm to share the positive news that comes from Easter Day.

Jesus is Risen this Easter Sunday! Alleluia!

Easter Blessings

Paul and Brenda

On Sunday 20th April, at 10.30am, the Easter Service will be led by Revd Robert Kitching On Sunday 27th April, at 10.30am, the ReFresh Service will be led by Mr Sam Barnes These services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at: www.wesleychurch.org.uk

Dates for Your Diary: 18th April: Good Friday Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 9.30am 18th April: Good Friday Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at King's Somborne 3.00pm, followed by Tea 20th April: Easter Sunday Service led by Revd Robert Kitching at Wesley 10.30am 20th April: Easter Sunday Service led by Mr Stewart MacLachlan at King's Somborne 10.30am 24th April: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am) 24th April: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm) 26th April: Café Wesley (supporting Basics Bank) and Lego Church (10.00-12 noon) and Plant Sale—see below! 27th April: ReFresh Service led by Mr Sam Barnes at Wesley 10.30am 27th April: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd John Archer at King's Somborne 10.30am 1st May: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am) 2nd May: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm) 2nd May: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm) 4th May: Service led by Mr Tom Belshaw at Wesley 10.30am 4th May: Local Arrangements at King's Somborne 10.30am 8th May: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am) 8th May: Together Thursday (2.30-4.30pm) 11th May: Service led by MWiB at Wesley 10.30am 11th May: Service led by Mr Nick Langam at King's Somborne 10.30am 15th May: Mini-Marvels (9.00-11.00am) 16th May: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm) 16th May: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm) 18th May: Church Anniversary Service led by Revd John Yarrien at Wesley 10.30am

18th May: Messy Church at King's Somborne (3.00-5.00pm)

CELEBRATE OUR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY!

We are having a light salad buffet supper, followed by a short entertainment

on

Saturday, May 17th at 6pm.

SAVE THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY



Please note the next edition of the Wesley Somborne Link will be on Friday 2nd May, we need any items or notices to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Tuesday 29th April 2025. Many thanks! Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or contact 01794 389153. John & Elizabeth Britton invite you to Dewpond Cottage, Barnfield Farm, Colemore GU34 3PX on Saturday 26th April between 10.30 and 12 noon for a Lambs & Bluebells Coffee Morning for Maggie's Southampton







This week's ECO TIP

Reduce paper waste and go digital if you are able. This significantly reduces our carbon emissions.





Thank you to all those who brought goods for the Basics Bank on Sunday; we managed to raise £220 in cash donations. Thank you so much!

When: Monday 12th May between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Come and join us!

Where: Badger Farm Community Centre (next to Sainsbury's), SO22 4QB

Background: WBB already has 4 hubs, in Weeke, Highcliffe, Bar End and Alresford. The new hub in Badger Farm will cover the south of Winchester, facilitating access for our clients in that area.

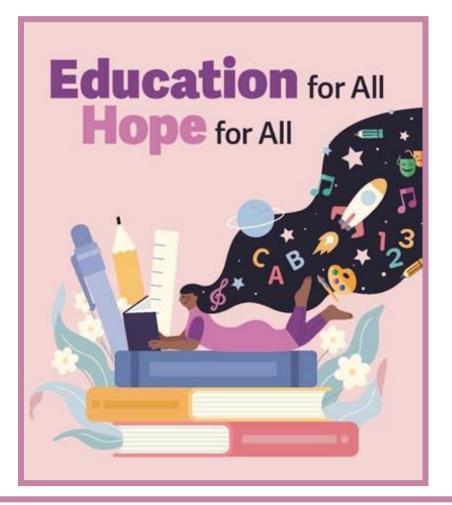
Come and see our set up and meet the team and find out what is happening at Winchester Basics Bank!

Nibbles and soft drinks will be provided. Website : <u>WinchesterBasicsBank.co.uk</u>

Facebook:@WinchesterBasicsBank

Instagram - winchesterbasicsbank

We are open for clients: 21a Penton Place, Milland Rd, Highcliffe, SO23 OPZ - Tue & Fri 10-3pm St Gregory's Church, Grange Road, Alresford, SO24 9HD - Wed 10-12pm St Barnabas Church, Weeke, SO22 6EF - Thurs 10 - 12.30 p.m Storehouse, Vineyard Church, SO23 9NR - Mon & Thurs 10-12pm



EASTER Offering Service 2025

The service will be led by local Methodist women

from several of our Circuit churches this year, rather than

having an evening Circuit service.

Services will be held at:

Colden Common on 23rd March at 10.30 a.m.

Cadnam on 4th May at 10.30 a.m.

Wesley Weeke on 11th May at 10.30 a.m

Chandler's Ford 18th May 11.00 a.m.

We would be delighted to welcome anyone from any of our churches , to any of these services.

Envelopes will be available in all our churches for those who would like to contribute to the Methodist Church World MIssion Fund which supports the work of Mission Partners in a variety of places across the world, and enables emergency support when significant crises occur. The Methodist Church of Britain World Mission Fund (WMF) offers support to 107 partner churches and organisations in Africa, Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific

Mission Partners are initially trained in this country and invited to serve for periods of at least one year. Currently:

Keith and Ida Waddell are based in Mwandi, Zambia . Keith is a teacher at Mwandi Basic School; Ida is a nurse working predominantly in HIV/AIDS care.

Revd Rachel and Revd Sylvester Deigh are in Gambia.

Sylvester is based in the connexional office working on shaping training for local preachers, probationers, and ministers.

Rachel is involved in circuit work, particularly helping to develop and strengthen the children and women ministries; and training and mentoring ordinands and preachers

General or Solidarity Grants are a rapid response that express solidarity in partnership to a partner who is facing particularly difficult circumstances or an emergency situation

In Sri Lanka in 2024 strong winds and flooding due to monsoon rains caused devastation. The WMF gave a grant of £15,000 which enabled the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka to provide temporary shelter and food for the most vulnerable displaced individuals and families.

Capacity Building Grants enable partner churches to strategically build their capacity and resources to become self -sustaining.

In Zimbabwe the Rev. Dr. Noleen Chinyere's PhD studies were funded by the World Mission Fund . She is now the first woman in the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe to be awarded a PhD, AND the first woman to be appointed Vice Principal at the United Theological College.

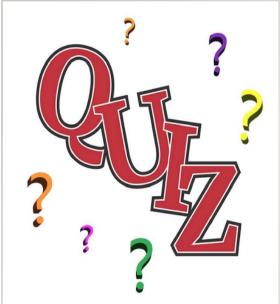
Nationals in Mission Appointments encourage and support local people in key mission projects in their own countries. There are over 100 NMA's working with partners around the world.

In Estonia Ele Paju is developing the youth ministry in the Methodist Church in Estonia, training youth leaders and running a camp for teenagers.

In Ghana Dr Ni-Addo Bruce works with Buruli ulcer patients, providing preventative and curative solutions. Over Easter time there will be Easter Offering envelopes available in church, inviting you to support the work of the Methodist Church of Britain World Mission Fund.

More information is available on:

https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/support-the-church/give/about-our-funds/world-mission-fund/



Methodist Women in Britain

Invite you to Chandler's Ford Methodist Church on Saturday 10th May 6.30 p.m. Book your team of 4 by 25th April by emailing joyce@7dabblingducks.org.uk. Space is limited so book early.

Ploughman's Supper will be served. Donations are invited [guide £10 per person]

Proceeds will go to The Leprosy Mission, Nepal

Caring for our Planet





Refreshment zone

Something for everyone Free entrance Lodge this in your diary for 2026



When: 1 Where: C N 2

18 April 2026

Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, SO53 2GJ

Time:

10 am to 3.30 pm

Updates will be published on:

https://www.

wermethodistcircuit.org.uk



United Church: Fundraising Concerts for their newly purchased Boston Steinway piano.

These concerts can be found at <u>ucw.org.uk/upcoming-events/</u> and there is information below. All concerts are £15 (£10 for students and children) and can be booked at <u>ucw.org.uk/concerts/</u>

Roger Owens (Classical Concert) Saturday 10 May 7.30 pm

Works by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Debussy, Rachmaninov, Chopin. See more details and book <u>here</u>



Robert Carter (Jazz Concert) Saturday 12 July 7.30 pm



Robert's influences are wide-ranging ... among them are Olivier Messiaen, Robert Schumann, South African township music, Glenn Gould, Ornette Coleman, Cecil Taylor.

Gerard Brooks (Piano and Organ) 18 October 7.30 pm



Gerard is Director of Music at Methodist Central Hall. He played regularly for BBC Radio 4's Daily Service and Songs of Praise, and toured with the All Souls Orchestra, playing in many concert halls, including the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall and Moscow Conservatoire.

Hanna Csermely 9 May 2026 7.30 pm



21-year-old Hungarian pianist, Hanna Csermely, grew up in Southampton for the majority of her life where her passion for music was ignited. From the age of 7, she began having piano lessons and participated in many competitions and music festivals such as Fareham Music Festival, Gosport Music Festival, Southampton Music Festival and Portsmouth Music Festival with great success, winning many of her classes.

Lord Jesus Christ,

We rejoice this Easter in the good news of your resurrection.
You met with Mary in the garden, bringing laughter after tears.
You met with women returning from the tomb, bringing confidence after confusion.
You met with Cleopas on the Emmaus Road, bringing hope after dismay.
You met with the Apostles in a room barred against the world, bringing joy after sorrow.
You met with Thomas in his disbelief, bringing faith after doubt.
You met with Paul on his way to Damsacus, bringing love after hatred.
You met with countless generations across the centuries, bringing renewal after rejection.
Meet with us now, across this easter, this moment, bringing light after darkness.
Fill our hearts with the new life of Easter, until that day when, with all your people, we enter your kingdom and rejoice in the wonder of your love for all eternity.
In your name we pray.

Amen.

(Based on a prayer from Nick Fawcett's Selected Prayers For public worship - 2003)

RELIGIOUS EASTER WORD SEARCH

WORD LIST

CELEBRATION CROSS CRUCIFIXION DEATH EASTER FAITH GOOD FRIDAY JESUS LAMB LENT MARY MIRACLE PASSOVER PURPLE REDEMPTION REJOICE RESURRECTION RISEN SACRIFICE SAVIOR STONE SUNDAY TOMB



Everything Easter A to Z

How many Easter terms can you name? Name as many Easter related things as you can, one for each letter of the alphabet!

| Α | N |
|---|---|
| В | 0 |
| c | P |
| D | Q |
| Ε | R |
| F | S |
| G | τ |
| θ | U |
| I | V |
| J | w |
| К | X |
| L | Υ |
| M | Ζ |

HAPPY EASTER!

www.PartyGamesNow.com