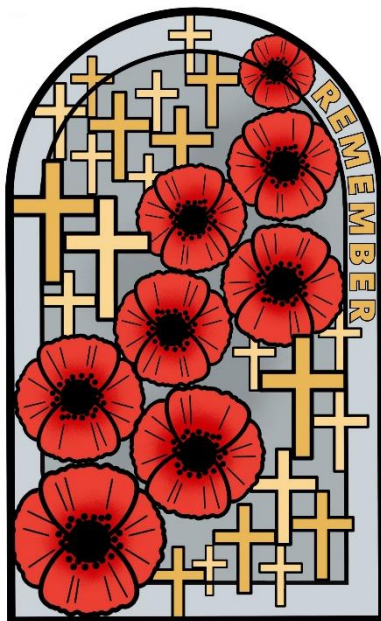


WINCHESTER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2024



Winchester Road Methodist Church
Winchester Road, Highams Park London, E4 9JP

Minister: Rev Stephanie Njeru

Email: Stephanie.njeru@methodist.org.uk

Tel: Church 020 8531 8663

Mobile: 07458 050833 / Landline: 020 8279 2380

www.winchesterroadchurch.org.uk



@winroadmeth



Group: Winchester Road Methodist Church

Rev Stephanie Njeru has pastoral oversight of Leyton Trinity, Lighthouse and Winchester Road Methodist Churches Forest Circuit (35/33)

Normal rest day Friday

Weekly Zoom Prayer Meeting - Mondays 12:30pm

Weekly Zoom Bible Study - Wednesdays 7:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8345484534?pwd=UTBwdWFBaG1qK0k3Yys2a0xjUEY1QT09>

Both on: **Meeting ID: 834 548 4534 Passcode: 158039**

At Winchester we are looking for:

Church Stewards, Door Stewards, People to serve on Church Council, Readers in services, People to serve tea and coffee after the service, Flower arrangers, People to help in Young Church

If you feel you could take on one of these roles, please speak to one of the stewards

Young Church at Winchester

Biscuit Club (11+)

On the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month we go out for a session to chat, discuss issues, enjoy a variety of activities and biscuits.

Cookie Club (3-11)

Meet each Sunday starting in church before going out for our own sessions. We enjoy, stories, games, singing, craft, discussion and of course biscuits!

Creche (under 3)

There are toys and books, in the church, near the Hub, for families to sit and let the children play.

Services

Sun. 3rd Nov: Parade to include dedication of Shoeboxes & JMA led by Millicent Acquah (See P 5)

Sun. 10th Nov. Remembrance Sunday Led by Janet Tweedale

Sun. 17th Nov. Led by Rev. Stephanie Njeru
feedback from 3 Generate weekend (See p10-11)

Sun. 24th Nov. Led by Michael Hall

Future Dates

Sat. 23rd Nov. Our annual Grand Bazaar (See centre pages 6&7)

Sun. 1st Dec. Bereavement Service 3pm at Cavendish Baptist Church

Sun. 15th Dec. Christingle Service led by Rev. Stephanie Njeru

Sun. 22nd Dec. Carol Service at 4.30

Tues. 24th Dec. 4pm Chocolate Nativity

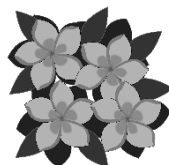
Wed. 25th Dec. 10.30 Christmas Service

Christmas services in all churches in Highams Park will be in the next newsletter.

Church Flowers:

Nov. 3rd - in loving memory of Sheila Saunders

Nov. 10th - in loving memory of Tom Purton (Jan Dent's Father who would have been celebrating his 100th birthday.)



What's On !

Christmas Bazaar Saturday 23rd November

Look out for more information on ways to help before the bazaar and on the day. Sarah would love to hear from anyone who can help. (See centre p6-7).

Friday Coffee Mornings 10 – 12 am

Tea, coffee and biscuits in the Hub. (Term time only)

These coffee mornings raise money for various charities.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Left We Forget

Sat. 9th Nov. Remembrance Ceremony
10.40 Hale End Library

Valentine Singers – Songs of Peace- St Anne's Church

E4 6NP -doors open 3.30

Fri. 29th Nov. 6.30 Lighting of the Christmas Tree at Hale End Library.

Sat. 30th Nov. Christmas Market in the Park from 11am Humphry's Café in the park



Sat. 7th Dec. – Felicitas present: - 'Messiah and More'

The Abbey Church Waltham Abbey EN91DT

Tickets £12.50 (£15 On the door). www.felicitas.org.uk

MacMillan Coffee Morning and Cake Sale

COME FOR
COFFEE
AND
CAKE

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT



The event in Holly Crescent raised an amazing £735. Pat and Beryl would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity and home-made cakes.

I am a shoebox!

At last, we seem to be wanted. I know we've been around for many years but generally, individually, only been kept for a short time. Once the shoes that we contained were removed, we were dumped!



Some of my predecessors however seem to have been recycled, used for other purposes for sixty or seventy years. I know of one who, having given up its contents, spent very many dusty years under an old iron bedstead, full of the house owners' deeds, insurances and other papers. The shoebox only came to light when the house owner, an elderly gentleman, passed away and the 'Last Will & Testament' were needed.

Another, apparently, spent many lonely years in a dark loft, carefully protecting a person's stamp collection. Luckily for the man, on one of his visits to the loft, he spotted that a mouse had nibbled the box, so he removed it and realised that the stamps were very old. When he sold them, still in the battered box, he received £25,000. Sadly, most of us over the years have been used as kindling for fires, or just torn up and thrown away.

I am so lucky, last year a person wrapped me in some very pretty paper and then filled me with lots of small items, some useful, but boring, like a toothbrush and toothpaste; flannel; soap; knitted gloves and a scarf. Other things were much more fun, like a ball; a small doll and a skipping rope and some sweets. Then I was taken on a long trip with many of my family who were filled with similar items for boys and girls. We laughed among ourselves at how smart we looked in our new coats. We stopped in a small village where I now live.

Katrina, my owner, was so happy to have me. When she opened me, she cried with joy. Many of her friends got a shoe box too. That day was so wonderful. I am still being useful now; I am her special box. She is always smiling. All her own things are kept in me and no-one else is allowed to come near me or open me. I've been recycled and it's good!

**Winchester Road
Methodist Church**

Grand Christmas Bazaar

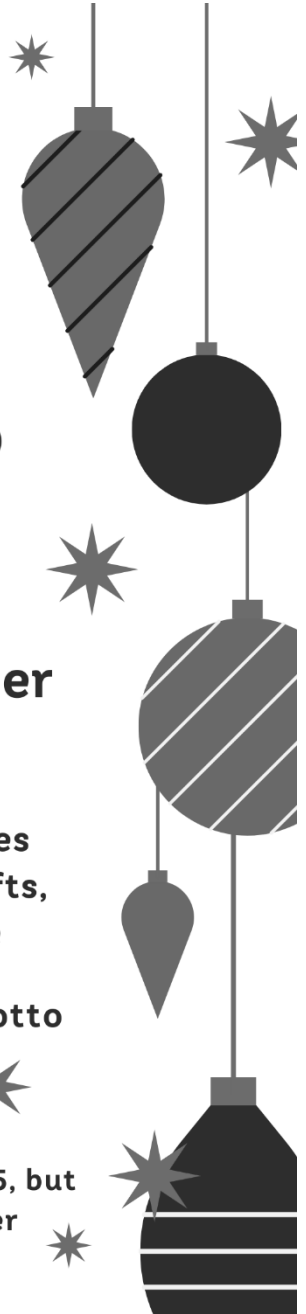
**Saturday 23rd November
10am till 3.00pm**

**Hot lunches, refreshments, cakes
Christmas gifts, homemade crafts,
stationery, jams, sweets & more**

Visit Father Christmas in his grotto

ENTRANCE £1, CHILDREN FREE

**We accept card for payments over £5, but
please bring cash with you for smaller
purchases**



WINCHESTER ROAD CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: SATURDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2024

A reminder that we have our Christmas Bazaar at the end of November. Preparations are in full swing now!

There are many ways that you can get involved – so please take a look at the information below and get in touch if you can help in anyway. Thank you to everyone that has already offered help or brought items to the church.

Donations Needed	
New and Nearly New Items	We will be running a 'Christmas Gifts' stall again this year. Please bring any items to the church.
Second Hand Toys, including soft toys	Please bring items to the church
Cakes	Please see Sarah Hayward with details of anything you are prepared to make or donate for the cake stalls.
Books	Please bring these to church at any point, and leave with the bookstall
Christmas Jumpers	We are collecting Christmas jumpers & PJs (any Christmas clothing) for our pre-loved stall this year. Please bring these along to the church by Sunday 17 th November.

Volunteers for help	
Friday 22 nd Nov 9am till 11am	We need 2-3 able-bodied people to help move all of the items downstairs to the stalls.
Saturday 23 rd Nov 9.30am to 3.30pm	Volunteers to help serve on the stalls where needed. We have a few stalls that are in need of some additional support – even 1 hour is helpful.
Saturday 23 rd Nov at 3.15pm	Help to take down tables, take down the grotto, move items upstairs and generally clear up for approximately 2 hours (the more people that help, the faster we are!)

Sarah Hayward

winchesterchristmasbazaar@gmail.com

Counting Numbers

Until recently October was the month when Church Stewards were required to count the number of people attending church services each Sunday morning and evening and submit the figures so that the numerical strength of **Methodism** in Britain could be ascertained.

The fourth book of the Bible is called Numbers and records the history of the Hebrews during the nearly forty years when, after being freed from Egyptian slavery by Moses, they were led through the wilderness towards the 'Promised Land'. It was given the title Numbers because it begins with an account of the first Census of the people. God spoke to Moses *"You and Aaron are to make a census of the people of Israel by clans and families. List the names of all the men, twenty years old or older who are fit for military service."* (Numbers 1 v2&3). The first two chapters are filled with names of those chosen to help with the task and then it records the numbers in each of the twelve tribes. The total counted was recorded as 603,550. (Numbers Ch1 v 46)

A more familiar census is recorded by Luke in his gospel and many of you will recall it being read at Christmas Carol Services. *At that time the Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire. Everyone went to register himself, each to his own town. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judaea* (Luke Chapter 2 v 1-4). So began Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. According to historians 'Tax assessments' were made in Britain in Roman times, but detailed records have not survived. England's first census was made during 1086 for William the Conqueror who wanted to discover the potential tax wealth of the country he had conquered in 1066. Walthamstow comprised 65 households living in four forest clearings, but I have not been able to find an historian's estimate of the population based on the number of households.

Real British Censuses started in 1801, apparently to find out *'the number of men able to fight in the Napoleonic Wars'* but careful collection and publication did not begin until 1841 and has continued every ten years since then, except in 1941 due to the War. Anyone who has researched their family tree will have trawled through the census returns naming members of their family at the

National Archives at Kew. The information collected every ten years was sketchy at first but later Census name the age and occupation of family members and those living with them. Census information concerning population trends enables governments to plan the Health Services, Education provision, Pensions, and other local and national services.

November is the month when we remember those who died in the twentieth century wars. Most communities have War Memorials which record the names of those who were killed while serving in the services during the two World Wars. South Chingford is unusual in listing on four plaques the names of civilians who died as result of bombing raids showing their ages, local address and the date of the raid which killed them. Those who died in hospital are shown separately. (See back cover)

We don't need a census to tell us that the number of people in the pews on Sunday is falling. An article in the Methodist Recorder (our weekly national newspaper) stated that membership halved from 600,000 in 1970 to 300,000 in the last 30 years of the century. These figures however do not include the many non-members who attend services. The Covid pandemic caused a further fall in membership when churches offered on-line worship, or worshippers discovered other ways of spending Sunday mornings. A photograph of an Ed Sheeran Concert at Wembley in the February 2nd edition of the Methodist recorder had the following words underneath ' Ed Sheeran sold nearly as many tickets as there are Methodists in Britain. In the same edition Dr Jonathan Hustler (the Secretary of the Methodist Conference commented '*I think the critical question is not going to be what our membership number is. It's going to be how many people are actually living out their discipleship.*' I keep reading the assertion that there are seventy million people in the world who claim that they are Methodists and are following the preaching of John Wesley but I don't know how the figures were arrived at. The Kumnan Methodist Church in Seoul (South Korea), the world's largest Methodist Church, has around 120,000 members! It is housed in a 10-storey building and holds an on- line prayer service every day and there are five services every Sunday morning.

Allen Steel

Our Young Church

3Generate

In October, ten young people went from the Forest Circuit to 3Generate, the Methodist Church's Children and Young people's assembly in Birmingham. There were around 1,600 young people there, the most ever at 3Generate, in addition to around 700 volunteers and leaders. Our group – from Winchester Road, Cann Hall and Leyton Trinity – borrowed a minibus from the Ghanaian Fellowship and drove up to the National Exhibition Centre. A huge village of tents were set up inside one of the exhibition halls, with all the young people and adults camping together in the centre.

Two other halls were transformed into a series of venues, including an inflatable Chapel, a Town Hall, a Tech Hub, an Arts Space, a Sports centre, a Global venue, a Well-being centre and a music stage. At all the venues there were a huge range of workshops, talks, Bible studies, and opportunities to have fun and explore your faith. Members of the group went to a range of activities including sessions on being Young, Christian and Black, being a global Christian, and exploring your vocation. They also got very competitive, with the Forest Circuit coming second in a hard fought Dodgeball tournament and winning the Make Me Prime Minister contest (for the second year running!)



Toby Walker said: "It was great to get active with other Methodists from around the country. I particularly enjoyed the worship led by the Moses Brothers. I made new friends, had fun and enjoyed connecting with God."



Martha Walker said: “I had the opportunity to speak on a panel at the venue run by Cliff College about my calling. It gave me a new perspective as I got to listen to other people and learn more about myself and God.”

Dean Gordon said: “One thing I particularly enjoyed about 3Generate is that it provided me with a platform to welcome other young people who have

similar mind-sets and speak to them about God in a more authoritative manner. Before I’d just be speaking about God with school friends, whereas at 3Generate I was given the opportunity to explain what I know about God and my connection with him. I found this really important, especially as someone growing up in a world where I do want to take charge of certain situations. I was really happy with how 3Generate provided me with those opportunities.”

Thanks to Winchester Road, to the Forest Circuit, the Forest Circuit Charity and the London District for making it possible for our young people to attend this year!





Name	Address	Age	D.O.D
Stevens, Hubert Clarence	82, The Avenue	54	6.11.40
Stevens, Ellen	82, The Avenue	48	6.11.40
Stevens, Eileen	82, The Avenue	13	6.11.40
Richie, Paul Jean	82, The Avenue	44	6.11.40
Richie, Germain F	82, The Avenue	45	6.11.40
Richie, Raoul	82, The Avenue	16	6.11.40
Richie, Madeline	82, The Avenue	14	6.11.40
Dowling, Frances Mary	86, The Avenue	66	6.11.40
Dowling, William James	86, The Avenue	68	6.11.40
Jones, Thomas Henry	66, Whitehall Gardens	30	5.1.41
Scarr, Harry	23, Nurmanshire Drive	44	21.2.41
Hunt, Edward Frank	18, Stanley Road	61	6.3.41
Taylor, Joseph Wilfred	2, Bosgrove	54	19.3.41
Taylor, Maud Florence	2, Bosgrove	52	19.3.41
Morris, Jean	21, Sunset Avenue	3	19.3.41
Morris, Brian	27, Sunset Avenue	5	19.3.41
Morris, Dorothy Winifred	27, Sunset Avenue	34	19.3.41
Grashick, George Henry	29, Turton Road	40	19.3.41
Bacon, William George	21, Turton Road	65	19.3.41
Bacon, Florence Emma	21, Turton Road	65	19.3.41
Miller, Ernest Edward	26, Turton Road	45	19.3.41
Wise, Louise Elizabeth	26, Turton Road	43	19.3.41
Dobie, Doryme Lillian	26, Turton Road	24	19.3.41
Chertton, Frederica	32, Turton Road	43	19.3.41
Chertton, Raymond Frederick	32, Turton Road	18	19.3.41

Memorial at Chingford Mount. (See P.9) The plaques in Highams Park Library recall those working in the Halax Factory who died. An annual Remembrance Service will be held in the Library on Saturday 9th November at 10.40

OUR MISSION

We are a church at the heart of Highams Park which seeks to discern and follow God's direction. Our aim is to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour through the life of the church and outreach to the community. We promote worship and fellowship enabling us to grow towards God. We are an inclusive church where all are welcome.

OUR STEWARDS: Senior Steward: Janet Dawe
Stewards: Pat Ovenden and Hazel Mathews

OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM: - led by Jean Norton

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

by Monday 18th November - ident7@gmail.com or **07751603883**

This newsletter is available to download as a PDF from our website.