



#### **Cornerstone Methodist Church**

#### Ministers

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**Caring Forum Chair and Pastoral Secretary** 

**Finance Forum** 

**Learning and Worship Forum** 

Mission and Service Forum

**Property Forum** 

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### A Word from one of our Ministers

Friends.

We have an exciting prospect before us! Gavin has already told you in the weekly mailing about our "DISCERNING PRAYER JOURNEY" and I want to share more about that with you now and wholeheartedly encourage you to participate in it with the wider church community.

People within Cornerstone have shared visions for the future with us, and it became very clear that the current 5 year Mission and Vision strategy is not enough. Whilst looking five years out is great for dealing with some of the immediate ideas and challenges, some of the bigger ideas need much longer to a) pray over, b) think through practically and c) actually implement. The Church Council agreed in April that we need to look further ahead, and so we are inviting YOU to share with the church in discerning what Cornerstone might look like at its SILVER JUBILEE.

When I talked about this at Cornerstone St Andrews on Sunday, there were comments about how some of the congregation won't be around to see the 25 year anniversary of Cornerstone. That's very true, and neither Gavin nor I will be here either, such is the nature of Methodist ministry: you will likely have had a fair few ministers in and out over the next 25 years - but Methodism is a movement in which LAY people have strong voices, and we are urging you to get involved and have your say, prayerfully and with grace. Any new ministers arriving in the Circuit in the next 25 years would be delighted to find that there is a vision, a plan, a strategy, in place which the people of Cornerstone have discerned together. Just because some of us will not be here in 25 years' time is not a reason to avoid the questions! Listening to one another, and most importantly, to God in all of this, is something that we all can do. The older members amongst us bring vast quantities of experience and wisdom to the table, and that must not be lost. We can ALL listen for God's wisdom in this, and age or infirmity are no barrier to that.

This is not a question about buildings, either, as some have been concerned to question: it is about the WHOLE of Cornerstone. The shape of the ministry, the focus of the mission, the provision of the service projects, the ecumenical relationships we build, the ways in which we connect with each other within the church and with the world beyond the church, and with the communities in

which our chapels live and work: these are all part of the vision for the years ahead of us.

Gavin and I both value prayer highly in the life of the church so when I said, "We should pray about this for three months before we do anything," Gavin was quick to agree with me! And so you are invited to THREE Sunday prayer and discernment opportunities:

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May at London Road, from 12.30-2.30pm

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July at Partridge Green from 12.30-2.30pm** [not the previously advertised June date – we discovered a clash and had to change it to make sure that maximum numbers of people could attend]

#### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August at St Andrews, from 12.30pm-2.30pm

These will be a mixture of times of sharing, reflecting, praying, discussing and listening to one another and to God. These sessions are fundamental to the future and YOU are invited to be there. Please put the dates in your diaries now and come to as many of the sessions as you can.

In preparation for these sessions, and in between the sessions, we invite you to TALK, PRAY and LISTEN – **talk** with others, at our house groups, over coffee in the cafes, over post-service coffee, when you are chatting with others in the car parks – make this a frequent topic of conversation! **Pray** in house groups, at home, together and alone, before meetings, in prayer groups at church and ecumenically. **Listen** reflectively to what others are thinking and hearing, listen carefully to what God might be saying to you in all sorts of ways, listen to what the world is saying about the church, about God, about faith, about the needs of the world and the hopes it has....

If you are unable to come to any of the days, we still want to hear from YOU. We need to hear what you have discerned in your conversations with others and in your prayer times with God. You can write us a note and hand in to the London Road office, or post it there (41 London Rd, Horsham RH12 1AN) or you can email the Church Council Secretary, John Dale, at **ccsecretary@cornerstone-mc.org.uk** — we will be delighted to have your contributions whichever way works for you.

Remember that this is God's church, and that we seek to discern how God intends it to go forward – God goes ahead of us in everything and has plans – we just need to listen carefully to what God is trying to tell us! Looking ahead is exciting and daunting, radical and challenging, but we are called, as the people of God, to follow where Jesus leads us – and Jesus leads us ever onwards. We do this in His name and always for His glory.

Blessings, Deacon Sarah

## **PASTORAL**



# In our prayers we remember

Ros Baker and family, Daphne Barraclough, Jackie Binder, Lucy Blandford,
Anita Burton, Sue Checkland and her family, Sue Conroy, Helen and Ian Currington,
Heather Derry, Judy and David Durrant, Pat Goadby, Jack Grimwood, Doreen Hadman,
Jo Howard, Susan and Mervyn Halliday, Jean Hayler, Chris Holmes, Pauline Homewood,
Joy and Ron Johnson, Barbara and Geoff Lunn, Lorna and Mike Manwaring,
Rita and Ian Murray, Richard Powell, Debs and Jim Richmond, Maureen and Paul Smith,
Wendy Smith, Maggie Straughan, Anne Tomlinson, Dave Tutton, Joan Tutton,
Con Wells, Ann and John Williams.

We remember especially in our prayers the family and friends of

Dulcie Lusher on her passing on 16 March

May you each know the comfort of the One who transcends the grave and gives us hope as he calls us on to a life that transcends the limits of the one we now live



Seeking to follow Jesus in Community, Love and Service
A community of people seeking to follow Jesus, experiencing and sharing
God's love and grace through worship, learning, caring and serving in our
communities and beyond.

#### **Services in April**

5 May								
LR	Revd Gavin Hancocks	10.30	Communion					
PG	Christine Lawley	10.30						
StAR	Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly	10.30						
12 May								
LR	Christine Lawley	10.30						
PG	Revd Gavin Hancocks	10.30	Communion					
StAR	Ian George	10.30						
19 May								
LR	United service at PG	10.30	held in the park (PG)					
PG	United service at PG	10.30	if wet it will be held at					
StAR	United service at PG	10.30	St Michael's Church					
26 May								
LR	Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly	10.30						
PG	Peter Bramhill	10.30						
StAR	Revd Gavin Hancocks	10.30	Communion					

CARE MISSION TEAM
Birthday Tea Party
for May Birthdays

The May Birthday Tea will be at the Manse on 1st May 3pm to 5pm



## **CORNERSTONE**



# 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL CHURCH MEETING OF CORNERSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

We head into that season where we prepare for our General Church Meeting to receive the reports of the work from the various areas of our Church Life. Where you have a report to make please ensure it is incorporated into the Forum your particular activity falls under. I remind you that the forum leaders are as follows: Caring – Sue Randell; Finance – Fred King; Learning & Worship – Christine Lawley; Mission & Service – Sarah Pitkeathly & Property – David Gilbert. If you have a report but are uncertain of where it might belong please ask either Sarah or myself.

Of course, this is the time when we look to elect our Church Stewards and Elected Representatives to the Church Council. I am sure you would want to join me in thanking Teresa and Peter for going above and beyond — way beyond — in this initial stage of our journey together as Cornerstone. Their faithfulness and generosity are immense gifts and we dare not abuse them a moment longer. Please give careful and prayerful consideration to God's call to join them — if they indeed are willing to stand for another term — in this significantly important role in the life of the Church. With them our current elected representatives are Christine Dale, Margaret Daniel, Christine Lawley, Dave Randell, Elaine Tunbridge, and Dave Wrighton. Both Church Stewards and Elected Representatives can serve for up to six consecutive terms of one year. Again, please give careful and prayerful thought to those whom you believe God is calling to these leadership roles within the life of Cornerstone. Nomination Forms will be available as from next Sunday. Nominations will close on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May in preparation for our General Church Meeting which will be held on **Saturday 1**<sup>st</sup> **June.** 

The Church Council has decided to make the GCM a fellowship event with the meeting taking place at 5pm followed by a **Supper Together**. Not only will this be an opportunity to gather together to celebrate the life and work of Cornerstone in it's inaugural year but also an opportunity to be in fellowship with one another across the three Chapels. Please do make note of the date and make every effort to join in the celebration.





# Faith Pictures My Story, Your Story, His Story

Reflect together on where God has been present in our lives, and how we can share our stories with others

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024 10.00am – 4:00pm Storrington Come and join us for:
Worship and Fellowship,
Discussion
and other activities

Transport will be provided

More details next month but please put the date in your diaries now.





Cornerstone will be doing
Bible month
during July
this year

#### **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE IN THE CARFAX**



© Horsham Churches Together

EASTER DAY
At
LONDON ROAD CHAPEL



# COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Cobham United Church Sat 25th May | 10am - 3pm

Activities & Crafts for Children

Tour the newly refurbished premises

Games

Table Tennis

Stalls

Play Corner



Exhibition showcasing the many activities that happen at CUC

Soup and Roll Lunch



www.cobham-united-church.org.uk 38 Stoke Road, Cobham, KT11 3BD



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### **DULCIE LUSHER**

4th April 1936— 16th March 2024



Following Dulcie's unexpected death on 16 March, I and my son and daughter have been overwhelmed by the considerable number of cards and messages expressing sympathy and condolence on our sad loss. Thank you for showing your love and concern and attending the memorable church funeral service on 17 April.

Your support in so many ways has meant a great deal to me and the family. I shall be glad of the continued care of the church family and for the prayers that enfold me.

Peter Lusher



#### St ANDREWS

#### The **COMMUNITY FRIDGE**

is an **ENVIRONMENTAL** issue and **not** one of poverty. The food is there for **EVERYONE** to use, so that it is not wasted.



The **St Andrews Community Fridge** on the **first Saturday** of the month now includes a REFILL STATION. Please come along and see what we have — laundry liquid, washing up liquid, etc as well as loofahs, soap, Ecoballs for the washing machine....BUT we would also appreciate donations of CLEAN bottles that people can take home their purchases in if they forget to bring their own bottles! They need to be bottles which will stand on a scale to be filled, and the lids come off easily. Please wash them out thoroughly and give them to Sarah when you see her... Thank you!

The Fridge is open on the first Saturday of the month from 10.00am - 11.00am.



## Christ the Redeemer Cristo Redentor



The photographer who took the photograph (above left) said that he waited three years to ensure that the statue of Christ the Redeemer aligned perfectly with the moon.

The statue was created by French-Polish sculptor Paul Landowski and built by Brazilian engineer Heitor da Silva Costa, in collaboration with French engineer Albert Caquot. The Romanian sculptor Gheorghe Leonida sculpted the face.

The statue was constructed between 1922 and 1931, it is 30 metres (98 ft) high, excluding its 8-metre (26 ft) pedestal. The arms stretch 28 metres (92 ft) wide.

The statue is located at the peak of the 700-metre (2,300 ft) Corcovado mountain in the Tijuca National Park overlooking the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

This statue is the largest Art Deco style sculpture in the world.

A symbol of Christianity around the world, the statue has also become a cultural icon of both Rio de Janeiro and Brazil and was voted one of the New 7 Wonders of the World.

#### **CALENDAR**

### Partridge Green

#### May

- 9 Ascension Day Service 10.00am
- 9 Village Café 2.00pm 5.00pm
- **14** Open Door Club 2.30pm 4.00pm
- 28 Open Door Club 2.30pm 4.00pm
- 30 Messy Church

#### CALENDAR London Road May

- 1 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 1 Birthday Tea Party 3.00pm
- 1 Wednesday Club 7.30pm
- 3 Friday Café 2.30pm
- 5 Sunday Lunch 12.30pm
- 7 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 8 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 10 Friday Café 2.30pm
- 14 Tuesday Prayers 09.30am
- 14 Crafternoon 2.00pm
- **15 Toddler Group** 10.00am
- 15 Wednesday Club 7.30pm
- **17 Bible Study** 10.30am
- 17 Friday Café 2.30pm
- 21 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 22 Toddler Group 10.00am
- 22 Tea and Chat 2.30pm
- 23 The Meeting Place 2.30pm 4.00pm
- 24 Bible Study 10.30am
- 28 Tuesday Prayers 9.30am
- 28 Crafternoon 2.00pm
- 31 Friday Café 2.30pm

#### **Community Fridge** is held

Tuesday mornings 10.00am - 11.00am
Thursday afternoons 1.00pm - 2.00pm

#### CALENDAR St Andrews

#### May

- 1 The Café at St Andrews 10.00am 12.00pm
- 2 Bright Stars 9.30am
- **3** Easy Movers coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon
- 4 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- 6 Movie Mondays 2.00pm 4.00pm
- **7** Prayers at Church 9.00am staff prayers—all are welcome
- 7 Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- **8** The Café at St Andrews 10.00am 12.00pm
- 9 Bright Stars 9.30am
- **10** Easy Movers coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon
- 11 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- **13** Movie Mondays 2.00pm 4.00pm
- **14 Prayers at Church** 9.00am *staff prayers—all are welcome*
- **14** Horsham Matters Connecting Café 11.30am—1.30pm
- **15** The Café at St Andrews 10.00am 12.00pm
- 16 Bright Stars 9.30am
- **17 Easy Movers** coffee/chat exercise 10.30am to 12.00 noon
- 18 Saturday Prayer Partners 9.30am
- **19** Messy Church 3.00pm to 5.00pm
- **20** Movie Mondays 2.00pm 4.00pm
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Dear Revd Gavin,

I hope you and your congregation are doing well, and you had a blessed Easter. The team continues to be busy supporting the most vulnerable in our community. So far this year, we have provided almost 3,000 individual food parcels to Horsham District residents.

The latest analysis from Joseph Rowntree Foundation researchers shows a worsening picture of poverty in this country. The average person in poverty has an income 29% below the poverty line, equating to a gap of £6,200 for a couple with two children under 14

We are so grateful to your church for your continued support. In March, your church donated 83.35 kg of food. This will go a long way to helping us continue to do our work in the community.

Faithfully yours,

Amalia Lovett

We are thrilled to have launched our Mobile Advice Hub. This vehicle will travel to the surrounding villages and will provide face-to-face support and advice to residents on issues such as housing, budgeting, benefits and debt.



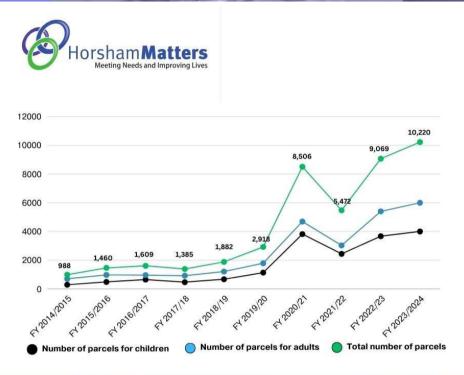
Our aim is to end the need for food

banks, so we want to tackle the root causes of poverty. The vehicle hopes to reach the hard to reach, those that are digitally excluded and isolated and rely on face-to-face support. We also ask that the local community spread the word to those that might need this support.

We will also be working in collaboration with other organisations, including Citizens Advice, Age UK and Horsham District Council to maximise the use of the mobile advice hub and ensure that the most appropriate advice agency attends a location based on available data.

info horsham-matters.org.uk.





Horsham District Foodbank opened its doors 10 years ago to support individuals and families struggling to afford the basics and in need of emergency food. In December 2014, we provided 118 emergency food parcels. We are currently providing approximately 800 emergency food parcels and run 17 food bank sessions across Horsham District. In the last ten years, we have provided food parcels and support for over 43,509 residents.

It isn't right that anyone should face food poverty, and we continue to strive for a time when food banks are no longer needed. In the meantime, with your support, we'll continue to work for change and support those in need.

#### **LONDON ROAD**





At our Coffee morning last month Amalia Lovett from Horsham Matters told us about services provided by Horsham Matters in addition to the Foodbank. One very new initiative about to be launched was a **Mobile Advice Hub** - it was officially unveiled on Thursday March 21st,

just after our coffee morning!

The idea arose out of **Horsham Matter's Hidden Poverty** survey last year, which found many residents did not know where to access support and information. The charity has launched the Mobile Advice Hub to address this need.

A vehicle kindly donated by GT Railways, was refurbished to provide a comfortable and accessible meeting space and an area to carry emergency food and will travel on a regular schedule across <u>Horsham District</u> to groups, coffee mornings and community centres, providing support and advice to those most vulnerable.

The service has initially been launched in a pilot area, which includes Slinfold, Itchingfield, Warnham, Barns Green and Broadbridge Heath, before it is launched across the whole district.

Horsham Matters believes that access to advice and support, especially when it comes to money matters, is a key building block towards **their goal of a future where no one needs a foodbank**. The aim of this vehicle is to reach the hard to reach, those that are digitally excluded and isolated and rely on face-to-face advice. They are also relying on the local community to get the word out to those that might need this support.'

Another vital service provided by Horsham Matters - please remember all their work in your prayers.

Thank you for your continued support.

#### **May Shopping List**

Fruit Juice (please make sure it does not need to be refrigerated)

Ketchup/Mayonnaise

Custard

Sponge Puddings

Tinned Fruit

Tinned Meat

Strong carrier bags



#### Christian Aid Week 12 – 18 May.

Focus – the cost of living crisis faced by many people around the world.

7 days, so many ways. How will you make lasting change in Christian Aid week?

Pray that people pushed to the brink of poverty find the strength and opportunity to push back harder and fulfil their ambitions. To push back against the inhumanity of poverty.

Christian Ais has teamed up with partner organisations across the UK to help churches gain a deeper understanding of poverty. Christian Aid wants to empower Christians to act in the run up to the nest UK general election.

#### In 2022 - 2023:

3.3 million people benefited from Christian Aid 275 projects were set up by Christian Aid £90.6 million was raised in 2022 / 2023.

Read how one person benefited from a Community Workshop funded by Christian Aid. Aline was helped to leave an abusive marriage and set up her own business through a Village Savings and Loans Association.

Read Aline's story here:

https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid.week/alines-story

We're looking forward to welcoming you to the Coffee Morning and Plant Sale in the garden of Pat Enticott at Itchingfield. This will be on the  $10^{th}$  May from 10 am - 12 noon.

Pat's address is 'Quarries' West Chiltington Lane, post code RH13 7NY. We do have a few hand drawn maps available but please do ask if in doubt. Payment by cash will be much appreciated.



**Audrey Coventry** 

#### **SOME NATIONAL NEWS**

There's growing concern about the **mental health of children and young people in the UK**. Youth mental health has declined in the last few years, for various factors such as poverty, money worries and social media. But there is support available including our **Blues Programme** - a six-week wellbeing programme for those aged 13-19. The programme gets young people talking about their mental health.



### The Wednesday Club

1st May 15th May The Sundown Ukelele Band

**Rupert Toovey** 

an actor, auctioner and vicar

All are very welcome to come to our meetings which are held in the London Road lounge on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and begin at 7.30 pm.

## Messy Church at St Andrews Sunday 19 May 3.00-5.00pm.



Book your place on Eventbrite Messy Church St Andrews Roffey or by using the QR code on the flyers https://www.eventbrite.com/e/466565709597

## WHAT'S ON ....



#### **PARTRIDGE GREEN**

#### **OPEN DOOR**



Our meetings start at 2.30pm and are held in the Church Hall. (Cost £2.00/session) and are followed by refreshments. All friends from Cornerstone Methodist Church are very welcome.

For further information contact Judy Stokes on 01903 816976.

Tuesday 14 May "Easy Movers"

with Sue Cailes.

(NB. Not TBA as on leaflet printed before Christmas.)

Tuesday 28 May
Talk on behalf of 'Coco's Foundation'

#### **PARTRIDGE GREEN**

## VILLAGE CAFÉ

9 May 2.00pm - 5.00pm



The Village Café meets takes place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday afternoon each month from 2.00pm until 5.00pm.

This is an ecumenical project, working with St Michael's Church (here in Partridge Green)

All friends from Cornerstone Methodist Church are very welcome.

Refreshments are free, but donations are appreciated, which are used to support village organisations.

For further information please contact Margaret Daniell phone 01403 541736

#### **LONDON ROAD**

## The Sunday Lunch at London Road 5 May at 12.30pm

We welcome those of our Cornerstone church family who live alone to join us for lunch on the above dates in the Wesley Hall at London Road at 12-30pm. The cost is £6.

To book please contact Liz Sear (268075).



#### **Toddler Group**

London Road on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 11.30am No meeting on 29th May (half term)

St Andrews on Thursdays from 9.30am to 11.30am No meeting on 30th May (half term)



#### Tea and Chat

#### Wednesday 22nd May at 2.30 pm

Tea & Chat meets in Wesley Hall. After a warm welcome it provides the opportunity to meet in a friendly relaxed atmosphere and to chat and enjoy tea, scones and cakes. All are welcome.



Sue Checkland and Liz Sear

All welcome.



#### CRAFTERNOON

We meet at London Road on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 2.00pm- 4.00pm Please bring your own craft or learn a new one



This is an environmental issue! not one of poverty

The food is there for EVERYONE to use so that it is not wasted

The Community Fridge at London Road opens every Tuesday Morning from 10.00am to 11.00am during which time refreshments are served and

every Thursday Afternoon from 1.00pm to 2.00pm where refreshments are served from 12.15pm









**Cornerstone Methodist** Church at London Road

Never on a Sunday? Try midweek at

## The Meeting Place

Refreshments, a space to chat and think or are you searching for something? Also including short informal worship

Thursday evening 9 May Thursday afternoon 23 May Thursday evening 13 June Thursday afternoon 27 June

#### YOU WILL BE WELCOME

afternoons 2.30 pm and evenings 7.30pm

in The Meeting Place

For more information, email Deacon Sarah Pitkeathly: deacon@dhcircuit.org

Cornerstone Methodist Church is a Registered Charity:

1134052

## FUTURE EVENTS



## METHODIST CHURCH NEWS



VISIT LETSENDPOVERTY.CO.UK/BANNER



#### **DEADLINE FOR JUNE EDITION**

May 19th

Please do not leave your submission until the deadline date if possible Outlook has limited space and you may be disappointed