

# Addington Methodist Magazine

September 2024



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# Passing the baton

**Rev  
Karen  
George**

For the next year I will be working in the Croydon Circuit on Tuesdays and being your named Superintendent Minister. For the rest of the time I will be continuing to live and work as a minister and Co-Superintendent in Bromley, which from 1 September will be part of the newly-formed Widmore Circuit.

In coming into the Croydon Circuit for this year I am quite literally coming home. My Christian journey began here and Croydon still holds a very special place in my heart.

Over the summer, many of us will have been watching the Olympics and Paralympics. I'm always in awe of the commitment and dedication that those taking part have given to their chosen sport. All kinds of different skills and talents have been on display but there has been a sense of unity too.

We have seen friendship and respect between the competitors of different nations as many of them have trained together and competed against each other numerous times. We have seen older and more experienced participants encouraging and supporting those who are competing for the first time.

We are also aware of the battles some of those competing have faced as they have dealt with physical injury and struggles with their mental health or personal circumstances.

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Many athletes have spoken about the people and beliefs that have inspired them to keep going through all the ups and downs that they have experienced.

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews acknowledges that, even if we are not Olympic athletes, our lives of faith can also at times be challenging. For all kinds of reasons we can encounter frustrations, setbacks and disappointments which cause us to feel discouraged and weary. In the face of these situations the writer encourages the people of faith to be inspired by the example of those who have gone before them.

They are to fix their eyes on Jesus and remember all that he endured for their sake. The writer tells them to put the past behind them, to learn from it and to look forward with hope and faith:

““ **The writer encourages the people of faith to be inspired by the example of those who have gone before them**

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.*

*And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (Hebrews 12:1-3)*

As we begin a new church year, we give thanks for those who have inspired us and gone before us. We look to the future and all the opportunities and challenges it may bring with hope and faith in Christ who gave his all for us.

I look forward to meeting you and working with you over the coming year as together we seek God’s guidance and vision for the future.

Yours in Christ,

*Rev Karen George*



## A glass act

**Jenny Halliday**

**The breadmaking group had a lovely day out to visit All Saints' Church in Tudeley (near Tonbridge).**

The tranquil church is set in the beautiful Kent countryside and is the only church in the world to have all its windows decorated by Marc Chagall, the Belarusian-French-Jewish artist.

Sir Henry and Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, who lived at Somerhill house nearby, commissioned Chagall to design the East window at Tudeley as a memorial to their daughter, Sarah, who died aged just 21 in a sailing accident at Rye.

Chagall visited All Saints in 1967 for the dedication of the East

window. Upon seeing the church, he said: "This is magnificent, I will do them all." Chagall designed all the remaining 11 windows, which were installed between 1974 and 1985.

As you enter the church, the beautiful blue colours of the windows immediately strike you.

Chagall had been fascinated by the Bible since childhood.

"The Bible is a synonym for nature," he said. The windows depict the goodness of creation, the fall and redemption of Christ, and the promise that God gives us of restoration and re-creation.

*For more information visit: [www.tudeley.org](http://www.tudeley.org)*

# Circuit set for interim plan

Following various stationing rounds, and the final session of conference, Croydon Methodist Circuit has not been matched with a Superintendent and Minister for West Croydon and Parchmore.



The Circuit Leadership Team has therefore been working on alternative arrangements for the coming year, a plan that was endorsed at the June Circuit Meeting.

A Minister from the neighbouring Widmore Circuit, Rev Karen George who is Superintendent of the Bromley Circuit, will be Superintendent of the

Croydon Circuit for the year on a one day a week basis.

One of Croydon's Supernumerary Ministers, Rev Juliet Ushewokunze, will be appointed to work part-time in the Croydon Circuit and will exercise

pastoral responsibility for Parchmore and West Croydon Churches.

Croydon Methodist Circuit will then re-enter the stationing process with a profile this month (September) for 2025.

*See page 2*

## Junior Church leaders mark start of school year

In September, Addington Methodist Church's Messy and Junior Church members will start, change or return to school.

As they prepare for the academic year ahead, Local Preacher

Caryl Rapps and Janet Godfrey shared the following message:

*"One more step along the world I go*

*One more step along the world I go*

*From the old things to the new*

*Keep me travelling along with you.*

*Very best wishes to all our young people who are changing schools this year, keep going through some new and exciting times.*

*We look forward*

*to hearing your stories about your new school and remember, there is always someone who you can talk to.*

*And it's from the old I travel to the new*

*Keep me travelling along with you."*

# September worship

Email [addmethzoom@gmail.com](mailto:addmethzoom@gmail.com) to get a link to worship from home via Zoom.

## 10:30am Morning Services (unless stated)

1 Sep	All-age worship with Rev Pamela Clews
8 Sep	Education Sunday Service with Local Preacher Mary Salter and Junior Church
15 Sep	Sunday Service with Rev Richard Lowson including holy communion
22 Sep	Peace Sunday Service with Deacon Al Henry and Junior Church
29 Sep	Sunday Service by local arrangement

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## Tea and Coffee After Sunday Service Helpers

1 Sep	Cathy Oldham, Cecelia Essiam, Margaret Ansong
8 Sep	Angela Naih and volunteers needed
15 Sep	Edward Larby, Helen and Alan Williams
22 Sep	Jane Colvert, Appolonia Madinyenya, Tatiana Tivoli
29 Sep	Volunteers needed

# Dates for your diary

All events take place at Addington Methodist Church unless otherwise stated.

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Tue 3 Sep & 17 Sep     **2pm to 4pm** Stitch & Craft Club. Coffee and biscuits served for £1 a meeting. Contact Cathy Oldham: catherine.m.oldham@gmail.com.

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Every Thursday     **12.30pm** Lunch Club. Anyone looking for good company, and a hot meal for £8 a week is welcome. Contact Jenny Harms: jenharms2110@gmail.com.

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Thu 5 Sep     **7pm** Film night at Shirley Methodist Church.

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Sat 7 Sep     **10am to 12pm** Coffee morning and Food Bank collection.

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Tue 10 Sep & 24 Sep     **2pm to 4pm** Tuesday Club. Fun and fellowship with guest speakers, quizzes, and other activities, concluding with refreshments. Contact Cathy Oldham.

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Tue 10 Sep     **9.30am to 12.30pm** Breadmaking at Shirley Methodist Church. No experience necessary. Everything needed will be provided.

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Tue 17 Sep     **7.30pm** Youth Team Meeting.

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Tue 17 Sep     **3.30pm to 5pm** Messy Church. Crafts, stories and praise open to children of all ages plus their parents and grandparents.

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## Elsewhere in this issue....

“ Be inspired by the example of those who have gone before

“ The windows depict the goodness of creation and the fall and redemption of Christ

>> What lies in store for the Croydon Methodist Circuit in the next 12 months





Here at **Shirley Methodist**

 From **TUESDAY**   
**SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**

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**NEW**

Good Afternoon  
**Community**  
CHOIR 

★ No Auditions ★ Free first rehearsal ★ Great Music

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