

Church @ The Pines



The Church @ The Pines Newsletter 01.09.23

Order Of Service 3rd September 2023

Leader: Brian Gennery

Notices and welcome

Quiet time

Call to worship

Hymn – Lord of the dance

Prayers of adoration, thanksgiving and confession

Hymn - FATHER GOD I WONDER

Reading – Matthew 16: 21-28

Comment on Matthew reading.

Romans 12: 9-21

Activity and reflection

Hymn – BE BOLD, BE STRONG

Prayers of intercession, street prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn – GO FORTH AND TELL

Blessing

Grace

Coffee

Notices

Prayers this week

We give thanks for the continued good recovery of Jeannie and Alison's Mum, Margaret and continue to hold them in our prayers. We also pray for Beth's nephew and his half siblings as their father is ill with cancer.

May God bless them with his healing power and give them strength. We pray that God will comfort them in their time of need and give them hope for the future. May they know your presence Lord, your love and your peace.

We pray for all those who work in schools and education as they return to work, give them the tools they need in this new term and may they know your presence in their lives. We also pray for all the young people starting school for the first time, starting a new school, leaving for university or starting further education, training or entering the workplace. Be their guide and comfort, Lord, and may they turn to you in good times and in bad.

Church Finances

We do not take a collection during the service but a Response Box is on the Information Table, should you wish to make a donation to the work of our Church. Alternatively, you could sign a Standing Order form committing to regular monthly giving, which allows our Treasurer (Ben) to monitor the church finances more closely. Please do speak with Ben if you wish to make arrangements for this.

Circuit Service – Sunday 10th September at 4pm

A circuit service, bringing together all of the churches in the Methodist Circuit, will be held at Church @ the Pines on Sunday 10th September at 4pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend what we will hope will be a really fantastic opportunity to all join together in worship.

There will be activities for young people to do during the service, we would encourage them all to come along and take part. The service will also be followed by refreshments.

A Message From Revd Gareth...

I am delighted to have been chosen as Rector of such a wonderful community. I am not moving here alone though as I am accompanied by my wife Jenna, our three children Elijah, Phoebe and Nathaniel, and our dog Izzy. The warmth of welcome the family and I have received from you since we moved in has been amazing and we thank you for your love, prayers and support.

Continued...

I thought I would share a little of my background as I begin ministry here. I guess the first thing to say is that I am no stranger to Berkshire. For around 15 years I lived in Woodley, attended Waingels Copse Comprehensive (now Waingels College) and worshipped as a chorister at St Pauls, Wokingham.

My links to the area go back further as my ancestors have lived in the area for centuries. In fact Eliza and Ellen, who are ancestors of mine, lived in Easthampstead in the turn of the 19th and 20th Century and are buried in the churchyard of this very Church.

Prior to ordination I was a Police Officer for many years working in various departments in Aylesbury, Waddesdon, Amersham, and Oxford City. It was during this time I met my wife Jenna, who works as a midwife, and it was whilst we were living in Aylesbury that we welcomed our first child Elijah. I was selected for training to ministry and attended St Mellitus Theological College in Kensington, London. The college is part of Durham University and it was there whilst working part time in St Marys, Beaconsfield that I completed a BA degree in theology, ministry and mission. Whilst we were in Beaconsfield we welcomed my second child Phoebe to the family. I then began a three year curacy in High Wycombe where I also with the South Central Theological Education Institute, also affiliated to Durham University, completed a Post Graduate Diploma. I will be graduating later this year and will most likely be visiting Durham in January for a graduation ceremony. All whilst welcoming our third child Nathaniel.

There is of course more to my story which I am looking forward to sharing with you, as I look forward to learning of your story. I also look forward to learning more of where God has been at work here in the past, where he is still at work, and discerning together what he is calling us to do next as a community.

Revd Gareth will be with us at Church @ the Pines on Sunday 10th September, hopefully leading a service of Communion.



School Admissions

To make the system fair and transparent, those wishing to apply to St Michael's or Ranelagh church schools on church attendance criteria will be asked to sign a register at the back of church each time they attend (even if they have a sibling at the school). To make sure that all new signees understand the admissions criteria we ask that you email the parish office to make an appointment.

Please note: Please go to the relevant school website for the latest admissions policy.

Ranelagh amended Admissions Policy from 2024.

<https://www.ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk/admissions-policy/>

St Michaels new policy

<https://www.stmichaelseasthampstead.com/admissions/>

Mothers' UNION Easthampstead Branch

Wednesday 20 September

in The Annexe,

St Michael & St Mary Magdalene Church.

Coffee/teas, Prayer & brief notices.

Followed by a showing of award winning film

"Suffragette"

**PLEASE
NOTE:
EARLIER
START
TIME OF
7.30pm.**

**EVERYONE
WELCOME**

Certificate:



Length:

1 hr 46 mins



Notices From The Circuit:

Sponsored Walk for Action for Children – Saturday 9th September

There will once again be a sponsored walk at Virginia Waters, raising much needed funds for Action for Children. The walk will take place on Saturday 9th September, meeting in the morning (time TBC). Brian has sponsorship forms if you are interested in taking part. It's a lovely walk and another opportunity to meet other folk in the circuit.



Charity
FAMILY FUN DAY

- ✓ ONE LAST SUMMER ADVENTURE
- ✓ HIGH ROPES, WALL CLIMBING
- ✓ ARCHERY, FACE PAINTING
- ✓ REFRESHMENTS & LIVE MUSIC

SUNDAY 3RD
SEPTEMBER
3PM-6PM

OAKWOOD CLIMBING CENTRE
WATERLOO ROAD, WOKINGHAM
RG40 3DA

FOR DETAILS AND TICKETS VISIT
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/RENOVAFDD](https://tinyurl.com/renovaffd)



OAKWOOD sponsors **renova**
Proceeds from the ticket sales go to supporting people who are homeless with housing

Renova Trust are holding a charity fun day on 3rd September.

The Methodist Circuit have asked us to promote this event raising vital funds for Renova, who work to house the homeless.

Readings

Matthew 16:21-28

Jesus predicts his death

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'

23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life[a] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

28 'Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Romans 12:9-21

Love in action

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practise hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord.

Continued...

20 On the contrary:

‘If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.’

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.