



Shirley Methodist Church Notices 2024

Sunday 11 February: Revd Jennifer Potter (Holy Communion/Church Action on Poverty Sunday)

Sunday 18 February: Revd Leslie Griffiths (1st in Lent)

Eldon Ave, Shirley, Croydon CR0 8SD **Website:** www.shirleymeth.org.uk

Minister: Revd. Richard Lawson

All are welcome to join our online Zoom services. To receive the link please email smchurchzoom@gmail.com Join us from 10.15am, for a 10.30am start. An audio recording of the service will be available from the Church website.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact us if you would like someone, or yourself, to be prayed for by members of our Prayer Chain. Names are only taken with the consent of the person concerned and stay on the chain for a week. You can get in touch with your Pastoral Link or contact Mrs Elizabeth Smart on **0208 777 2055** or visit our website and complete the 'contact us' form. **Thank you.**



Father God, we pray

For Alan's family and Margaret's family, remembering their loved ones.

For Alan and Rebecca both now recovering at home.

For Robert, Deacon Al, Fran, Revd Richard, Maurice and Peggy, Dean, Brian, Eunice, Vicky, Lambert, Alan, Anthony and Lesley, Gwen, Sureya and Marcos, Robert and Charlotte.

For the residents of Hall Grange, for the staff, volunteers and their families.

For young people throughout the country, that they look positively towards the future and remain mindful of their wellbeing and the impact of actions on others.

For the diverse environments of Belize and Honduras. For people making their living from the sea – fishing and merchant fishermen, and their families. For the bilingual Methodist schools and churches, giving thanks for the vibrancy, their children and young people. For the spiritual and numerical growth of congregations, preachers in training and the individual commitments made to the cause of Christ.

(From '**Hidden Treasures**' Methodist Prayer Handbook 2023/24. Page 34).



February Bible Study on Thursday 15 February, 10.00am in the Lounge. We will be studying 'Goodness' chapter 6 of *Fruit of the Spirit*. All are welcome.



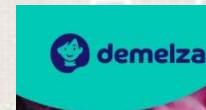
Bread making on Tuesday 20 February, 9.30am in the Corner room. Everything will be provided. Please come along and join in.



Bible study course for Lent begin on Ash Wednesday, 14 February: '*Let justice flow*' is a six-week course based on the ministry of the Old

Testament prophet Amos, and prepared by Revd Richard Grocott, Superintendent of the Blackheath & Crystal Palace Circuit. The sessions will take place on Zoom at **7.30pm on Wednesday evenings**.

Please note, the fifth session will take place on Thursday 14 March. Please contact Juliet at office@croydonmeth.org.uk for link details.



St John's Church will be holding their usual Lent Lunches on each **Saturday in Lent at 12 noon**.

Carol Rawlinson invites you to the Demelza Lent Lunch. Their menu includes lasagne, veggie shepherd's pie, jacket potatoes, quiche, salads and a selection of desserts with gluten free options.



Two 2024 Christian Aid dates for your diary. **Saturday 11 May: London Sponsored Walk**. The walk begins at **12.30pm** from All Hallows by the

Tower. Why not think of coming this year?

12 -18 May: Christian Aid Week

More information coming soon.



Shrublands Food Bank: every donation makes a difference to many local families. There's a list of items needed and a basket for contributions in our

Welcome Area. There's also a box available at the Co-op on Wickham Road. If you have any time to give, please get in touch with Bev. Call 020 3441 7887 or email: info@shrublandstrust.org.

If you would like any information included in this newsletter, please forward to **RUTH DODOO** by 9pm on Wednesdays by phone: 020 8777 1987 or email: ruthdodoo@outlook.com

The Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

The Transfiguration

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

The Coming of Elijah

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the Gospel of Christ Praise to Christ our Lord

Prayer (from Psalm 50)

Our God comes and does not keep silence,
before him is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around him.
He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his
people:
'Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!'
The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge

Amen

2 Kings 2: 1-12

Elijah Ascends to Heaven

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God**

Shrublands Foodbank: There's a list of items needed and a basket in the Welcome area of the Church. You can also put items in the box at the Co-op on Wickham Road. **Every donation makes a difference. Thanks!**