



GODALMING UNITED CHURCH
(Methodist & United Reformed)

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY JULY 23rd 2017 and notices for the coming week

We read today from St. Matthew's Gospel some of the parables about God's Kingdom. By using stories Jesus is able to teach at a number of different levels. There are layers of meaning beyond the obvious point, for those who are prepared to think, The parables sorted out those who came simply to see miracles and be entertained, from serious followers who really wanted to understand Jesus' teaching. Jesus told the stories to the crowds but kept the explanation for his disciples. There was so much misunderstanding about the nature of the Kingdom that Jesus makes one point at a time in these stories:

- the Parable of the Weeds (explained in verses 36-43) is concerned with the mixture of good and bad in this life to be sorted out at the judgement.
- the Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast tell how from small beginnings, quietly and unnoticed, the Kingdom will make great growth.

The other Parables can be read at your leisure.

Alan Steele

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Now is the time to give thanks, dear Lord, for those who have encouraged us in our faith. We remember those who in past times have died for their faith, and in present times are persecuted. Amen

Our CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM requires hearing aids to be switched to 'T'. Recordings of our services are available through the church website, or a CD copy can be provided on request – please ask a Steward.

The Church operates a system of covenanted, planned giving (details of which may be obtained from Nicola Garriock).

There is a children's area available at the rear of the Church which parents and their young children may use during the service.

Today's stewards are

Vestry Steward Maurice Illman

Duty Steward Peter Radcliffe

(stewards are the people to ask, if you need help before, during or after a service)

10.30am MORNING WORSHIP

Led by Rev Paul Hulme

Organist:

Hosts: Maureen & Norman Edsall

Sound System: Richard August

Projection steward: Julie Rowling

Call to Worship

Hymn (StF) 8 God with us: Creator, Father

Responsive Psalm 791 (StF)

Prayer

Hymn (StF) 519 Father, I place into your hands

Lesson

Matthew 13 v. 24 – 35 (p.979) read by Norman Edsall

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn (StF) 727 God in his love for us

(Tune: Stewardship)

Sermon

Music for Reflection

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Collection and dedication of the Offering *(congregation please stand)*

Hymn (StF) 728 O God, you search me and you know me

The Blessing

The flowers today have been given and arranged by
Margaret Wilson and Sheena Packham in memory
of their daughters, Jo and Andrea.

Letters for church members:

these are in the foyer and if you have not already received yours please take your own, and any for those not present which you can deliver.

Vision Box The Vision box is now at the back of the church for you to place your ideas and thoughts about the future of the church in preparation for the Away Day on 4th November. (See article in SPAN).

Methodist Prayer Handbook 2017/2018 If you would like a copy of this handbook "Jesus, the First and the Last" priced £3.50 plus packaging and postage please let Sylvia Kelley know by 30th July.

Coffee Morning on Saturday 16th September - please note that Maureen and Norman Edsall's coffee morning will now be held at the **Church** and not at Elstead as advertised in SPAN. This is due to the lack of parking at Elstead.

Please note that there will **not** be an Open Day/Heritage Day at this church on 9 September as stated in previous 40th Anniversary publicity.

11th September at 8pm - IMPORTANT MEETING - open to all. with representatives of the Methodist and UR Churches on the future ministry at GUC.

Lunch Fellowships at the Jack Phillips - Wednesday 9th August and Wednesday 13th September.

Kath and Alan Benny have moved and their new address is -

14 The Clockhouse, 140 London Road, Guildford, GU1 1FF
Their telephone number and email address remain the same.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK UP TO SUNDAY 30th JULY 2017

Thurs 27th 10.30-12noon Coffee and Cake at St. Mary's, Guildford
supporting Matrix Trust's work with
young people around Guildford.

Fri 28th 2.00pm Hobbies group - meet in the Library at the Dower
House, Milford. (*Barbara: tel: 01483 415600*)

Sunday 30th July

10.30am Morning Worship – led by Rev Paul Hulme
Baptism of Callie May Hayler –
great granddaughter of Joan Weston

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHURCH PLEASE CONTACT:

Minister	Rev Paul Hulme	01483 414 709
Church Secretary	Sylvia	01483 423 261
Pastoral Assistant	Eileen	01483 420 459
Senior Steward	Alan	01483 860 683
Lettings	Jennifer	01483 420 025
Web site address		www.guc.org.uk