

Sunday Services

Evening services are at 6.30pm unless otherwise shown.

October

- 7th *Pilgrims Way Review*
Pam Smith and Worship :Leaders
Brenda Gutberlet (S)
- 14th Brenda Gutberlet ()
Circuit Service at Rayleigh (4pm)
- 21st *Songs of Praise service*
Brian Gameson
- 28th Roger Thomas
John Stanton

November

- 4th *Wesley Guild Anniversary*
Rev Clifford Newman
Guild Members
- 11th Jim McAvoy
Brenda Gutberlet
- 18th Brenda Gutberlet (AAW)
Pam Freeborn
- 25th Brenda Gutberlet (s)
Circuit Service at Belfairs

Some of the services are different from the Circuit Plan - the ones above are correct at the time of printing. But all services are subject to change at short notice - see your printed notices for up to date information each Sunday.

Dates for your diary:

October

- 7 *Pilgrims Way Review Day*
- 13 Organ Concert featuring Simon Gledhill at Chalkwell Park
- 14 James Duddridge MP will be answering questions during the service.
- 14 Circuit Service at Rayleigh celebrating Charles Wesley's 300 Anniversary and the chance to sing the winning competition entry.
- 28 Clocks go back

November

- 2-3 Musical Evening(s), Leigh Wesley (in aid of their building fund)
- 4 Guild Anniversary, Rev Clifford Newman, 11am. Tea at 4.30, followed by evening service led by Guild members
- 9 Bazaar preparation, WI Hall
- 10 **Annual Bazaar, WI Hall**
- 25 *Worship For All* Circuit Service at Belfairs, 6.30

December

- 2 *Festival of Light* service at St Andrews Ashingdon, 3.30pm

The **Methodist Church** 



**Clocks back!
October 28th**

ROCHFORD Methodist

**Oct/Nov
2007**

Visit our website at
www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk

The Newsletter of
Rochford Methodist Church
North Street
Rochford
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Thanks to Colin Nelson (See Mark 12:41-44) 10-05-2007
**DUE TO A MISUNDERSTANDING, WIDOW HARRIS
PUT TERMITES IN THE COLLECTION PLATE**

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Thanks to Colin Nelson 10-01-2007
**I USUALLY SAY TO NOT BELIEVE EVERYTHING
THAT YOU READ, BUT THIS IS AN EXCEPTION**

Editorial

There's not much in this edition I'm afraid. Apart from it being a couple of weeks later than I had hoped, I don't think I have really had much to make this edition worth printing, apart from an article by Mike about *Pilgrims Way*.

It might be worth me re-stating what the newsletter is about. It is an opportunity for you to communicate with the church and for the church to communicate with you. It should reflect what we as a church **and as individuals** do, so it requires the regular feedback I am not getting

My store of filler items is running low but it is not fillers I want - it's articles from you. And when I say "articles from you", I mean articles and items you have written yourself, not copied or removed from another magazine - if I publish these we get into the realm of copyright law and the church really cannot afford to transgress this! There are tricks I can use to get round it but it's not easy.

Let us know what you do when you are not at church - your interests, where you went on holiday, what you think of the various initiatives that are going on, *anything* that we can share without me writing all the articles or trying to think of puzzles, etc. And don't put it off - do it **now**.

Alternatively, would you prefer this newsletter to come out less frequently, or not at all? Do you just take a copy to keep me happy and just throw it away unread? Would you like to take it on and take it in a different direction? Just let me know (in writing!) and give me some idea of whether or not I'm doing something useful.

If I get no response, I will assume there is no interest and I will just drop this newsletter and direct my efforts into another magazine I edit, or into developing our website.

Dave

The next planned publication date is 2nd December 2007 if one is published. Articles, etc, should be with Dave by 18th November please.

I prefer articles by email, floppy disc or typed with a good DARK original (because, being lazy, I can handle these without re-typing them!), but I am happy to receive them in any form—so long as I get something from you!
Emails can be sent to me at either of the addresses shown in the box on the right.

The **Rochford Methodist** is published on behalf of Rochford Methodist Church. Opinions expressed in this newsletter may not be those of the Methodist Church.

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What goes on at Rochford Methodist Church?

Sunday

11.00 am FJ Club
11.00 am Morning Service
6.30 pm Evening Service

Monday

2.30 - 4.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Sept - May)
7.15 - 8.45 pm *Blossom on the Oasis*.

Tuesday

9.30 - 11.30 am *Happy Hands* Toddler Group
12.00 - 2.00 pm *Happy Hands* Toddler Group
3.00 - 7.30 pm Hildale School of Dancing
8.00 pm Wesley Guild (Oct-Apr)

Wednesday

7.00 - 10.00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

Thursday

9.30 - 11.30 *Music Dreams* (for 0-2 years)
3.45 - 7.30 pm Hildale School of Dancing
7.30 - 9.30 pm Table Tennis

Friday

8.00 pm Rochford Floral Group (2nd Friday of month)

Saturday

9.00 am - 3.15 pm Hildale School of Dancing

The premises are available for use outside the above times. Contact Margaret Rayner on 544252 for more information.

And in addition . . .

Two open House Groups meet each month in a different place each time. One usually meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month and the other on the 3rd Wednesday. Look in the weekly notices for the dates and venues. A third House Group is for newer members of the Church and is by invitation only.

For those of you that were able to attend, Sunday 7 October was our second annual review. Pam Smith (our excellent Pilgrims Way Church Partner) led the morning service, with assistance from the Worship Leaders. After coffee we then asked everyone who was able to stay to note down what they have liked over the last year, other things they have not found so good and to give ideas of what we should be addressing for the coming year. Brenda then led us in a discussion reviewing the responses. I will not comment on the responses in detail as Sonia is kindly collating all of the comments given into a report that the Action Group will then consider. We will then make recommendations to the Church Council how we should progress for the coming year – these become the Actions Plans that we will implement.

I think the real strength of Pilgrims Way is that it is focused on and driven forward by the local congregation. We are not subject to external pressure to proceed – we see the need and consider how to best meet it, locally.

I must say how supportive our own Minister Brenda has been in this initiative. She has come up with ideas and suggestions and also been willing to get on and help us bring them to fruition.

Finally, please do continue to pray for the Church as we continue on the Pilgrims Way. I firmly believe that it is only through such prayer support that we have achieved what we have done to date, and all that we plan to do to further God's kingdom in Rochford.

Flower List

October	7	Heather Sims	November	4	Guild Anniversary
	14	Jean Startup		11	Pat Rubidge
	21	Val Dobbin		18	Jean Startup
	28	Ida Hearn		25	Joan Beehag

Cleaning Rota

October	6	Colin & Margaret Rayner, Ron & Carol Castle
	13	Bruce & Carole Glendenning, George & Sue Edwards
	20	BIG CLEAN
	27	Mike & Heather Sims, Jan Willson, Sandra Hull
November	3	Judy Garner, Rosie Isaacs, Maureen Whalley, Ivy Blenkinsop, Sheila Webber
	10	Dave & Val Dobbin, Roy & Olive Pavitt, Gwenda Andrews
	17	Malcolm & Pat Rubidge, John & Marian Webb
	24	Colin & Margaret Rayner, Ron & Carol Castle

Wesley Guild

Guild is now up and running with a varied set of (usually) Tuesday evenings in place. 'Usually' because on 22 and 29 October we will be meeting on Thursdays. On the 22nd, we will be going to see *Singin' in the Rain* being performed by SODS at the Cliffs Pavilion. Colin has the details and will be able to provide you with a reduced price ticket. On the 29th, we will be going to Rayleigh to join with them in a Social evening. As this is getting near Christmas, if you can do a 'turn' with a vaguely Christmas theme (poem, song, sketch, juggling Christmas puddings, etc), see Margaret as soon as possible.

And don't forget our Guild Anniversary on 4th November when we have invited Rev Clifford Newman (from Maldon) to lead our morning service. We will have tea at 4.30 and our own members will lead the evening service.

Our programme for the next couple of months is as follows.

Oct	2	Guild opening evening, Revd Brenda
	9	Pavitt's Puzzles
	16	<i>Helen Rollason Cancer Charity</i>
	23	<i>River Thames, from Hampton Court to the Barrier</i> , Ian Leadley
	30	Rev Gordon Bates
Nov	4	Guild Anniversary
		11 am Rev Clifford Newman
		4.30pm Tea, followed by service led by Gwenda and Guilders
	6	<i>Crossroads Update</i> , Gillian Poland
	13	<i>Follow up to the Glyndebourne Festival</i> , Bob Theobald
	22 (Thu)	<i>Singin in the Rain</i> at Cliffs Pavilion
	27	<i>Teaching & Preaching, any overlap?</i> Jane Fulford
	29 (Thu)	At Rayleigh Guild (Social)

Jean Gelder

Jean sends her best wishes to all her friends at Rochford and wants to thank everyone for befriending her and making her so welcome while she was with us. She has now moved to be close to her sister in Southport and her address is 47 Millhouse Lodge, Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 3BH (01704 573270)

Bazaar

Yes, it's nearly that time again! The Bazaar is on 10th November and we will meet as usual on the Friday night to set the hall up ready for the next day .

And don't forget that Carole is still looking for empty *Pringles* tubes. No mention yet of stick-backed plastic, or of sending your parents out the room, but we're sure Carole has prepared something earlier. She is keeping her cards close to her chest, so if you want to find out what it is, you'll have to come along to the Bazaar.

Women's Fellowship

Revd Brenda opened our session on 3 September and we are now going from strength to strength.

Alan Murray next visited us on the 10th and brought us up to date with *Operation Christmas Child* while Barry Stoll kept us entertained on the 17th. Our Harvest Festival was led by Diana Bosman, who came back from Africa a few months ago where she was a Mission Partner.

By the time this newsletter comes out we will have already had Joy Hardwick telling us about the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital and Dorothy Wells' *Views from the Vicarage*

Our planned programme for the next few weeks is:

October	15	Joan Clarke
	22	Pam Freeborn
	29	<i>Samaritans Purse</i> Christmas Shoe Box packing
November	5	Ren Ann Wilkes
	12	Revd Brenda
	19	Digby Saunders, <i>St Mary's Horse Refuge Charity</i>
	26	Rev Brian Gameson

We meet every Monday at 2.30pm at the Church and all ladies are welcome to come along.

The full programme can also be found on our church website at http://www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk/content.php?page_id=8

Pilgrims Way

It has been a fair while since I last gave an update for the Rochford Methodist on the progress we have made on Pilgrims Way. Now is the time to rectify that, especially since we've just had our second annual review!

Just a quick reminder, for those that may have forgotten, Pilgrims Way is a method by which we as a church examine and consider our fellowship within the context of the local community. It aims to keep us moving forward, *but at a pace of our choosing*. Many of us are so busy that there is little time to get involved in yet more activity, but Pilgrims Way does not expect us to do everything and certainly not to overburden the congregation with work that it cannot possibly achieve and so become discouraged.

We have a planning committee (called an Action Group in *PW-speak*) comprising Dave and Val Dobbin, Margaret and Colin Rayner, Sue and George Edwards, Carole Glendenning, Sonia Worthington and Brenda/Len (when available) and yours truly who chairs and supports the group. We meet regularly to prayerfully consider how we should be progressing as a church. These are translated into Aims, Objectives and Action Plans that progress the Church's Mission Statement

We are all here to:

- **worship God and spread His love;**
- **welcome everyone into our church family;**
- **serve the community in the name of Jesus Christ**

As a reminder, here are just some of things we now do as a fellowship as a direct result of Pilgrims Way:

- printed notices for the services rather than given out orally
- quiet time before the start of the services
- continuation of the Family Days (from an original idea from the Glendennings)
- monthly All-age Worship services
- welcome leaflet and regular leaflet drops to people in our locality
- *Traidercraft* stall
- Prayer chain and co-ordinator
- board displaying page numbers for the Bible readings
- supporting a local charity (Rochford Citizens Advice Bureau)

This is *not* an exhaustive list, but Pilgrims Way has given us the opportunity and impetus to bring these activities into the regular life of the Church.

All this does not happen by chance! We carefully plan the priorities for the year, which are then agreed by the Church Council. We complete the agreed actions, then review and reflect on how we have progressed at the end of the year, before planning for the next year.