

Prayers of Intercession

Life is made up of choices large and small, many of which carry consequences. Esau chose to give away his birthright for a dish of stew. Did he choose well? Do we choose well? **Lord, we pray today for all who have important choices to make. May they be aware of all consequences.**

We pray for parents and their children and for the maternity services in this country and all who work in this field including doctors, nurses and midwives. We pray for those having to make difficult decisions. We pray for the mothers whose choice was taken from them as they were forced to give up their children for adoption and have lived for decades with the consequences of other people's actions. **Lord, heal broken hearts and lives. Guide all in their choices.**

We pray for all those holding political power in this country. We pray for the public shortly having to make choices voting in a surprise by-election. We pray for the person expected to soon move into the position of Prime Minister. Days will be filled with a great many choices to be made. Choices that will affect us all. Choices that will affect the health of this country. We pray for our country's defences, that they be fortified. We pray too that all in our armed forces will be more than adequately equipped to carry out their duties. **Lord, may your hand guide all in their choices, particularly those in power as they make choices that impact us day by day and that of the safety of our country.**

We pray for those choosing to help others, often at risk to their own lives. We think of the International Search and Rescue teams helping in Venezuela. We pray for those miraculously rescued from the earthquakes' destruction, for those still missing and for the huge number grieving loved ones. **Lord, may your love sustain, strengthen and provide for all those impacted by catastrophic events.**

We pray for your church, Lord and all who commit to ministry. May we, your people, reach out to all in need, showing your love in action. We pray for all in need, overseas and at home, and particularly those within our own communities. **Lord, guide us, your church, as we shine your light amid the dark uncertainty facing many today. Help us to inform people's choices with the knowledge of your love.**

As this country endures a third heatwave we pray for the young, old and all who are vulnerable and susceptible to heat. We pray for those who have previously lost loved ones through cold water shock and ask that you guide those who may be tempted by open water during the hot weather. **Lord, we lift our prayers, looking to you to direct our ways, enabling us with your wisdom to make good choices that will impact well on our lives and the lives of those around us. Amen.**

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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist

Sunday 12 July 2026

Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Romans 8: 1-3

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering.

If you have any items that you would like to be added, or suggestions for inclusion, please advise [Mike Sims](#).



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Sunday 12 July 2026

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Gift Fortnight – Week 1

This time, our **annual gift fortnight** will be to refurbish the Benson Room and specifically to buy new comfortable chairs to replace the low ones that we currently have. This would make the space much more versatile and inviting to use. Please give as much as you feel able to. Please see the Donations section (below) if you are unable to give in person at the church on Sunday morning.

Services and Meetings this week

Saturday – 6.00 to 8.00pm - [Christianity Explored](#) – Pastor Mike will be leading the next session of this course. The church will be providing pizza for those who attend. Please come to support this event, particularly if you can bring a friend who is not in the church, but wants to find out more about Jesus.

Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be led by Paul Saunders.

- 4.00pm – Circuit Service - [Benfleet Methodist Church](#). Join us for an evening of worship, poetry and story as we hear about Anna Turner's work in the Middle East.

Monday – 4.00 to 5.00pm – [Monday Club](#). Ages 4-12. Runs every Monday in term time. Crafts, Lego, snacks, games, and it's free! A responsible adult will need to stay at all times. Starts again on 14 September.

– 7.00 to 7.15pm – [Rochford Prayer](#) via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID 768 0376 1257
Passcode: 8yTeDH.

Tuesday – 7.30pm – [Bible Study](#). You are welcome to join us on [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 948 2779 0660. Passcode: 425539. We are continuing our study of Philippians.

Wednesday – 8.00pm – [House Group](#) – We will be meeting at the home of Carole and Bruce. Please ask a Steward if you need further information/address. All are very welcome to attend this meeting: there are no members, just friends from church gathering together and learning more about God.

Thursday - 7.30pm - [Table Tennis](#). Please let [Colin and Margaret](#) know if you're planning to come as there are occasions when they do not meet, so it's worth checking first.

Friday – 9.30 to 11.30am – [Happy Cup Breakfast Club](#). Runs every Friday in term time and is for parents/carers with children aged 0 to 5 years. There is a suggested donation of £2 per family.

Saturday – 4.00 to 6.00pm - [Summer Party](#). Pastor Mike is planning this and will be very grateful for volunteers to assist on the day. To book a place, please speak with Pastor Mike, or use this [link](#).

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 10.00am – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes. This will be an **All Age Worship** service, so please note the later start time. The church will be open from 09:30 as usual, for tea/coffee.

12 to 26 July – Gift Fortnight – As advised by our Treasurer last week, we will be holding our annual gift fortnight to refurbish the Benson Room and specifically to buy new comfortable chairs to replace the low ones that we currently have. This would make the space much more versatile and inviting to use, for example, with the various Christianity courses that we are now running.

1 August – 10:30am to 12:30pm – [Church Vision Day](#). As we come to the end of Pastor Mike's 3-year contract, we would like to gather together as a church to share ideas of how God will be guiding us for the next stage of our faith journey with Him. Rev Agnes will be leading this meeting and we will close with a packed lunch together.

9 August – Local Arrangement – Songs of Praise – This is advanced notice that our LA service in August will be a return of our sharing of favourite hymns/songs/bible passages or poems. We want this to be as interactive as possible with many people sharing a brief reason for their choice. Please have a think now as I will be seeking out volunteers to participate in this act of worship.

Other Information

Church income was £198.00, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Community Outreach Pastor update – We had our last Lego club of the term this week. It was a lovely time, thanks for all who have helped out over the term. Lego club will return in September!

The assemblies were good this week, I led a debate on does God exist. The children really engaged with this. At the end around a third said that they believed in God, a third did not and a third were unsure.

On Saturday we continue our Christianity Explored course, please pray that it goes well. Thanks, Mike Webb

Receiving the Weekly Notices via email – This is a reminder that whilst I aim to issue the notices every Friday evening, issues can arise which means that some folk don't actually receive them into their Inbox. To prevent your email server bouncing the message as "spam", you could add mikepnsims@gmail.com to your address book, or whitelist me. Of course, if you no longer wish to receive these emails, simply let me know and I will remove you from the circulation.

The notices are always available from the [website](#), too.

[A Prayer for Today](#) – The Methodist Church offers a prayer which changes daily. You may find this helpful to include within your own devotions.

Caring for our environment – One way to support the environment is to support [Treeapp](#). Download Treeapp to plant trees across the world in just a few taps. Make your own global impact in less than 60 seconds. Get in on [Google Play](#) or Download on the [App Store](#).

Circuit Newsletter – The **Southend & Leigh Circuit [Summer Newsletter](#)** is now available, packed with exciting updates and key dates for your diary! Highlights include our upcoming **Gospel Service on Strand Wharf** (9th Aug), the **Welcome Service for Mark Waghorn** (6th Sept), and a fantastic live music evening with **Our Atlantic Roots** (12th Sept). You can also read all about the Burrell Wellbeing Centre's 1st birthday success, Chalkwell Park's vibrant anniversary exhibition, and preview the line-up for the Fishermen's Chapel Autumn Concerts and the new Worship Academy series.

Collect – Give us we pray, gentle God, a mind forgetful of past injury, a will to seek the good of others and a heart of love, that we may learn to live in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ through whom we pray. Amen.

Our Elderly Friends - Please remember – Sylvia, Pat, Gwen and Maureen.

[Other Forward Notices](#)

25 July – 11.00am to 3.00pm – **Westerley Open Day** – BBQ at 12.00pm. Card stalls, cake stalls, teas/coffees/cold drinks, raffle (plus much more)!

12 September – 7.00pm – **Folk concert** - "'[OUR ATLANTIC ROOTS](#)' fuse together poetic lyrics and cinematic instrumentation, creatively presenting a blend of the cultures they are individually from, by merging genres characterized by their country and folk roots". [Highlands Methodist Church](#). Tickets: £5.00 per head, available from: [We Got Tickets](#). Profits will go to the charity [Aspirations in Southend](#).

Donations

If you would like to donate to the work of Rochford Methodist Church, you can do so from [here](#). If you want to buy something new, please remember to do so through [Easyfundraising](#).

To create a **Standing Order** for Rochford Methodist Church you will need the following details: A/c Name Rochford Methodist Church; A/c No 90766712; Sort Code 20 79 73. If you are a taxpayer, please could you contact Bruce Glendenning so that a simple form can be easily filled in. We can then reclaim tax back on the donations.

You can also donate to the Church by [PayPal Giving Fund](#)

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