

I might start a new organisation – the Campaign for a Real Advent.

Advent is my favourite season in the Christian calendar. The word Advent means ‘coming’ or ‘arrival’. It is a time to anticipate and prepare for Christ coming amongst us. It is a time to look forward with hope and expectation. The theme of waiting and preparation is reflected in the liturgical colour for Advent which is purple. Purple also marks this as a time of seriousness and solemnity.

The problem with this time in late November and December is that preparations for Christmas and early Christmas celebrations crowd out the special joy of Advent.

Advent marks the start of the new liturgical year during which we move from Advent to Christmas, Epiphany, a period of ordinary time before Lent, Easter and Pentecost. This is followed by a much longer period of ordinary time culminating in the celebration of Christ the King. Then we are back to Advent. It is a new year, a new beginning. All things are made new.

Advent has the best hymns. ‘O Come, O come Immanuel’ and ‘Come, thou long-expected Jesus’ have sublime words reminding us that our Christian faith and worship should be built upon profound and solid foundations. ‘Long ago, prophets knew’ and ‘Joy to the World’ express the hope and joy not just of the season but also the eternal glory of the Word.

Advent is the great season which the wider world has forgotten about. We cannot neglect Advent but instead cherish it. We are blessed by it for when everyone else is being busy and worrying about Christmas, Advent comes along and surprises us.

Maybe it’s not the time to start another organisation (and the shortened version of the name has already been taken anyway) but instead to live the Way of Advent. We spend this season in joyful hope of Christ coming amongst us. Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Rev. Shaun Sanders

## **Resources/Good News**

### **International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women**

Starting on the International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women, Methodist Women in Britain follows the UN Women UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign with 16 days of activism to raise awareness and advocate against gender-based violence.

In the UK, Methodist Women in Britain suggest lighting a candle every day at 7pm to honour women who were murdered and offers a series of actions, from 25 November to 10 December, to deepen our knowledge and advocate against gender-based violence.

[16 days of activism to fight gender-based violence - The Methodist Church](#)



# Christmas Fair

Addlestone Methodist Church

Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup>

10am -2pm



Local crafts



Second-hand books



Children's



activities



Cakes!



Looking for a new game for Christmas –  
come and try some out in the  
coffee lounge between 10am  
and 12  
noon



Come and view the sales, play a game  
and enjoy a coffee/tea and cake.



Variety of games suitable for age 8 to 108

**A joyful start to Christmas**

***Carols for All***



**Saturday Nov 30th**

**7.00 - 9.00pm**

**Horsley Methodist  
Church**

( next to W. Horsley Village Hall)

**Come and sing your favourite  
carols with a break for  
refreshments and mince pies.**

**Phone requests to**

**01483 282474**



Selected pieces from:  
**Handel's *Messiah***  
Christmas Carols

Music Director:  
Florence Price

7.30pm, Saturday  
30th November 2024

St John's Church  
West Byfleet,  
KT14 6EH

Tickets: £18 Adults,  
£9 students  
Order from website,  
choir members and  
on the door



**Genesis Chorale**

[www.genesischorale.org.uk](http://www.genesischorale.org.uk)



Registered Charity no 1048381



A SERIES OF REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT

## WOMEN OF THE NATIVITY

- IMAGINING THEIR ROLES,  
FACING THE HARSH REALITIES

ST. MARY'S GUILDFORD GU1 3UP

THURSDAYS 12.15 FOR 12.30

28 NOVEMBER      ELIZABETH: WEARY OF GOSSIP  
ALWYN MARRIAGE

5 DECEMBER      MARY: WHISPERS OF SCANDAL  
ROSEMARY LEE

12 DECEMBER     RACHEL: WEEPING IN RAMAH  
SARAH HUTTON

THE REFLECTIONS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A BREAD & SOUP LUNCH

THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER: CAROLS AT LUNCHTIME

## STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)



### “COFFEE CORNER”



Fortnightly on Tuesdays from 10.00 a.m – 12 noon

3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September

1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October

12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November

10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>\*\* December

\*\* 17<sup>th</sup> December will be in aid of Cherry Trees, Clandon

Enjoy Coffee & a Chat, Coffee & a Game, or Coffee & a Book

The choice is yours!



Everyone welcome – bring a friend!



# It's A Boy!

The Christmas comedy musical for the young and young at heart

**Date:** 7 December 2024

**Time:** 2:00 (45-60 minutes)

**Venue:** Trinity Methodist Church  
Brewery Road, Woking, GU21 4LH

**Price:**

**Pre-Booking:** £10 (adult), £5 (child)  
£25 (2 adults + 2 children)

**Pay at door:** £12 (adult), £7 (child)

Children must be accompanied by an adult  
(maximum of 3 children per adult)

Price includes a goody-bag for each child.

**Refreshments on sale. All are welcome.**



FOR MORE INFO



qr.codes/M5VmAu

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024

at 4.30pm

Merrow Methodist church



# From Loss to Light



Take this opportunity to pause and remember  
those who are no longer with us.



MEMORY LANE AND FRIENDS  
INVITE YOU TO A JOYFUL

# Celebration of Christmas

2.30-3.30pm

**MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

Mince Pies, Cakes and Tea

St Nicolas Church  
Church Lane, Cranleigh, GU6 8AR

To accept invitation:  
01483 274398 / [mamwild@aol.com](mailto:mamwild@aol.com)





# Godalming Band & Godalming Youth Band

present an evening of festive **music & cheer**  
at a joint

# Christmas Concert



**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm**  
at Godalming United Church, Bridge Street

Tickets: **£8** adults, **£4** under 16, **£20** family (2 adults, 2 U16)

Book online at [www.godalmingband.org.uk](http://www.godalmingband.org.uk) or scan the code >

Scan the QR code  
to buy tickets



Registered charity no. 1025290, [www.godalmingband.org.uk](http://www.godalmingband.org.uk)



**Godalming Community Gospel Choir**

Registered Charity Number 1210363



# CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE

**SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2024 7.30PM**

**St Peter & St Paul's Church, Godalming GU7 1EW**



**MUSIC DIRECTOR  
KATHY MCLEISH**



**VAUGHAN LARMOND  
AND BAND**

**ADULT TICKET £10 CHILDREN FREE**

TICKETS AT [gcginformation@gmail.com](mailto:gcginformation@gmail.com) BUY AT RECORD CORNER CASH ONLY OR PAY ON DOOR CASH & CARD

**WINE AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE DURING THE INTERVAL**