

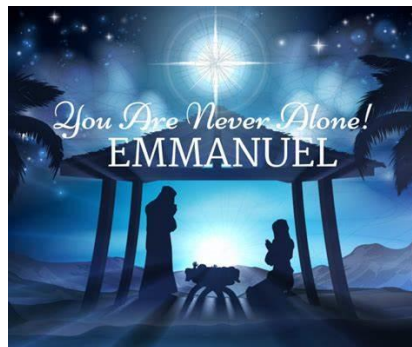
Dear Friends,

May I take this opportunity to wish you all God's peace, blessing, hope and love for this New Year of 2025.



As we enter into this year, and every new year, we may come with a whole range of emotions and perspectives: joy for what is known to be on the horizon, hope for what we yearn for, anxiety for those things that we are uncertain about or unsure will be, fear for those things that trouble us or feel out of our control, thanksgiving for another year and eagerness for searching out what is yet to be and to see where God will lead us.

In all of these (and many other situations) we can hold onto the truth that we have just celebrated at Christmas – that God-with-us, Immanuel, is here with us too. Nothing we encounter will take that from us; even if sometimes, because of what we are going through it feels like God is distant or not listening to our prayers, the lack is in us, not God. God is always there, always present, always concerned for us and always offering us consolation, comfort, encouragement and hope.



The Covenant services that many of our churches have celebrated, remind us of the covenant of love that God has made with us and the people called Methodist (and siblings from other parts of the Christian family that share similar rededication services, especially present in our Circuit shared churches) across the generations; through grace we are invited to respond and by the love of Jesus and the Spirit's blessing, we are enabled to make our covenant of love back to God's heart.



And it isn't just God. One of the joys of being part of a circuit, a group of churches that work together, worship together and move forward together, is that weren't not alone here either! We can support and encourage one another on, as fellowships of faith and individuals with all that we face. In a book I was given before Christmas, I found the following words talking about the season of Epiphany:

*'The Epiphany story reminds us that God's love is revealed when people cross the threshold from known places towards each other.'* (Quote from Tess Ward's *'The Celtic Wheel of the Year'*, pg 17)



As we move from that which we have known about 2024 and all it brought our way, stepping out in faith and fellowship together into all that 2025 will bring, I pray that crossing that 'threshold' together, as churches and a circuit, may enable that deepening and revealing of God's love – in us, through us and for us – and that this Epiphany may further the work, witness and worship that we strive to do here in Wey Valley and in all the opportunities that God will bring our way.

I offer you two prayers to end these brief thoughts, words you may wish to take with you into this new year:

*The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
(Numbers 6:24-26 – NRSVue Bible)*

*Faithful God, with these holy gifts  
you have fed us and strengthened us in Jesus Christ your Son.  
Guide us on our way, that with all your faithful people  
we may come to share the feast of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  
(Methodist Worship Book, concluding prayer from The Covenant Service, pg 296)*

Wishing you **LIGHT, HOPE, PEACE & JOY!**

*Sam*

P.S. If you want some great examples of how much we can do when we work together in peace and trust – follow this link to read about the amazingly sensitive and caring work of the multi-faith chaplaincy teams in higher education (including our own Superintendent, Paul, in the team at the University of Surrey) as they navigate the challenging landscape following the situations of conflict in the Middle East: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/our-stories/chaplaincy-and-conflict/>

## **Resources/Good News**

### **Message from the Circuit Safeguarding Team**

#### **DBS check Update Service – Reminder from the Government**

The Circuit has been receiving quite a few emails recently, with people querying the emails they have received about their DBS check on the 'update service'.

Previously, people received an email once a year just telling them that they were on the update service, and that if they were still in role, then there was nothing they needed to do, the update would roll on.

However, recently a new email has come out asking people if they want to stay on the update service, and if they do, then they need to click a link to remain on the update service. People have been naturally worried in case this was a scam.

We just want to reassure people that it isn't a scam and they need to click on the link to keep their DBS check on the update service.

**The Circuit Safeguarding Team.**

## **Big Garden Birdwatch 24-26 January 2025**

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

Across the UK, over 600,000 people took part in Big Garden Birdwatch 2024, counting a whopping 9.7 million birds! House Sparrows took the top spot, but counts of these chirpy birds are down by 60% compared to the first Birdwatch in 1979. In fact, we've lost 38 million birds from UK skies in the last 60 years. With birds facing so many challenges, it's more important than ever to get involved in the Birdwatch. Every bird you do – or don't – count will give us a valuable insight into how garden birds are faring.

[Big Garden Birdwatch](#)





Stay for FREE tea,  
coffee & a chat

## Clothes4U

Pre loved clothes with TLC

from

**Knaphill Methodist Church**

Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2DR



**Saturday 18 January 2025 2 - 4pm**

To claim your FREE clothes, collect a voucher from 30+ places in Surrey.

Email us to find out where they are: [clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk](mailto:clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk)



All are welcome to join us for tea, coffee, cake & a chat in a friendly environment



Whether you're looking for clothes for yourself, friends, or family



We have lovely, pre-loved clothes for everyone to take away & enjoy wearing



We look forward to meeting you & your family



If you would like to donate clothes, please contact us on the email below



If you would like to volunteer, we would warmly welcome your help

[www.knaphill-methodist-church.com/clothes4U](http://www.knaphill-methodist-church.com/clothes4U)

[clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com](mailto:clothes@knaphill-methodist-church.com)

### WE NEED YOUR CLOTHES!



#### PLEASE DONATE UNWANTED CLOTHES

to  
Clothes4U Clothes Bank  
Knaphill Methodist Church



We give clothing to anyone who needs it.

**CLOTHES NEEDED URGENTLY!!**  
**PLEASE DONATE CLOTHES FOR**  
**MEN WOMEN BOYS GIRLS & BABIES**

#### HOW TO DONATE

bring your clothes to Knaphill Methodist Church

(use glass door down side passage)

1:30-3:30pm on these dates:

Saturdays 18 January, 15 February

**Can't make those dates?**

email us to arrange another time

[clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk](mailto:clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk)



**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
4.00 PM**

# **PUDDING AND PRAISE**

This will be led by

Ross Richardson and Dave Paterson

Come and have some delicious puddings at 4.00pm and then settle down to some great praise, worship and contemplation at 4.30

**Delicious puddings and  
great Praise**

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**If you like a good  
pudding come and  
taste some**

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**Be uplifted by great  
praise songs  
led by 'Breeze'**

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**WALTON METHODIST  
CHURCH**

Terrace Road  
KT12 2SR

Telephone

01932 429184

<http://www.waltonmethodist.org>

Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup> 2025 4pm





Centre for Psychology



# Neurodiversity in the Context of Mental Health

Wednesday 22nd January 9:30am-12:30pm

£25

## Topics Covered

- Overview of the neurodiversity spectrum
- Introduction to Autism and ADHD
- Exploring the co-occurrence between mental health conditions with Autism and ADHD
- How to facilitate supportive conversations with neurodivergent individuals
- How to support people in distress
- What is CBT? How can it be personalised to support neurodivergent individuals
- Signposting to support services in the area

## How to book



[www.centreforpsychology.co.uk](http://www.centreforpsychology.co.uk)



[events@centreforpsychology.co.uk](mailto:events@centreforpsychology.co.uk)



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