

Dear Friends

You will probably know that last Sunday, May 5th, was Vocations Sunday in the Methodist Church. Vocation is really about 'hearing God's call'. The danger is that sometimes we think that the call must be to ordination or to some other form of Christian service but that is not the case. According to John Pritchard, the former Bishop of Oxford, there are three types of call:

First, the call to be fully ourselves. God wants us to be fully alive and fully ourselves, living up to our potential. Jesus said 'I have come that people may have life and have it abundantly'. Unfortunately, some people only live half-lives, afraid to become the people they really are. A wise old rabbi called Zusya said, 'When I get to heaven they will not ask me "Why were you not Moses?". They will ask me, "Why were you not Zusya?"

Secondly, the call to live the life of the baptised. All Christians are called by God to live out their baptism, to live out the gospel in whatever situation they find themselves, to be a Christian in the world. I once knew a man who had been a member of the church for most, if not all, of his life and yet when he died people with whom he had worked for many years said that they never knew he was a Christian. We need to be followers of Christ in the shop, the office, the pub and the classroom.

Thirdly, the call to accredited ministry. In the Methodist church that comes in a number of forms: Local Preacher, Worship Leader, Local Pastor, Pastoral Assistant, Presbyteral or Diaconal minister. In our circuit we have quite a number of preachers, worship leaders and presbyters but I think only one pastor and one pastoral assistant and no deacons. If you feel called to any of these ministries do please have a chat with your minister. And, whatever your call now and in the future, may God be with you.

Blessings

Allan

Rev. J. Allan Taylor

### **Resources/Good News**

#### **What's it like becoming a local preacher in the Methodist Church? | Sally's Story**

Sally is a local preacher in the Colchester circuit of the Methodist Church in Great Britain. Hear about how she felt called to take on this position, joined by Chris, her tutor.

[What's it like becoming a local preacher?](#)

**christian aid** **Plant Sale**

**11 May • 10am to 12 noon**

**Trinity Methodist Church**  
Brewery Road, Woking

A range of quality plants include annual and perennial flowers, indoor and conservatory plants, vegetables and more!

There will be volunteers to help with advice if needed.

Coffee, tea and home-made cake will also be available.  
Cash and card payments are accepted.



Stay for FREE tea, coffee & a chat

**Clothes4U**

Pre loved clothes with TLC

from

**Knaphill Methodist Church**

Broadway, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2DR



**Saturday 18 May 2024 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)



# Coffee & Cake

**St. Mary's Quarry St,  
Guildford GU1 3UP**

**Thursday 25 April**

**Thursday 23 May**

**10.30 – 12 noon**

*~ each morning features  
a different charity*

*Everyone welcome*



# Guildford Opera Company

# AIDA

GIUSEPPE VERDI  
SUNG IN ENGLISH

**WED MAY 22**

7.30PM

**FRI MAY 24**

7.30PM

**SAT MAY 25**

6.30PM



## Holy Trinity Church

High Street Guildford GU1 3RR

Tickets available on-line

**[www.guildfordopera.com](http://www.guildfordopera.com)**

and also on the door