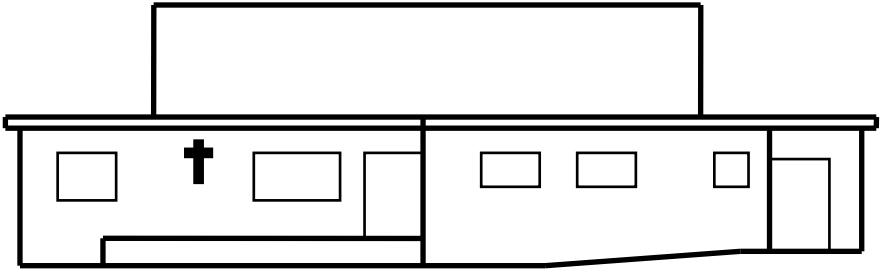




**East Leake Methodist Church**



**May to July 2024**

HE is RISEN! HE is risen INDEED!

Happy Easter to you all.

As I write the sun is shining, and the buds are breaking out on the trees. The cherry blossom is in full bloom and the buds of the neighbour's magnolia tree are just beginning to break. There are wonderful signs of hope all around us, the green blade rises from the seemingly dead seed.

I wonder what the garden was like on the glorious Day of Resurrection, when Jesus rose from the dead? Did Mary Magdalen notice the carpet of green grass, the delicate flowers beneath her feet? Did she notice the sunrise beyond her veil of tears?

And then Jesus calls her name, "Mary" and she rushes to embrace him, though she cannot.

Now it wouldn't matter if the garden were covered in jewels for she only has eyes and ears for her Lord. The waves of emotion that cover her from head to foot – from the depths of abject despair to the heights of elation all wrapped up in wonder and love.

Jesus tells her to go and tell the disciples that he has arisen and will meet with them soon.

I wonder if her feet touch the ground as she speeds away with wings on her heels. Such joy!

And we should be joyous too, for Jesus, our wonderful, risen Jesus, has broken sin's power over us: we are forgiven and reconciled to God. Death is no more. We have life in all its fullness: life eternal: risen with Christ.

Jesus Christ is risen and so are we.

God bless, Sandra

## **Message from Sandra**

On a personal note, from 1st May until 1st August, I will be on Sabbatical. That is the gift of the Church to Ministers. This time is for re-charging the batteries, study, having time and space for family and friends. Ministers do all kinds of things during this time from travel, retreats, study, pilgrimage to taking holiday time with friends or family and simply having time to do those things which are difficult to fit into ministry. Though I'm going on a pilgrimage to Rome and taking time out with friends, I shall be around to cat sit and read too. Please resist the urge to phone me – I might not be here! If you see me out and about do come and say hello. While I'm away Josephine in the Circuit office has agreed to field phone calls and to ensure they are directed to the right person to deal with them, urgent pastoral care cover will be provided by Rev'd Karen and, of course our own lay pastoral Chris.

*Sandra*

## Church Services

Our services for May will be as follows. We start at 10.30am unless otherwise stated. Tea and coffee are served after our services.

<b>May</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Chris Watkins
12 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Pat Olivent-Hayes. Communion
19 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost. Church Anniversary. Mr Nigel Wrighton
26 <sup>th</sup>	Circuit Service at Trinity Methodist Church, Loughborough. No service at our church.

Details of the services in June and July were not available at the time of printing.

Sandra, our minister now has charge of three Methodist churches in our circuit – ourselves, Barrow on Soar and Mountsorrel. She has decided to try holding a joint service for her three churches to include communion.

Please note that services are altered from time to time and changes can be made. To check for changes please see our Facebook page East Leake Methodist Church or our website <https://eastleakemethodists.org.uk>

We continue to produce a full written service every week which we send out by email. If you would like to receive it, please send your email address to [roger.86latham@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.86latham@btinternet.com) and he will add you to our distribution list.

## **Car Rota**

There is no transport rota yet but if anyone would like a lift to Church please contact me. 853697

*Lesley Allan*

### **Message from Lesley**

Thank you for all the prayers and kindness that I have received from everyone as I have been recovering from my knee operation.

*Lesley Allan*

**Ladies Fellowship Spring/Summer 2024.**

New members are always welcome.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Rosedale with Angela and Roger

May 7<sup>th</sup> - Youth work in East Leake with Jo Harrison

May 21<sup>st</sup> - My favourite season of the year”

June 4<sup>th</sup> - “Things I enjoy doing”

June 18<sup>th</sup> - Guest speaker

July 2<sup>nd</sup> - Afternoon get together

Begin again Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024

*Chris Watkins*

## Four Square Meetings Summer 2024

*Meetings are usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. We will be meeting at church and will zoom our meetings.*

**Starting time 7.30pm.**

**Zoom log in details:**

**Meeting ID 445 064 3070**

**Password 795145**

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** “Cruise or Ferry?” A memorable boat trip” Members to share a special voyage that they made

**May 2<sup>th</sup>** Bible Study on 2 Kings 5. 1-15 The story of Naaman  
*Led by Angela*

**May 16<sup>th</sup>** “The oddest task I ever did” Members to share their story

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** A Conversation with Father Michael  
*Led by Angela*

**June 20<sup>th</sup>** “How to end up at the end of a bell rope”  
*Led by Hilary*

**July 4<sup>th</sup>** 12.30pm Lunch Out - *to be arranged*

Summer break

Resume Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>

*Angela Latham*

## **Gift Day Appeal.**

Dear Friend,

On the 19th of May, we will celebrate again our Church Anniversary and as usual, I am also sending out this letter asking for contributions to our Gift Day that will take place at the same time.

Last year I told you about the need for additional funds in order for us to undertake some repairs and maintenance that we had been putting off. The increase in our costs due to increased energy costs was taking up most of our budget and there was not sufficient money for doing some of the longer term repairs that we needed to carry out. I'm pleased to say that there was a very generous response and as a result of that, we've been able to commission some contractors to suppliers with new windows to replace the old wooden single glazed windows that we had when the Church was extended originally back in the early 1970s. We've kept these going for some years, but the time has come to replace them with modern UV PC windows, which have double glazing which will help us to conserve heat and energy. We have put the windows on order and they should be installed sometime during the summer. However, we have decided to have all the windows replaced at the same time rather than do it piece meal and this means that I've had to push the boat out a bit and hope for your generosity this time to help pay for some of the completion of this work without needing to draw on reserves. We do have the money to complete the whole of the job, but it would require us pulling some of the money out of reserves if we could not get the funds through this Gift Day appeal.

I'm always very conscious that we need to keep some reserves to deal with unforeseen costs which crop up, which we haven't been able to budget for. These things that do occur and at present we have two



additional costs which are coming up, which we haven't been able to foresee. The first of these is some surprise costs that have come up about the installation of the new windows. The Church is in a Conservation Area and as a result any changes to the appearance of the Church need to have planning consent. Rushcliffe Borough Council are insisting that we get planning consent for the new window installation, even though we are replacing, like with like, and indeed some of the replacements will only be visible from back yard of our neighbour, Co-op Funeralcare! Nevertheless, we will have to submit full planning permission in order to get the new windows installed and this will come at an additional cost of £1000 because of the plans and documents that we have to submit. We have no real choice but to do this and as a result this work is now being undertaken so that we can get the windows installed during the summer.

A second unexpected cost that we're facing is about VAT. Places of worship are outside the VAT regulations by law. But recently HMRC has been picking up on this and asking energy companies to get certificates from their users to show what proportion of energy costs are attributable to places of worship. This means some elements of our work, which involve our mission to the Community by letting our building for Community uses, are not likely to be exempt from VAT reductions. Consequently, we expect a bill for VAT from our existing supplier which may go back for some time. Again, there is little we can do about this. We will face a new bill that we have not been expecting, so I will need to make sure that we have sufficient in reserves to able to meet these costs and your contributions from the Gift Day will materially help in making sure that we don't let our reserves fall too low.

These kind of unexpected costs are, I'm afraid, one of the consequences of an increasing, commercialised, market oriented,

secular society. Churches, charities and voluntary organisations don't comply to the pattern that most official and financial bodies follow. Instead, we're treated as if we are commercial businesses and therefore liable to pay additional tax and any necessary planning permissions, for example. But there are significant differences between churches, charities and voluntary organisations and a commercial organisation. In the first place such bodies are not owned by the people who run them. Instead, we are trustees and stewards of the organisation and its assets, receiving it from earlier generations and passing it on intact to future generations. And secondly, churches and voluntary organisations are not membership bodies which sell services to their members. Instead, we exist to provide services and support to the community for people who are not our members. Our Members do not pay bills or subscriptions for services. Instead, they make voluntary donations.

Unfortunately, this is not seen in the commercial world. There is little understanding in banks of the trustee of nature of churches and voluntary organisations. The consequence is that we are often find ourselves in situations where we have to argue the peculiar circumstances of churches to organisations whose IT setups, on which they increasingly rely, are organised around commercial enterprises. Increasingly we find ourselves with bigger levels of bureaucracy to have to get through which are not orientated towards trust organisations, nor their stewardship functions and an increasing legal framework that does not take account of the fact that we are not a market orientated commercial organisation, but one which is a community organisation, not organised along profit making lines.

So I commend this letter to you and ask for your prayerful support in giving donations to the Church's Gift Day. More often than not, we find ourselves having to pay additional costs without getting any additional

benefits or reliefs. So the need for funds voluntarily given is even greater.

If you wish to make your gift online these are the financial details of the Church's bank account.

Name: East Leake Methodist Church

Account number: 50412094

Sort Code: 60 – 14 – 10

You will need these to make any direct payment into the Church. If you do so, please will you mark the payment “Gift Day” so that I can identify it in the Church's account and properly account for it? There will be some envelopes at Church containing this letter, if you wish to make a cash donation and a box will be available to put your donation in. If you wish to send the cheque then please do so at:

25, Potters Lane  
East Leake  
Loughborough  
Leicestershire LE12 6NQ

Or hand it to me or for one of the stewards, and we will make sure that it's properly included. Can I thank you in advance for your response to this appeal and thank you for your past and future generosity.

*Roger Latham.*

*Church Treasurer.*

## Coffee Rota

<b>May</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>Pam</b>	<b>Ann Mace</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Sarah</b>	<b>Sue</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Angela</b>	<b>Roger</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Anne</b>	<b>Lesley</b>
<b>June</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Pauline</b>	<b>Greg</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Pam</b>	<b>Ann Mace</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Sarah</b>	<b>Sue</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Angela</b>	<b>Roger</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Anne</b>	<b>Lesley</b>
<b>July</b>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Pauline</b>	<b>Greg</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Pam</b>	<b>Ann Mace</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Sarah</b>	<b>Sue</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>Angela</b>	<b>Roger</b>

Please note: This Saturday morning coffee rota may not represent the actual people running the coffee morning on the date planned, as it's customary to swap if they are unavailable.

## Dates for Your Diary

**19<sup>th</sup> May** Church Anniversary.

**17<sup>th</sup> July** Brownies Bar-be-cue

**29<sup>th</sup> September** Harvest

**Crafting Group** 9:30-11:30, in the Village Hall. This group meets on the first Thursday of each month.

**May Day** The Scouts are bringing back May Day celebrations on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1:30-4:30. Village fete stalls, food, raffle, arena activities, tug-of-war and more.

**Craft Fair** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 11:00-3:00, Village Hall

**D-Day Commemoration** no information yet. Please look out for announcements.

**Village Carnival** Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Churches Together are having their usual refreshment tent. Do call in for a drink and a rest. This year we are having a prayer tree of Hope. While resting you can write a prayer and tie it onto the tree along with many other prayers from villagers.

## East Leake Methodist Church Hall Bookings

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Monday	09.30 to 12.00	Pencil Art
	13.00 to 15.00	Bead Group
	19.00 to 21.00	East Leake Community Crafting - 6 May, 10 June, 8 July and 12 August
Tuesday	10.30 to 12.00	East Leake Community Care – Memory Café
	14.15 to 16.15	Ladies Fellowship (Alternate weeks)
	18.00 to 19.30	5 <sup>th</sup> East Leake Brownies (Term time only)
Wednesday	10.00 to 11.00	Pilates
	14.00 to 16.00	East Leake Community Care – Tea and Cakes
	18.30 to 20.00	3 <sup>rd</sup> East Leake (Methodist) Brownies (Term time only)
Thursday	10.00 to 12.00	Art Group
	14.00 to 15.00	Yoga
	17.00 to 18.00	Pilates
	18.15 to 19.15	Pilates
	19.15 to 21.00	Four Square Group (Times vary)
Friday	14.00 to 15.00	Forever Active - Seated Exercises
Saturday	10.00 to 12.00	Coffee Morning and Warm Space
	13.00 to 16.00	Pencil Art – 11 May, 8 June and 22 June (Carnival exhibition)
Sunday	10.30 to 12.00	Morning Service

Please be aware that all bookings are taken on the understanding that should the Church require the building for a Church event e.g. for a funeral, organisers will be asked to cancel their meeting.

For information about the organisations that hold meetings here: - please visit <https://eastleakemethodists.org.uk> and click on the bookings tab.

For further information about booking: - please contact Pauline Hargraves on 01509 559266

The next magazine will be due for the beginning of **August**. If you have any articles, please send them to me at [ways2teach@ntlworld.com](mailto:ways2teach@ntlworld.com) or hand them to one of the Stewards who will make sure they reach me.

If you want extra copies of any issue, printed, electronic, in larger print, or a different format, please let me know and I will do my best to help.

*Lesley Way*

## Church Contacts

Local Minister	Rev Sandra Marshall	0116 2304689
Local Pastor	Mrs Christine Watkins	01509 821536
Superintendent	Rev Karen Beecham	01509 219804
Circuit Administrator	Mrs Josephine Wills	01509 807441
Circuit Steward	Trevor Ranson	<a href="mailto:trevorranson@btinternet.com">trevorranson@btinternet.com</a>
Senior Church Steward	Mr Bryan Harrison	01509 820487
Church Bookings	Mrs Pauline Hargraves	01509 559266

Website: <https://eastleakemethodists.org.uk>

Facebook: [East Leake Methodist Church](#)