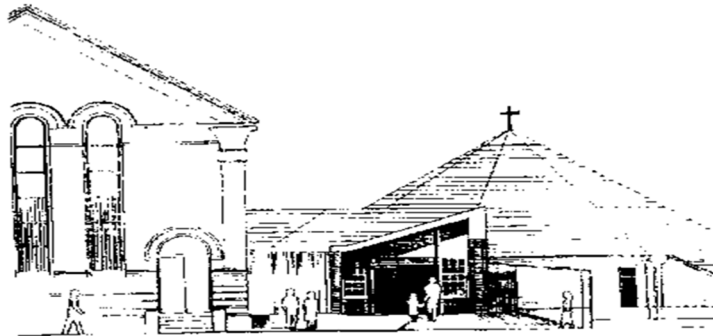
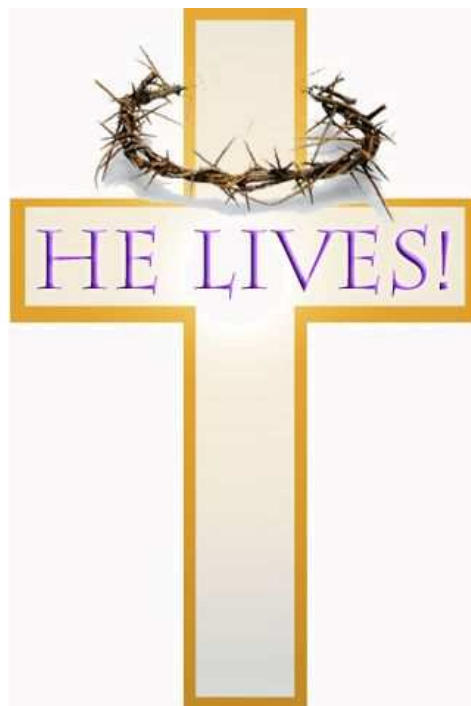


WOODBRI METHODIST MUSINGS



April 2026



Message from Our Minister

Embracing Diversity and Growth: The Tree of Life Resource Hub Vision.

Dear Members of the Woodbridge Methodist Church and Esteemed Partners,

I am writing to share a vision that is deeply rooted in our faith and a sense of humanity 'Ubuntu' in Zulu and also guided by the spirit of connection and community.

I am Inspired by Psalm 1:1-5, which speaks of the righteous as a tree planted by streams of water, bearing fruit and flourishing, we envision our church as a vital Tree of Life Resource Hub. The future of our church in 20 years or more years to come will totally be dependent on the Tree of Life Hub Concept. The community would be always wanting to use a safe and free space for its social activities; hence our church is strategically located for those activities.

Our church is rich with the presence of diverse organizations and groups, each contributing to our community's well-being and development. This vision resonates with what most of our church members wrote when you were asked to write about the church you want. Your response was outreach programmes with the communities.

Much like the tree that stands firm and fruitful, our church embodies strength and vitality through the creation of this hub. We foster an environment where diversity and inclusion are not just welcomed but celebrated. God willing, set aside a day on our church calendar for the celebration of the tree of life resource hub, celebrating the day with the community and our church.

Just as the tree mentioned in Psalm 1:1-5 draws sustenance from nearby waters, we strive to draw strength and inspiration from our faith and the vibrant community around us. Our hub will be a symbol of collaborative growth, unity, and shared purpose in Woodbridge and the surrounding communities.

Recognizing the unique contributions of each organization, our hub will coordinate diverse talents and perspectives. By valuing and appreciating every voice, we strengthen our community's foundation and build bridges with humanity as a whole.

As we grow, we commit to practicing justice and integrity in our stewardship. The Tree of Life Resource Hub will serve our community with equity, ensuring resources and opportunities are accessible to all.

We thank God that the Methodist Church in the UK has a programme that supports the Hub like my vision in our context of diversity. They offer appropriate resources for management and development.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to each organization or group that actively participates in our administrative processes, volunteering their time and skills. Your engagement and dedication are pivotal in bringing this vision to fruition as we look forward to a more sustainable future for our Woodbridge Methodist church and its mission to serve the community.

We invite all congregants and organizations to join hands in this transformative journey. Together, let us nurture the Tree of Life Resource Hub and watch it blossom into a beacon of hope and service in our community. Let us build a hub that serves as a community and also a legacy for the future generations to come. Always remember that April is a month for new beginnings, new life and new dreams and vision. Tree of Life resource hub 2026 our vision, pray for it.

In closing, let us unite under the umbrella of the Woodbridge Methodist Church and its collaborative efforts spirit, guided by righteousness and wisdom, to serve and flourish as a community deeply rooted in love and faith and a sense of humanity.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm to the Tree of Life Hub vision. Think about it, prayer about it, and reflect on how the vision can become a reality. United we stand and flourish. Should you have any thoughts or wish to contribute further, please feel free to reach out to me or our stewards. This is still a dream. Your involvement is the key to our shared success.

'The Lord God is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him'
Lamentations 3:25.

Waiting is hard. Whether its waiting for a tree of life resource hub dream to become true or a breakthrough in one's life or a personal season as a farmer.

God uses the waiting seasons to mould us to be the best people he wants us to be.

I wish you all a happy Easter season as we learn to wait for the time of God in all our endeavours. God's time is always the best. Our third day is coming.

With blessings,

Rev Saul Tadzaushe

WOODBIDGE FAMILY NEWS

I start writing this news, on a lovely spring day with the sun shining, birds singing and with colour coming through in the gardens in the form of daffodils, crocus and grape hyacinth. I hope this will help some of our folk to get out more, either to church events or just in their gardens, knowing that they won't be 'washed away' or blown over.

I thought I would start with our family news. My eldest son Kevin and his fiancé Meg are now living and working in Lincolnshire, they are getting married at the end of April at Monkey World in Dorset. Kerri and Shane had a wonderful honeymoon, for the whole of December, touring New Zealand. My youngest Richard and his fiancé Abby are now settled in Cyprus with their adopted stray cat. The news from that region is not great at present, but they are keeping in touch to let us know they are safe. Barry's youngest son Paul has just bought a house, near where they presently live in Tauranga, New Zealand; hopefully they will have room for us when we go over to stay in December.

As you read in last month's musings, Mike and Joy are now in their new home, their address and phone number will be in the updated directory. Mike is still helping us out from afar, with queries about property matters and risk assessments.

Dorothy has been on an adventure with her son Roger, they met up with her other son Chris and visited the light show at St. Martins in the Fields, in Trafalgar Square, and she thoroughly enjoyed it. Dorothy hopes to be with us at Easter, once her hearing aids are fixed and the treatment on her eye is finished.

Congratulations to Brian Crowe who will hit the big 70 in April, talking of which I will get to the grand old age of 60, I understand that to many of you we are still considered spring chickens, especially Ron as he nears 100; I wonder how many other 99 $\frac{3}{4}$ year olds still play a round of golf!

Some of you may have spoken to Avril, who recently moved into Tanyard Court from near Cambridge to be nearer her daughter. We welcome Avril and hope she will be happy here in Woodbridge.

This February half term week Helen Jay visited Normandy with her extended family, she agreed to share her photos and write of her experience.



We visited the D Day landing beaches including Omaha, Arromanches-les-Bains and Juno (where the Canadian regiments landed) marking the start of the campaign to liberate Europe from the Nazis in WW2. However, on this visit I had a special mission to visit the war grave of my Great Uncle William Arthur Newcombe in St Sever war cemetery in Rouen. The youngest of five brothers from the East Midlands coal mining town where I was born, he was a Bombardier in the 107th Brigade Royal Artillery. He fought in the Battle of the Somme and died of wounds on October 9th, 1916, aged 29. It was Ash Wednesday - a Bank Holiday in this Catholic area of France - it was pouring with rain which added to the sombre feel of the immaculately maintained cemetery where row upon row of graves marked the loss of a whole generation of young men from every regiment and every corner of the globe. I felt unexpectedly emotional on finding his grave and planted a white chrysanthemum. I have the scroll notifying of his death, which was sent to families of those killed and usually displayed in their front window to let neighbours know of their loss. His name is on the town war memorial at the bottom of the road where I lived, and also on the memorial plaque in the Methodist Chapel where my family and all the Newcombe family attended, where John and I were subsequently married in 1963 and where I was the organist until our move to Suffolk in November 1977 !! William's next oldest brother Philip Henry Newcombe fought with the KOYLI - Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, they were in Egypt and Mesopotamia, he came home safely and I am proud to have his war medal.

It was quite a memorable half term week.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Diane Giffard

CIRCUIT PRAYER MEETINGS

Everyone from around the circuit is welcome to join together at our weekly prayer meeting on Zoom to pray for events and opportunities in our circuit and so much more

We meet at **9:00am on Tuesday mornings**

For more details and for the Zoom link please go to the Ipswich Round

www.methodistic.org.uk/category/ipswich-round/

St Valentine's Day Recital

I am very pleased to tell you that the recital raised £914.95 (including Gift Aid) in donations!

This is a substantial amount towards the repair and refurbishment of the 35 year-old facilities, designed and built mainly for community groups.

The priority now is to tackle the Ladies' toilet area.

Thank you once again for Andrew Leach's excellent musical skills!

With music from the more classical composers like Brahms, Schumann (Robert and Clara), Mozart and Beethoven supplemented by works from 20th century composers Scott Joplin, Maxwell Davies and Erik Satie and known romantics Chopin and Liszt, there was plenty for everyone who enjoys good music expertly played.

Over 90 filled the church. Revd Saul thanked everyone who came and Andrew and organisers. Helen Peats, joint Senior Steward, presented Andrew with a bag full of Methodist goodies.

Special thanks to Freddie Guest who lay out a table of romantically-themed refreshments; also, to Cornelia and Diane for invaluable help; and Tonie for assisting in welcoming and programme distribution (we ran out of programmes near the end).

RMG

Eco Church

Buhera Community Garden in Zimbabwe

A year ago, our Church Family informally raised £250 to support this project beside Saul's village in Zimbabwe. Seeds were purchased to help around 40 families who manage the area together. They grow maize, sorghum, sunflowers, ground nuts and round nuts. Also vegetables: cabbage, carrots and King Onions. They walk 10 Km from the village to the garden to even get started!

In the southern hemisphere conditions are very different from ours, with their winter being our summer and vice versa. The rain that falls is very heavy, all at once, so watering from their local borehole is essential for crops to grow.

We have received some photos and amazing videos of the women working together, which we would like to share with everyone. Swinging a heavy African hoe is hard and hot, with no shade anywhere, and no toilet either! They even have to walk 10 Km to reach the garden!

Can we help them again?

Sunday April 26th at our Morning service.

Book the date!

Saul and Tariro will be with us to help tell the story, for us to hear more about the life of their people back home in their community.

Helen Lewis

Helen

Below is a link to a video on our website

https://woodbridge.methodistic.org.uk/?ctc_sermon=buhera-community-garden-in-zimbabwe

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD

At the end of February, Carole Almond preached about the blockages in our faith which can lead to doubt.

We need to remember that
Nothing, yes Nothing, is impossible with God.

Here are the references which Carole Almond quoted in her sermon:

The angel Gabriel said to Mary:
"For nothing is impossible with God"
Luke 1:37

When Jesus was teaching about
how the rich can be saved:
"With God all things are possible"
Matthew 19:26

Jesus told the father of an epileptic boy,
"Everything is possible for him who believes"
Mark 9:23

When the Lord promised Sarah a son, he said,
"Is anything too hard for the Lord?"
Genesis 18:14

Jeremiah prayed,
"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power
and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you"
Jeremiah 32:17

The Lord said,
"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts are higher than your thoughts."
Isaiah 55:8-9

[Carole Almond and R Monty Guest](#)

Did you take up anything for Lent this year?

If not, it's not too late. . . why not take up something for the rest of the year!

*Perhaps you could become involved in our weekly Sunday Worship
- every small offer of help makes a big difference*



Think about joining the tea and coffee rota

*Why not become a
Welcome Steward?*



Could you be a Communion Steward?

GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER IN WOODBRIDGE

Come and join us...



Good Friday Walk of Witness and
Service in Elmhurst Park
followed by refreshments at
The Salvation Army ~ 10:00am

For the early risers – The Sunrise
Service at the Bandstand by
Woodbridge Sailing Club



Easter Morning Worship
with Communion at
Woodbridge Methodist Church
~ 10:45am

See the notices for more details

Sunday Preachers

April

- 5th Rev Saul Tadzaushe Easter Sunday Communion**
- 12th John Anthony**
- 19th Rev Vivienne Smith**
- 26th Local Arrangement -am**
Rev Saul Tadzaushe – 4.00pm (community Service)

May

- 3rd Rev Saul Tadzaushe Communion**
- 10th Roger Theobald**
- 17th Bryan Nichols**
- 24th Local Arrangement**
- 31st Local Arrangement**

Part of our Mission Statement is 'Serving the Community'
Our church buildings are used regularly throughout the week -
find out what they are being used for

Sunday – weekly

10:45am ~ Morning Worship

7:30 – 9:00pm ~ AA

Monday – weekly

9:30 – 11:45am ~ Car park used by St John's The Hub Cafe

12:30 – 1:30pm ~ AA

7:30 – 8:30pm ~ Woodbridge Orchestral Society (September to Easter)

3rd Monday – 6:45 – 9:00pm ~ Woodbridge Labour Party

Tuesday – weekly

8:00 – 9:30am ~ AA

1:30 – 4:30pm ~ Britten Pears Art Org

6:30 – 7:30pm ~ AA

7:00-8:00pm Church Music Group

6:45 – 8:30pm ~ Gateway (Term Time)

Wednesday – weekly

7:30 – 8:30pm ~ AA

1st Wednesday 10:00am-12:00pm ~ Woodbridge Shire WI

1st Wednesday – 7:00pm ~ Stewards Meeting

2nd Wednesday – 7:30 – 9:00pm ~ WI

Thursday – weekly

9:15 – 10:30am ~ Yoga

12:30 – 1:30pm ~ AA

7:00 – 9:00pm ~ Love to Sing

1st Thursday – 7:30 – 9:30pm ~ Sutton House Group

3rd Thursday – 10:00am ~ Midweek Communion

Friday – weekly

7:30 – 9:00pm ~ AA

Saturday – weekly

9:00 – 10:00am ~ AA

9:00 – 10:00am ~ Table Tennis, 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast

10:00am – 12:00pm ~ 3cs Cafe

Please check the church diary on the website for any one-off bookings

<https://woodbridge.methodistic.org.uk/>

WOODBIDGE METHODIST CHURCH CALENDAR

Regular Events

Join us for worship at 10:45am every Sunday

Every Saturday 3C's Cafe 10am – noon in the Octagon

Midweek Communion Services take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10am

Stewards Meeting are held on the first Wednesday of each month

There are also various House Groups

Men's Breakfast meets each month

Ladies Group meets each month

April

Friday 3rd – Good Friday Walk of Witness, Elmhurst Park at 10:00am

Sunday 5th – Easter Sunday

Sunday 26th – Community Service at 4:00pm

May

Sunday 3rd – Church ACM following our Morning Worship

For more details or to add a date to the calendar
please speak to Steward or email wmcstewards@gmail.com



The monthly newsletter for Woodbridge Methodist Church

Church Contacts

Minister Rev Saul Tadzaushe

Phone 01394 383674

Email: nmaminister@methodistic.org.uk

Please Note: Saul's day off is on Fridays

Stewards: Email: wmcstewards@gmail.com

Web: woodbridge.methodistic.org.uk

N.B. Items for the May WMM must be in no later than
12/04/2026

Please email to Brian Crowe at:

wmclink.articles@gmail.com

