

The United Church of St Mark is a congregation of Anglicans and Methodists worshipping and serving God together. Welcome to all visitors in our church today. We hope you enjoy being with us and will want to join us regularly. Do stay for coffee after the service. If you are attending a Communion service you are welcome to receive the bread and wine with us. No collections are taken at St. Mark's. Please place any offering you may wish to make in the plate at the back of the church either before or after the service. Facilities for regular giving are available. If you are a taxpayer please use the white envelopes at the back of the church to make a gift, and provide your details on the envelope to enable St Mark's to reclaim tax on your gift.

**ST MARK'S SERVICES**

Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup> July	10 am	Holy Communion
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> August	10 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> August	10 am 4 pm	Holy Communion Family Picnic
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30 am	Biblesearch, 68 Shawley Way
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> August	10 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> August	8.30 am 10 am	Holy Communion All age worship
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup> August	10 am	Holy Communion
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup> August	12.15 pm	Community lunch
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup> August	10 am 4 pm	Holy Communion Family Picnic
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup> August	10 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup> August	8.30 am 10 am	Holy Communion All age worship
Thursday	30 <sup>th</sup> August	10 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> September	10:30 am	Biblesearch, 68 Shawley Way

**AUGUST PICNICS** on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> August 4-6pm** for anyone associated with St Mark's. Informal get-togethers for all ages, so bring family and friends. Bring a picnic and perhaps a camping chair. Tea, coffee and squash will be provided and the church bouncy castle will be up. The Picnics will be in the Vicarage garden unless weather forces us to retreat to the big hall - spread the word!



**Our SHOEBOX APPEAL** this year will be All-Age! Yes you can make up a shoebox for an adult or elderly person as well as the usual children's boxes. The boxes will be going off to Eastern Europe with a Christian organisation called **Blythswood**. They are also happy to have people come help sort the boxes as there is a local Surrey depot. We will need to get the boxes before Sunday 28th October, so that they can be delivered to the Surrey depot!

See Gill Keens or Des for more info we need to save our shoeboxes NOW (with any spare ones left at church for others to take) as there will be no "ready to use" ones.

Leaflets in the welcome area explaining the scheme and giving guidance about what to put in the boxes or you can find the information online at <https://www.blythswood.org/shoobox>. Thanks! Gill

**FAIRTRADE** - How can you support the **Children's work** of this church AND support **Fairtrade**?

It's very easy. Every pound spent on Fairtrade goods at the stall raises 10p for the church.

If everyone in the congregation spent just £1 at the stall every month, we could raise over £100 a year, just a small Divine bar, a packet of nuts, or a greetings card.

Of course more can be raised by buying basic items like tea and coffee more regularly.

It is often said that Fairtrade goods are more expensive, but that is the point, the people who grow or produce the goods are getting a fair price for their goods which means a fair wage, so they can look after their families and support themselves without relying on foreign aid.

Some supermarkets, such as Asda and Sainsbury sell their own Fairtrade brands which are cheaper so why not buy from them you may say?

Buying Fairtrade goods from Traidcraft gives the added guarantee that the growers and producers are supported in setting up their businesses; finding markets for their goods; marketing; introducing organic farming methods; providing premium payments which help the community the producer lives in.

With all those pluses **how can you not spend your money at the Fairtrade stall.**

Look out for the new catalogue in August and help make your contribution to the church even bigger. Christmas will soon be around the corner so why not think about buying your Christmas cards from Traidcraft and a few presents

For more information contact Tricia Rutter at [talclimber@ntlworld.com](mailto:talclimber@ntlworld.com)

**PRESTON PARK** - Making your park even better. Further improvements to Preston Park are being made this year, including resurfacing the paths and installing an outside gym and youth shelter.

Visit the exhibition between Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> August at the Tadworth Leisure Centre or view the plans online at <http://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/prestonregeneration>

**NEWSLETTER** If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, please send an email to [editors@stmarkschurch.me.uk](mailto:editors@stmarkschurch.me.uk)