

Martin Way Methodist Church

Notices for week commencing 6th September 2026

Sunday services

Valerie will be leading our worship on Sunday at 10.30 am. If you receive these Notices by email then the Order of Service is attached.

At 6 pm, we welcome Paul back after his sabbatical when he will be leading a more reflective service of Holy Communion

Jean Gear

There will be a service of thanksgiving for the life of Jean Gear this coming Friday, 11th September at 11 am. It will be conducted by Revd Paul Timmis and refreshments will be available afterwards.

New Year, New Quarter, new Rota

Not just the start of a new quarter, 1st September marks the beginning of a new Methodist year. It also marks the start of a new rota for Sundays, a rota which is just clamouring for you to fill its empty slots. I ask you in all seriousness to consider entering your name against a date and a task where you can serve your fellow friends.

Not liking to see an empty slot, the usual suspects feel they need to step in to provide a welcome to the preacher or to prepare and serve refreshments as they don't like to see you go without, which would happen if they didn't step in at the last minute.

So, please look at the rota on the wall in the church, look at what each task entails and sign up for those where you are able to help. If you are not sure how the refreshments work, ask someone who does it regularly, they would be more than willing to show you how. Thank you.

Community Garden BBQ

- **When & Where**
 - Sunday 20th September
 - From 12 noon onwards
 - Martin Way Community Garden
- **So, come along to...**
 - Explore the garden
 - Celebrate this year's achievements
 - Meet fellow community members
 - Share your ideas for the future

BBQ food and soft drinks will be available to purchase on the day just to cover costs

The Winter Night Shelter

This year Martin Way will be hosting the whole of the **Christmas Shelter** which will run from from **2 pm Wednesday, 24th** to **9 am Sunday, 27th December** when Tony, nearer the time, will be asking for volunteers to fill 2 hour slots over that period. Although we are hosting the event this year, other churches will be sending volunteers as well. More details nearer the time.

We will also, once again, be hosting the **Winter Night Shelter** from **5 pm Tuesday** to **9 am Wednesday** for 7 weeks starting on **5th January**. Tony wanted to let you have the dates now, so you could have a think, ready for when he asks in late October, early November for any dates you can offer. Earlier this year we hosted for 8 weeks as there were only 2 Blocks. However, the good news is that 7 more host groups have been found enabling 3 Blocks of 7 weeks, so the whole night shelter will now run for 21 weeks.

Church Diary for September 2026

Sunday	6th	10:30	Valerie Ashcroft
		18:00	Revd Paul Timmis (Holy Communion)
Tuesday	8th	10:30	Coffee & Chat
Wednesday	9th	11:30	Open Table - our surplus food café
Friday	11th	11:00	Thanksgiving service for the life of Jean Gear
Sunday	13th	10:30	Revd Paul Timmis (Holy Communion)
		12:30	Community Garden
Tuesday	15th	10:30	Coffee & Chat
Wednesday	16th	11:30	Open Table - our surplus food café
Friday	18th	12:30	Lunch Club
Sunday	20th	10:30	Revd Paul Timmis (Baptism & Café Worship)
		12:00	Community Garden BBQ & Celebration
Tuesday	22nd	10:30	Coffee & Chat
Wednesday	23rd	11:30	Open Table - our surplus food café
Sunday	27th	10:30	Brenda Cannon
Tuesday	29th	10:30	Coffee & Chat
Wednesday	30th	11:30	Open Table - our surplus food café

Faith in Action - Help secure its future

Their year in numbers (year to 31/3/2026) - The Homeless Drop-in

503 Individuals supported	5985 Total Attendance	1943 Showers
1214 Loads of laundry	314 GP/medical referrals	71 Individuals found accomodation
226 People helped with housing advice	60 People supported to drug/alcohol services	81 People given employment/training advice and support
99 People were helped to obtain ID documents	57 People were supported to open No Fixed Abode bank accounts	193 People were assisted with Universal Credit applications
<i>The Winter Night Shelter</i>		
1344 Bed spaces	46 Guests accomodated	24 guests are housed, reconciled with family or staying with friends

These numbers illustrate why we are so passionate about making sure FiA can continue to provide desperately needed support for some of the most marginalised people in our society.

As you will know, they have to leave their current premises in April 2027 and they need to find a new home so that their vital services can continue. They are holding a stakeholder meeting on 17th September to bring together everyone who has expertise, contacts, resources or practical help to offer. This is a working meeting and a critical part of their strategy. They particularly want to invite people who can offer

- Property, planning or development expertise
- Fundraising or grant funding knowledge
- Legal, financial or governance support
- Links to landlords, businesses and property owners
- Influence within local or national government
- Practical resources or services

Date: 17 September 2026

Time: 7 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, London Borough of Merton, Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX

Numbers are limited so if you would like to attend, please RSVP to team@mertonfaithinaction.org

If you know anyone who might be able to help, please forward this newsletter to them. Thank you.