

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Rivercourt News

February 2020

Minister: Rev. Singa Vunipola

Email: singa.vunipola@gmail.com

Tel: 07808 807 457



**Church Tel:
020 8741 1348**

**Church Address:
King Street,
Hammersmith,
W6 9JT**

**Email:
office@rivercourt.org.uk**

**Website:
www.rivercourt.org.uk**

Happy to Help!

If you are interested in any items mentioned in the newsletter, want a confidential word, or have views that you would like to express, please contact any of the church trustees.

The trustees in alphabetic order are:

Joan

Fiona

Margaret

Vanessa

Juliana

Monty

Steve

Kwaku



Dates For Your Diary

February 2020

Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	01

10th Nov -5th April.,
(see item)

Glass door Nightshelter

Sun 9th Feb., 12.30pm

Rivercourt Church Council
Meeting

Mon 24th Feb –
Sun 08th Mar.,

Fairtrade Fortnight

Tue 25th Feb.,

Shrove Tuesday at St
Mary's Covenant Nursing
Home (see Item)

Wed 26th Feb.,

Ash Wednesday

GLASS DOOR

Homeless support in West London churches

The 2019 Glass Door Night Shelter season commenced at Rivercourt on Sunday 10th November.

Please contribute towards helping this worthy charity with the invaluable work they do. See below the various ways you can help:

Cooking Could you come in at 6pm and cook for our guests using a recipe that will be provided?	Setting up Could you arrive at 7pm Set up tables and chairs and chat to our guests?
Serving Could you arrive between 6.30pm & 7pm. Heat up the food, serve and wash up?	Praying Could you undertake to pray for our guests and the work of the nightshelter at least once a week?
Giving Could you give money, toiletries, clothes, and food for the work of the nightshelter?	If you could do any of these things please see Steve

Shrove Tuesday at St Mary's Convent & Nursing Home

Shrove Tuesday Sale - St Mary's Convent & Nursing
Home 25th February 10.00 - 12.00.

Refreshments and Items for Sale - New and Vintage.

If anyone has any items they wish to donate for the
sale, please talk with Joan

What's going on at Rivercourt

Church Council Meeting 8th December 2019

The minutes of the previous Church Council meeting (13th October) are available, below is a short summary of what was discussed.

A number of property matters, the roof being the most urgent – and expensive. James, Steve and Monty are working together on behalf of the congregation to progress matters.

The Church needs to apply to a grant for additional finance for the repairs to the roof. One of the criteria for grant application is to have an up to date Mission Statement. It was agreed to review the existing Mission Statement and produce a current statement during November.

Rev Singa Vunipola structured the meeting to discuss our calling to worship:

We exist to exercise the whole ministry of Christ.

We do that under our calling to:

Worship,

- Rev Singa discussed the Worship at Rivercourt and asked for feedback on her leadership of worship.
- Sunday morning 11.00am services plus special services; Harvest, Homelessness etc.

- Rev Singa would be at Rivercourt on weekday mornings to meet with people. The front doors to the church will be open to encourage passers-by to come inside.
- Rev Singa asked that a prayer book be used for people to complete if they wished.
- There would be an Advent Course and an Advent Offering.
- Rev Singa has organised a Christmas Celebration with the Users of Rivercourt for Monday 9th December.
- An Open House Carol Service – Sunday 8th December - on the front steps of the Church It was agreed that we would serve refreshments at this service.

Learning and Caring

- Starting in the new year one service per month would be a Bible Study service
- Rev Singa will organise Growth Courses on a monthly basis in 2020.
- Rev Singa is compiling a Pastoral list and asked people to notify her of their contact details.

Services

Currently, the service that Rivercourt offers is the Night Shelter for Glass Door, from November – April

Evangelism

Suggestions/Recommendations included;

- Messy Church – aim to organise before Christmas
- Holiday at Home – for people who do not go away
- Lent Lunches
- Easter Walk
- Walk of Witness

In order to achieve this Rev Singa aims to provide a structure of support within the church.

Rev Singa emphasised the importance of Rivercourt reviewing and updating their Mission Statement.

Please make a note of:

9th February 12.30pm Church Council Meeting

Your presence and participation is valuable and needed.

Glass Door

The Night Shelter started at Rivercourt on Sunday 10th November. There was an article about the Night Shelter earlier in the year. If you're interested in knowing what happens here on a Sunday evening please speak to Steve and or Vicky Lawrence, Monty Grigg or Joan Bennett.

The Update for Glass Door is on the notice board in the lounge.

The shelters are now operating at full capacity, with about 30 individuals registered for the Richmond Circuit and about 35 individuals registered in the other four circuits. Glass Door is now operating a waiting list.

How can you help?

Volunteers are always welcome during the evening – So that we don't have too many volunteers please speak with Steve or Vicky first. Most of the volunteers work on a rota basis so that there is sufficient coverage on the night.

However there are many jobs that need doing in advance of 7pm:

- Setting Up Tables and Chairs in the upstairs hall and the lounge
- Laying up tables with cloths and cutlery
- Sorting and distributing kitchen equipment, plates and mugs between the 2 kitchens

During the week:

- Checking the crockery and cutlery and organising it between the 2 kitchens
- Wiping down the PVC tablecloths and re-storing them for the next week.

Donations:

- See list on Notice Board for fuller details

Pray

- Please hold the guests, case workers and volunteers in your prayers.

Regular Giving at Rivercourt

Dear Friends

We are approaching the time when we examine our giving to the church and how we make this a regular part of our contribution to the work of God at Rivercourt and in the wider community.

There are a number of ways you can make your giving to church a regular commitment:-

Standing Order - Certain members of our congregation make regular gifts of money in the form of standing orders which are paid directly into the Rivercourt bank account. These are simple to set up and are in the control of the giver. It ensures that no payments are missed as the money is moved every month, from the holder's bank account to the church's bank account. (This is why they do not need to make use of the collection bags.)

Envelopes - Other members prefer to make a regular gift using our envelope scheme. This allows the giver to ensure they do not miss a payment even if they are not able to attend service occasionally as the envelope serves as a reminder of the payment they would normally make. If you wish to receive a set of envelopes that will cover the coming year, 2020-2021, please speak with Fiona Bignold.

N.B. Existing envelope users should renew their request for envelopes otherwise we will not have them available for you at the start of the new period.

Regular Collections - Of course, anyone can place their gifts into the collection bags that are passed around on a Sunday morning.

Special donations can be passed to the stewards on duty at any time.

Gift Aid - The Gift Aid scheme operates at Rivercourt. This scheme allows Rivercourt, as a charity, to reclaim tax that has already been paid by people who give gifts of money. Thus we are able to claim back 25% of most such gifts. This has a significant effect on boosting our income. In order to maximise the sum we are able to claim, members need to sign up to the scheme by completing a Gift Aid Claim Form.

You will then need to select a way of making your payments so that they can be monitored (in order for us to make a legitimate claim). This can be by using standing order, or the envelope scheme.

N.B. This is only available to taxpayers, as they will have paid tax on the money they give.

If you wish to participate in the Gift Aid scheme please speak with Fiona Bignold, the Gift Aid secretary.

For any queries regarding the above, do speak with Fiona as she'll be very happy to help you make your giving as straightforward as possible.

Thank you's:

All those volunteering for the Nightshelter. Without your time we would not be able to do the work we do.

Juliana

Please pray for:

Vanessa and her family as they mourn the passing of their beloved mother.

Aunty Patience who is no longer able to come to Church. We miss her dearly.

Mrs Thomas who is away from home in a nursing home.



**Our prayers are with you
all**

Remember, Remember

9 years will have passed since our dear Doreen's death. Please say a special prayer for her family during this time. Her candle continues to burn brightly in our hearts

Doreen - Died 9th February 2011



Poets Corner

Teach Us to Live

God of love-Forgive! Forgive!
Teach us how to truly live,
ask us not our race or creed,
just take us in our hour of need,
and let us know you love us too,
and that we are a part of you...
and some day may man realize,
that all the earth, the sea, and skies,
to God who made us all,
the rich, the poor, the great, the small,
and in the Father's Holy sight,
no man is yellow, black or white,
and peace on Earth cannot be found,
until we meet on common ground,
and every man becomes a brother,
who worships God and loves each other.

Submitted by: Margaret

Written by: Helen Steiner Rice



South Africa

EAC

As a long standing partner, Traidcraft has had many development projects with EAC, and helped them into the Fairtrade system as well as participating in the development of Fairtrade standards for dried fruit.

Turqle Trading

Established in 1997 as a social enterprise with a mission to create sustainable jobs in South Africa, through fair and ethical food. Turqle Trading develops and markets a large range of products, and all ingredients are fairly or ethically traded within Africa and manufactured locally in Western Cape.

Sri Lanka

Bio Foods

From small beginnings, Bio foods is now one of the largest organic and fair trade suppliers out of Sri Lanka. Traidcraft first established a relationship in the late 90's through tea, and more recently spices for the Eat Your Hat brand.

First Light

In the Southern part of Sri Lanka, small scale farmers grow rubber trees. First Light is a collective of these farmers organised into societies which provide latex, to manufacture rubber gloves. The farmers receive a guaranteed price and numerous other benefits like training and equipment.

A message from the editor

It's 2020! Thank you Lord for allowing us all to see another year. Whatever trials and tribulations you encountered in 2019, I pray that they do not follow you into this new year.

Do you have any testimonies you want to share with us? Are you a budding poet? Whatever you want to include in the newsletter can be sent to me via the following methods:

- via email to office@rivercourt.org.uk include the word *newsletter* in the subject.
- by speaking directly to me following a Sunday service

The deadline for the March edition is Sunday 23rd February.

Kindest regards

Juliana

Services in the coming period

Sunday 02nd Feb., 11.00am Preacher: Mr Monty Grigg

Team on duty: Steve's team

Sunday 9th Feb, 11.00am Holy Communion Service
Preacher: Revd Singa
Vunipola

Team on duty: Juliana's team

Sunday 16th Feb., 11.00am Preacher: Revd Singa
Vunipola

Team on duty: Betty's team

Sunday 23rd Feb., 11.00am Preacher: Gerry Bruce

Team on duty: Steve's team