

I close my eyes and breathe,
inviting peace.
I open my heart and breathe,
inviting love.
My soul rejoices,
knowing God is with me.

Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honour to each other. Don't hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you're in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home. Bless people who harass you—bless and don't curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying.

Romans 12:9-15

Most of us have people in our lives who challenge us and know exactly which buttons to push to frustrate and confuse us. They are the ones who remind us of our own imperfection, because that's what they notice and bring out in us. When we are around people we love, it's easy to bless them and not curse them. But for those people who know our weaknesses, it is much harder.



If we take the time to prepare ourselves for encountering those challenging people, we can appreciate them differently and engage with them in a healthier way. If we enter with suspicion, that's what we'll find; so why not enter with love and happiness? Think of God's love for you as the invisible force field that will deflect any slings and arrows, and ask not what the other person will do to you, but what you will do for them. How will God's love for you sustain you as you encounter difficult people in your life?

Good and Gracious God, give us strength to remember that we will see what we expect to see. Open our eyes and hearts to the good in others who challenge us. Help us to love them as you have loved us. Amen.

Let peace remind me to
enter with love.

Let love remind me to
make space for God.

May God's grace help me to
see and be seen!

Adapted from d365.org

September Services

Sunday 3rd

10.30am Communion Service. Speaker: Revd. Jonathan Hardwick.

Sunday 10th

10.30am Morning Worship. Speaker: Jon Bartlett.

Sunday 17th

10.30am Family Service led by Revd. Jonathan Hardwick.

Sunday 24th

10.30am Morning Worship. Speaker Revd. Jonathan Hardwick.

There is an open invitation for prayer at the end of each morning service. If you would like prayer, with or without the anointing of oil, then please make your way to the front row of chairs during our closing songs.

PARENTS: Could we remind you to collect your children from Sunday School straight after the service. The team need to pack away and cannot assume responsibility for children after the service.

Hearing aid users:

We have a hearing loop so please turn your hearing aid to the setting “T”.

Children:

Please note that children are the responsibility of their parents except whilst in Sunday school.

Sunday morning messages online:

You can listen to Sunday morning messages online at www.earlswoodbc.org

Other Events and Activities

Family Fun @ 3

Please come along and support this family orientated, community congregation on **September 23rd from 3.00pm - 5.00pm**. If you are able to join us as a volunteer “Enabler” it would be great to see you. If you would like some flyers to hand to family or friends then please see Jonathan.

The following regular activities take place during the week. If you would like more information such as venues, please do ask.

House Groups:

Two groups meet, one each Tuesday evening at 8pm and one every other Friday morning at 10.30am (8th and 22nd September).

Coffee Club:

Coffee Club meets every other Friday at 10.30am for the more “senior” members of our fellowship and community. There will be tea, coffee, cake, board games and other fun activities. Coffee Club will meet on 15th & 29th September and on 13th & 27th October.

Prayer meetings:

- We will be meeting for prayer on Sunday 3rd Sept from 6.30pm at the church, and on 1st October we will be joining the Cross Church Prayer Walk. Please see the back cover for more details.
- Women’s prayer on Wednesday mornings in term-time.

“Little Ark” Parent and toddler group:

Term-time Thursdays, 9.00-11.30am. Speak to Maxine for more details.

Spark:

Spark Infants - 5.30pm - 6.30pm Term time Thursdays. For children in Reception to Yr2.

Spark Juniors - 5.30pm - 6.30pm Term time Fridays. For children in Yr3 - Yr6.

(Restarting after the summer break on 15th & 16th September)

Redhill to Reigate prayer walk of blessing. Sunday October 1st 2017.

The Weekend of September 29th to October 1st 2017 has been set aside as a national prayer weekend by a number of Christian organisations including CWR, Evangelical Alliance, Hope and 24/7 prayer. This is the 3rd year it has been run with many churches and organisations across the country taking part. Their stated purpose is “A weekend to make God’s love known to those around you. On your street, in your community, with your prayers. We believe that local people praying for their community can change lives.” (www.national-prayer-weekend.com)

As a part of this initiative there will be a cross church prayer walk on Sunday the 1st of October, both to pray for our community of Redhill and Reigate and as a demonstration of the churches heart to work and pray together to see blessing for the area in which we live.

We plan to start at 2pm at the top of Redstone Hill (the A25 towards Godstone), where the “Welcome to Redhill” sign is situated and walk through to Reigate High Street, finishing at Reigate Methodist Church, near the end of Reigate town centre.

We will stop at some of the church buildings on the route to pray (for 10 minutes), and some may wish to join at these points.

The map below shows the route and timings at each prayer point. The whole route is 2.4 miles long, which at average walking pace would take 48 minutes. We have allocated an hour and three quarters with the stops for prayer along the way.

