

Prayers of Intercession

As we read of Jacob the deceiver becoming the deceived, we pray for all who have fallen prey to deception - romantically, financially or otherwise.

God of justice, help the deceived navigate the emotions maze in the knowledge that you are there amid the mess.

We pray for families, for those rejected by loved ones, parents, siblings, and for those people rejected by society. At the onset of schools' long summer holidays, we pray for parents and grandparents juggling childcare around work. We pray for working parents who have no-one to help them and for children left to fend for themselves for hours at a time.

God of love, help the rejected, the lonely and the neglected to navigate the emotions maze in the knowledge that you are there amid the mess.

We pray for the new Prime Minister, the fourth under King Charles' reign. We pray the Prime Minister and his new cabinet will have the integrity to bring stability and unity to this country.

God of truth and power, guide those in government to navigate the messy maze of politics and be aware of your presence amid the mess.

We pray for our ever-changing climate and the adaptations needed to cope with increasing temperatures. We pray for our farmers reliant on the weather for their livelihoods and for those farmers who have lost crops and grazing pasture due to the wildfires.

God of mercy help us all to navigate the maze of climate change in the knowledge that you are there amid the mess.

We pray for your Church at home and abroad. We pray for Christians around the world having to meet and worship in secret. We pray for all churches here threatened with closure due to falling numbers and revenue. We pray for the churches that are seeing growth and pray for new Christians setting out on their journey of faith.

We pray for your children ministering in this country and abroad. We pray for those in our own communities reaching out to the needy: the hungry, the lonely, the destitute, the victims of crime and the bereaved.

We pray for Christians the world over showing your love and compassion to those in need, especially to those suffering amid conflicts. We think especially of the war in Ukraine, the hostilities in the Middle East, and the famine in Sudan.

God of blessing, mercy and grace, we pray your provision as we navigate the messy maze of life. May your presence with us help and sustain us in navigating the situations we face day by day, knowing that you bring good out of all things. Amen.

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Rochford Methodist Church

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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

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Sunday 26 July 2026

Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

Romans 8:38–39

"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

If you have any items that you would like to be added, or suggestions for inclusion, please advise [Mike Sims](#).



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Sunday 26 July 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This is the final Sunday of our **annual gift fortnight**. It's not too late to make your freewill donation to refurbish the Benson Room and specifically to buy new comfortable chairs to replace the low ones that we currently have.

Services and Meetings this week

Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be a local arrangement led by the Worship Leaders. This week we are celebrating the work of [Action for Children](#). You will receive a collection envelope before the service. Please give as much as you are able for this Methodist supported charity. Please return them by 9th August. Thank you.

–1.00pm – Baptism - Hayley and Josh will be baptising their daughter, and they would like to invite the church family to join them at 1pm for the service.

Monday – 4.00 to 5.00pm – [Monday Club](#). This will re-start in September.

– 7.00 to 7.15pm – **Rochford Prayer** via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID 768 0376 1257
Passcode: 8yTeDH.

Tuesday – 7.30pm – **Bible Study**. You are welcome to join us on [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 948 2779 0660. Passcode: 425539. We will be studying Philippians 4:17-23.

Thursday - 7.30pm - **Table Tennis**. Please let [Colin and Margaret](#) know if you're planning to come as there are occasions when they do not meet, so it's worth checking first.

Friday – 9.30 to 11.30am – **Happy Cup Breakfast Club**. This will re-start in September.

Saturday – 10:30am to 12:30pm – **Church Vision Day**. As we come to the end of Pastor Mike's 3-year contract, we would like to gather together as a church to share ideas of how God will be guiding us for the next stage of our faith journey with Him. Rev Agnes will be leading this meeting and we will close with a packed lunch together.

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes and Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service.

12 to 26 July – Gift Fortnight – As advised by our Treasurer last week, we will be holding our annual gift fortnight to refurbish the Benson Room and specifically to buy new comfortable chairs to replace the low ones that we currently have. This would make the space much more versatile and inviting to use, for example, with the various Christianity courses that we are now running.

28 July – 11.00am to 1.00pm – [Children's Lunchtime Cooking Club](#) - To book click on this [link](#). A responsible adult will need to stay at all times. Places are limited. Please book one ticket per family.

9 August – Local Arrangement – Songs of Praise – This service will soon be upon us! Please let [Mike Sims](#) know if you would be willing to share a favourite hymn, song, Bible passage or poem. We want this to be as interactive as possible with many people taking a small part in the service.

25 August – 11.00am to 1.00pm – [Teddy Bears' Picnic](#) - Lunchtime cooking club for children and teddy bears. For tickets use this [link](#). A responsible adult will need to stay at all times. Places are limited. Please book one ticket per family.

Other Information

Church income was £189.00, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Treasurer's Talk – Dear Friends, we are coming to the end of our Gift Fortnight. Thank you to all those who have already contributed. If you have not yet done so, and would like to, I would love to receive further donations this week. As you may remember, we are going to use the money to replace the chairs in the Benson Room. There are Gift Fortnight envelopes for those who would like to use them, or the usual methods of giving, as described at the end of these notices. Thank you in advance for your generosity. God bless you all, Heather.

Community Outreach Pastor update – We had a lovely summer party on Saturday, thanks to all who helped out. Over twenty families and 27 children attended and enjoyed the bouncy castle, food and craft. Our cooking club will be held this coming

Tuesday, where we will be making pizza and pancakes. Our Teddy Bears' picnic will be held later in August. Thanks, Mike Webb.

Caring for our environment – As part of our ongoing commitment to nurturing and defending God's creation, this week we are looking at how small, individual lifestyle shifts can ripple out into meaningful change. Through initiatives [like A Rocha UK's Wild Christian programme](#), we are reminded that taking care of the environment isn't just about massive global projects—it starts right in our own backyards and daily habits.

This Week's Eco-Challenge: Try tracking your household energy use for just one week, or dedicate a small corner of your garden or balcony to wildlife-friendly plants.

Every deliberate choice we make to live more sustainably helps us tread more lightly on the earth. If you'd like to explore more practical tips or learn how these small steps contribute to our broader community eco-goals, check out the [Wild Christian resources](#) online.

Collect – Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those things which last for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Elderly Friends - Please remember – Sylvia, Pat, Gwen and Maureen.

[Other Forward Notices](#)

7 August – 10.00am to 12.00noon - Book Sale & Coffee Morning - Gifts & Toiletries and Big Book Sale, plus homemade cakes. Chalkwell Park Methodist Church, SS0 9XF.

12 September – 7.00pm – Folk concert - "'OUR ATLANTIC ROOTS' fuse together poetic lyrics and cinematic instrumentation, creatively presenting a blend of the cultures they are individually from, by merging genres characterized by their country and folk roots". [Highlands Methodist Church](#). Tickets: £5.00 per head, available from: [We Got Tickets](#). Profits will go to the charity [Aspirations in Southend](#).

[Donations](#)

If you would like to donate to the work of Rochford Methodist Church, you can do so from [here](#). If you want to buy something new, please remember to do so through [Easyfundraising](#).

To create a **Standing Order** for Rochford Methodist Church you will need the following details: A/c Name Rochford Methodist Church; A/c No 90766712; Sort Code 20 79 73. If you are a taxpayer, please could you contact Bruce Glendenning so that a simple form can be easily filled in. We can then reclaim tax back on the donations.

You can also donate to the Church by [PayPal Giving Fund](#)

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