



Felixstowe Methodist Church Services – September 2026

Minister: Rev Paulson Devasahayam

Web site: felixstowe.methodistic.org.uk
stewards@felixstowemc.org.uk

Date	Services
Sunday 6 th	Circuit Celebration Service at Northgate High School IP4 3DL 11am – Preacher Revd Helen Hollands (Chair of the Methodist East Anglia District)
Sunday 13 th	Café Worship @ Seaton Road 10am. Light breakfast from 9.30am
Sunday 20 th	Rev David Keeble at the URC, Tomline/Orwell Road 10.30am Including Holy Communion
Sunday 27 th	Rev Paulson Devasahayam @ Seaton Road 10am – Harvest Celebration

Dear Felixstowe Methodist Church family and friends,

Another academic year begins, and children are going back to school. I remember my own back-to-school preparations. Along with all the study materials in our bags, we always made sure to carry an umbrella. Back home, the monsoon rainy season usually began around the time the schools reopened. Therefore, an umbrella was an essential part of our reopening school days. After coming to the UK, I learned that an umbrella has another name—a “brolly.” I love that name!

Once, on a day of heavy rain, an umbrella asked the Rain, “Why are you pouring down when people do not want you? They find you inconvenient, and even I have started to be afraid whenever I see you.” The Rain smiled and replied, “I do not come simply as a nuisance or to cause inconvenience. Sometimes I come to help the plants flower. Sometimes I fill the rivers, and sometimes I cool the dry earth.”

The answer confused the Umbrella even more. It asked, “Why, then, do people need me?” The Rain replied, “Some things are good and necessary, but people may still need protection while they are going through them.” After a moment’s pause, the Umbrella asked again, “So, am I not here to stop the rain?” The Rain smiled and said, “No, you cannot stop the rain. You are here to help people go through it.” From that moment onwards, the Umbrella found a new sense of purpose. Although it had once been afraid of the Rain, it now stood confidently whenever the clouds began to gather.

Dear friends, do we have an umbrella? Can we become an umbrella? Sometimes our faith, prayers, Scripture, fellowship, and friendship become like umbrellas in the rain of life. They may not immediately stop the pain or remove the difficulty, but they can give us strength, comfort, and hope as we journey through it. When people face suffering or uncertainty, we can become umbrellas through our presence, prayers, encouragement, and practical support.

As this new academic year begins, I send my prayers and best wishes to every child and young person in our church family and community. I also remember all teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and carers, and everyone who carries responsibility within our education system, both locally and nationally. May God give each of you wisdom, strength, patience, and joy throughout the coming year.

September also marks the beginning of a new Methodist year. I pray that God will continue to guide us and help our churches to witness to Christ’s love and to serve our communities with that same love.

May God’s abundant grace and blessings rest upon each one of you throughout this new month.

In Christ’s love,

Paulson

	Information about activities and events
Mondays	Hobbies Group @ Trinity 12.30-3.00pm Informal Chat & Support Group @ Trinity 12.30-3.00pm Brownies @ Seaton Road 5.30-7.00pm
Tuesdays (2 nd and 4 th)	'No Labels' An opportunity to relax in a non-judgemental and safe space. 1.30 – 3.30, @ Seaton Road
Tuesdays	Prayers @ Trimley – 10.15 – 11.15am. Coffee from 11.15am
Tuesdays (2 nd and 4 th)	Tea and Chat @ Trimley – 2.00 – 4.00pm.
Tuesdays (1 st in month)	Muddy Church @ Seaton Road. Arrival from 3.30pm, Muddy Church session from 4 – 5.15pm. For children and their parents/carers.
Wednesdays (term time)	Open 4 U @ Trinity – 9.15 – 11.15am. For children aged 0-4 with carers. Starts again September 9th
Thursdays	Coffee morning @ Trinity 10am-12 noon.
Thursdays	'Well in the Week' @ Seaton Road 10.30-11.00am – a time of music, prayer and a message, followed by coffee - No Well in the Week on the third Thursday in the month when it is Church Lunch – for details of this please email lunch@felixstowemc.org.uk
Thursdays	Trinity Folk Cafe. – 10 th September 7.30-10pm. Come along and enjoy playing your instrument(s), singing, reciting a poem or just to listen and enjoy good fellowship. Free refreshments.
Saturday	Trimley Red Devils – community engagement First Saturday of the month - coffee morning @ Trimley 10.30 – 12 Last Saturday of the month – coffee morning @ Kirton 10.00 – 11.30am

New Home Group Starting on Wednesday 2nd September and then every 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month, 7.00pm-8.30pm at the home of Paul and Carol Moeke, 87 Queens Road, IP11 7PE. A Home Group: grows together as we walk through the ups and downs of living a Christian life. We take time to pray. We read the Bible - and talk about the bits we do understand and the bits we don't. We talk about the everyday- the challenges we face, the good we encounter, the concerns we may have. There are still 2 spaces available so, if you're thinking of coming along, even if it's only to give it a try, please get in touch by email: Carolmoeke@hotmail.com or by text: 07766 600058 or by having a chat with us on a Sunday morning. We hope you'll join us, Paul and Carol

Saturday 12th September – Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride – sponsored cycle/walk around Suffolk Churches. If you would like to ride or walk or can help with welcoming those taking part (@ Trinity, @ Seaton Road and @ Trimley) then please speak to Anna (Porter), Mary (Pattinson) or Jenny (Smith). Rev Paulson is riding and raising funds for Chantry Methodist Church (and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust) and Mike (Peck) is riding to raise funds for FMC (and SHCT). Please see them to add your names to their sponsor forms.

Friday 18th – Sunday 20th September – **Heritage Exhibition @ Trinity.** Open daily, 10.30am – 3.30pm. Refreshments – free admission. See posters for details.

Wednesday 23rd September – Churches Together in Felixstowe Prayers – 11am at St John's, Orwell Road (in the Lady Chapel).

Saturday 26th September – Coffee morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Support 10am–12noon @ Trinity. Bric-a-brac, Jigsaws, Books, Cards tables and a Tombola - Homemade cakes and savouries. If you would like to help or are able to donate items in good condition for the Bric-a-brac table please speak to Anna (Porter). The church will be open on Friday the 25th September from 2-4 for donations to be received.

Sunday 27th September – our Harvest Celebration – we are asking people to bring along chocolate/sweets and toiletries which can then be given to Seafarers by QVSR at the Port. A list of items required are on the notice boards around our locations.

Harbour Hope – time of worship at QVSR (Seafarers' Centre in the Port). Sunday 27th September at 6pm. Praise and Worship, Prayer and Reflection, Fellowship and Hospitality. Everyone welcome.

Please note: If you have any items for the October monthly notices please let Robin have these via email at notices@felixstowemc.org.uk by **September 20th** - Many thanks.