

A fresh look for our services!

One of the responsibilities of the Rites and Practices Committee is to ensure that our services meet the spiritual and religious needs of our members. We have had the same monthly service calendar for three years now, and with the ending of the explanatory service cycle, now seemed a good time to take a fresh look. We have held three discussion events with congregants to gather thoughts and suggestions, and we now had the opportunity to discuss this as a group and make our recommendations.

Our new service calendar will come into effect from the beginning of November. As with anything at Woodford, we want to ensure that people are comfortable with what is proposed. This calendar structure is not set in stone – the essence of Liberal Judaism is for us to consider what is meaningful in our time and adapt our practice to continue to help people have meaningful Jewish lives. If you have any questions or would like to raise anything then please do speak to Richard, or to Hilton Ellis, the Chair of Rites and Practices Committee.

First Friday of the month	Why does Liberal Judaism ... ? Talk and discussion over tea after the service on a topic chosen the previous month by the congregation
First Saturday of the month	A shorter service, with no Torah portion, which will be followed by either time to socialise, or a short Torah study session on an alternate month basis
Second Friday of the month	Shabbat evening service, using Siddur Lev Chadash
Second Saturday of the month	10.30am service: Jewish values? A service which includes an exploration of an aspect of Jewish ethics / philosophy and thought and / or current affairs discussion
Third Friday of the month	Shabbat evening service, using Siddur Lev Chadash
Third Saturday of the month	Family Service
Fourth Friday of the month	A service in which we look in detail at ways of 'making Friday night' at home and at shul
Fourth Saturday of the month	Shabbat morning service from Siddur Lev Chadash
Fifth Friday *	An occasional service, followed by some Jewish humour – live. Recorded, people's favourites
Fifth Saturday *	A speaker, a guest, some chances to practice some of our music – flexible

** Where the fifth Friday and Saturday fall in the same month, then one of the services will be a standard service from Siddur Lev Chadash, depending on preference for that month.*