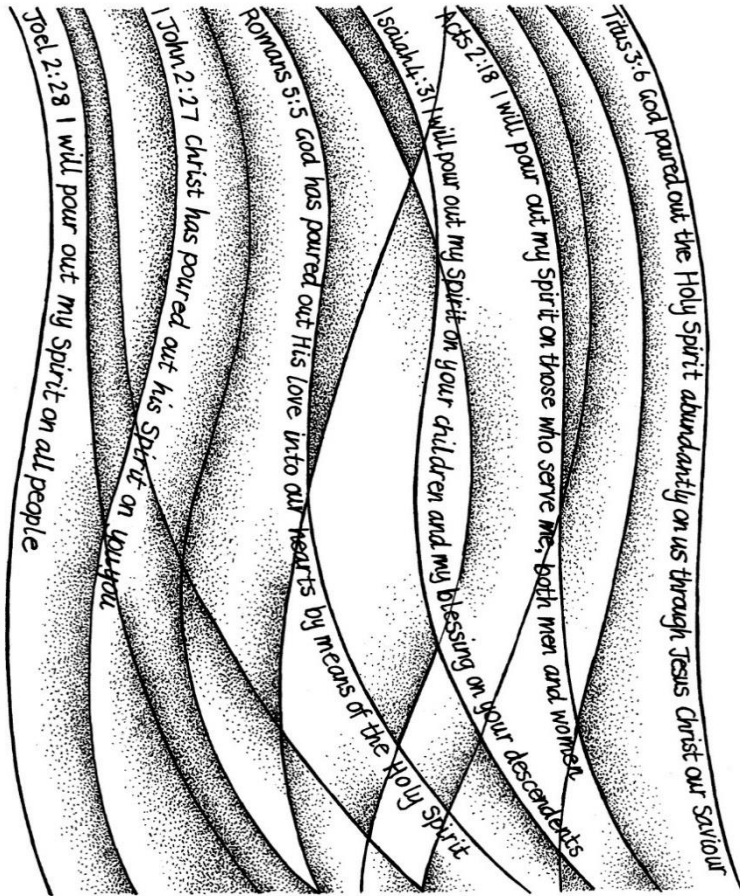


CLARION



Wesley **Methodist** Church 

May 2016

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS AT WESLEY
Wesley Methodist Church, Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 1SJ

SUNDAY SERVICES	9. 00am	Holy Communion - second Sunday in the month
	11. 00am	Morning Worship - Communion as advised
	11. 00am	The Zone on Sunday
MONDAY	10. 00am	Wesley Art Group
	8. 00pm	Wesley Theatre Group
WEDNESDAY	9. 00am	Midweek Informal Communion on the 1st Wednesday in the month
	10.00 – 11.30am	Parent and Toddler (School terms)
	6.00 - 9. 00pm	St. John Ambulance
THURSDAY	6.00 - 7.30pm	Synergy Youth Group (School Terms Yr. 5, 6 &7)
FRIDAY	2. 00pm	Table Tennis 60+ (School Terms)

Wesley Pre-School Karen Barnes-Austin 07572 047520

Daily Coffee Mornings.

The church concourse is open every morning between 10am and 12 noon for our coffee mornings. Everyone is welcome and you can buy a tea or coffee and a slice of cake and meet your friends, or even make some new ones.

There is always someone on duty as a listening ear, so if you need some advice they will be able to point you in the right direction, or just simply listen to what you have to say.

Traidcraft Stall is open 10am till 12 through the week and on Sunday.
Traidcraft gives you the opportunity to buy fairly traded goods.

FORTNIGHTLY MEETING

Talking Poetry alternate Wednesdays at 2. 30pm.

OTHER MEETINGS

Housegroup Meetings as advised

Minister: Rev. Julia Monaghan
1 Oakview Close, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 4JN. Tel: (01702) 483827
Email: revjuliamonaghan@gmail.com

Ministerial Co-Worker: Anne Lane Tel 01268 565644
Email: annelane8@btinternet.com

Children and Youth Worker: Jonathan Logan Tel 07852 905742

Mission Enabler for Older People: Julie Peek Tel 01702 479804

Administrator: Paul McDowell. Tel 01702 711851

Wesley Website: www.wesleymethodist.org.uk

Twitter: @leighwesleyMC Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church



MINISTER'S LETTER



Be Connected to the Power Source

'If the alive and present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bring you alive to himself.'

Romans 8: 10 The Message

So after the 50 days of celebrating Easter and The Risen Life, here we are again waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. I have to confess that compared to writing about God, the Father and Jesus, the Son, I've always found the person and work of the Holy Spirit much harder to come to grips with and talk about. I know the feel of the Spirit and I see the Spirit at work, but I find it more difficult to talk about.

I suppose that's something to do with the mystery of the being herself and the depth and breadth of the experience, that makes you end up talking more in metaphor than anything else.

The early biblical writers seemed to find the same thing. They talked of Spirit as life, and drew their pictures from nature. So God's Spirit hovers over the earth and brings forth creation brimming with life. In the same way, she is also understood as wind, invisible and uncontainable, the very breath of life that God breathes into his creation. Another picture that crops up regularly is that of water, for without water life cannot exist. Ezekiel describes a river that flows from the Temple, where God's presence dwells. The trees that line its bank bear lush fruit and the water brings life and health (Ezekiel 47).

The other symbol of course of this life force is fire. We read that as gold is purified in a furnace so God's Spirit purifies the human heart making it capable of pure love. St John of the Cross, talks about this flame wounding the soul, in its deepest centre, with compassion.

I'm taking a baptism service at Highlands on Sunday, and I have read again this morning of Jesus symbolically receiving the Holy Spirit before he embarked on his public ministry. He allowed something to happen to him. He got connected to the source of life. As I think of my computer coming to life, when it's connected to the mains, so the life that can animate us spiritually is divine. I think of Jesus receiving the first installment, if you like, at his baptism, which enabled him to wrestle and then step out in his mission.

Jesus the person lived for 33 years and embarked on his God given mission for the last 3 years of his life. But the Risen Jesus, holy and anointed one, lives on through his body of believers for all time. The power supply is permanently switched on, as the Holy Spirit coming from the Father through Jesus the Son, continues to work in the church and the world, bringing in the end all creation to new birth, which leads to resurrection life.

Some of my most favourite poetic reading on the Spirit comes from the Book of Wisdom and I offer it to you here so that you might be built in faith.

All that is hidden, all that is plain, I have come to know, instructed by Wisdom who designed them all

There is in her a spirit that is intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, mobile, clear, unpolluted, distinct, invulnerable, loving the good, keen, irresistible, beneficent, humane, steadfast, sure, free from anxiety, all-powerful, overseeing all, and penetrating through all spirits that are intelligent, pure, and altogether subtle.

For wisdom is more mobile than any motion;

Because of her pureness she pervades and penetrates all things.

For she is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing defiled gains entrance into her.

For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness

Wisdom 7: 21 – 22, 25 -26

Rev Julia



CHURCH ENVISIONING SERVICE

The Circuit has asked the churches in Leigh and Southend, to review their vision and mission statements by the 31st May 2016. To facilitate this, I will be joining Jane Fulford at morning worship on **Sunday 15th May 2016**, to jointly lead an envisioning service, as we seek God's direction for the coming 5 years.

Appropriately, May 15th is Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the birthday of the church. As we consider how our own church will continue that journey here in Leigh, we will use Methodism's 4 Callings of worship, evangelism, learning and caring, and service to focus our conversation.

To initiate our thinking, I commend the Pentecostal Psalm for the day:

Psalm 104:

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

May the Lord rejoice in all His works.

Rev Julia April 2016

ARE YOU READY FOR CHANGE?

I once went on a fishing trip with Caleb. I bought a new rod from the shop and was told by the man it was the best rod for a novice like me. The man had sold me all the other equipment that I possibly needed and I felt like a real pro; even though I had no clue whatsoever about fishing.

We got to the lake and set everything out and we were ready for our new adventure. I flicked out the fishing line from the rod like I was told to do by the man in the shop, but to my horror it was stuck to the tree above me and I spent most of the experience trying to get the fishing line unattached from the tree and the bull rushes!

In John chapter 21 we find the disciples on a fishing trip. Unlike me these men were professionals before they became disciples; their livelihood was fishing. So, we are pretty safe to assume they knew exactly what they were doing. Then Jesus (although at this point the disciples did not know it was him) shouted out "have you caught anything? " No" they replied. Jesus then said"throw your net out on the right hand side" and then you know the rest. They pull in a massive haul of fish and at that point they realise its Jesus calling out.

It must have been hard for them someone shouting out orders, as they knew what they were doing and it's what they always did. Jesus calls out to try something else and a massive haul of fish happens; the disciples had to make a change to what they were doing before they could have the miraculous catch. That must have been hard as I am sure they had certain ways to ensure they caught the fish and with those ways plenty of experience.

Change love it or hate it we all face it. Like the fishermen we can get so caught up with what we are doing because it's the way we have always done it. We have tried and tested methods and ways of doing things that change does not even come into our minds. This can creep in to all parts of our life home, work, Church.

The voice of Jesus came to the disciples and they listened and changed the way they fished and a miracle happened. Change is in our midst and with that change comes the voice of Jesus willing us on and directing us in what we do.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Thank you

I have recently received a letter from Action for Children acknowledging the receipt of the money raised in Patricia's memory. The grand total rose to £1860.08. This, as Action for Children said is a phenomenal amount and I would reiterate my thanks to all who donated so generously.

Adrian Gravatt

Baptism

The Baptism of Alice Constance Futchter took place on Easter Sunday 27.3.2016. We send our love and every blessing to parents Rebecca and Iain, Sister Zara and their families and friends.

Thank you

A big thank you to all my friends at Wesley for their visits, prayers and gifts while I have been ill. I shall join you for coffee and social activities whenever I can. Unfortunately it is now difficult to come to church on Sunday as I am living at Abbeyfield St Margarets, and Sunday lunch, the main meal of the week, is at 12.30, so it is difficult to get back in time and I have been attending St Margarets Church. However, I am now much recovered and many thanks again for all your help

Rosemary Malbon

WESLEY MONTHLY MOVIE MORNING

Friday 20th May "BROOKLYN" 10.30am

An Irish immigrant lands in 1950s Brooklyn, where she quickly falls into a romance with a local. When her past catches up with her, however, she must choose between two countries and the lives that exist within.

FREE event – Refreshments will be on sale

SERVICE, A PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY, A PLACE FOR JUSTICE

One of the four callings of Methodism is **Service** – a place in the community, a place for justice. Here is an update on some of the activities in the Circuit and wider community that the folk of Wesley are actively supporting.

Circuit Vision – ‘Mapping Our Stories’

The Circuit Superintendent, Rev. Peter Moorhouse, has thanked churches for the work completed so far in the ‘Mapping’ process. This follows on from the Vision statements that each church was asked to prepare and the Circuit Vision. The programme asks us to dream dreams and identify ‘What if..?’ scenarios, but these must be balanced by identifying what needs to be sacrificed and prioritised to achieve the dreams. It is good to remember that when God works, some things are laid to rest so that new life can start.

Once received the input will be collated, considered by Circuit leadership Team (CLT) and reported back to Circuit Meeting (CM)

Circuit Worship Academy

These continue on the first Wednesday of the month from 7pm at Benfleet, primarily development opportunities for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, but open to all. On 6th April the Rev Anne Brown (Chair of District) led the session, looking at the resurrection appearances of Christ. On 30th April there was a study day at Wesley’s Chapel, including tours of the Chapel and the House, and talks by the Rev. the Lord Leslie Griffiths and the Rev. Ms Jennifer Potter

Circuit Night Shelter

The current series finished on 12th March and, whilst some consider it would be appropriate to run for longer, this would require additional, unavailable, input from HARP and Southend Council. The recent evenings started with 10 or 12, but had built to around 30 clients an evening. With generous gifts from across the Circuit, including the one from Wesley, the new showers were completed at Whittingham Avenue and have been gratefully received, as has the input of new volunteers. There had been issues with legal highs, but a strong stance had been taken, reducing overall risk. An event is being planned by the Circuit to thank the volunteers and invite potential volunteers to attend.

Circuit Invitation Committee

Three Ministers will be due to end their current stationing in August 2017:
Rev. Phil Warrey, Rev. Norman Hooks and Rev. Julia Monaghan.

Here is a summary of the process:

1. March '16 Circuit Meeting (CM) appointed the Circuit Invitation Committee (CIC - Superintendent, Circuit Stewards, (Senior) Steward from each affected church, a member of the staff and some reps for rest of Circuit.
2. Circuit Stewards will meet with the relevant Ministers to discuss their feelings about staying or going in May.
3. If they wish to seek an extension then CIC will draft a consultation questionnaire for the Stewards to work through with relevant leaders within the churches - this is questions about ministry, input and potential for ongoing/continuance of work etc. Consultation with churches will be June, July and August.
4. If consultation and subsequent CIC deliberations have a positive outcome then September '16 CM will be asked to agree extension(s). If not, CM will have the report from the CIC and will review and decide.
5. If a Minister wishes to leave the Circuit, CM will abide by his/her decision and will need to draft a profile for the role. The Circuit will then see for what and who we need to replace.

As Wesley will be one of the churches affected, Church Council appointed Isobel Wratishaw as the Wesley Steward representative on the CIC.

Fishermen's Chapel / Circuit Office

The building in New Road currently houses the Fishermen's Chapel and the Circuit office. The New Road Church Council (CC) submitted a paper to CLT seeking release of the dedicated office space for further developments in the Fishermen's Chapel. The work of the Fishermen's Chapel is building community, offering space to the community, artists, musicians, film makers and there is further potential e.g. a community recording studio. It is also creating a community, which new people wish to join and support.

CLT discussed the various options and issues around releasing the office space to New Road Church to give them more flexibility in the community growth work spearheaded by their Fishermen's Chapel initiative. CLT agreed the office could move into the vestry so releasing the larger room, while access to storage was maintained.

Ethical Issues

Next topics, which will be covered as “Worship Academy Extras”, are to be based on a series of educational items produced by Barnado’s looking at how people of faith engage with, amongst other things, British culture (following recent issues in Rotherham with the exploitation of white British teenage girls for sex) and same sex relationships.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Southend CAP Debt Advice Centre has 97 supporting members drawn from approximately 15 churches across the borough of Southend-on-Sea. In addition to social events and volunteers meetings, these members are invited to meet twice a year – one of these occasions being the AGM of the organisation. At the AGM members elect trustees.

Southend CAP Debt Advice Centre has appointed a paid, part time manager. The manager is accountable to the trustees and manages the day to day running of the centre. There are also 2 trained volunteer debt coaches and approximately 40 volunteer support workers (befrienders).

The organisation works in partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP), based in Bradford. They are accredited by the Financial Conduct Authority to provide financial and legal support and advice to clients. Their role is to explain the advice provided by CAP and provide pastoral support.

- During the year, they visited 50 potential clients, of which 40 became clients.
- During the year 10 people became debt free as a result of the work of the centre.
- It is also believed that 3 clients became Christians during the year.

The work has resulted in benefit to the public. From the moment people become clients, all discussions with creditors are handled by Christians Against Poverty and clients receive a budget to help them manage their finances.

These actions have the effect of relieving clients of a great deal of stress and pressure. Although the effects of this vary from client to client, for many this results in an improvement in well-being and a reduction in mental health problems.

Many clients have partners and children, so the beneficial effects are experienced by a greater number of individuals than the clients alone. In some cases, potential relationship breakdowns have been avoided.

A number of clients have begun attending local churches. There they have built new friendships and gained wider support networks in addition to finding a degree of spiritual peace and comfort.

We are pleased that the Southend and Leigh Circuit, and Wesley, have continued the strong links with Southend CAP Debt Advice Centre as Geoff Fulford represents us as a Trustee.

Southend Foodbank and HARP

Wesley continues to support Southend Foodbank and HARP with the collection of food and clothing donations. The donation bins are located in the concourse and fill up extremely quickly - so a big thank you to you all for your donations, they are very much appreciated by both organisations.

As of 5th October last year, the foodbank has been renamed 'Southend Foodbank' (previously 'Southchurch Foodbank'), to reflect their wider outreach in the Southend area. November 1st also saw the 2nd anniversary of the foodbank being open, during which time over 5000 people have been provided with 3 days' supply of food. The foodbank received a fantastic amount of donations at both Harvest and Christmas from local groups, churches and schools, including nearly 3 metric tonnes of food from a 3-day collection at Tesco in Southend. Unfortunately, this food is quickly used up in emergency food boxes; in 3 days in March this year food was given to 10 families, 7 single people and 2 couples.

Lists of most needed items for both organisations are posted above the donation bins, and we also share these on Facebook and twitter, and on the notice sheet. We currently have 4 volunteer drivers taking the donations to the foodbank and to HARP on a rota basis, with the donation bins being emptied every fortnight. If you feel that this is something you would like to be involved with and would be able to drive to Southend on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday morning, please speak to Anna Wratishaw or me.

Ian Lowe (Leadership Team - Service)

WESLEY PRAYER CHAIN

A prayer chain is a way for people to gain God's assistance through prayer for any need by permitting the intercessor to pray as Jesus prayed. It is interceding or praying on behalf of one another.

We use it at Wesley to pray for the needs and emergencies of our church family, friends and those close to us in the community.

Telephone anyone below and they will set off the chain.

Gabrielle Greenway 557071 mob 07554884780

Susan Mthimkulu mob 07454011257

Isobel Wratishaw 557764 mob 07508164525

Steve Hockett 478772 mob 07952058251

Jane Fulford 714213

Linda Lister 478816

June Childs 711891

Vivien Threadgold 713325

Miriam Gifford 716175

Alison Newnham 621343 mob 07863954388

"Pray without ceasing" 1 Thessalonians 5: 17

AGE CONCERN SOUTHEND COMMUNITY CLUB -

HAS MOVED TO WESLEY

We are very pleased to invite you to our new Age Concern Southend Community Club. The Club meet every Tuesday 2-4pm but on the 3rd Tuesday of the month we go out to lunch at various venues.

We organise speakers, outings, parties, quizzes, raffles and most of all friendship. A donation of £1 towards tea, coffee, cakes would be most welcome.

Please see "dates for the diary" in the concourse or telephone Age Concern Southend. For further information tel 01702 345373 Miki Le Masurier, Age Concern Southend

www.acsos.co.uk

PRAYER DIARY: MAY 2016

THEME: In Praise of the Lord through Songs, Prayers and Bible Readings

Sunday 1st Almighty Father, as we gather together in your name for Holy Communion we remember the sacred words spoken by Jesus our Saviour and our Salvation at this meal: "Take eat, this is my body broken for you, for I come that you might have life. Eat of my flesh and live, eat of my flesh and live". **(Songs of Fellowship 518)**

Monday 2nd The Lord is great and holy. The Lord is loving and merciful. The Lord is patient and forgiving. The Lord is here and he goes with us, and will walk with us to the end, and beyond. He is the Lord. Amen. **(500 more prayers for all occasions – David Clowes)**

Tuesday 3rd ...Father, we thank you that You have called us to be your faithful people in our generation. Make us ready to explore new ways of sharing our faith and of discovering fresh expressions of being Your faithful people today. **(500 more prayers for all occasions – David Clowes)**

Wednesday 4th Have no fear, Christ is with you. Have no doubt, Christ is in you. Have no despair, Christ is before you, around you and over you – and will be forever. Father, we thank you that you are with us in everything we do and everywhere we may go. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Thursday 5th Lord, You were there at our beginning. You knew our names, even before we were born. Every new step we take is already known to you. For the beginning of all good things we thank You, Lord.

Friday 6th Brother, Sister, let me serve You. Let me be as Christ to you. Pray that I may have the Grace to let You be my servant, too. **(Celtic Daily Prayer. Book One).**

Saturday 7th Father, hear the prayer we offer. Not for ease that prayer shall be, but for strength, that we may ever live our lives courageously. **(LM Willis – The Sunday School Hymnary)**

Sunday 8th Tell me the old, old story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. **(210, The Sunday School Hymnary).** Lord, may we never tire of hearing of Your greatness and your love for us. Amen.

Monday 9th Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine; words of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight. **(511, The Sunday School Hymnary)**. Heavenly Father, the more I hear about You and Your love for all mankind, is the more I want to learn about You. Amen.

Tuesday 10th Heavenly Father, in this awesome and wonderful world, You have created, teach me to look upon all the work of Your hands, from the lowliest creature, to the most awkward person I shall meet today, as someone to reverence and treat as if Christ Himself were there in them. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Wednesday 11th Dear Lord, all we are and all we have comes from You, and You know our daily needs. Give to us a contented and peaceful heart for You are with us every day. Gladly in faith we receive the abundant grace you bestow upon us. Being nourished by You in body, soul and spirit, we are satisfied. Amen. **(A Gift of Prayer)**

Thursday 12th Our Father God, I am grateful to You for Your infinite love and mercy. Your love is so big that it can forgive our sins. Because of this, Loving Father, I ask that You put in my heart the love I need to sincerely forgive my neighbour. Fill my being with goodness so that I may love without discrimination or expecting anything in return. Help me to be a better person each day. Amen. **(A Gift of Prayer)**

Friday 13th O God, Forgive me if I have used excuses to barricade my heart against Your love. I gaze once more on Calvary. As I do so, may its mighty magnetism draw my soul towards You in a way it has never been drawn before. In Jesus' name. Amen. **(Every day with Jesus, Jan/Feb 2007 – Selwyn Hughes)**

Saturday 14th My precious precious child, I love you and will never leave you, never, ever, during your trials and testings. When you saw only one set of footprints it was then that I carried you. **(Footprints in the Sand. Margaret Fishback Powers)**. Forgive us Lord for the many times we doubted You or for ever doubting that you are with us in everything we do and in every step we take. Lord hear my prayer. Amen

Sunday 15th On this day of Pentecost, Lord we pray for a Church that is united in Christ, for a Church that looks only to Jesus and has less time for pride and self-concern; for a Church where people are wanted, not just in words but in deeds; for a Church where there is love for each other because first they have fallen in love with their Lord. May the Church of Jesus always live to honour Him. We bring our prayers in the name of Jesus for the unity of Christ's Church. Amen. **(500 more prayers, David Clowes).**

Monday 16th All that I am I lay before You. All that I possess, Lord I confess is nothing without You. Saviour and King, I now enthrone You. Take my life, my living sacrifice to you. **(SoF, 647)**

Tuesday 17th You are the Holy One. The Lord most high, You reign in majesty, You reign on High **(SoF, 626)**

Wednesday 18th You are my lamp, O Lord, the Lord turns my darkness into light. **(2 Samuel 22:29)**

Thursday 19th The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; My God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. **(Psalm 18: 1-2)**

Friday 20th Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **(Matthew 11: 28-29)**

Saturday 21st It is the Lord Your God you must follow, and Him you must revere. Keep His commands and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him. **(Deuteronomy 13:4)**

Sunday 22nd Jesus said "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes". **(Luke 12: 22-23)**

Monday 23rd Fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart, consider what great things He has done for you. **(1 Samuel 12:24)**

Tuesday 24th Just as He who called you is Holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be Holy, because I am Holy".

Wednesday 25th If the Lord delights in a man's way, He makes his steps firm; though he stumbles, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with His hand. **(Psalm 37: 23-24)**. Heavenly Father, I kneel before You in humbleness, that despite my many failings and a life full of sins, You love me enough to keep me upright when I stumble. Father I thank you. Amen.

Thursday 26th The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him. **(Nahum 1:7)**

Friday 27th When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other. **(Ecclesiastes 7:14)**. "You will seek me and find me. When you seek Me with all your heart, I will be found by you declares the Lord". **(Jeremiah 29: 11-14)**

Saturday 28th Just as I am – poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come. **(516, The Sunday School Hymnary)**. Lord, it is just so amazing, that poor and sinful as I am, You still welcome me to share in your heavenly throne. Amen.

Sunday 29th Thank you Lord, for bringing us in fellowship with our sister Church, Highlands Methodist, so that, together we may sing and shout Your praise. "Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name! Make known his might, the deeds His arm has done; His mercy sure, from age to age the same; His Holy name – The Lord, The Mighty One." **(SoF 520)**

Monday 30th Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord to Thee. Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise. **(SoF 519)**

Tuesday 31st Thank you Lord, thank you for our lives, thank you for caring for us. We pray for Your protection in all our endeavours especially from evil and temptations. Lead us away from all sinful acts. Help us to walk in Your ways and to do Your will throughout our days on this earth. In Jesus's name. Amen. **(Rev William Davis – A Gift of Prayer)**.

**CELEBRATION TEA FOR THE QUEENS 90th BIRTHDAY
SATURDAY 11th JUNE 3pm - 5.30pm**

As part of our celebration weekend we will take time to celebrate Her Majesty the Queens 90th birthday.

We will begin with a quiz on the tables followed by a sing-a-long with live music provided by our own talented organist.

Tea will be traditional afternoon tea: sandwiches, scones and cakes with a royal theme.

There will be a display of books, photos and memorabilia representing our Queens life. If you have any items or stories of our Queen, please bring them along to share. Whilst not compulsory, if you wish you can wear red, white and blue and /or tiara or crown.

Whilst this is a BDRF fundraiser we hope it will be a fun social occasion celebrating our amazing Queens 90 years.

Cost £7.50. Tickets available from June Childs, Gaye Greenway or Paul McDowell in the office from 14th May



WELCOME DUTY ON THE DOOR AT WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

When I come to church on Sundays I receive a warm welcome. Since joining the Leadership Team I have been looking at various aspects of our practice and thinking how we do things. As I particularly enjoy the task I have asked to be on the door very often. In fact over Christmas someone asked me if I had the job permanently.

This Easter I did Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter day.

All were a pleasure and these are my observations for Easter Sunday. If you remember it was a wonderful service and included a baptism. I always think we need a very much different approach when we have a crowd of visitors.

I have taken to staying on the door for 5 or even 10 minutes into the service to ensure a welcome for people, who may unavoidably be late.

I often introduce myself by name (if needed) by saying that we have only been here a couple of years and so do not know everyone and asking if they are new to Wesley.

One of my first individuals to be welcomed in this way was Linda Moran, who told me that she used to come but not for a very long time. She then said how lovely it was for her to be made so welcome and thanked me, by name.

The large baptismal group were chatted to and welcomed in a series of many arrivals and in fact one young man and his very young son had come out for a wander around before I left the door. I reassured Dad that he was welcome to come and go as he wished.

Dell and Margaret come occasionally and I recognised them, but could not remember their names. I have taken to joining the steward on duty as people leave as well so we were able to have chat as they left.

I have asked Linda if I can do as many first Sundays of the month as I am available as I think it helps, when we welcome the Highlands people. I have also asked Highlands to provide a welcome steward to join the Wesley steward so that we do not make the mistake of assuming newcomers are actually from Highlands, which has I think happened a couple of times.

One of my anecdotes from Palm Sunday was the little girl, who arrived with family and friends, looking quite delightful. She looked at me and said, “Are you the Queen?” I quickly replied “Just for today as I am welcoming some beautiful princesses and you are one of them”. She took that as if normal.

This last year we have had so many good things happen at Wesley. It was a superb innovation by Janet Whiddett to start the monthly Summer Afternoon Teas for the over 60’s, which went from strength to strength. Her helpers were amazing and the response from us and people from outside the church was gratifying.

It is so good now that we have Anna Wratishaw as our Communications Officer and so the good news can be spread. Buzz reported our Extraordinary Easter Event. Well done Anna.

Eileen Simmons

Member of the Leadership team for Learning and Caring.

WESLEY WANDER FUNDRAISER

You can raise funds for the Wesley Building work by just wandering about and getting your friends, relatives, colleagues to sponsor you to do it.

Not only that, but you can get your friends and family to join you; all you have to do is commit to do 5 or 10 kilometres (3 or 6 miles) between now and the end of May – and get healthier at the same time!

So you can do it as an individual or as part of a group, run it or walk it and you can do it on one day or spread it over 4 weeks.

Just find the entry forms and sponsorship sheets in the concourse or contact Geoff on 01702-714213 or e-mail Fulford.family@btinternet.com

Geoff Fulford

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR MEMORY?

Alzheimer's Society - Leading the fight against dementia

It's happened to us all at some time or another. You can't put a name to a face. You forget where you put your keys. You can't remember where you parked the car. Most of the time such slips are a nuisance rather than a sign of something more serious.

However if you are worried that your memory is getting noticeably worse or if memory loss is beginning to affect your everyday life or someone's you are concerned about, it is worth seeking advice. It is important to seek advice because there are many diseases that can cause memory loss and confusion not just dementia. It may be a condition very easily treatable e.g. a thyroid problem, hyperparathyroidism or undiagnosed Diabetes, etc.

Dementia affects everyone in different ways. As well as problems with memory, other signs can include feeling confused even when in a familiar environment, problems thinking things through and finding it hard to follow conversations.

You should seek advice without delay if your memory is having an impact on your daily life:

- Make an appointment to visit your GP
- Visit alzheimers.org.uk/memoryworry
- Contact our Southend office on 01702 345156/343121

The Alzheimer's Society provide a range of free support and services for people with dementia, their families and carer's.

Alzheimer's Society Support & Services:

- Our Dementia Support Workers will give you expert practical advice and support to help you understand dementia, cope with the day-to-day challenges it brings, and prepare for the future. This includes helping you to access other support services.. Our aim is to help you feel supported, and maintain independence, choice and control over your life.

- Our Advocacy workers provide legal support.
- Carer Information and Support Programme.
A series of workshops for people caring for a family member or friend with dementia.
- Activity Groups – Sleep deprivation in Carer’s is a big issue. Staying active during the day will enhance the chances of a full night’s sleep. We run a variety of free groups offering entertainment, games or reminiscence to help you keep active doing the things you like in a friendly and supportive environment.

2pm – 4pm Motivational Men’s Group every Tuesday.

2pm – 4pm Memory Group 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month.

2pm – 4pm Activity group every Thursday.

2pm – 4pm Singing for the brain first 4 Friday’s in the month.

- Dementia Café
A place for people with dementia and their carers to share information and experiences, or to simply have a cup of tea and a chat. Please call for details.
- Peer support
Support groups for people with dementia or carers and families. Please call for details.

If you would like more information about any of our services, please get in touch tel o 01702 345156 or email: southend@alzheimers.org.uk

TOGETHER IN THE UK

(Extract from Christian Hope International Jan-July 2016 Newsletter)

It is not very often you get the opportunity to host an Archbishop from Rwanda and it was a delight and a privilege to welcome the Most Rev Onesphore Rwaje to Harold Wood in February. We have worked "TOGETHER" since the charity began 21 years ago.

During his visit we arranged evening meetings at the Good Shepherd, Collier Row and Leigh Wesley Methodist Church. Our Patron Bishop Stephen Cottrell introduced and closed the first occasion. At both events the Archbishop spoke about Jesus feeding the 5,000. This was clearly ordained by the Lord because we later learnt that the overarching theme for Leigh Wesley church until June 2016 is....Jesus feeding the 5000!

Archbishop Rwaje was probably the first contact in Rwanda for our fledgling charity. The Diocese of Byumba where he was Bishop was one of the first CHI Projects in Rwanda to set up a child sponsorship programme, largely managed by his wife, Josephine.

Today, as Archbishop he now has responsibility for the newly created Diocese of Gasabo; a deprived area within the capital city of Kigali. CHI is supporting various projects in this area including:

- Child Sponsorship of around 65 children
- Repairs to schools and the provision of education materials
- Funding musical equipment for the church
- Initiatives to improve health and nutrition.

Paul Guyver, Christian Hope International

For ways in which you can support the work of Christian Hope International, please see TOGETHER Newsletter available in the concourse or telephone 01708 377795

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

This takes place this year from 15th May. As usual there will be envelopes in the pews. Any donation you can give will be, much appreciated. Please bring your donation to church on 15th, 22nd or 29th May, remembering to fill in the Gift Aid tab on the envelope if you are a standard tax payer.

Adrian Gravatt

SUMMER TIME AFTERNOON TEA AND CAKES

CANTEEN ROOM (ROOM 3)

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS 2-4PM

May 26th

June 30th

July 21st

August 25th

September 29th

October 27th

Our 60+ tea and cake afternoons are starting up again on Thursday 28th April. We will offer a welcome break from shopping in the Broadway or simply a time to chat and meet friends old and new. The cost will be £1.00 for tea, coffee or juice plus a choice of delicious cakes. Stay all afternoon or pop in for a while – bring your friends.

Janet Whiddett

HELPING HANDS

The following contacts from our wider church family may be able to help if you are struggling with housework, gardening or odd jobs?

Gardening Services and Odd Jobs	Steve Hockett	07952 058251
Help with Housework	Sam	07776 302635
	Becky	07841 052764
Painting, decorating & Odd Jobs	Mark Wiltshire	01702 475089

FLOWER ROTA FOR MAY

- 1st Flowers given and arranged by Alison in loving memory of Claire.
- 8th Flowers given by Jane Fulford in loving memory of her mum, arranged by Sue.
- 15th Flowers given by Anne Dray in loving memory of her husband, Peter.
- 22nd Flowers given by Margaret Buckey in fondest memory of her sister, Vivian, and her parents, Connie and Teddy Charles.
- 29th United Service at Highlands (no service at Wesley)

TIME FOR HEALING

The Time for Healing Prayer Group continue to meet in the Church as usual, generally on the third Saturday of each month between 11.30am - 12.30pm. Meetings are typically attended by ten to twelve people with the majority often being from outside our usual church membership. The format usually includes prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, together with a short meditation on the theme of healing. This is followed by the opportunity for private prayer with one or more of the group leaders.

It is always good to see the meeting of the churchgoers who turn up and those lovely people who just come off the street, as it is open to anyone. So please come and join us if you can, and give, receive, or just take much needed time out. The next meetings are planned for the following dates:

- Saturday 21st May
- Saturday 18th June
- July and August dates TBA

Terry Harper

WESLEY BUILDING FUND TEAM NEWS

In March we raised £100 from the Concourse toilet! Fantastic! Keep paying to go! We had a special Gift month for the Building Fund which is still coming in at time of writing, the amount raised will be published in the Notice Sheet. Thank you for your generous donations.

May fundraising begins immediately after the Spring Fair with a Sunday Lunch. Then we have lots of events that we hope will interest you.

Weds 11th May at 2pm. Cookery Demonstration at Waitrose, Fossetts Way, SS2 4DQ. Please contact Gabrielle, Isobel or Anna to book your place. £12.00

Sat 14th May at 3pm. Let the Light Shine In! Rev Julia and Sam Monaghan are having an afternoon at Wesley showing us stained glass in the Methodist Tradition. We can view the original cartoon drawings for Wesley's Last Supper Window. Enjoy afternoon tea and hospitality. All welcome and donations to the Building Fund.

Sun 15th May. There will be lunch at Eileen Simmons and Geoff Nash.

Weds 25th May 7.30pm. Patchwork Workshop led by Jane Cheshire who runs Hilary Jane's patchwork and quilting classes in Leigh and who recently held workshops at The Country Living Exhibition in London. Learn how to make a filled fabric heart. Cost of the workshop will be £10.00 which will include materials, templates, thread and scissors, followed by a light supper. Bring your friends for what will be a fun evening.

Call Alison Newnham 01702 621343, (07863954388) or Gabrielle Greenway 01702 557071 (07554884780)

Sat 11th June 3pm. Queen's Birthday Tea - see full details page.

When is your garden at its prettiest?

Why not open it up for an afternoon for the Building Fund? Offer tea perhaps or have a raffle and make some money! See Gabrielle or June to organise advertising.

Gabrielle 01702 557071 or June 01702 711891

SUNDAY 1st MAY

9.00am Holy Communion
11.00am Preacher: Rev Julia Monaghan
Porch: Geoff & Joan Hawkins

Mon. 2nd 10.00am Wesley Art Group.

Wed 4th 9.00am Midweek Communion - Wesley
10.00am Parent and Toddler

Thurs 5th 6.00pm Synergy

Fri 6th 2.00pm Table Tennis 60+

Sat 7th 10.00am Coffee Morning

SUNDAY 8th MAY

11.00am Preacher: Mrs Eileen Simmons
Porch: Isabel Wratishaw

Mon 9th 10.00am Wesley Art Group

Wed 11th 9.00am Midweek Communion - Belfairs
10.00am Parent and Toddler
2.30pm Talking Poetry (subject beginning with P&Q)
7.30pm CAMEO Housegroup

Thurs 12th 6.00pm Synergy

Fri 13th 2.00pm Table Tennis 60+

Sat 14th 10.00am Coffee Morning
11.30am Time for Healing

SUNDAY 15^h MAY

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

11.00am

Preacher: Mrs Jane Fulford MA

Porch: Anna Wratishlaw

Mon 16th 10.00am Wesley Art Group.

Thurs 19th 6.00pm Synergy

Fri 20th 2.00pm Table Tennis 60+

Sat 21st 10.00am Coffee Morning

SUNDAY 22nd MAY

11.00am

Preacher: Rev Gordon Bates

Porch: Janet Whiddet

Mon 23rd 10.00am Wesley Art Group

Tues 24th 8.00pm Informal Worship, Jane Fulford

Wed 25th 9.15am Midweek Communion - Fishermen's Chapel
2.30pm Talking Poetry (subject beginning with R)

Thurs 26th 2.00pm Summertime Afternoon Tea & Cakes
6.00pm Synergy

Fri 27th 2.00pm Table Tennis 60+

Sat. 28th 10.00am Coffee Morning

SUNDAY 29th MAY

NO SERVICE (United Service held at 10.30
Highlands Methodist Church, Sutherland Blvd)

FORWARD EVENTS

Weds 11 th May	2.00pm	Cookery Demonstration at Waitrose
Sat 14 th May	3.00pm	Let the Light Shine In!
Sun 15 th May	11.00am	Church Envisioning Service
Fri 20 th May	10.30am	Wesley Movie Morning "Brooklyn"
Weds 25 th May	7.30pm	Patchwork Workshop
Sat 21 st May	11.30am	Time for Healing
Thurs 26 th May	2.00pm	Summertime Afternoon Tea & Cakes
Sat 11 th June	3.00pm	Queens 90 th Birthday Celebration Tea
June 11 th & 12 th		Wesley Celebration Weekend
Oct 9 th -16 th		Week of accompanied Prayer

JUNE CLARION

Items for the June Clarion should be emailed to julie.peek@hotmail.co.uk or placed in the folder outside the vestry by **SUNDAY 15th MAY 2016**



Wesley Methodist Church is a member of **Southend and Leigh Circuit**
www.southendandleigh.org
and part of the
Beds, Essex and Herts District of the Methodist Church

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