

Prayer Diary (continued)

Wed 30 Lord let us not give up your cause, nor abandon your work. Let us not give up the fight. Let us persevere, until we see your kingdom come and enter into your glory. Amen
Francis Asbury (1745-1816)

Thu 1 At this time of advent we look forward, Father God, and ask that this month of December will be a holy journey for us leading to the celebration of Jesus' birth in a few weeks' time. We ask that you will help us to put you at the forefront as we plan for time spent with family and friends.

Fri 2 Father God we thank you that we can come before you to pray; thank you for loving us, for caring for us and forgiving us. Help us to become thankful and grateful people.

Sat 3 Father God, we thank you that you are always with us and that we are never alone. Help us to find ways to pray with and for others in our families and among our friends.

Sun 4 Today we worship with our friends at Highlands church - we enjoy and value the fellowship of our two congregations joining together. We ask your blessing on each person attending and for all those in our community who we seek to serve.

Mon 5 Father God, you loved the world so much that you gave your one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life; thank you Father.

Tue 6 This is love; not that we love God but that He loves us and sent His Son. Jesus said: "I have come that you may have life and have it in its fullness".

Wed 7 Father God, we are amazed that you were willing to allow your Son, Jesus, to not only come and live on earth, but also to die a cruel death so that we can have a personal and eternal relationship with you.

Thu 8 Father God, thank you that you have a plan for our lives, and that you have given your Holy Spirit to help us to discover it. May we be guided by You in all things so we may have a life that is pleasing and honouring to You.

Fri 9 Father we know that "you will never leave us or forsake us". We remember those who have difficult and painful anniversaries at this time. We ask you to be with them and give them your peace.

Sat 10 Father God, sometimes we feel alone; fill that void with your loving presence, that we may know that we are deeply loved and profoundly valued by you.

Sun 11 Father God, today is our first service in our newly refurbished church building. A special day. We praise and thank you for all that come to our Nativity Service today that they may learn of your love through your precious gift of Jesus.

Wesley Methodist Church Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 1SJ

Website: www.wesleymethodist.org.uk

Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Twitter: @leighwesleyMC

Minister: Rev. Julia Monaghan. Phone: 01702 483827

Children and Youth Worker: Jonathan Logan. Phone: 07852 905742

Older People's Worker: Julie Peek. Phone: 01702 479804

Administrator: Paul McDowell. Office: 01702 711851 (9.45-11.45 weekdays)



Wesley Methodist Church

Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex

Minister: Rev. Julia Monaghan

Notices for the two weeks

commencing Sunday 27 November 2016



First Sunday of Advent

We extend a very warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. This is the last service at Wesley during our building work, and coffee and tea are served in the concourse at 10.30 am *before* the service. From 11 December on, when services resume in the main sanctuary, coffee and tea will be served in the concourse at about 12 noon *after* the service. Please do come if you can, and please use this notice sheet as a reminder as you pray for the life and work of this church.

A prayer before we worship: *God, my creator and my unseen Guide, you have led me to this holy place. Let a spark of its beauty and your love settle in my heart and live with me when I leave.*

Sun 27th	10.30 am	Coffee in the Concourse
Advent	11 am	The Zone on Sunday
Sunday	11 am	Morning Worship: Toy and Gift Service
		Preacher: Rev. Chris Sandy
		Hymns: STF 169, 171, 658, 564, 676; Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44
		Porch: Linda Lister
		Flowers: Given by Joy Watson in loving memory of her parents, Stella and Leslie
Mon 28th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Wesley Art Group
	8 pm	Wesley Theatre Group
Tue 29th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	2 pm	Advent Reflections at Highlands (see over)
	8 pm	Wesley Theatre Group
Wed 30th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Parent & Toddler
	6 pm	St John Ambulance
	7.30 pm	CAMEO Housegroup at Wesley
Thu 1st	10 am	Coffee Morning
	6 pm	Fusion Kids and Fusion Youth
	7.30 pm	Wesley Theatre Group
Fri 2nd	10 am	Coffee Morning
	2 pm	Table Tennis 60+
	7.30 pm	Wesley Theatre Group: 'Busybody' (see over)
Sat 3rd	10 am	Coffee Morning
	11.30 am	Time for Prayer
	7.30 pm	Wesley Theatre Group: 'Busybody' (see over)

Sun 4th 2nd Sunday of Advent	10.30 am	United Service of Holy Communion at Highlands Preacher: Rev. Julia Monaghan
Mon 5th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Wesley Art Group
	8 pm	Wesley Theatre Group
Tue 6th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10.15 am	Wesley Housegroup
	2 pm	Building Development Group
	7.30 pm	Planning of flexible worship and community space
Wed 7th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Parent & Toddler
	10 am	Clergy in Leigh meeting
	6 pm	St John Ambulance
Thu 8th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	6 pm	Fusion Kids and Fusion Youth
Fri 9th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	2 pm	Table Tennis 60+
	7.30 pm	Christmas flower workshop (see below)
Sat 10th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	11.30 am	Time for Prayer
Sun 11th 3rd Sunday of Advent	11 am	Nativity Service led by Sam Monaghan Porch: Janet Whiddett

Please give any items for the next notice sheet to Paul McDowell in the Administrator's office, or by e-mail to admin@wesleymethodist.org.uk or phone to 01702 711851, by 9.45 am on Friday 9 December. **The Office will be closed on Thursday 8 Dec.**

Advent Candles – response for all to say – ‘Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now. Amen.’

Advent Reflections, Highlands, 2 pm, Tuesday 29 November – Come for a time of reflection with Rev Julia as we orientate ourselves to the birth of hope once more in our lives. All from every church will be very welcome.

Christian Aid coffee morning, 10 am-12 noon, Fishermen's Chapel, Wednesday 30 November – With Marija Vranesovic of Philanthropy, who works with refugees arriving in Serbia and who will be chatting over coffee.

Wesley Theatre Group, 7.30 pm, Friday-Saturday 2-3 December – ‘Busybody’ by Jack Popplewell. Tickets £7 from Gaye, Anna, Isobel, Judy or Geoff.

Night Shelter – The Leigh Section will be responsible for the Night Shelter at Whittingham Avenue on Saturdays **3 December, 7 January, 4 February and 4 March**.

If you can help as a cook or befriender or can sleepover or do breakfast on the Sunday morning please do volunteer. Janet Watson from Highlands (01702 555702, wdjwatson@googlemail.com) is compiling a rota. We can all help through donating toiletries and clothes. At present there are young men who are homeless; their needs are for hardwearing jeans, track suit bottoms, pants, hats and socks. The Night Shelter box

in the concourse is for you to put your donations of clothing.

Christmas flower arranging workshop and buffet, 7.30 pm, Friday 9 December – In aid of the BDRF and a donation to the Brain Cancer charity. Join us for a Buffet Supper and make yourself a lovely Christmas Flower Decoration. We will demonstrate an arrangement for you to replicate and provide all material, flowers and foliage. We will hold a raffle. Cost £15. – Sue Hockett 07525 071023, Alison Newnham 07863 954388.

First service in the refurbished church – This will be on **11 December**, and the service on Sunday 4 December will be at **Highlands at 10.30 am** (joint section service). The Plan shows this service at Wesley but it is at Highlands.

Age Concern Christmas lunch and carol service, Wednesday 21 December – If you have come along to our Tuesday club or have enjoyed the monthly movies or maybe you come to coffee mornings we would like to invite you to join us for a traditional Christmas lunch and Carol Service. Lunch places are limited so booking is essential. Please give £5 deposit to secure your place to Julie Peek. We look forward to celebrating Christmas together. – Miki Le Masurier, Age Concern.

Concourse Decoration ready for January 2017 – If you can spare 10 or 15 minutes after the Christmas Eve Christingle service to help move tables and chairs from the concourse to the canteen room, it would be very much appreciated. – Sue Hockett, on behalf of Leadership Team.

New Testament Greek Classes at St Clements with Fr Clive – Classes are free with donation always welcome. Taster session: **Saturday 7 January** at 2 pm. Classes start Saturday 21 January at 11 am, fortnightly.

Service of Celebration, Thanksgiving and Dedication, 3 pm, Saturday 28 January The preacher at our reopening service will be Leslie Griffiths and we shall all receive an invitation along with all the details of our Christmas services. Please tell anyone who has been part of Wesley in the past and bring them along. – Eileen Simmons.

Southend Foodbank are collecting treats that can be given out to Foodbank guests over the Christmas period. Christmas week is too late to make it into food parcels, so please donate now if you can. A list of example items can be found in the concourse.

Fund raising for BRDF – How would you like a one for all voucher up to the value of £50 in January? It is simple, just buy a date on the calendar for £1, you can buy as many as you like and obviously the more dates we sell the bigger the fund raiser. One date will be picked at random at the end of January so please do your best to purchase all 365 dates so we can raise much needed funds. See June Childs for further details.

My Feral Heart – My son-in-law's film is finally coming to Southend Odeon on 14 December at 8.15 pm followed by a Q&A session. Tickets are going fast so if you want to see this BIFA nominated film book now. – Thank you, June Childs.

Prayer Diary

Sun 27 Advent Sunday As we begin this season of watching and waiting, may we travel in hope, with You always as our companion. *Part of a prayer by Susan Sayers* We pray Lord today for our Wesley toy and gift service.

Mon 28 The power of prayer is boundless. Help us to believe this evermore and not to lose heart.

Tue 29 Give me humility O Lord and an endless hunger to love and serve You always.

(continued over)