

The **CLARION**

Wesley **Methodist** Church



**Jan
2017**

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 3rd 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	Fusion Kids (School Terms Yrs 1-6)
	6.00 - 7.30pm	Fusion Youth (School Terms Yr 6 plus)
FRIDAY	2. 00pm	Table Tennis 60+ (School Terms)

Wesley Pre-School Jody French 07581 150978

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.

On some days there is someone on duty as a listening ear to offer help and support, 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.

The Traidcraft Stall is open 10am till 12 through the week and on Sunday, giving 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

Happy New Year

You crown the year with your goodness. And Your paths
drip with abundance. Psalm 65:11

1. If you own a Bible, you are abundantly blessed - about 1/3 of the world does not have access to one.
2. If you wake up each morning, you are blessed to shine, to live and to serve in a new day.
3. If you have anyone on the planet, just one person that loves you and listens to you; count this as a blessing.
4. If you can freely attend a church without fear, then you are more blessed than over 1/3 of the world.
5. If you pray today or any day, you are blessed because you believe in God's willingness to hear your prayer.
7. If you pray for someone else, you are blessed because you want to help others.
8. If you have food in your refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head, and a place to sleep; all at the same time; you are rich in this world.
9. If you have a friend who will pray with you and for you, you are blessed by compassion.
10. If you have any earthly family that even halfway loves you and supports you, you are blessed beyond measure.
11. If you attend a church with a church family where you can give and receive encouragement, you are blessed with the Holy Spirit of God.
12. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, or some spare change in a dish someplace you are among the world's wealthy.
13. If you can go to bed each night, knowing that God loves you, you are blessed with a sense of your worth.
14. If you try each day to imitate Jesus for even a minute, you are blessed because you show a willingness to grow in faith.
15. If you can read this message, you are more blessed than about 1/3 of the world who cannot read at all.
16. If you have never had to endure the hardship and agony of battle, imprisonment, or torture, you are blessed in indescribable measure.
17. If you have a voice to sing His praises, a voice to witness God's love, and a voice to share the gospel, you are blessed with the gift of joy.

18. If you can hold someone's hand, hug another person, touch someone on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer God's healing touch.
19. If you can share a word of encouragement with someone else, and do it with His love in your heart, you are blessed because you have learned how to give.
20. If you have the conviction to stand fast upon His Word and His promises, you are blessed because you are growing in assurance of faith.
21. If you desire to live a life of gratitude, you are blessed beyond measure with the Grace of God.

May God Bless You in 2017 and may you desire to be his faithful servant. Amen

Now read Matthew 5:3-12 and find out what true “blessedness” is - that serene, unassailable joy in Christ that is completely independent of all the chances and changes of life. Amen

Rev Julia Jan 20017

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO OUR SERVICE OF DEDICATION

As we come to give thanks for the completion of the building redevelopment project Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths will be our preacher and Rev Dr David Chapman, District Chair will lead the rededication. We hope that as many of you as possible will stay afterwards for hospitality and good conversation.

We have much to be thankful for.

Rev Julia Monaghan

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

David Read

Our former minister Rev David Read died on Saturday 3rd December. His funeral took place on Wednesday 21st December at Trinity Methodist Church, Lowestoft.

Carol Lock

Carol worked in Wesley Pre-School for many years. Her funeral took place Tuesday 20th December at Wesley followed by a committal at Southend Crematorium.

We give thanks for both David and Carol's lives and hold their families in our prayers.

Baptism

The Baptism of Sophia Rose Pouyioukkas took place on Christmas Eve 24.12.2016. We send our love and every blessing to parents; Danielle and Miltiades and their families and friends.

Thank You

Thank you to everybody for the hyacinth and chocolates which Alison kindly brought round. Also thank you for my birthday card, what a silly time of year to be born!

Best wishes from Mrs Vanda Brockway

Birthday Wishes

Congratulations to our Edward who will be celebrating his 18th Birthday on 2nd January. All our love Mum, Dad and Joe (The Peek Family)

Southend and Leigh Circuit

Tour and Lecture Visit

The Methodist Church



FINCHLEY ROAD
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA
ESSEX SS0 8AD

On Monday 9th January 2017 at 1p.m

Interested to know more about Judaism and the link with Christianity? If Yes, please give your name and contact email to your Church Steward.

Tour Guide and Lecturer: Mr Jeffrey Greenstein

Maximum Per visit: 60

Parking: There is free car park on site.

Contact: Rev. Chris Sandy Christopher.sandy@methodist.org.uk
Rev. Michael Moon logosmoon54@gmail.com

WESLEY NOTICES FOR THE MONTH AHEAD

Christmas Flower arranging workshop

A very big thankyou to all those who were involved in any way with the Flower Workshop and Supper held on 9th December.

With the ticket profit, the raffle and donations a total of £400 was made which was divided equally between the Building Fund and the Brain Tumour Charity.

Wesley welcomed as a member of SAVS

We are pleased to advise that Wesley's application to join SAVS (Southend Association of Voluntary Services) has been approved. Benefits of being a SAVS member are numerous; from networking events, a varied training programme, help finding volunteers, promotion of events, funding advice and much more.

Christian Hope International Jumble Sale - Sat 18th February 2017

Please keep this date free and start saving your unwanted items and carrier bags; we need them.

Thank you Pam and Viv

Wesley Art Group

Thank you to all who visited and bought at our Art Exhibition in October which ended on the Saturday of the Autumn Fair. A donation of £50 was given to the church which was included in the final amount raised on 29th. We resume back after the Christmas break on Monday 9th January

Annette Jarvis

Concourse re-decoration

Between Christmas and New Year the concourse has had a new lick of paint and is looking considerably refreshed! Thanks go to Ruth Lowden for arranging for the decorators to come, and to those who cleared the concourse so quickly on Christmas Eve. Do come along and see the improvements for yourself whilst enjoying a cup of coffee!

Isobel Wratishaw, on behalf of the Leadership Team

LEIGH CHURCHES TOGETHER NOTICES

New Testament Greek Classes at St Clements with Fr Clive

Fr Clive is offering New Testament Greek lessons. He says, "The New Testament was originally written in Greek. To be able to understand the scriptures more deeply, learning and reading the New Testament in Greek has great spiritual advantage, and you don't have to rely on the translation of others." Classes are free with donations always welcome.

Taster Session - Saturday January 7th at 2pm.

Classes start Saturday January 21st 11am. Fortnightly on Saturdays

Activate, a programme of refreshment for women

We warmly invite you to our 2017 events.

Lunches are held in The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea at 12.30pm

Weds 18th Jan (lunch £12)

DIANE CAUSTON – Diana, a lively local lady, uses music to illustrate her 'message for the moment' Prepare for an all-round profitable lunch time!

For all chargeable events, please pre-book (by the Monday morning prior to the event) with Alison (621343) or Mary (710893)

Ecumenical Service @ Leigh Wesley MC – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Wednesday January 18th at 7.30 pm

Wesley is hosting this service for Christian Unity. Come along and provide a warm, Wesley, welcome, for our friends from other local churches in Leigh.

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

Painting, decorating & Odd Jobs

Mark Wiltshire

01702 475089



3GENERATE 2016

From our circuit Eleven of our young people, and 4 adult volunteers went to 3Generate at the end of November. We were joined on our shared coach by 14 young people from Basildon and Billericay and their leaders.

The event again was amazing with some 800 young people present split in age groups from 8-11, 11-18, and 18s to 23s. As well as discussing items from the 3Generate Manifestos, our young people voted in a new Youth President,, and had lots of other activities and fun.

You may want to consider if you want to invite the new Youth President to our circuit in the new Methodist year, 2017/18, maybe for another Big Event. Having hosted 2 Youth Presidents - this is now probably a tradition!

We have posted some of the videos from 3GenTV for you to enjoy.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YAiPZU9MaA&mc_cid=629df8b114&mc_eid=2c82bb4d53

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDUaRxYMgC8&mc_cid=629df8b114&mc_eid=2c82bb4d53

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQliapEOimM&mc_cid=629df8b114&mc_eid=2c82bb4d53

More information will be coming out later in the year, so watch this space.

Phil Warrey



The message for our homebased congregations in Leigh

Happy New Year to our homebased congregations spanning across the 3 Leigh churches. How was your Christmas? Did you enjoy *Christmas Bake Off* on the TV? If you could face the beauty and the bleakness of the Yorkshire Moors, what a treat to watch, *To Walk Invisible*, was, the BBC's homage to The Bronte sisters. I'm re-reading Jane Eyre, with a whole new appreciation.

Spiritually, speaking with Christmas past, we move into the light filled season of Epiphany - meaning "manifestation". The traditional observations begin with the celebration of the visit of wise men from the East. It then explores other ways in which Christ reveals himself to be the Son of God: the celebration of the baptism of Christ by John, when the voice from heaven declares Jesus to be God's beloved Son; and Jesus's first miracle, when he turned water into wine at a wedding in Cana. The end of the season is marked by the Feast of the Presentation on the 2nd February. His parents, according to the Law of Israel, bring Jesus to the Temple where he is recognized by Anna and Simeon, who declares him to be '*a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of God's people Israel.*'

Anna is a widow of 84 and Simeon has been promised that he will not die until he has seen the Lord's Christ. It's a story where it's the older people who get it and recognise Jesus for who and what he is and will become. They recognise the Christ Child and stand for those who have devoted their whole lives to watching and waiting for the presence of God.

So in terms of spiritual resources this month, I am offering you a poem by Kathleen Raine called *Winter Paradise*, which explores this idea of watching and waiting, or I suppose the technical word would be contemplating. You will see that it begins with a clear and positive statement about inhabiting older age.

Instead of being seen as a constriction, it is a time away from so many timetables that is "*free from time.*"

From this reflective space, the narrator watches the movement of clouds across the windy sky, the birds that gather and leaves left over from autumn – the manse garden is still full of those!

The scene is described as a “*winter paradise*,” referring not only to the state of the garden, but to a time of life and thoughtfulness that is only achieved in older life. The poem goes on to say that, “*each blade of grass is signed with the mystery*,” for me, acknowledging the benevolent presence of God, which is then expounded, as in a Psalm. The final line echoes Paul’s description of God as found in Acts 17: 28. God is “*the one in whom we live and move and have our being*.”

So having heard about it, here is the poem, which I hope you will enjoy and gain sustenance from.

Winter Paradise

*Now I am old and free from time
How spacious life,
Unbeginning and unending sky where the wind blows
The ever moving clouds and clouds of starling on the wing,
Chaffinch and apple leaf across my lawn,
Winter paradise
With its own birds and daises
And all the near and far that eye can see,
Each blade of grass signed with the mystery
Across whose face unchanging and everchanging pass
Summer and winter, day and night.
Great countenance of the unknown known
You have looked upon me all my days,
More loved that lover’s face,
More merciful than the heart, more wise
Than spoken word, unspoken theme
Simple as earth in whom we live and move.*

Kathleen Raine

May God bless you richly in 2017, and please remember your vital prayer ministry by praying for our young people as they go back to school particularly those who have mock exams; the doctors and nurses in our hard pressed NHS and The Queen, as she recovers from her period of ill health over Christmas. Please particularly hold us in your prayers on the 28th January, when Wesley is rededicated following its period of refurbishment.

Peace Rev Julia 2017

Prayer Diary January 2017

1 Sun *Renewed Hope* Loving Holy God thank you that we begin a New Year knowing we are alive having been saved by Christø's sacrifice and resurrection, empowered by the Holy Spirit and renewed in Godø's love.

2 Mon *Bank Holiday* Restful God we give thanks for Holy Days, a day after most of us will have been to parties or festivities of one kind or another, may we rest and think of you, give thanks, seek forgiveness and be renewed in your tender love.

3 Tue January - cold and dark - where are you God?
In a world that seems so bad and unloving and we can feel so rejected and overwhelmed where are you God?
Pause. Listen. Rest in the silence. Know that God is with you.

4 Wed *Julian of Norwich (1342-1420)* ðIf there is anywhere on earth a lover of God who is always kept safe, I know nothing of it, for it was not shown to me. But this was shown: that in falling and rising again we are always kept in that same precious love.ö
As we worship together and learn of Julian of Norwich at Worship Academy may our faith be strengthened.

5 Thu *Julian of Norwich* In prayer, may we come to know ourselves and to meet our maker; to rejoice in Godø's goodness, to share in Godø's life, and to be enfolded in Godø's love.

6 Fri Packing away the Christmas lights, the Christmas tree, the decorations and the cards. Eating leftovers from the food not consumed. May the Spirit of Christmas, joy and hope, love and friendship, giving out, singing and laughing remain with us in the knowledge that Christ came to save.

7 Sat *Night Shelter Leigh Section* January - cold and dark - where are you God? God of all peoples, we pray for the homeless, that this night they will find warmth, nourishment, a welcome, and a safe haven to rest at Whittingham Ave Night Shelter. We pray for all the helpers to understand the sleepers and to show through their actions the love and care of Christ.

8 Sun *Roots p11* John the Baptist wasn't sure who Jesus was. Lord, we are not always sure who you are. But thank you that through your

word, through your Spirit, and through your people we grow in knowledge and love for you.

9 Mon *MWB p 80* For you Jesus came into the world; for you he lived and showed God's love; for you he suffered on the Cross; for you he triumphed over death, rising to newness of life; for you he prays at God's right hand: all this for you. In your Baptism the word of Scripture is fulfilled: "We love, because God first loved us."

10 Tue *STF 233 Fred Pratt Green* When Jesus came to the Jordan to be baptised by John, he did not come for pardon, but as his Father's Son. He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins, to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.

11 Wed January - cold and dark - where are you God?
War in the Middle East worries me, the images of ruined buildings, the faces of bewildered and traumatised children.
Pause, even cry and rest in the silence of realising God is crying too.

12 Thu January - cold and dark - where are you God?
The ache, the pain never goes, it drains my strength, it drains our faith. Pause, listen and rest in the silence of realising God is with us offering a sense of wellbeing even through the pain.

13 Fri *Prayer for refugees* January - cold and dark - where are you God?
Holy Spirit lift the pain of being alone in a foreign country. Grant hope to all who seek asylum. May they know your compassionate and loving care. Give understanding to those from whom they seek refuge. May we seek to understand their plight, the horror they have experienced and the bewilderment of our ways. Give us strength to dream of your Kingdom on Earth for all peoples.

14 Sat *Children – walking to school* January - cold and dark yet children skip along the road, run to the curb but know to wait for mums pushing younger brothers and sisters. Dressed in winter coats, hats and mittens their hearts warmed, their minds eager and keen and smiles as they meet friends. Lord make all the children remember the Christmas story and be warmed by the love of Christ, kind to friends and family and keen to know more of Jesus. Keep them safe on their journeys.

15 Sun Dear Lord, thank you for the disciple Andrew who brought his brother to Jesus. May we bring others to Christ that they may know

your love, your hope, your peace and your joy.

16 Mon *Prayer for those on the sea* January - cold and dark but the sailors of small boats and huge tankers are on the seas gathering in the catch or delivering international goods around the world. Far away from their families, keep them safe from storms and the perils of winds and waves. May they know the joy of a good catch or a delivery well-made and may they know that Christ is always with them.

17 Tue January - cold and dark - where are you God?

The thought and reality of cancer scares me.

Pause, take breath, listen and know that God is there. There in you, giving you strength, there in others who help ó nurses, doctors, friends, family. There through the pain, crying with you, smiling at kindness and understanding, in an ending and in a recovery.

18 Wed Thank you for this January morning, the sharp air stirring or muscles and minds, the clouds of white fog and mist drifting, clearing a path to set us on our way. May it be your way loving Lord.

19 Thu Loving Holy God, may we stay faithful secure in the knowledge that Christ lives and life is eternal.

20 Fri *Methodist Prayer Handbook 2016/17* The Kingdom of God has no favouritism. Dear Lord, thank you for loving us even though we are all different. Thank you for forgiving us when we have done something wrong. Thank you for helping us get it right. *Jasmine Sawyer, Year 4 Westleigh Methodist School, Leigh, Lancashire*

21 Sat Loving Holy Lord, you gave us free will. May we never use this to hurt, maim or imprison innocent human beings. May we seek to share resources and not control them for only the few. May we allow freedom to reign in all the world.

22 Sun Jesus calls us where we are. Lord, today as we travel may our hearts be warmed and our outlook hopeful as we see you in others and in the beauty of your creation.

23 Mon January - cold and dark - where are you God?

Confined, lonely, too icy to go out, feeling trapped.

Pause, listen, rest in the silence and know that God is with you.

24 Tue January - cold and dark - where are you God? Exhausted, shattered, drained from work and life commitments and expectations.

Pause, listen, rest in the silence and know that God is with you.

25 Wed The tide is out, few people are about, the air is cold but crisp, the red glow of the sun gives little heat but reminds us of the warmth to come and your existence. We pray that we can be still and ponder life eternal.

26 Thu *Christina Rossetti (1830-94)* Lord Jesus Christ, wisdom and Word of God, dwell in our hearts, by your most Holy Spirit, that out of the abundance of our hearts our mouths may speak your praise. Amen.

27 Fri *Walter James (1879-1908)* Create within us, O God, a love for your holy word. Teach us its true and inner meaning. Within its sacred pages may we find new strength and joy.

28 Sat *Wesley* Loving Holy God as we rededicate our new sanctuary we give thanks for all those who have made worship possible for generations, those who have journeyed in faith hoping only to make Christ known to every new generation in faith and may new disciples look and wonder, be welcomed and feel the presence of God.

29 Sun *Prayer for Worship* Creator God, we give thanks for all types of worship, the new way of being -Churchø and explaining the gospel word as well as those traditional services when routines help us focus on Christ. We give thanks for those who offer a welcome, those who offer refreshments and a listening ear, those who clean and dust, those who arrange the flowers and those who offer transport. We give thanks for those who create and offer all aspects of worship. May we all come to know Christ.

30 Mon *Companion to the Revised Lectionary Christine Odell p13* All seeing God, you know us inside out, our deepest needs and prayers. We ask for the gift of your Holy Spirit, to guide us into loving you more and more, so that the words we speak and the things we do become outward reflections of your love in our hearts.

31 Tue As January draws to a close, the days are getting longer and there is just a hint of Spring we are reminded that God -has made everything to suit its time; moreover he has given humankind a sense of past and future, but no comprehension of Godø's work from beginning to endø (Ecclesiastes 3:11). Dear Lord, we pray for a sense of wonder and awe at your creation.



NEW FOR 2017

MEMORY WORSHIP

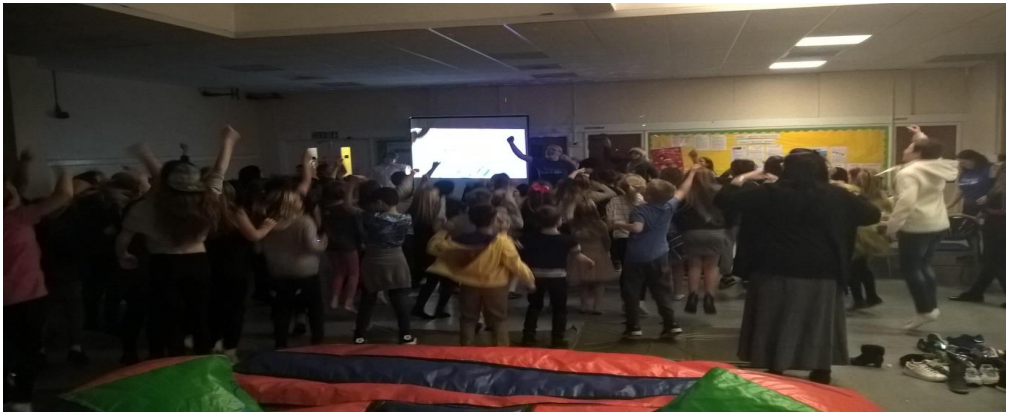
.....
Worship for those with
and without Dementia
.....



2PM - 4PM
3RD MONDAY OF
THE MONTH

Monday 16th January

*Come along &
share our first
service together*



FUTURE FUSION LOOKING BRIGHT FOR 2017

The last few months have been very busy for me as I have progressed into my new role working for three churches (Wesley, Benfleet & Hadleigh) and for the circuit. I have been developing the work in the three areas under the name of Fusion and beginning to see real growth in numbers and faith.

Benfleet runs every Friday term time only and we have a regular 45 children come and get involved with the various activities. Hadleigh Fusion starts 15th January and already I have built strong relationship with the community through the local schools. Wesley Fusion has had the most growth with up to 60 children coming on a regular basis every Thursday. At our Christmas Special and Awards Evening we had 78 children and we are still growing.

Each club has its own identity; but each follows the same format of free play at the start with craft, table games, pool, video games, sport and then followed with praise (very loud praise) and worship, bible lessons and a story that has a kingdom principle interwoven.

As you can imagine there is an awful lot of preparation that goes towards each of the clubs and a lot of hard work building relationships with over 10 local schools, and lots of pastoral care and spiritual development.

Every other Tuesday I run a youth cell group in Leigh for year 7 plus. The group is there to support and grow the young people and from it 5 young people will be starting to help as junior leaders on a Thursday night at Wesley.

As Wesley Fusion continues to expand I am looking at ways of developing the club with use of the new worship space following approval from church council.

Fusion starts back after the Christmas holiday Thursday 12th 6pm-7.30pm for children school years 1-6 £1 entry fee.

Jonathan Logan, Children and Youth Worker



Happy New Year. We hope that 2017 will bring blessings to us all.

I am pleased to tell you about a concert that has been arranged at Wesley on Saturday evening July 22, 2017, when the Allegro choir will give a concert in our wonderful refurbished sanctuary.

Last year we went to a concert given by this choir locally and it was first class. ALLEGRO was established in 2013 and are very experienced singers, who present high quality concerts, which raise funds for charities.

I have invited them to perform to raise money to be divided equally between Action for Children and our Building Redevelopment Fund.

Do please put the date in your diaries and invite friends and family to do likewise. We shall only make money if we can sell lots of tickets. I anticipate a good attendance as Action for Children has a long history at Wesley and we want to continue our reputation as a generous church.

Eileen Simmons

YOU ARE INVITED
TO
WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH'S
**SERVICE OF
CELEBRATION,
THANKSGIVING
&
DEDICATION**

SATURDAY



JANUARY

AT 3PM

Preacher: Revd The Lord Griffiths

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

WESLEY MONTHLY MOVIES

I hope you have all enjoyed my selection of movies through 2016. We have screened an eclectic mix of films; old and new from the Lady in the Van, Brooklyn, Florence Foster Jenkins and Harvey to mention a few.

Back in November we watched the 2002 classic “Calendar Girls”. This hilariously quirky true story of twelve plucky members of Rylstone Women’s Institute and their now infamous Calendar plan has gone on to raise £2million for Leukaemia research.

I would like to report that as a result of your kind donations after November viewing of “Calendar Girls” along with Highlands Methodist Church we donated £40.80 to Cancer Research UK.

First Wesley Monthly Movie for 2017 takes place on

Friday 20th Jan “The Hundred-Foot Journey” 10.30am

The Hundred-Foot Journey is an uplifting and feel-good comedy bursting with flavour and heart. When the icy proprietress (Helen Mirren) of a Michelin starred French restaurant in the quaint village of Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val gets wind of the Kadam family opening an Indian restaurant just 100 feet from her own, her protests escalate to all-out war between the two establishments. But as these two worlds collide, despite their different tastes they find an unlikely source of compromise that will change both sides forever.

FREE event – Refreshments will be on sale including Rossi ice cream.

Regards

Julie Peek

Mission Enabler for Older People

Wesley & Highlands Methodist Churches

AGE CONCERN SOUTHEND CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND CAROL SERVICE

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone involved in making our Christmas Lunch and Carol Service run so smoothly. We all had a terrific time and hope you did too?

If you haven't as yet joined the Community Club then please make 2017 the time when you come along; bring old friends or make new ones. We look forward to seeing you on a Tuesday afternoon at Wesley.

Happy New Year, Miki Le Masurier

Dates for the Community Club diary

2 – 4pm

Tues 10 th Jan	CLUB RESUMES Speaker, Southend Borough Council ±Our Town . Our Futureq 1 st session (1 hour) Wesley
Tues 17 th Jan	Lunch . 12.30 - Oldhams
Tues 24 th Jan	Speaker, Southend Borough Council ±Our Town . Our Futureq 2 nd session (1 hour) Wesley
Tues 31 st Jan	±A Pat Doggin the community Wesley
Tues 7 th Feb	Ace Lifestyle . Healthcheck Wesley
Tues 14 th Feb	Quiz and games Wesley
Tues 21 st Feb	Sarah Moore . lunch . 12.30
Tues 28 th Feb	Speaker . Detective Inspector Wesley
Every 3rd Tuesday of the month we have lunch out Club closed	

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 Wratishlaw 557764 mob 07508164525

Steve Hockett 478772 mob 07952058251

Jane Fulford

Linda Lister

June Childs 711891

Vivien Threadgold

Miriam Gifford 716175

Alison Newnham 621343 mob 07863954388

"Pray without ceasing" 1 Thessalonians 5: 17

FLOWER ROTA FOR JANUARY

1 st	United Service at Belfairs Methodist Church
8 th	Covenant Service – No donor.
15 th	Flowers given by Annette Jarvis in loving memory of her sister, Vera, and brother in law, Bob.
22 nd	Flowers given by Paul McDowell in loving memory of his parents.



TIME FOR HEALING

The Time for Healing Prayer Group recommences its meetings on 14 January 2017 and will generally be meeting on the third Saturday of each month between 11.30am - 12.30pm. Meetings are typically attended by six to ten 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 and occasional testimony. This is followed by the opportunity for private prayer with one or more of the group leaders. 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:

- 14 January 2017
- 11 February 2017
- 18 March 2017

Also, I have been asked to include the meditations we use at the group in the Clarion following each meeting. As there was no meeting in December, I have therefore chosen one from an earlier meeting about embracing change which seems appropriate for this time of year.

Changes, Tides and Seasons.

*As the rain hides the stars, as the autumn mist hides the hills,
happenings of my lot hide the shining of Thy face from me.
Yet, if I may hold thy hand in the darkness, it is enough;
since I know that, though I may stumble in my going,
Thou dost not fall.*

(Alistair Maclean – taken from Meditations – Celtic Daily Prayer from the Northumbria Community)

Some years ago I was faced with a career changing decision, the consequences of which would be significant for both myself and my, then young, family. We had prayed about the choice I was facing and I then found it beneficial to go out and look at the sea to contemplate my options. I found myself at Old Leigh at very low tide and watching the clear water running out down Leigh Creek past the beached fishing boats as I considered my decision.

As I watched the water flowing I became aware of a brief but interesting phenomena; the clear water flowing out to sea was quite suddenly met by sea water flowing in and after a short period of turbulence all the water was now flowing back into the creek. The tide had turned, and it seemed that God had brought me to that creek to witness that change and help me to decide to embrace the change that was being offered. There would be some turbulence, and uncertainty, for a while and then a new direction would become established. I learnt, as they say, “to go with the flow”!

So if you are facing changes or challenges take time to ask God what you should do and listen prayerfully for his guidance at all times which may sometimes be delivered in surprising or unconventional ways.

A Prayer of St Aidan

*Leave me alone with God as much as may be.
As the tide draws the waters close in upon the shore,
make me an island, set apart, alone with you, God, holy to you.
Then, with the turning of the tide,
prepare me to carry your presence to the busy world beyond,
the world that rushes in on me,
till the waters come again and fold me back to you.*

Finally, may we never forget God’s constancy as we go through the seasons of our lives.

*As it was, as it is, as it shall be evermore,
God of grace, God in Trinity!
With the ebb, with the flow, ever is it so,
God of grace, O Trinity
with the ebb and flow.
Amen*

(Traditional Gaelic prayer from Barra - taken from Celtic Daily Prayer from the Northumbria Community)

SUNDAY 1st JAN

**NEW YEARS DAY
UNITED SERVICE AT BELFAIRS
METHODIST CHURCH**

	11.00am	Service led by Mrs Jane Fulford
Sat 7 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Prayer

SUNDAY 8th JAN

COVENANT SERVICE

	9.00am	Communion
	11.00am	Preacher: Rev Hannah Bucke Porch: Eileen Simmons
Mon 9 th	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
Tues 10 th	2.00pm	Age Concern Community Club
Wed 11 th	9.00 am	Midweek Communion - Belfairs
	10.00am	Parent & Toddler
	2.30pm	Talking Poetry – G / Grief or Gladness
Thurs 12 th	6.00pm	Fusion Youth & Kids
Fri 13 th	2.00pm	Table Tennis 60+
Sat 14 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Healing

SUNDAY 15th JAN

	11.00am	Preacher: Mrs Maureen Gutteridge Porch: David Cox
Mon 16th	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
	2.00pm	Memory Worship; Worship for those with and without Dementia
Weds 18th	9.00 am	Midweek Communion - Wesley
	10.00am	Parent & Toddler
Thurs 19 th	6.00pm	Fusion Kids/Fusion Youth
Fri 20 th	10.30am	Wesley Movie Morning "The Hundred Foot Journey"
	2.00pm	Table Tennis 60+

SUNDAY 22nd JAN

	11.00am	Preacher: Mrs Jane Fulford Porch: Margaret Cotgrove
Mon 23 rd	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
Tues 24 th	2.00pm	Age Concern Community Club
Weds 25th	2.30pm	Talking Poetry – H / Health or Home
Thurs 26th	6.00pm	Fusion Kids/Fusion Youth
Fri 27 th	2.00pm	Table Tennis 60+

SUNDAY 29th JAN

	10.30am	Service led by Rev Julia Monaghan Porch: Joy Milner
Mon 30th	10.00am	Wesley Art Group.
Tues 31st	2.00pm	Age Concern Community Club
	10.00am	Parent & Toddler
Thurs 2nd	6.00pm	Fusion Kids/Fusion Youth
Fri 3rd	2.00pm	Table Tennis 60+
Sat 4 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Prayer

FORWARD EVENTS

Weds 18 th Jan	7.30pm	Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sat 28 th Jan	3.00pm	Wesley Service of Dedication, Thanksgiving & Celebration
Sat 18 th Feb		Jumble Sale in aid of Christian Hope International
Sat 22 nd July		ALLEGRO in concert @ Wesley

FEBRUARY CLARION

Items for the February Clarion should be emailed to julie.peek@hotmail.co.uk or placed in the folder outside the vestry by **FRIDAY 20th JANUARY 2017**



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