


The **CLARION**

Wesley **Methodist** Church 



**April
2018**

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) For enquiries- email marjoriecharnock@icloud.com
SATURDAY	11.30	Time for Prayer

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.

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

Children and Youth Worker: Jonathan Logan Tel 07852 905742

Mission Enabler for Older People: Julie Peek Tel 01702 479804

Lettings: Alan Severne Tel 01702 711851
lettings@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Church Steward: Isobel Wratishaw Tel 01702 557764

Church Council Secretary: Judy Taylor ccsec@wesleymethodist.org.uk

The Notices: Trudi Pipe notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Communications: Anna Wratishaw email
communications@wesleymethodist.org.uk



Twitter: @leighwesleyMC



Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Wesley Website: www.wesleymethodist.org.uk

MINISTER'S LETTER



The religious and cultural background, out of which the story of Jesus' resurrection comes, is an interesting one. It's clear that there was a Jewish belief in resurrection at the time of Jesus. It was pictured as a final physical resurrection at the end of time, an event for the just, on the last day.

What was revolutionary about the claims of the first Christians is that they were saying that what God was expected to do for all his faithful people at the end of history, he had now done for one single man *within* history. So where as Judaism saw resurrection as a single event at the end of time, Christian's saw it as a 2 stage event, with Jesus first and then the rest of humanity.

And it's also interesting to note, that no one in Judaism believed that the Messiah would be raised from the dead. Rather, he would be a military leader, who would kick the Romans out and restore Israel's fortunes. Christianity, however, claimed that the resurrection was fundamental and demonstrated that indeed Jesus was the Messiah.

So what were the key factors that bought about this very different thinking – bearing in mind that no one saw the resurrection happen? We have no eyewitness accounts of the resurrection itself and, interestingly, no one at the time tried to make one up. What we do have are strands of evidence that weave together, with the empty tomb, the appearances of Jesus and the change in the disciples, being the most significant.

No one at the time seems to have disputed that the tomb was empty. The only rumour of an alternative explanation is the conspiracy to say that disciples had stolen the body at the end of Matthew's Gospel. Even the Jewish leaders don't have an argument with the fact that the tomb was empty. I also find it interesting and rather wonderful that the first people to broadcast the news were women – the people in society least likely to be believed. Women in the eastern world at the time of Jesus were not regarded as credible witnesses. So if you were trying to make things up, why give the good news to the very people who would not be believed.

When we think about the appearances of Jesus, I am amazed just how many there were. He was seen at the tomb, in the upper room, on a walk back from Emmaus, by the seashore in Galilee, and on a mountaintop, among other places. He appeared to Mary Magdalene, to Peter, James, to the disciples several times and in Corinthians it says that he appeared to have more than 500 at one time. I am also struck by the nature of these appearances and that Jesus didn't come all robed in heavenly glory, a figure of majesty. Rather, he appeared as his followers had known him, showing his friends his hands, his feet, his side – his body, animated by God's Spirit, seemingly robust and full of life!

And finally the New Testament, records the change in the disciples, who quite literally were stopped in their tracks, turned around and sent off in completely different directions. I love the "before," and "after" pictures that we read. Before, they were broken, scared, hiding, demoralized, having denied and deserted Jesus.

In Acts we find them, forgiven, reconciled to God, fearless, joyful, unstoppable, and prepared to be martyred. They knew that something had happened to Jesus himself and his presence and message needed to be shared – heavenly peace and the birth of a new world.

Rev Julia April 2018

The comfort of the resurrection

Enough! The Resurrection,
A heart's – clarion! Away grief's gasping, joyless days, dejection.
Across my foundering deck shone
A beacon, an eternal beam. Flesh fade, and mortal trash
Fall to the residuary worm; world's wildfire, leave but ash:
In a flash, at a trumpet crash,
I am all at once what Christ is, since he was what I am, and
This Jack, joke, poor potsherd, patch, matchwood, immortal diamond,
Is immortal diamond.

Gerard Manley Hopkins

CHURCH NEWS FOR THE MONTH AHEAD

London to Paris 24Hr Cycle Ride

On the 5th/6th May, I am taking part in the 24 hour cycle ride from London to Paris. The starting time is 3pm from Greenwich on Saturday, and hope to finish by 4pm on Sunday, at the Eiffel Tower, Paris. This is the first time I will have cycled such a long distance, so it is an enormous challenge for me. My aim is to raise as much money as possible for Research into Pagets Disease which my Grandad, Keith Charnock, suffers from. The Pagets Association is a small charity and relies solely on donations. Please would you kindly sponsor me, which will be very much appreciated. There will be a Sponsorship Form in the concourse at the beginning of April. Thank you for all your support.

Zoe Ager-Lowden

Wesley Parking Permits

Parking Permits are available now – please see Peter Lister.

Collation of the Clarion – volunteers needed – As you may be aware I have taken over getting the Clarion printed and collated each month after Julie has edited the magazine to produce a master copy. I am looking for a small team of volunteers to assist with the collation of the magazine once the printing of all the pages is completed. This typically takes place sometime after the 23rd or 24th of each month and takes a couple of hours. If you are willing to help (it would not be every month as I will set up an agreed rota of volunteers) please see me after any Sunday service and I'll add you to my list of helpers. Many thanks.

Terry Harper

Annual Church Life Meeting - Sunday 6th May in the Church

Please could I receive all reports from Church groups by 8th April. The reports will be collated into a booklet ready for the ACM. Could I also have any nominations for Church Council by that date please. Many thanks.

Judy Taylor

SUMMERTIME TEA & CAKE AFTERNOONS

Our 60+ tea and cake afternoons begin again on Thursday 26th April and we look forward to seeing you all after the winter months.

Here are the dates for your diary, all on Thursday afternoons 2-4pm

April 26th

May 31st

June 28th

July 19th – this month only in canteen room (Room 3)

August 30th

September 27th

October 25th

Come and enjoy good company and refreshments. Tea, coffee or soft drink and cake £1.00.

Please bring your friends, all are welcome.

Janet Whiddett



Congratulations and many thanks to Pam, Viv and their wonderful team for such a superb jumble sale for Hope International.

On July 8 it is Action for Children Sunday and there will be a retiring collection on that day for the charity, which Wesley has supported for very many years.

Allegro Concert - Saturday, June 9th 2018 at WESLEY.

Those of you, who came to the ALLEGRO concert last year will know how superb it was. We are very fortunate that they are willing to come again. It really is unusual for them to do a return visit, as they are heavily in demand. They are a Charity Fund raising Choir. Many are or have been professional singers, who offer their services free of charge to a Charity, once they have covered their expenses.

This time I invited them to raise money for Wesley Methodist Church to support the work done for Older People by the church. Our work is extensive and includes that done by Julie Peek and her valued volunteer team, Janet's Summer teas for the Over 60's (there are advantages in being older!); the daily coffee mornings (not exclusively for Older People, but much appreciated by them), the work of Pastoral visitors (again full age range), but so vital for Older People and other valuable activities.

PLEASE COME TO SUPPORT THIS CONCERT. (details coming soon).

The more tickets we sell the more money we raise.

Please tell family and friends.

Our Wesley budget really needs this potential income.

Geoff and I will be selling tickets later and directly from their treasurer.

We shall be inviting volunteers to help run the event and to give the choir a right royal Wesley Welcome.

Eileen Simmons.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Easter Offering Circuit Service 6th May 2018 at 4pm UMC Shoebury

This service is being led by our Methodist Women in Britain from around the Circuit. Everyone is welcome to join in this service of celebration. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Do you enjoy embroidery, tapestry, cross-stitch or quilting or perhaps you have always wanted to learn? If So Highlands PinPoint Group is for you.

We are a friendly group which meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 10:00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m at Highlands Methodist Church Lounge, Sutherland Boulevard, Leigh on Sea, SS9 3PT

We enjoy embroidery, tapestry, cross stitch, quilting, etc.... Sometimes we even bring in our mending; sewing up hems and replacing buttons.

Some are more skilled and experienced than others - and some are tackling things for the first time, so we enjoy helping and encouraging each other And we always have refreshments available throughout the whole morning provided by 'The Hub' (who are at the Church every Wednesday morning for anyone to drop in and enjoy coffee, etc.).

Everyone is welcome so, if you and/or your friends would like to spend an enjoyable morning chatting, sewing, mending, (or learning how to!) then please come along.

For more information including "Quilt as you Go" Cushion Cover/Tablemat Classes starting on 9th May telephone Win on 01702 559631

**Rev Christopher Sandy – Ordination at Barnbygate Methodist Church,
Newark at 4pm on Sunday 1st July 2018**

Reception into Full Connexion and Ordination are significant moments in the life both of the minister and of the Church. To watch and support each ordinand is a privilege and a source of great support, love and faith. I am sure there will be many people who will like to go to support Chris on the next step of his journey into Full Connexion, We will receive 30 tickets, however, so that we can ensure no one misses out, please can you contact me with the number of tickets you require. I need to know by Monday 18th June, to ensure we have the correct transport arranged.

Many thanks

Ruth Lowden

email southendandleighcircuit@gmail.com

A Relay Day of Prayer and Fasting Sat 12th May 8am-8pm

The President and Vice President of Conference have called the Methodist Church to a day of prayer and fasting to pray for the church's spiritual well-being and its future. To involve as many communities as possible and to facilitate participation we are holding a Relay Day of Prayer and Fasting on Sat 12th May from 8am-8pm. The plan is for each church to take it in turns to pray for an hour and then by text pass the baton on. This would give us 13 slots which allows some church communities to come together to pray if they would like to. We hope that the Zimbabwean Fellowship and Westerly will also be involved. Further details to follow.

Peace Rev Julia Monaghan

CHURCHES TOGETHER NEWS

Activate, a programme of refreshment for women

Weds 18th April, 10.30am (no charge)

COFFEE, CAKE AND BRING & BUY at 60 Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh on Sea.

Enjoy a morning out; an informal time to say hello, chat and browse the Bring & Buy.

For further information about any Activate events -

Tel: Margaret (474922) or Mary (710893)



TEL: 01702 345373

**Age Concern Community Club
Wesley Methodist Church Elm Rd Leigh
Tuesdays 2 – 4pm Dates for the Diary**

Tues 27 th March	Easter Tea at the Wesley £6
Tues 3 rd April	Quiz and Games Wesley
Tues 10 th April	Speaker – Sovereign Wills and Estates Wesley
Tues 17 th April	Lunch out Cricketers London Rd. 12.30 £5 deposit. £1 admin. Fill in menu.
Tues 24 th April	Quiz and Games Wesley
Tues 1 st May	Speaker - Canine Partners (dogs trained to transform lives of people with physical disabilities) contributions welcome. Wesley
Tues 8 th May	Quiz and Games Wesley
Tues 15 th May	Lunch out Affinity Restaurant, 1777 – 1779 London Rd (opp Thames Drive) £10.95 for two courses + £1 admin fee 12.30. Fill in menu
Tues 22 nd May	Speaker to be confirmed
Tues 29 th May	Quiz and Games Wesley
Every 3rd Tuesday of the month we have lunch out Club closed	



TIME FOR HEALING

The next Time for Healing Prayer Group will be held on Saturday 21st April 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. We hope to see you there.

Future meetings are planned for the following dates:

- Saturday 19th May
- Saturday 23rd June

Terry Harper

The meditation used at the March 2018 meeting was as follows:

Healing and Seasons

***Summer had inhaled and held its breath too long,
Winter looked the same, as if it never had gone....***

("Coming back to me" – (Extract) - Marty Balin)

What a long Winter it seems to have been this year, with more than our usual experience of snow and icy conditions, indeed it's still snowing as I write this piece. The bleakness of the season has been compounded for me by the unexpected passing away of one of my brothers early in the year and the loss of other friends and acquaintances during this season. During this time of sadness it has been hard to reconcile loss with God's promises to care for us, but when faith is challenged in this way it sometimes seems to require a greater focus on the eternal to bring us through.

***In the name of the King of life;
In the name of the Christ of love;
In the name of the Holy Spirit;
The Triune of my strength.***

***I love you O Lord my strength.
The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer.
My God is my rock in whom I take refuge.***

***I have set the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.***

(The Saturday Compline (Extracts) taken from
Celtic Daily Prayer-From the Northumbria Community)

Looking forward, we have just passed the Vernal Equinox, which marks the beginning of Spring in astronomical, if not meteorological, terms, and from now until the Autumn the days are longer than the nights; new shoots begin to appear and Summer is on its way.

So it is with healing and wholeness – there are times when all seems cold and bleak, and those when the sunshine and warmth seem to beckon us towards a new beginning. However the truth is that God is with us through all these seasons, the good and the bad, supporting us as we cope with the changes we experience. When we call to God in prayer we know we are heard and an answer will be given. The answer may not be all that we want or desire, but we can trust God to provide an outcome that will, in some way, be right for us and those for whom we pray. We should remember that God, in the form of Jesus Christ, took on the sin of the world that we might receive eternal life.

John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

(Taken from The Holy Bible – New International Version)

We can see Christ’s sacrifice as the ultimate healing - an offering of perfection in every way. The healing can be physical, emotional, mental or spiritual, or any combination of these. If we continue to seek Him, He will respond with help, comfort and guidance to show us the right way forward for our lives.

***Amazing love! How can it be,
that Thou my God shouldst die for me?***

(Singing the faith -345- Charles Wesley)



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 Wratlaw 557764 mob 07508164525

Steve Hockett 478772 mob 07952058251

Jane Fulford

Linda Lister

June Childs 711891

Vivien Threadgold

Miriam Gifford 716175

"Pray without ceasing" 1 Thessalonians 5: 17



Dementia Action Week 21st – 27th May

In the UK, one person develops dementia every three minutes, yet too many people feel excluded and face the disease alone.

That's why, this Dementia Action Week, we will be asking people to unite and take actions big and small to make a difference to the everyday lives of people with dementia. It could be as simple as being more patient in queues.

At Wesley our May Memory Worship takes place on 21st May so why not come along and see how you too could make a difference.



SSAFA provides lifelong support for veterans and their families. So if you've ever served in the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the British Army or the Royal Air Force, we're here for you and your family when you need help, for life. That's for both Regulars and Reserves.

Veterans with dementia club

To start on Wednesday 11th April 1pm until 4pm at Royal British Legion
7-9 Northview Dr, Southend-on-Sea, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 9NG

If you would like to attend please contact:
Michele Turner Everett
SSAFA Southend and Rochford 702 463113



Illustrated by Trudi Pipe

FLOWER ROTA FOR APRIL

- 1st Flowers given by Lou Daniels, in loving memory of her husband, George.
- 8th ❀❀❀
- 15th Flowers given by Miriam Gifford and family, in loving memory of Miriam's father, George Jones.
- 22nd ❀❀❀
- 29th ❀❀❀

FLOWER ROOM "excess stock sale"

The flower room is having an 'excess stock sale' after church on Sunday 22nd April. There will be plenty of useful items such as baskets, glass / ceramic floral containers and other accessories on sale to raise money for the flower fund.

Please come along and grab a bargain.

Annette & Sue

WESLEY MONTHLY MOVIES

Friday 20th April 2018 "The THEORY of EVERYTHING" 10.30am

Once a healthy, active young man, Stephen Hawking receives an earth-shattering diagnosis at 21 years of age just as he meets and falls in love with fellow Cambridge student Jane Wilde. With Jane fighting tirelessly by his side, Stephen embarks on his most ambitious scientific work, studying the very thing he thinks he had so little of – time. Together they defy impossible odds achieving more than anyone could ever have dreamed.

It feels fitting that we should show this film to remember the passing of this remarkable man and the place he has earned in history.

FREE EVENT

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
Dog walking	Freya	07771 643665

The poster features a purple border and a purple background at the bottom. At the top, there are colorful bunting flags in green with white polka dots, red and white stripes, and green with white polka dots. On the left side, there is a silhouette of a church steeple. In the center and right, there are silhouettes of a rabbit, a cross, and an egg. There are also colorful circular patterns on the right side. The text is centered and uses a mix of purple and green colors.

**Highlands
Methodist Church
Easter Community Day**
featuring
Southend Mencap "Showstoppers"

**Thursday 12th April
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Including
all age Easter Community Service
at 2 p.m.**

**All age Easter Craft
Showstopping performances - Singing - Puppets
Refreshments - Cake - Soup & Rolls**

- 21 -

Wesley Theatre Group

Presents:



By David McGillivray, Walter Zerlin Jr.

At Wesley Hall on Friday 13th and Sat 14th April at 7.30

Every drama group has experienced the horrors of what can go wrong on opening night, and the ladies of the F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society are no different, with the possible exception that almost everything that could happen does! The scenery collapses, cues are missed, lines forgotten, and the sound effects take on a strange note at times, as the ladies present their ambitious evening's entertainment with the cunning whodunit, "Murder At Checkmate Manor." And just in case the audience should get bored there's a Fashion Show and Murder Mystery Quiz. Unfortunately, the hall has been double booked so we rely on Mrs. Reece (Gaye Greenway) doyenne of the group, to rise above the slings and arrows of outrageous dramatics, save the situation and provide the final inventive twist.

Tickets £7.00 (£5.00 concessions) Tickets from: Isobel, Judy, Anna, Geoff, Jane, Gaye or Mrs. Reece or ring: 01702-480968

SUNDAY 1st APRIL

	11.00am	Preacher: Rev Anthony Windsor Porch: Linda Lister
Mon 2nd	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
Tues 3rd	2.00pm	Age Concern Community Club
Sat 7 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Prayer
	4.00pm	Fusion Family Service

SUNDAY 8th APRIL

	9.00am	Communion Pastor Steve Mayo
	11.00am	Preacher: Rev Anthony Windsor Porch: Richard King
Mon 9th	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
Tues 10th	2.00pm	Age Concern Community Club
Weds 11th	2.30pm	Talking Poetry – “Pam Ayres”
Fri 13th	2.00pm	Table Tennis 60+
Sat 14th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Prayer

SUNDAY 15th APRIL

	11.00am	Preacher: Mr Colin Turner Porch: Shirley Mavin
Mon 16th	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
	2.00pm	Memory Worship, Worship for those with and without Dementia

Weds 18th	9.00am	Mid-Week Communion
	10.00am	Parent & Toddler
Thurs 19th	6.00pm	Fusion Kids/Fusion Youth
Fri 20th	10.30am	Wesley Movie "The THEORY of EVERYTHING"
	2.00pm	Table Tennis 60+
Sat 21st	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Healing

SUNDAY 22nd APRIL

	11.00am	Preacher: Rev Julia Monaghan Porch: David Cox
Mon 23rd	10.00am	Wesley Art Group
Tues 24th	2.00pm	Age Concern Community Club
	8.00pm	Creative Worship
Weds 25th	10.00am	Parent & Toddler
	2.30pm	Talking Poetry – "Robert Frost"
Thurs 26th	6.00pm	Fusion Kids/Fusion Youth
Sat 28th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
	11.30am	Time for Prayer

SUNDAY 29th APRIL

	11.00am	Preacher: Mrs Jane Fulford MA Porch: Maureen Chambers
Mon 30 th	10.00am	Wesley Art Group

SUNDAY 6th MAY

	11.00am	Preacher: Rev Julia Monaghan Porch: TBA
	12.30pm	Annual Church Life Meeting

FORWARD EVENTS

Sat 7 th April	4.00-5.00pm	Next FUSION Family Service
Fri 13 th /Sat 14 th April	7.30pm	Wesley Theatre Group presents The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society "A Murder Mystery"
Sun 15 th -22 nd April		Annual Week of Accompanied Prayer
Sun 6 th May	12.30pm	Annual Church Life Meeting (ACM)
Sat 19 th May		Royal Wedding Afternoon Tea
Mon 21 st May		Memory Worship
Mon 21 st – 27 th May		Dementia Action Week
Sat 9 th June		Allegro Concert

MAY CLARION

Items for the May Clarion should be emailed to julie.peek@hotmail.co.uk
or placed in the folder outside the vestry by **FRIDAY 20th APRIL 2018**



Wesley Methodist Church is a member of **Southend and Leigh Circuit**
www.southendandleigh.org

and part of the
Beds, Essex and Herts District the Methodist Church

A dementia-friendly community is a city, town or village where people with dementia are understood, respected and supported and confident they can contribute to community life.

