

THE CLARION



Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: October 2018



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Wesley Methodist Church

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Minister's Letter



Autumn is now upon us and we thank God for giving us a good summer this year; for the warmth of the sun and the beautiful blue skies; and we celebrate all these wonderful gifts from God through our Harvest Festivals which we celebrate in our churches at this time of year; decorating them with produce and provisions from God himself.

But rapidly advancing upon us is the 'busy season' when it is so easy to get stressed with shopping for Christmas, tidying the garden and preparing it for next spring etc. and we forget that God gave us a season for everything, not just seasons of varying weather, but seasons of life.

We will all experience times of hardship, perhaps an illness ourselves or someone in the family. We might feel angry with God for something which goes wrong or when someone dies, particularly at a young age. People ask "Why has God done this?" Please be assured God does not single out anyone and hurt, annoy or embarrass them. Things go wrong in our bodies. Sometimes we know why,

but often we don't and the medical profession can't always give us the answer.

If you are reading this and are feeling that life's not good just now, remember that Jesus was born to save us all from sin and gave us God's promise of eventually having eternal life with him if we believe; an eternity where *'there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.'* [Revelation 21:4, NIV]

Life is hard and believing is not an insurance policy or a promise that life will be easy and plain sailing, but it is a promise that, through the Holy Spirit, we can cope and can receive the peace that passes all understanding. We have been given life to enjoy in all its fullness and that has nothing to do with money or possessions. God knows what we need.

So, whatever you are planning to do this coming season, include Jesus in your plans and receive his peace.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve.

News from the Pews



FOR HOPE INTERNATIONAL FEBRUARY 2019

It's that time again so please give anything you feel you would recycle/donate. The storage garage is now available, But please NO ELECTRICALS, DUVETS, PILLOWS

For more information please contact Pam Boughton – Smith on 07971785425

Thank you



The Leadership Team would love to start having periodic Sunday lunches at Wesley. We need to know who would like to come and eat and who would be willing to join a team of helpers to be called upon occasionally. If you are interested in either (or both!) please let Gabrielle Greenway or one of the Leadership Team know or sign up on the sheet in the Concourse. If there is enough support, we will take the idea forward through the Church Council.

Gabrielle Greenway



AFTERNOON TEA AND CAKES

Rewind to five years ago when Wesley was thinking of new ways forward as a church and of our new redevelopment plans. We had opportunities to write down our ideas and had discussion groups during our church services. ***One lady wanted Wesley to start a social afternoon, somewhere she could bring a friend, so they could talk together.*** Something reasonably priced. There was little for the 60+ age group so the idea of an Older Age Worker was formed. Julie Peek became Mission Enabler for Older People at Wesley and Highlands and with Rev. Julia this has developed into Monthly Film Shows, Holidaying at Home, Age Concern and Staying Steady Classes coming to Wesley and Memory Worship being established.

Four years ago Summertime Afternoon Tea and cakes began once a month from April until October. We did not know how it would evolve but it has become a safe place to meet old friends and new, a gentle outreach where each afternoon is enjoyed and looked forward to. Folk who are no longer able to worship on Sundays come and feel welcomed, they enjoy meeting with friends and it renews their strong connections to Wesley.

After a couple of months someone said, “You are making far too many cakes, Janet”. I said “Well, we do need a really good selection, so people can take a slice, or two home and you never know a coach party might turn up!” Shortly afterwards a coach party of Christians from South Korea arrived, looking for a church that was open on a Thursday afternoon. They shared refreshments and Eileen and Alison were able to let them sing their praises and prayers inside our church.

Another lady only came in whilst waiting to welcome her husband who was moving into Memory House. She needed a calm place to have a cuppa and sat near to Betty Bambury. It turned out they had worked in the same building 43 years ago at Midland Bank, later called Access, so they spent the afternoon reminiscing.

Families have been reunited and restored by coming together on these afternoons, sharing a cup of tea and talking on neutral ground. How wonderful that Wesley can provide a healing space.

Angie Dewbury, who has moved to Hadleigh, can return to Wesley and see 20-25+ people during one afternoon moving from table to table. She feels most welcome at Hadleigh Methodist Church, but Wesley is still home church.

Peggy Gaze often came and fondly remembered serving tea and meals to the troops in the Canteen Room. She

instantly knew we had moved the position on the serving hatch in the kitchen and she came alive reliving her memories.

Helpers have come forward to bake delicious cakes, make and serve tea, wash up and clear away and listen and talk with everyone who comes. There are always plenty of cakes to take home and many people share these cakes with their next-door neighbours, carers, friends and family who visit.

These afternoons are surprising, each one so different. They bring people together, providing an unhurried time for good conversation and friendship. This all happened because ***one lady from our church asked for a special time to bring her friend to share a cup of tea at Wesley.***

JANET WHIDDETT

OUR WESLEY STORIES.

The book has been so well received by us all. I wrote an article about it and sent it into the BUZZ magazine and also sent them a copy of the book. BUZZ is a monthly on-line magazine and often the editor takes your story and prints extracts. Nothing was in the September edition, but THE GOOD NEWS IS that there was an article about the ALLEGRO concert I organised to support the work at

Wesley for Older People. Well done the Concerts group for getting the publicity. My article follows.

Wesley Methodist Church, Leigh on Sea, celebrates 120 years of Service to the local community.

For 120 years Wesley Methodist Church has served the local community. The stories have recently been published in a lovely book called:

OUR WESLEY STORIES.

John Wesley himself planted Methodism in Leigh and we know this from his personal diaries. He made six recorded visits between 1748 and 1756. On December 10th, 1750 he wrote:

“Rode to Leigh and found a little company seeking God and endeavoured to encourage them in provoking one another to love and good works. “

Working back from the present over the past 120 years, which we are celebrating, here are just a few examples of service given with love and joy now and in the past.

Every third Monday afternoon we hold Memory Worship for those with and without Dementia. It is a joyful service and people come from the wider locality. It is much loved and is growing in popularity.

Six days a week we serve morning teas and coffees and offer a listening ear. In term time we hold a Parent and

Toddler group every Wednesday morning and this has been going a very long time.

In the summer months we hold monthly Summer afternoon teas for the Over Sixties, priced at only £1, as one of our guests said that was all she could afford, but wanted to pay.

Every month we hold Time for Healing, which is one of our Time for Prayer Saturday morning weekly sessions.

Some of us work at the Circuit Night shelter, very ably led by Andrew Hyde, a member at another circuit church, Highlands. Janet Watson, also of Highlands, is our team leader and we have a team of cooks from the two churches and we welcome guests, serve wonderful meals and eat with our guests, then later put out the beds for the night and some serve breakfast in the morning. WE HAVE SHOWERS! It is wonderful to see guests coming out with clean hair and feeling so good. Janet even dries hair, and this has reduced me to tears watching her tenderly blow drying a young girl's hair.

OUR WESLEY STORIES

has an abundance of examples going back over so many years. During World war two Rev. Greville Lewis started a canteen for servicemen billeted in the area. A vast quantity of meals was served to men of many nationalities

including British and Polish soldiers in the canteen room, which was also set up with bunks.

In the 1980's and well into the 90's Ivy Harnden and her team served Christmas lunch after the Christmas morning service followed by a social afternoon and tea for 40 plus guests. A real Family gathering.

Eileen Simmons 24. 8. 18 and updated 12 .9.18.

REPRINTS.

- I kept a very careful list of anyone, who asked me for an extra copy of Our Wesley Stories and have been able to complete every request.
- Margaret Cotgrove wrote a couple of weeks ago and suggested there were still people who were asking for extra copies.
- Paul Mc Dowell kindly organised the printing and I have spoken to him and he is willing to organise a reprint if needed.
- I am giving a deadline of Sunday October 28 for orders to me please. There will be a sign up sheet in the concourse and you may ring or e mail me by that date.
- Cost will be between £3 to £4 according to numbers needed.

- Please do not expect any flexibility in dates, as I must give numbers to Paul.

Eileen Simmons

01702 472521 eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

COMING UP



TEL: 01702 345373

Age Concern Community Club

Wesley Methodist Church Elm Rd Leigh Tuesdays 2 – 4pm

Dates for the Diary

Tues 2 nd Oct	Quiz and Games – Wesley
Tues 9 th Oct	Speaker – “Rock and Roll will never die” Buddy Holly, Elvis, Johnny Cash and more. Wesley
Tues 16 th Oct	Afternoon Tea Chalkwell Park 1 – 3.30pm. £15, includes entertainment

Tues 23 rd Oct	Speaker – Ghostwriter, journalist and author . <i>Writing your Memoirs.</i> Wesley
Tues 30 th Oct	Quiz and Games Wesley
Every 3rd Tuesday of the month we have lunch out Club closed	

Concerts At Wesley

Well here we are at the end of our summer season and the first year! There is evidence to suggest that the concerts have made an impact on the numbers entering the church and their perception of it

The last concert was by the Famous Potatoes for which the attendance was less than hoped for. This may have been because of the start of the holiday season and the band may not have had the following that we hoped for. The main purpose of the concert was met in that it was at the request of Julia and she and Sam were able to attend, and we raised money for causes with which they had been involved

As far as outside concerts are concerned that have fitted in well. We have found that the outside organisations are more than happy to work within The Concerts at Wesley concept

The Autumn Programme is set out below

13th October Leigh and Southend Salvation Army Bands with The Orpheus Singers

Music to celebrate Wesley's 120 years and the end of WW1. Funds raised for the work of Wesley and the Salvation Army in the community. Tickets £5

14th October The Southend Woodwind Band

17th November James Lewys with Songs from the Golden Era of the 40's and 50's to raise funds for the work of the church including work with older people , young people and those with Dementia. Tickets £8

1st December Gaudeamus Choir

2nd December The Da Capo Singers and The Orpheus Singers with a celebration of the Christmas Story. Free with a retiring collection for the work of the church

15th December The Show Choir Christmas Concert

Programmes for the Wesley organised concerts are in place for Spring 2019 and Summer 2019. Work has commenced on the Autumn 2019 programme. If you would like to make suggestions, please let us know

However as far as Wesley Concerts are concerned the group needs more support and resources form within the church starting with the CC and CLT in the following areas. We do not have any spare capacity

- Helping on the night particularly in serving refreshment
- Selling tickets-to anybody, friends, families and outside groups that use the church
- People who have come before have gone away having heard some wonderful performers which people have enjoyed at a reasonable cost without travelling far. Come and Join us. Remember concerts are good for your well being

The Concerts at Wesley Group



On the evening of **Leigh Lights Friday 30th November 2018** at Wesley Methodist Church, Elm Road between 5.30pm – 7.45pm there will be a range of Christmas Trees on display. The making of Christmas trees is open to all Church activities and all hirers if you wish to take part. In 2017 you were wonderful. Here is a reminder of the details:

Size	Anything up to 3 feet or 90 centimetres and must be fire resistant
Lights	We can accommodate and would like some electric lights, but they must have a modern safety cut out device. We would like a mix of lit and unlit trees.
Card	At the base of each tree I would ask you to type out your main activities, a contact number or email and the time you meet for display.
Assembly	To make it more accessible for you may I suggest that at your meeting before Leigh Lights Night you create the decorated tree and either put it in the gallery or lobby of the church. Only a few Christmas Trees may be put up before Thursday 29 th November as there is an event in the church but on Friday 30 th November the church will be open all day for assembly.
Dismantling	The trees will remain up on the Saturday and for Sunday morning worship. At the time of assembly, it would be advantageous if we could

arrange a mutually convenient time
for you to take the tree down.



For more information please contact
Jane on 01702 714213

Summer time tea and cake afternoon

Once a month for 60+
Thursday afternoon 2-4pm



October 25th, 2018
£1 for tea/coffee or soft drink with a choice of
delicious cakes
Wesley Methodist Church, Elm Road,
Leigh on Sea.

Flower rota for October.

7th - Harvest festival

14th - Flowers given by Michael Bucke, in loving memory of his wife Rita.

21st - Flowers given by Joy Milner and the family in loving memory of Paddy and Derek Milner and Elsie and Sid Beazley (Joy's parents)

28th - 

Annette Charnock

WESLEY PRAYER **CHAIN/PRAYER FOR YOU**

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

Isobel Wratishlaw 557764 mob 07508164525

Steve Hockett 478772 mob 07952058251

Jane Fulford

Linda Lister

June Childs 711891

June Childs 711891

Vivien Threadgold 713325

Miriam Gifford 716175



TIME FOR HEALING

Time for Healing – the next Time for Healing Prayer Group will be held on Saturday 20th October 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. Future meetings are planned for the following dates:

- November 17th
- December 8th

We hope to see you there.

Terry Harper

REGULAR SERVICES AND

EVENTS AT WESLEY

Sundays

7th October worship at 11am led by Pastor Steve Mayo

(Harvest Festival)

14th October – Early Morning Communion at 9am –
Pastor Steve Mayo

14th October worship at 11am led by Pastor Steve/Emery
(United Service)

21st October worship at 11am led by Mr Colin Turner

28th October worship at 11am led by Mr Bob Briant

11am The Zone – All young people welcome

9am - Communion – 2nd Sunday in the month – All are
welcome

Mondays

10am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome

10 am – Wesley Art Group in Room 3

2pm – Memory Worship, Worship for those with and
without Dementia – 3rd Monday in month. – Church space

8pm – Wesley Theatre Group – Wesley Hall – All are welcome

Tuesdays

10am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome

2pm - Age Concern Community

1:30pm – Every 3rd Tuesday Leigh Afternoon WI

8pm - Creative Workshop – Church Space – every 4th Tuesday in the month – All are welcome

Wednesdays

10 am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome

10 am – Parent and Toddler – Canteen room 2:30 pm – (Term Time only) There will be no Parent and Toddler on the 24th October, as this is half term week.

Talking Poetry – Canteen room at 2:30 pm – Dates for October are as follows:

10th October – Wendy Cope

24th October – John Donne

Choose any poem by the gift poet or subject – All are welcome.

6pm – St John Ambulance – Youth Hall and Room 2

7:30- Cameo House group meets on the 3rd Wed in homes of members, please contact Jane Fulford for more information.

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Thursdays

10 am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome

6 pm – Fusion Kids (School Terms Yrs 1 – 6)

6pm – Fusion Youth (School Terms Yr 6 plus)

8pm – Thursday Call – Every 3rd Thursday in the month

Fridays

10 am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome

2pm – Table Tennis 60+ - Wesley Hall (for further details please email: marjoriecharnock@icloud.com) There will be no Table Tennis 60+ session on the 26th October as this is half-term week.

Saturdays

10am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome

11:30 am – Time for Prayer – Vestry – All are welcome

11:30 am – Time for Healing – Church Space – All are welcome (Dates are in Terry's new's flash)

Editors information

Please could I have all items for the November Clarion by Friday 19th October 2018. If you would like to donate towards to cost of The Clarion, there will be a plate out during the Coffee Shop mornings and on a Sunday morning, should anyone wish to donate.

Judy Taylor

**Wesley Methodist
Southend and Leigh**



Church is a member of
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.

