

THE CLARION



Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: March 2019



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Wesley Methodist Church

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MINISTER'S LETTER



Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *'lencten'*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin His ministry.

Traditionally, Lent has been all about giving things up, and over the years people have given up all sorts of things like chocolate, sweets, deserts, and even more recently Facebook and other social media activities!

I think giving things up *can* be helpful if it focuses our thoughts and prayers on our preparation for the arrival of Easter.

But I don't believe that Lent should be a time for *just* giving things up, but also for taking things up!

Sometimes, I think when we *really* look at our lives and the time we spend with our Lord, we can often come to the conclusion that we've fasting all year since the last Lenten season, or even longer; fasting our prayer life, fasting our daily devotional time, fasting our giving?

So, my prayer for all of us, me included, is that this Lenten season we would take some things up, and really prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And as we grow in our knowledge and personal relationship with Him, Easter will be a far greater experience for us as we commune and bring ourselves into His presence in this time of preparation and confession.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells us; ¹⁶ *Rejoice always,* ¹⁷ ***pray continually,*** ¹⁸ *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*' [NIVUK]

Every blessing,
Pastor Steve

News from the Pews

Finance Figures Update

As at 31st January 2019, we are running at a £3K deficit. At the time of writing, we have not yet paid the £11K required for the Circuit assessment. **Our average weekly income, so far, is £2,200 with an average weekly expenditure of £2,355.** The income from letting our halls is, by far, our biggest income source however, at a current cost of £28,800, the expenditure associated with the Property i.e. insurance, repairs & maintenance, cleaners, property co-ordinator, utilities etc, this is also our largest expenditure outside of the Circuit assessment which is currently just under £45K per annum and is expected to go up next year. Our current predicted annual income from Sunday offerings and bank standing orders, plus gift aid, is just under £32,500, a shortfall of around £13K.

Tina Gowers.

Following the printing of Maureen Hall's Wesley story, she received this letter from

Alie Wainwright

Dear Maureen

Thank you so much for writing your article in the Wesley Church 120th anniversary newsletter which was sent on by my cousin Susan

My mother was Rosa Johnson. She is now 94 and lives in a nursing home in Taunton. Until 6 months ago she was unable to recall things well and take part in conversation although she is physically very frail. Sadly, over the past months her memory has failed. I have not seen her as bright and talkative for many months as she was after I read your newsletter. She seemed to remember both you and Jill and certainly Jill's grandfather with his pocket watch triggered many memories. She recalled Revd. Lewis, Freda Cotgrove and Elsie Clacket.

Rosa married Arthur/Andrew/Sam Clarke (he used several names depending on which group he was with) in 1956 and had 2 girls Honor and Alie. She worked as a teacher of home economics and crafts often teaching adults in both Southampton and Bath. My parents moved to Taunton

about 20 years ago to be close to my sister and sadly my father died suddenly 14 years ago. Subsequently Mother had several falls and lost her mobility, so she moved to a residential home where she was happy until 4 years ago. Due to needing more care she moved to her current home.

Her sister Margaret married and lived in London, she had 3 sons, one of whom had kidney failure and only lived till 11. Margaret died in her early 50s. Like you our family will always have a link to Wesley as my great grandfather built the church and one of the windows has a dedication to mother's cousin Honor Chamberlain.

I have 3 children and Honor has one daughter. We both work, Honor as a solicitor and I am a GP in Training.

I am sure it took you a while to write your article, but it was most appreciated by our family as it stimulated mother so well.

Best Wishes

Alie Wainwright

WESLEY CHARITY NEWS

As reported in our February Clarion we sent a total of £ 854.63 to Action for Children after Christmas. 2019 is their 150-year anniversary and I have received a personal thank you (on the notice board) addressed to us all from Tyler, who is our area fund raiser. He came to our first Allegro concert to talk about AfC's work.

Action for Children Sunday is on July 14th 2019 and there will be a special collection in addition to our normal collection that day.

NB: Action for Children used to be called National Children's Home or NCH.

Eileen Simmons

CONCERT AT WESLEY GROUP: (CAW)

Saturday, 9th February 2019 saw the Elvis Concert take place in the Sanctuary space of the church though, beforehand the group expressed some initial reservations as to how this type of popular music would go down within the local community and congregation.

Thankfully, all of our early fears were very quickly dispelled

as, Michael Glaysher, in his guise of Elvis, provided an extremely upbeat and energetic performance to an audience of more than 100 people on the night. Such was the reaction that if you closed your eyes for a moment, you could be forgiven for believing that you were being entertained by the 'King' himself.

Throughout the evening more and more members of the audience including, our own church members, began dancing in the available spaces at the back and in both sides of the room as Michael went through the repertoire of Elvis's most famous and popular songs.

Needless to say the evening turned out to being a huge success which was enjoyed by everyone present.

In addition, several church members were approached by a number of people who were setting foot into the building for the first time, to comment on the warm welcome received and most of all, on the beauty and community friendly design of the building whilst retaining many of the features of a traditional church they would expect to find.

Like everything however, the success of the concert on the night was down to the hard work, help and support provided by a number of people working together in the background. As such, the CAW group would like to show their appreciation and thanks to:

Anna Wratishaw for her great work in the designing of the banner and leaflets and in the PR and Marketing of the concert to a range of organisations.

Jane Fulford, Annette Jarvis, Mary King and Janice Bertie for the many wonderful cakes they baked and for providing the refreshments for more than 100 attendees and for taking on kitchen duties.

Eileen and Geoff for taking on door and other duties in their usual efficient, friendly and welcoming way.

Alan Severn, who, cheerfully as always dealt with enquiries about the concert during the weeks leading up to it and for ensuring that the heating system worked as it should on the night.

Finally, our biggest thanks go out to all of those people including the large contingent of our Wesley Family for their support by attending the concert and helping us to raise just over £1000 in total. Without this great support, the overall profit of £810 towards the work of our church in the community of Leigh, could not have succeeded.

We now move on to our next concert on the 9th March 2019, which features the Southend Coop Jazz Band.
CAW Group

COMING UP



TEL: 01702 345373

Age Concern Community Club

Wesley Methodist Church Elm Rd Leigh Tuesdays 2 – 4pm

Tues 5 th March	Speaker – Historian Writer – any contributions will be donated to Age Concern Wesley
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Tues 12 th March	Quiz and Games Wesley
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Tues 19 th March	Afternoon Tea – Chalkwell Park 1.30 – 3.30. £15 per ticket. Plus, live entertainment.
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Tues 26 th March	Quiz and Games Wesley
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Every 3rd Tuesday of the month we have lunch out Club closed

LIVING DISCIPLESHIP LENT COURSE

LIVING DISCIPLESHIP LENT COURSE

IN THIS COURSE WE WILL EXPLORE WAYS OF LIVING OUT DISCIPLESHIP IN THE WIDER WORLD THROUGH THE LENS OF CHAPLAINCY AND OTHER MISSION-BASED MINISTRIES.

THIS COURSE IS FOR YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP YOUR CONFIDENCE IN SHARING YOUR FAITH WITH OTHERS THROUGH CONVERSATION AND SERVICE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Lent starts - Wed 6th March Worship academy
week 1- 13th March- Lent course
week 2- 20th March- Lent course
Week 3- 27th March- Lent course
week 4- 3rd April Worship Academy (lent course paused this week)
week 5- 10th April- Lent course
Week 6- 17th April- Lent course
Lent finishes Saturday 20th April

Venue: Highlands Methodist Church 7:30pm - 9:15pm with refreshments

Please sign up by emailing luke.dobson@me.com

Concerts at Wesley
Elm Road Leigh-on-Sea

Saturday 9th March 7.30p.m.

SOUTHEND

JAZZ

CO-OPERATIVE



A Concert of Big Band Jazz

featuring a range of jazz standards from Gershwin, Rogers and Hart, Cole Porter to a variety of jazz classics from composers as varied as Charles Mingus, Miles Davis, Horace Silver and Cannonball Adderley

**Tickets £8 available on the door, from the Band,
Wesleyconcerts@outlook.com, 01702558205
and 01702551948**

TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE WORK OF THE
CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY

Wesley Theatre Group
presents



Bothered & Bewildered

A play by Gail Young

**Fri 12th &
Sat 13th April**
at 7.30pm

Tickets: £7
Box Office:
01702 480968




including a retiring collection for Alzheimer's Society
Wesley Hall | Wesley Methodist Church
Elm Road | Leigh-on-Sea



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Flower Rota for March

3rd March – 

10th March – Flowers given by Rupert, Janice and Alex Bertie in loving memory of his father, Edwin, his mother, Ann, brother Charles and brother in law, Adrian.

17th March – Flowers given by Annette Jarvis in loving memory of her husband, Arthur.

24th March – 

31st march – Flowers given by Lou Daniels, in loving memory of her husband, George.

A message from Annette

I would like to say Thank you to all those that have supported the changes we had to make recently regarding the flower rota. I am confident that we shall be able to accommodate most people that wish to give flowers. On that note, I would like to mention that the weeks where we have no donors, we are still aiming to put flowers in the church. That does diminish our funds somewhat, so I am asking if you would kindly consider making a small donation towards the Easter flowers.

If you wish to do so, please can you let either Sue or myself know. Thank you, 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

Vivien Threadgold 713325

Miriam Gifford 716175



TIME FOR HEALING

The next Time for Healing Prayer Group will be held on Saturday 16th March 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 the 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.

Further meetings are currently planned for the following dates:

- April 13th
- May 18th
- June 22nd
- July 20th
- August - no meeting
- September 21st
- October 19th
- November 16th
- December 14th

Terry Harper

REGULAR SERVICES AND **EVENTS AT WESLEY**

Sundays

11am - 3rd March - Sacrament of the Lord's Supper –
Preacher Pastor Steve Mayo.

9am – 10th March – Sacrament of the Lord's Supper-
Preacher Pastor Steve Mayo.

11am – 10th March – Preacher E. Simmons.

11am – 17th March – Local Arrangement.

5:30pm – 17th March – Inspire Contemporary Worship.

11am – 24rd March – Preacher Rev S Watts.

11am – 31st March – Preacher Rev B Gameson.

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

Tuesday House Group will resume on the 5th February 2019

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 – Talking Poetry – Canteen room at 2:30 pm –

Dates for March are as follows:

13th Mar– Spring

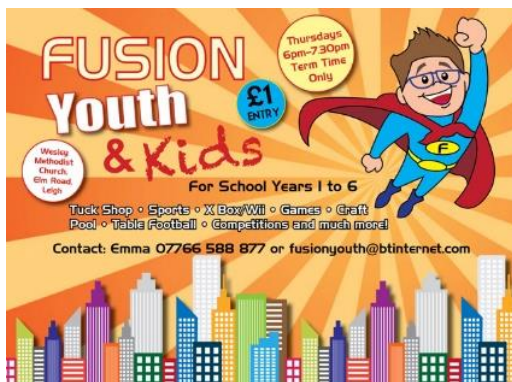
27th Mar – Ted Hughes (Poet Laureate)

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.

Thursdays

10 am – Coffee Shop Morning – Foyer – All are welcome
6 pm – Fusion Kids (School Terms Yrs 1 – 6)



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)

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 (see page 18 for details)

Editors information

Please could I have all items for the April Clarion by Friday 22nd March 2019. 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 – ukspud@talktalk.net

**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.

