

# THE CLARION

“If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart, I'll stay there forever.”  
- Winnie the Pooh



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

## Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: May 2020



Twitter: @leighwesleyMC



Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Wesley Website: [www.wesleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.wesleymethodist.org.uk)

# Content Page

Contact Information ..... **3**

Ministers’ Letter ..... **4-5**

News from the Pews..... **6-13**

Coming up soon.....

Wesley Prayer Chain..... **14**

Time for Healing ..... **14**

Editor’s extra and information ..... **15-16**

**Wesley Methodist Church**

76 Elm Road, Leigh on Sea, Essex, SS91SJ

**Minister in Charge: Pastor Stephen Mayo**

1 Oakview Close, Leigh-on-Sea, SS94JN Tel: (01702)  
483827

Email: [pastorstevemayo@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstevemayo@gmail.com)

**Fusion Link: Emma Hearn**

Tel: 07766 588877

Email: [fusionyouth@btinternet.com](mailto:fusionyouth@btinternet.com)

**Lettings: Alan Severne:** Tel 01702 711851

[lettings@wesleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:lettings@wesleymethodist.org.uk)

**Church Steward: Isobel Wratishaw** Tel 01702 557764

**Church Council Secretary: Judy Taylor**

[ccsec@wesleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:ccsec@wesleymethodist.org.uk)

**The Notices: Trudi Pipe** [notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk)

**Treasurer: Tina Gowers** [tinagowers@sky.com](mailto:tinagowers@sky.com)

## **MINISTER'S LETTER**



I sit writing this letter mid-April just before Easter, wondering what the month of May will hold for us as a church and as a nation.

It's been very strange and quite disheartening us not being able to meet together, and only having conversations with folk over the phone or over the internet. (video chats)

And I'm sure we'll all be pretty fed up by now with phrases like:

- Self-isolation!
- Social distancing!
- Now wash your hands!

Strings of words we'd never heard of before until just a few weeks ago! (Well, hopefully not; 'Now wash your hands!!!')

But even in this period when many of us have been spending a lot of time on our own, we've still been in the presence of God.

This is one of His many promises to us in the Bible.

Deuteronomy 31:6 reads; *'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.'*

[NIV] and Joshua 1:5; *'As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.'* [NIV]

So, even though there may have been times when we have felt very lonely, lost or deserted, our God has been with us. Let us look forward with this knowledge with hope and confidence in our God.

Hopefully it won't be too long before we can meet back together as a community of God's people... if we haven't already!

Until then, stay safe.

Every blessing,

**Pastor Steve, May 2020**

Tel: 01702 483827

Email: [pastorstevemayo@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstevemayo@gmail.com)

## **NEWS FROM THE PEWS**

'Thanks to decisive action by Southend Borough Council and support from a Christian charity, more than 100 local homeless people and rough sleepers have been given a place of safety and regular food for the duration of the present Coronavirus crisis.

SBC, acting partly through associated charitable organisations LoveSouthend, Street Spirit and OneLove, is funding single-room bed and breakfast accommodation in Southend to provide necessary isolation to local citizens who would otherwise find this impossible.

Meanwhile the Westcliff branch of a Catholic church charity St Vincent de Paul (SVP [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk) ) is funding lunchtime and evening meals to be prepared and delivered by volunteers, including local Methodist church members.

The crisis first arose in March, when the annual Southend Churches Winter Night Shelter (WNS) project was 2 weeks from ending. The national 'lockdown' measures meant that many of the WNS volunteers, being themselves classified 'vulnerable' were unable to serve. At the same time church premises were closing down. Local SVP member Daniel Cauchi grasped the nettle and put together an unused building (let without charge as a 'pop-up' shelter) in Short

Street, Southend with a recruitment programme for volunteers.

The success of the Short St Shelter was short lived. There were more people needing accommodation than anticipated. As the shelter became overcrowded SBC accepted responsibility and found B&B accommodation for all. Short St now provides evening meals 4 days a week. One Love covers 3 other evenings in the week. HARP and The Storehouse ([www.harpsouthend.org.uk](http://www.harpsouthend.org.uk) and [www.storehouse.org.uk](http://www.storehouse.org.uk)) provide lunches.

Andrew Hyde

# **UPDATE FROM TREASURER**

## **March Figures**

Income	£20,088.20
Expenditure	£8,273.31
Net	£11,814.89

## **Year to date**

Income	£76,226.99
Expenditure	£54,933.95
Net	£23,293.04

Tina Gowers



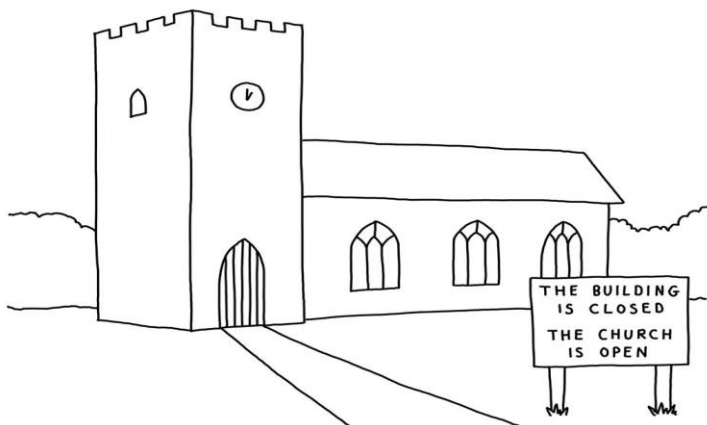
## Wesley's Financial Situation during Covid-19.

During the period of coronavirus our church will be closed for a number of weeks and potentially months. This will mean a significant drop in our income both from the offertory on Sunday and from our room hire which amounts to around £6,200 per month. Our insurance does not cover this. If you are able and willing please think about making an additional ad hoc donation however large or small. Bank details are:

Account Name: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Sort Code: 09-01-52

Account No: 15898702



CartoonChurch.com

## **Work without Hope**

By Samuel Taylor Coleridge

*Lines Composed 21st February 1825*

All Nature seems at work. Slugs leave their lair—  
The bees are stirring—birds are on the wing—  
And Winter slumbering in the open air,  
Wears on his smiling face a dream of Spring!  
And I the while, the sole unbusy thing,  
Nor honey make, nor pair, nor build, nor sing.

Yet well I ken the banks where amaranths blow,  
Have traced the fount whence streams of nectar flow.  
Bloom, O ye amaranths! bloom for whom ye may,  
For me ye bloom not! Glide, rich streams, away!  
With lips unbrightened, wreathless brow, I stroll:  
And would you learn the spells that drowse my soul?  
Work without Hope draws nectar in a sieve,  
And Hope without an object cannot live.



# **WESLEY CHARITY NEWS April 2020** **APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE** **SOUTHEND FOODBANK: Easter 2020**

**Matthew 25 verse 35 “For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat .....**”

## **BC: BEFORE COVID – 19**

We had a Southend Foodbank collection basket at our church – the foods they needed most were identified in the church notices – there was a rota of Wesley family volunteers who delivered donations to the Foodbank – the pre-school often joined in with us – and individuals sent money.

## **NOW, MONEY IS NEEDED –**

We are not able to collect and take donations of food, but still want to help the community in this important outreach work. Perhaps we might get a wider response by making an appeal?

Do you have a local neighbourhood group? We have a wonderful group that we belong to and we will give them a

copy of this letter inviting their help. Could you contact five others please?

## **WAYS OF GIVING:**

You can make cheques payable to Southend Foodbank and post them to:

- Southend Foodbank, Friendship House, 484, Southchurch Road, Southend SS1 2QA
- Or by bank transfer to:

Bank Name: Lloyds Bank plc    Acc. Name: Southend Foodbank    Sort Code: 30 65 22    Acc. No, 75600360

Remember the “widow’s mite” is equally needed along with larger donations. If you send a cheque, please write ‘Wesley Methodist Church’ on the back. We are unlikely to know the total raised, but please pass on the invitation to give as widely as possible.

Pastor Steve is sending letters to local supermarkets inviting their support.

**These are difficult times and it could be that you or members of your family have been affected badly and**

**are not in a position to give any money at all. I apologise for contacting you.**

Southend Foodbank needs our support more than ever. Please do what you are able.

Every Blessing

Eileen Simmons



---

## **Together Whilst Apart**

We are initiating a number of ways to continue to support each other and the wider community during the coronavirus pandemic; ways to stay together whilst apart. This list is available on the church website ([www.wesleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.wesleymethodist.org.uk)) along with a list of other online services available from various denominations.

## **Joining together in Worship**

You are invited to join in worship together whilst apart, by watching Sunday Worship on BBC1 on a Sunday morning. The times change weekly so please keep an eye out!

Pastor Steve also put together a number of services, available online, over the Easter period. We also initiated "Palms in the Post" - Palm Crosses were sent out where possible; if you have not received one and would like to be sent one, please just get in touch - drop an email to [communications@wesleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:communications@wesleymethodist.org.uk)



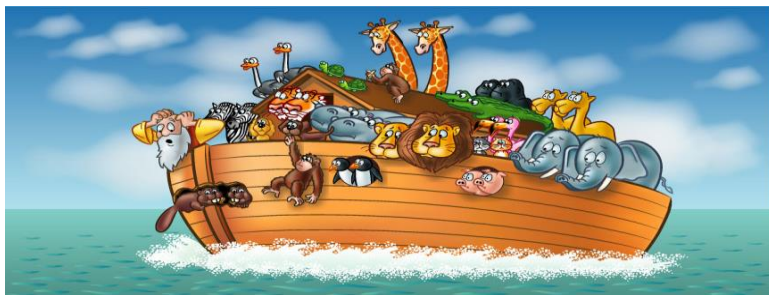
---

## **Noah's ark knitting**

Enjoy knitting? Help us create Noah's ark! Please email [communications@wesleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:communications@wesleymethodist.org.uk) for part of the pattern - we'll allocate various parts of the pattern (different animals etc) and then bring all the parts together once the church is able to reopen.

## Noah's ark salt dough

Help us create Noah's ark out of salt dough! Create a pair of animals and then we'll bring them all together when the church is reopened. Fusion Youth & Kids and Fusion+ will be joining in this, but all are welcome to take part!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

---

## Rainbow Pictures

Why not take part in the nationwide initiative to draw/paint a rainbow?! We will display them all together once the church is able to reopen.



Isobel and Anna Wratlslaw

## **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 Wratishaw 557764 mob 07508164525

Jane Fulford

Linda Lister

June Childs 711891

Vivien Threadgold 713325

Miriam Gifford 716175



## **TIME FOR HEALING**

**Time for Healing** – In common with most other church activities the Time for Healing Prayer Group is suspended until further notice. We will continue to pray for healing for all at this uncertain time.



# **SOUTHEND EMERGENCY FUND**

With the CoronaVirus affecting all our lives a new organisation has been set up in Southend. It is the **Southend Emergency Fund**. It can be contacted through [info@southendemergencyfund.org.uk](mailto:info@southendemergencyfund.org.uk) and there is a website [www.southendemergencyfund.org.uk](http://www.southendemergencyfund.org.uk)

Southend Emergency Fund were created so the most vulnerable in the Southend Borough can obtain the financial help they need to get them through this difficult time. SEF is using existing organisations, agencies, community groups and charities who are already in touch with those most at risk. This will be the fastest route to get help where it is needed. SEF will be able to direct funds to whichever channels are able to remain open to support those needing help.

How can we help?

Two ways:

1. Identify local charities that serve the less fortunate whose workload has increased due to the virus and may need financial support. If you know of any

charities that may need help, please contact the email address above.

2. You can make a financial donation. With the impact of the virus expected to last for quite a long time, the need for support can only increase.

Thank you

Geoff Fulford



## The Good Samaritan Parable

D	F	X	T	I	L	R	O	A	D	X	Z	D	G	D
T	S	I	R	H	C	O	M	O	P	C	H	O	C	Y
E	Y	N	R	X	I	Z	R	M	D	R	S	O	X	F
L	T	P	T	J	X	E	E	D	D	N	T	G	U	W
B	K	Q	N	H	N	L	V	O	J	I	O	Q	Q	R
A	I	X	D	Z	A	M	G	E	X	J	R	K	F	R
R	N	H	V	S	D	O	X	Z	S	F	Y	P	H	I
A	D	O	U	R	T	S	A	M	A	R	I	T	A	N
P	N	R	U	A	H	R	R	Q	J	E	S	U	S	N
J	E	R	I	C	H	O	S	E	H	T	O	L	C	E
J	S	A	F	Z	D	Q	O	F	J	Y	N	H	N	K
T	S	R	H	P	L	Y	J	E	W	I	S	H	L	K
B	L	E	V	I	T	E	J	A	N	Z	D	A	U	I
O	Z	W	T	M	V	C	S	D	A	Q	W	V	A	L
T	P	S	E	G	A	D	N	A	B	C	A	L	N	U

BANDAGES

JERUSALEM

SAMARITAN

CHRIST

JESUS

STORY

CLOTHES

JEWISH

THIEVES

GOD

KINDNESS

WALK

GOOD

LEVITE

INN

PARABLE

JERICO

ROAD

<http://sunday-schoollessons.blogspot.com/>

# Editors information

Please could I have all items for the June Clarion by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

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](mailto:ukspud@talktalk.net)

**Wesley Methodist  
Southend and Leigh**



and part of the

**Beds, Essex and Herts District the Methodist Church**

**Church is a member of  
Circuit**

[www.southendandleigh.org](http://www.southendandleigh.org)

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.

