

THE CLARION



Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: April 2021



Twitter: @leighwesleyMC



Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Wesley Website: www.wesleymethodist.org.uk

Content Page

Contact Information **3**

Minister's Letter **4-5**

News from the Pews..... **6-18**

Coming up soon.....

Wesley Prayer Chain..... **19**

Time for Healing **19**

Editor's information **20**

Wesley Methodist Church - 76 Elm Road, Leigh on Sea,
Essex, SS9 1SJ

Minister in Charge: Pastor Stephen Mayo-1 Oakview
Close, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 4JN
Tel: (01702) 483827

Email: pastorstevemayo@gmail.com

Fusion Link: Emma Hearn

Tel: 07766 588877

Email: fusionyouth@btinternet.com

Lettings: Alan Severne: Tel 01702 711851

lettings@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Church Council Secretary: Judy Taylor

ccsec@wesleymethodist.org.uk

The Notices: Trudi Pipe

notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Treasurer: Tina Gowers - 17 The Crest, Leigh on Sea,
SS9 5NJ -Tel 01702 528674

tinagowers@sky.com

MINISTER'S LETTER



Easter, that wonderful time of the year when we can remember the sacrifice of Jesus for each of us and celebrate our risen Saviour all in the same weekend!

Unlike last year, and for those who feel they can, we are able to attend a live service in our churches on Easter Sunday morning and thereafter, although still under the strict Covid-19 restrictions of social distancing, masks and unfortunately, no singing still!

This may make our Easter celebrations feel a bit staid this year. It will be great to actually see each other, but it will feel different from Easter's past.

I will still be producing a YouTube service, and along with churches using Zoom for their services, we'll still be able to have a good sing at home.

This had been a very difficult year. But hopefully us returning to church on 4th April will be the start of new and exciting things to come.

God hasn't finished with us yet!

And as we ponder what our churches will look like when we are fully open, may we pray that God would show us new opportunities for us to serve Him in the coming days. May He open our eyes to new ministry opportunities both inside our churches, and outside.

Pope Francis once said; *"We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence."*

This has been a dark year, but as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the Light of the World, may we shine for Him and illumine the way for others.

[If you had a booking system at your church before this last lockdown, you will need to follow the same procedure to book your place for Easter Sunday.]

Easter blessings,
Pastor Steve
pastorstevemayo@gmail.com
01702 483827

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

February 2021

Income £1,382.59
Expenditure £8,453.92

Net -£ 7,071.33

February 2020

£10,739.07
£14,313.44

-£3,574.37

6 months to 28th February

Income £32,591.88
Expenditure £63,080.79 (Boilers)

Net -£30,488.91

£56,507.85
£47,290.18

-£9,217.67

Many Thanks

Tina

Have you become, or stopped being, a taxpayer? Have you moved recently?

April is the time of year when I put in our Gift Aid tax claim. With everything that has been going on, the church really needs every penny we can get and, by gift aiding your offerings, donations etc you get to give a further 25% free. For every £1 you have given, we can claim a further 25p back from HMRC assuming that you pay enough tax to cover our claim, i.e. If you have given / donated £100 over the past tax year, we can claim back a further £25, assuming that you have paid more than £25 tax during the year. It's a good way of making your tax, that you have to pay, come to the church and not HMRC.

With not seeing anyone this year, if your circumstances have changed, and you are **no longer** a taxpayer, please let me know so that I do not put in a claim for you. If I claim, and you have not paid enough tax, you may get an invoice for the claim.

On the other hand, if your circumstances have changed and you **are now** a taxpayer, please let me know so that I can send you a gift aid form so that I can claim.

When signing up for Gift Aid you confirm that: -

“I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.”

The form also asks: -

Please notify your Gift Aid Secretary if you:

- o Want to cancel this declaration
- o **Change your name or home address**
- o No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or Capital gains.

So, if you have moved, and not told me, please let me know your new address as HMRC cross reference this.

Please let me know if anything has changed, by 10th April 2021.

TinaGowers@sky.com
07713179111
01702 528674 (Sky shield)
17 The Crest, Eastwood, SS9 5NJ

CHRISTIAN HOPE INTERNATIONAL **JUMBLE SALE 2021**

As you may remember it was with great regret that this event was cancelled because of the pandemic. This would have been the 18th Year that Pam and family had organised the event, raising thousands of pounds.



BUT THAT IS NOT ALL

Pam and her family along with a few others have been walking 500 miles, socially distanced of course, to raise money for this very worthy organisation. Although Covid19 has been on all our minds, alas Malaria is still very prevalent in parts of Africa and recent outbreaks have killed many. Any money raised will go to provide the medicines to prevent deaths from this disease.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
THANK YOU, THANK YOU THANK YOU

YOUR GENEROSITY IS AMAZING

OVER £1,350 has been raised.

‘YOU HAVE SAVED LIVES’

Carman, an organiser for Christian Hope International and a helper at the Jumble sales was overwhelmed by the response and almost cried saying the words above.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
THANK YOU, THANK YOU THANK YOU

May God Bless you all.

Pam and family

Pastoral Newsletter as of March 19th.

Keith Threadgold continues to recover after having been in hospital with COVID.

Miriam Gifford is very optimistic. We had a lovely call this week and she is having a blood test today to see if the inflammation of her liver has gone down, and if so, she hopes to go back into hospital next week for the extra planned chemotherapy.

Adrian Gravatt continues to recover from his slow fracture.

Marjorie writes, " We are pleased to tell you that Jean Turner will be returning to her home in Oakham Court on Monday 22nd March. She is feeling much better after her respite stay at Sandringham care home. We continue to hold Jean in our prayers with love and affection".

Messages here in Pastoral News always have permission to be included from the individuals concerned. I am sometimes told information about an individual, who is having a medical investigation or treatment, and if I forget to ask whether I may include it in the Clarion then there is not an entry. Some individuals prefer privacy.

Pastoral visitors continue to do a great job as we all realise that we are all seeing far fewer people from our church family and many are finding it all very tough. I encourage all of us to keep phoning each other.

Grace and Peace, Eileen Simmons, Pastoral Co-ordinator
472521.



Wendy Stean and John Dawson send best wishes to all who know them at Wesley. They have fortunately managed to avoid Covid19 and are hoping to see people again once Wesley is fully open.

News from Revd. Julia

Julia has had a reoccurrence of her of her ovarian cancer. She and Sam are in good spirits, knowing that they are in good hands spiritually and medically. Cancer trials are restarting at the Marsden, and currently the doctors are considering three possible treatment options. We would appreciate prayer as they discern the best way forward. The challenge is always trying to balance the most effective treatment with its toxicity and the impact upon my quality of life.

Target Ovarian Cancer are running a campaign to tell 50 friends about the disease in an effort to raise awareness, (1 in 50 women will be affected by it at some point in their life time) so if anyone would like to view my Instagram account [julia.monaghan](#) 10 and forward my videos to friends it all helps to spread the word.



Here is an unconditional love that keeps on giving

Leprosy is a disease often considered confined to Biblical times. But did you know there are almost a quarter of a million new leprosy cases diagnosed each year? Even though there is a cure for leprosy, for every person treated there are a hidden 20

needing the cure.

Leprosy hides in remote villages like Namatua, where Zaina lives in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique's most northern province. There are no doctors in Namatua, and medical care is scarce. Leprosy is shrouded by fear and misunderstanding, which means people with the disease face extreme discrimination.

For too long, leprosy has disrupted and disabled lives. It has separated loved ones and torn families apart. But through the power of unconditional love, life in Mozambique, is changing.

The Leprosy Mission is raising up people like Zaina to become Leprosy Changemakers, to lead the fight against leprosy. They are part of a sea change, paving the way for a Mozambique free of leprosy and discrimination.

Zaina was shown God's unconditional love through the kindness of a stranger. Forever grateful, Zaina's love for others walking the same path as her knows no bounds. She

goes the extra mile to find those who are hidden away and fearful so that they too have the freedom of a new life.

Zaina was a young mum when she first noticed discoloured patches on her skin. She didn't know what they were, but when they became visible to other people in her home village of Namatua, they recognised the signs of leprosy. Because of age-old myths surrounding disease, some of the villagers banished her to the forest, chanting "go to the bush" over and over.

Together with her young son, Zaina was forced to live in the forest. If that wasn't hard enough, a group of villagers came to take her little boy away. Zaina was heartbroken. Hungry and without medicine, her body became increasingly weak.

By the grace of God, a stranger found Zaina in the forest. He built her a hut to shelter from the rain and took her to a health post where her leprosy was cured. Leprosy Changemakers, trained by The Leprosy Mission, were able to go to Namatua and teach the villagers about leprosy and how it is easily cured.

Zaina was able to take back her future into her own hands and is now a thriving member of her community. Determined others should not have to suffer a similar fate, Zaina has trained as a Leprosy Changemaker. She is able to recognise the early signs of leprosy and has made it her mission to encourage others affected by the disease.

"I say to someone with leprosy that they should take care of themselves," she said.

“They should take the medication because this disease has a cure. They should bathe, wash their clothes, brush their teeth and carry-on living. They must realise they will get better.”

The Unconditional Appeal sees churches in the UK partner with communities in Mozambique to build community hubs.

A community hub, or a Hub of Hope, gives a beating heart to a village like Namatua, a place from which to lead the fight against leprosy. A place where Leprosy Changemakers, like Zaina, can learn to recognise early symptoms of the disease. Crucially, a Hub of Hope is a place where people affected by leprosy are welcomed unconditionally.

Will you become a Leprosy Changemaker today by sharing Jesus's unconditional love for people with leprosy?

There is a wonderful opportunity, thanks to UK Aid Match, for your unconditional love to go twice as far. Gifts to The Unconditional Appeal made from 24 January to 24 April 2021 will be DOUBLED by the UK government.

Your gift of £24 will bring the cure to someone with leprosy. So, by giving £24 your gift will be doubled to £48 so two people can be found, diagnosed and cured.

It costs £70 to train a Leprosy Changemaker to recognise the early signs of the disease. They will act as a supportive friend to travel with to a healthpost or make contact with a Community Health Worker who can give the cure. So, by

giving £35 today, your donation becomes £70, training a Leprosy Changemaker whose love goes on to transform the lives of others.

This is an unconditional love that keeps giving.



'We love because He first loved us.'
1 John 4:19 (NIV)

For more information see their website:

www.leprosymission.org.uk

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOUR HELP!!



Now that we are gradually getting back to normal, we need more volunteers to help with Church Services. We need help with the sound and projection systems and also more Readers. If you feel you would like to go on the rotas as a Reader or as an operator of the sound please contact Geoff Nash (472521) and for the projection system please contact Geoff Fulford (714213) .

No experience is needed, and training can be provided. In each case you would be called upon about once per month at your convenience.

Gaye (557071) would like to hear from anyone who is willing to help with cutting the two pieces of grass outside the church from time to time (machine provided).

Geoff Nash

A Jelly Bean Prayer

RED is for the blood He gave
GREEN is for the grass He made
YELLOW is for the sun so bright
ORANGE is for the edge of night
BLACK is for the sins we made
WHITE is for the grace He gave
PURPLE for His hours of sorrow
PINK is for our new tomorrow

A sweet reminder of the true gift given by our saviour... everlasting life.
May your Easter be filled with blessings as you focus on his love sacrifice.

KEEPEROFTHEHOME.ORG

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

Jane Fulford

Linda Lister

June Childs 711891

Vivien Threadgold 713325

Miriam Gifford 716175

Maureen Chambers 01702 870956.

If you would like to be added to the prayer chain, please speak to Gabrielle Greenway



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

Editors' information

Please could I have all items for the May Clarion by Friday 16th April 2021

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.

