

# THE CLARION



## Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: November 2021



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## **MINISTER'S LETTER**



Having moved house twelve times in my adult life, I am still amazed by the amount of 'clutter' we accumulate in a very short space of time. Much of the 'stuff' we moved to our new home seemed to go straight back into the loft, but all seems to be things we once loved, or might, just use again!

This got me thinking about the clutter we carry around in our own lives, thoughts and feelings from past mistakes or failures. We often make new starts in life including times of repentance and forgiveness, yet we often carry baggage forward from our previous situation onto the new one.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says; *'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!'* [NIV-UK]

So, let us, as a forgiven people, not let the burdens of the past weigh us down in the present and the future. What God has forgiven; He has forgotten.

C.S. Lewis once said; *'If God forgives us, we must forgive ourselves otherwise it's like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him.'*

If you are struggling with past burdens, then take heart from the words of 553 from our Singing the Faith hymn book;

*I am a new creation,  
no more in condemnation,  
here in the grace of God I stand.  
My heart is over-flowing,  
my love just keeps on growing,  
here in the grace of God I stand.*

[Dave Bilborough]

Every Blessing,  
Pastor Steve  
November 2021  
[pastorstevemayo@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstevemayo@gmail.com)  
01702 483827

## **NOTE FROM TREASURER**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the church Gift Day / Month. The final total is £6,370.00.

*Many Thanks Tina*

## **Sir David Amess 1952 - 2021**



**Rest in Peace**

**We give thanks for the life of Sir David Amess MP and acknowledge his many years of service to the people of our church, our town, our city and our nation.**

**We offer our prayers for the needs of his family, friends and colleagues. May they know God is with them at this sad time.  
Amen**

## **NEWS FROM THE PEWS**



When my partner and I went to the over 60's tea afternoon, I discovered that my phone was not working. So, I asked Jane if she would kindly phone for a taxi for us.

She came round to the Old Post Office, where we were, several times to make sure the taxi had arrived. Thank you, Jane.

Keep up the good work Janet and friends, we love your afternoons.

Best Wishes

Vanda and Jim

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the



Afternoon Tea and Cakes this year.

Thank you to all who kindly made or brought cakes to share and a special thanks to Pam and Linda for their hard work in the kitchen making the afternoons run smoothly. It felt good to be back if only for a few months

and we hope to have a full programme in 2022.

Janet Whiddett

## The Sanctuary Café



The café continues to go from strength to strength and if you haven't had a chance to pop in, please do so on either a Friday or Saturday morning – 10am to 1pm.



We have some very generous cake makers but would still welcome more volunteers to help spread the load. It really does make a difference being able to sell homemade cakes from our Wesley family.

A bit of background, as I have been asked about how the café was set up and funded. We have been incredibly lucky to have had enough donations which were then fund matched by the Circuit for our outreach work - so it hasn't cost Wesley anything! How amazing to have such generous supporting people to which we thank you all very much.

Recently we have had donated the cost of another coffee machine, so we now have 3 which helps when things get busy or if one goes down and needs some t.l.c. Also, we have had donated the cost of 1,000 cups to the café which are to be used for both the café and for coffee after Sunday services.

If anyone would like to get involved in serving at the café, making cakes, or donating for additional supplies/equipment please do get in touch with me.

A massive thank you to all our amazing volunteers. Spot light on - Linda Forbes and Sue Hockett who run the café every Friday, in addition Pam Boughton-Smith and Linda, who are often found running a stall selling bric a brac

outside the church on a Saturday supporting the work of the café. **THANK YOU!**

As we are all aware Sir David Amess sadly lost his life on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Jane Fulford led prayers during the café on Saturday and we were able to welcome people who wanted a place to pray, reflect and remember Sir David and others close to them that had passed away.

Sir David supported the café's Macmillan Coffee Morning just 3 weeks prior to his death. He came and spoke to those running the morning, the customers and left a donation to the charity. It is without doubt something those of us there that Saturday will remember for a long time - his kindness and generosity lives on.

Every blessing  
Emma Hearn

## **Fern's Fitness**

This is an Exercise class for the over 50s usually on Mondays from 11am to 12 noon in Wesley Hall. It is a very friendly group, and the exercises are adapted for any ability and no ability. You can attend once or twice a week. There is a small fee of £5.

Recommended by Pam and Linda

Hope to see you there.



## **CHRISTMAS TEA AND CAKE AFTERNOON**



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021

2-4 pm

Canteen Room Wesley Church

We do hope to see you there –

Covid restrictions permitting.

Janet Whiddett



## **Favourites**

Recently I took a service at Wesley called 'favourites' and will repeat this again in the New year.

People were invited to suggest their favourite hymns, modern worship songs, prayers, and scripture. Some presented themselves and explained their reasons/experiences for their choice. Others of our Wesley family were content for me or another person to introduce their request.

Do please think about what you would like to suggest. I received some very positive feedback from the service and the idea would work well in other churches.

Eileen Simmons



### **“The Exodus or The Conga?”**

Thank you to Leigh Fire Station for rescuing Joan and Geoff Hawkins safely from the lift which got stuck between floors for an hour.

# Remembrance



## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November

In preparation for this year's Remembrance Day 11<sup>th</sup> November and Remembrance Sunday, I intend to resurrect Poppy Man. For those of you who do not know of this man. He is a chicken mesh man created by Mary Lister originally for me to use at school for Remembrance assemblies. For two weeks before Remembrance Day 11<sup>th</sup> November I would get pupils to take a poppy and place it securely into the mesh as they left my classroom. He takes maaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaany poppies.

As I am no longer at school, I need anyone who comes into Wesley via the sanctuary to put poppies into him, not just one but as many as you can in the time you have to spare. Then once covered in poppies we put him in the front garden with PLASTIC imitation barbed wire to create a sort of No Man's Land.

So, if you see him when you are at coffee or at a service, please put poppies in him.

Many thanks

God Bless

Jane

## **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

I have always longed to belong to a generous church and, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September, generosity and support were in abundance. There was amazing support from the wonderful team who have for many, many years run the Macmillan coffee morning. So many tasty cakes!

Our thanks must go to Emma and John for starting our Sanctuary café and who kept up brilliantly serving the drinks to a large and steady flow of supporters. Particular thanks go to our Highlands friends Lesley Hyde and her mother Brenda, who baked, donated, and served their cakes.

The morning was well attended so our thanks go to all who supported by coming. Many provided cakes and Sir David Amess kindly accepted the invitation to attend and gave generously.

Macmillan provided their own gift aid form and so there was a sum of £135 on which they can recoup the tax paid. In total **£472,35** was raised by Wesley.

There were extra cakes left in the fridge for Janet Whiddett's tea and cakes the following week and some for the Sanctuary Café on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

We hope that others will come forward to organise the Coffee Morning in 2022 - please offer to Pastor Steve.

Eileen Simmons & Geoff Nash 2.10.21

## **PASTORAL NEWS**

**PASTORAL NEWS** as at 14<sup>th</sup>. October

Please continue to keep Jean Turner in your thoughts and prayers.

It was great to welcome Sarah Dawson and her lovely daughter (with her amazing bike) back to Worship on 10<sup>th</sup>. October.

Wendy Stean is quite unwell having had a serious fall and subsequent infection. We hold her in our prayers.

Miriam Gifford continues to make excellent progress.

Our thanks as always to the team of Pastoral Visitors

Eileen Simmons - Pastoral coordinator

T: 472521

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WESLEY THEATRE GROUP  
PRESENTS

# PUSS IN BOOTS

by Ben Crocker

**FRI 3RD DEC 7.30PM**    **SAT 4TH DEC 2PM & 6PM**

WESLEY HALL | ELM ROAD  
LEIGH-ON-SEA



**TICKETS: £7**

**CHILDREN: £5**

**FAMILY TICKET  
(2A & 2C): £20**

**BOX OFFICE  
01702 480968**

**BUY ONLINE:**

**WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK  
/WESLEY-THEATRE-GROUP**

BY KIND PERMISSION OF  
BEN CROCKER PANTOMIMES



**Lunches in December, Friday's  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon  
to 2pm**

**£7**

**Jacket Potato and salad, and  
Dessert**

Dear all

Miriam Gifford has kindly offered to serve Light Lunches at Wesley on three Fridays in December. Please do read the menu and come along. For catering purposes, and so that food is not wasted, we are asking that you book by signing on the sheet that will be available in the Sanctuary on Coffee mornings and at Services or phone Jane on 01702714213.

God Bless

Miriam and Jane

## WELCOME TO WESLEY

Lunches in December 12 noon to 2pm

£7

Jacket Potato and salad, and Dessert



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Tuna Mayo or Chilli

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Tuna Mayo or Curry

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Cheese or Beans

Dessert

Cake and Cream

Please book on the sheet in the church or phone  
Jane on 01702 714213 for catering purposes.

Please pay cash on the day. Thank you.

Looking forward to seeing you

## **Creative worship' also known as** **'Informal Worship'**

On the fourth Tuesday of each month at 8pm we hold worship for about 30-50 minutes. This worship can take many forms. Here are just a few: -

Taize

Divine Reading (Lectio Divina)- simply reading scripture

Labyrinths based on Being 'God's Jewel' or The Book of Revelations

Using all our senses to explore the elements of an unusual French Cross at Easter

Adaptions of services from the Iona Community

A more traditional service with themes of:

Friendship

Journeying

The water of Life

Pebbles and Prayer

All the services are carefully and prayerfully designed and offered with the one aim of enabling those present to deepen their faith and feel the presence of God. There is probably more silence and time for thinking than a Sunday morning service and, of course, no sermon but each service is very different.

So, is it creative or informal? Do you want to come along? Please do join us or talk to Isobel, Sue, Jane or Gaye to find out more.

The dates are 23<sup>rd</sup> November in 2021 and 25<sup>th</sup> January.

## **TALKING POETRY**



September to December 2021 pm Wednesday at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

10<sup>th</sup> Nov – Dylan Thomas

24<sup>th</sup> Nov – Louis MacNeice

please contact Joan Hawkins on email  
[joanh838@icloud.com](mailto:joanh838@icloud.com) for further details'

## **TIME FOR PRAYER**

Time for Prayer is held on the third Saturday of each month and has now subsumed the former Time for Healing group. The format is evolving with each meeting (in line with prevailing Covid guidance) and includes both communal and private prayer with a focus on general, healing, and personal matters, The next meeting will be at 11.30 on 20<sup>th</sup> November in the Sanctuary.

## **CHRISTIAN HOPE INTERNATIONAL JUMBLE**

### **SALE 2022**

As you may remember it was with great regret that this event was cancelled because of the pandemic in 2021.



BUT THAT WAS NOT ALL

Pam and her family along with a few others walked 500 miles, socially distanced of course, to raise money for this very worthy organisation.



**AND AN AMAZING £1,350 was raised.**

This year Pam and her family are organising another sponsored walk for February 2022 and a Coffee morning on SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 at Wesley to show the work of CHRISTIAN HOPE INTERNATIONAL.

So DO NOT COLLECT ANY JUMBLE instead get your WALKING SHOES ON OR SPONSOR those walking and let's BEAT that amazing amount in 2021.

See you walking and see you on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.

Pam and family

## **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 07733173810

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



## **Service Information for November 2021**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 11:00 am – Preacher: Pastor S Mayo – Communion Service and Pastoral Visitor's Dedication.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 11:00 am – Preacher: Mrs J Fulford

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 11:00 am – Mrs E Simmons

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 5:30 pm “Inspire Service”

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 11: 00 am – Café Style Advent Service  
- LA

## **Important Worship Dates for December 2021**

Sunday 5th December - Preacher Pastor Steve Toy and Gift

Sunday 12th December- Preacher Sue Hockett Nativity

Sunday 19th December – Preacher Eileen Simmons Carol Service

Sunday 19th December - 5.30 Inspire Carol Service

Friday 24th December - 4 pm Pastor Steve Christingle

Friday 24th December - 11.15 pm Midnight Service

Saturday 25th December - 10.30 am Pastor Steve

Sunday 26th December - Church closed.

## Editors' information

Please could I have all items for the December Clarion by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

If you would like to contribute 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**



**Church is a member of  
Circuit**

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

