

THE CLARION



Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: October 2021



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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



Minister's Letter – September 2018

Autumn is now upon us, and we thank God for giving us a 'freer' summer this year; enabling us to enjoy the warmth of the sun and the beautiful blue skies. And at this time of year, we rejoice at all the wonderful gifts from God through our Harvest Festivals; decorating our churches with the produce God himself has provided.

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

pastorstevemayo@gmail.com

01702 483827

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Happy Anniversary!

“Congratulations to Norman and Janet Sutcliffe who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 23rd September. They feel blessed to have reached this milestone and enjoyed sharing celebrations with family and friends “

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

PASTORAL NEWS as of 17th. September

I would like to start my report by thanking the Pastoral Visitors who continue to keep in touch with the individuals in their groups so faithfully.

In these COVID times some families, such as that of Heather Jones, who have family living abroad are experiencing so many extra difficulties, as they probably have not seen sons or daughters and grandchildren for getting on for two years. We had not seen my brother and sisters for eighteen months until this August and it was so wonderful to be with them. 'Zooming' is not an adequate substitute!

1. We congratulate Sanya and Stephen on their recent wedding. Sanya wishes to be called Mrs Sanya Strachan.
2. Muzala and Bruce Hopkins look forward to returning to worship shortly. We are going to see them soon in their new home.
3. Please continue to hold Jean Turner in your thoughts and prayers.
4. We were able to see David Cox at home soon after his knee operation. As at 14th September when I phoned he was expecting the physio to come to see him later that day. The knee was still very sore, but there was some improvement in the cellulitis. He is making good progress, but as many of you know these conditions take quite a long time before full recovery.

Do please keep me up to date with news. Nothing is put in a report without permission of the individual.

Eileen Simmons

Pastoral Coordinator

Tel: 472521 E mail: eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Donations from our Harvest Festival Service on the 3rd of October will be going to the Southend Food Bank.

Food urgently required:

- FRUIT JUICE
 - MEAT MEALS (CANNED PIES, CHILLI, CURRY, MINCED BEEF)
 - TINNED FRUIT
 - PUDDINGS AND CHOCOLATE BARS
-
- RICE PUDDING

Thank you

Hi Friends

I just wanted to say thank you for all your love, support and prayers as my partner, Stephen, and I got married at Leigh Wesley Methodist Church last month. We have made a donation to the church as a way to express that gratitude.

It was a beautiful ceremony, and the term “Viva Espana” is still on our lips, plus the country music dancing to “This little light of mine”.

So much preparation must have gone into getting the church ready and I know the day would not have been possible without the help and support of the stewards.

Special thanks

- * Gaye and Isobel - thank you for the beautiful flower arrangements they really were stunning!
- * Geoff - for being a great sound technician and a constant smiling face.
- * Pastor Steve - thank you for our marriage classes. Your support, wisdom, guidance and kind words have meant so much to us. We truly couldn't have got through this whole process without you, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
- * Gaye - thank you for looking after our guests and making sure Stephen didn't make a run for it! ;-D
- * Friends who were at the ceremony - thank you for offering our family and friends such a warm welcome of inclusivity.

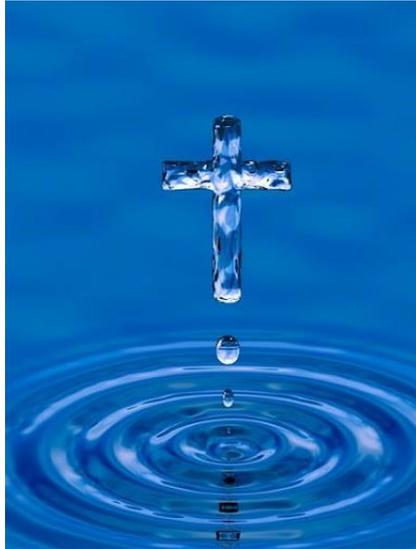
The opportunity for our family and friends to experience a church service is something they all can't stop talking about and we know they will treasure for years to come as will we.

Thank you all again
Every blessing
San



THIRSTY4??

is back



**As from September 9th, 2021,
Thirsty 4??
(Cafe style)
worship**

**will return to Belfairs Methodist Church
at 7p.m. meeting in the Fellowship Hall.**

**We will then continue to meet every 2nd Thursday of
the month at the same time.**

Tea, coffee, cakes and of course informal worship will be back on the menu. Come and join us for a relaxing time

of fellowship and share this time together with friends you know and perhaps meet new friends too.

All are welcome, no costs involved, just your time to share in worship in the middle of the week.

Contact Mike or Sue for further details.

(mike.spaul@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 01702 521344)

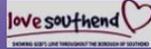
Fern's Fitness

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

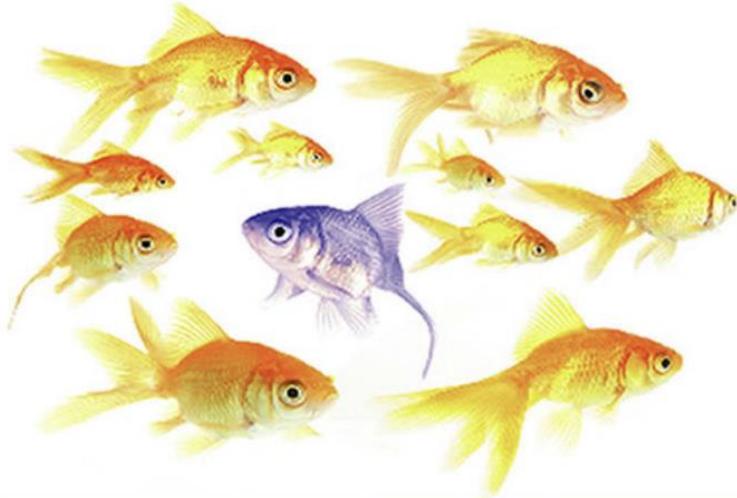
Hope to see you there.





Chaplaincy Everywhere Course

'A partnership between Southend and Leigh Methodist Circuit and Love Southend'



Are you a Christian?
Are you passionate about
caring for the needs of
others?

The Chaplaincy Everywhere
Course is for you!

The course helps us to be a
good neighbour, friend and
valued member of our
community as well as skills
to be a Chaplain.

When is the course?

Monday Evenings:
25th Oct, 1st, 8th, 15th,
22nd, 29th Nov
Time: 7.30pm

**Venue: Plaza (Southend
Christian Fellowship)**

For more information email:
clive@southendchristianfellowshi
p.org.uk

To book your place email:
deaconsarahmcd@gmail.com





Dear Southend and Leigh Circuit,

Peter Moorhouse, Jane Fulford and Bob Briant are inviting you to study/discuss the **Methodist Way of Life each Tuesday at 2pm on zoom** beginning on **Oct 5th, 2021**, for a period of 6 weeks.

This is similar to the way we studied the book of Ruth. There will be a Sunday Service on one aspect and then the following Tuesday we will discuss the topic. You do not have to attend all the sessions.

In the first instance or for further details please contact Jane on 01702 714213 or via email on fulford.family@btinternet.com.

If you are a Senior Steward, please send this around your congregations as the invite is open to all.

Thank you and look forward to seeing some of you on Zoom.

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 26th October 23rd November in 2021 and 25th January.

TALKING POETRY



September to December 2021 pm Wednesday at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

13th Oct – Jackie Kaye

27th Oct – William Blake

please contact Joan Hawkins on email
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 16th October 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 19th 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 19th 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





October Prayer Diary

This month the Prayer Diary has prayers from The Methodist Way of Life publications, Methodist Way of Life – A brief guide, Finding the Way Getting started with the Methodist Way of Life and Proclaiming the way. Another publication is marked as USPG. These initials stand for United Society Partners in the Gospel. It is an Anglican mission agency that partners churches and communities to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice. It was founded in 1701. (www.uspg.org.uk) There are also two songs/verses from Singing the Faith.

If you would like any more information, please contact Jane Fulford

Service Information for October 2021

Sunday 3rd of October at 11:00am – Preacher Pastor S Mayo – Harvest Festival and Communion Service.

Sunday 10th October at 11:00am - Preacher Rev C Newman

Sunday 17th October at 11:00am – Local Arrangement

Sunday 17th October - Contemporary Worship - “Inspire” at 5:30pm

Sunday 24th October at 11:00am – Preacher Mrs S Strachan

Sunday 31st October at 11:00 am – United Service at Highlands

Editors' information

Please could I have all items for the November Clarion by **Friday 15th October 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

**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.

