

Gift Day for Church Funds 2016 – Dear Friends, Saturday 6th August has been chosen as Gift Day for church funds where people are invited to make a financial gift to the church over and above their regular giving. This year the funds will go to the general church account. You are very welcome to Open House at the manse, 1 Oakview Close, on the Saturday morning between 10 am – 12 noon. Bring your gift and come and share in hospitality. We would like to know how your summer is going. Parking is always slightly tricky in our small close, but the roads round Elmsleigh Drive usually have spaces. We look forward to seeing you. – Rev. Julia.

Prayer Diary

God of all time, and all places, we set aside time and place to go on pilgrimage, looking for you. Help us to see each day as a pilgrimage, treating every experience, both exciting and mundane, as part of our daily walk with you, our companion and guide, who is with us each step of the way. Amen. *Anne Brown, Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District Chair*

24-30 July *The beach* A full and busy beach with cries and squeals from young children. Buggies full of towels, sunshades and umbrellas, extra clothing, snacks and buckets and spades. Ice creams being licked with open mouths, wide eyes and sticky noses. Sandcastles being made only to disappear by the encroaching tide.

Loving Lord may we feel your presence at the beach amid the joy and fun, may we know we can be forgiven the tide bringing a wave of forgiveness, a clean path a new beginning for all of us. Open our eyes to the forgiving beauty of a beach.

31 July – 6 August *Holidays* Dear Lord, as we take our holidays we pray we may see the beauty of your world but not at the expense of polluting your garden and ignoring the plight of the indigenous peoples. May we always respect those enabling our travel, tending our hotel rooms, preparing and serving food, and the culture of the land we are visiting. Amen

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

Website: www.wesleymethodist.org.uk

Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Twitter: @leighwesleyMC

Minister: Rev. Julia Monaghan. Phone: 01702 483827

Children and Youth Worker: Jonathan Logan. Phone: 07852 905742

Older People's Worker: Julie Peek. Phone: 01702 479804

Administrator: Paul McDowell. Office: 01702 711851 (9.45-11.45 weekdays)



Wesley Methodist Church

Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex

Minister: Rev. Julia Monaghan

Notices for the week commencing Sunday 24 July 2016

We extend a very warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. Coffee and tea are served in the concourse after every Sunday morning service – please do stay if you can.

Please use this notice sheet as a reminder as you pray for the life and work of this church.

A prayer before we worship:

*God, my creator and my unseen Guide,
you have led me to this holy place.*

*Let a spark of its beauty and your love
settle in my heart and live with me when I leave.*

Sun 24th	10.30 am	Coffee in Concourse
	11 am	The Zone on Sunday
	11 am	Morning Worship in Canteen Room
Ordinary Time		Preacher: Sue Hockett
		Hymns: STF 254, 522, 424, 351, 51
		Readings: Exodus 32:9-14; Luke 11:1-13;
		Colossians 2:6-15
		Porch: Michelle Scott
Mon 25th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Wesley Art Group
	8 pm	Wesley Theatre Group
Tue 26th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Summer Adventure Holiday Club
	8 pm	Informal Worship led by Jane Fulford
Wed 27th	9.15 am	Mid-Week Communion at Fishermen's Chapel
	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Summer Adventure Holiday Club
	6 pm	St John Ambulance
	7.30 pm	CAMEO Housegroup at Wesley
Thu 28th	10 am	Coffee Morning

Thu 28 <i>ctd</i>	10 am	Summer Adventure Holiday Club
	8 pm	Preparatory meeting for Week of Accompanied Prayer
Fri 29th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	10 am	Summer Adventure Holiday Club
	2 pm	Table Tennis 60+
Sat 30th	10 am	Coffee Morning
	11.30 am	Time for Prayer (in Canteen Room)
Sun 31st 18th in Ordinary Time	11 am	Morning Worship in Wesley Hall Section Service with Belfairs and Highlands Preacher: Jane Fulford Porch: Annette Jarvis

Please give any items for the next notice sheet to Paul McDowell in the Administrator's office, or by e-mail to admin@wesleymethodist.org.uk or phone to 01702 711851, by 9.45 am each Friday each week.

Rev. Julia is at Boys' & Girls' Brigade camp from 25-27 July. Please contact Rev. Peter Moorhouse (Superintendent) on 01702 557070 if you need to speak to a minister during this time.

Action for Children – It was Action for Children Sunday on 10 July and a retiring collection was made. A total of £222.20 was collected, of which £140 was gift aided. We have also received a cheque from Donald Fraser for £50 in memory of his sister, who died recently. Donald has connections with Wesley and his sister was married here. His mother used to be treasurer at Wesley for NCH (previous name of AfC). He asked for his cheque to be gift aided. Together with another gift aided cheque of £50 our total (without the gift aid) comes to £322.20. Thank you so much for your generosity. AfC has long been a charity which Wesley has supported and we are delighted to maintain this tradition. – Eileen Simmons.

There will be **no coffee morning on Tuesday 2 August** for one day only due to overlapping activities.

Solidarity against racism – a letter from the Secretary of the Methodist Conference

Sisters and brothers in Christ, I write to you from the Methodist Conference in order to act upon a resolution which it passed on 6 July.

What follows is the text which the Conference agreed should be read in all our churches as soon as is possible. The statement is also shared on our website www.methodist.org.uk/nationallife where it can be turned into an email which will be automatically sent to your local Member of Parliament. The Conference also encourages the Methodist people to send this letter to their MP. The Conference also encouraged the Methodist people to join the campaign to wear an empty safety pin as a badge symbolising solidarity against racism (please see www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-36661097 for details). The 2016 Methodist Conference passed a resolution containing the following text:

The United Kingdom, as a result of the referendum on 23 June 2016, has voted to leave the European Union. In this time of very significant change and uncertainty there is a need for leadership which seeks the common good and encourages people to work together, to respect one another and to uphold the dignity of all. The Methodist Conference believes that the British Isles are enriched by diversity and celebrates the contribution made by those who have come from other parts of the world. The Christian tradition calls for respect, tolerance, love of neighbour and hospitality to the stranger. All bear the responsibility of speaking and acting for healing, reconciliation, and mutual respect.

The Methodist Conference abhors and deeply regrets those actions and words which incite hatred and lead to the victimisation of groups within society and notes with concern that such actions and words have been normalised in recent public discourse. Believing that racism is a denial of the gospel and that to stay silent when others are abused is to collude with those who seek to promote hatred and division, the Methodist Conference calls:

- *on the Methodist people to challenge racism and discrimination;*
- *for a political debate which neither demonises any nor leaves the vulnerable (the foreigner, the immigrant and refugee) in danger of victimisation;*
- *on political leaders to work together for the good of the whole community putting the needs of the nation before party politics;*
- *on all those in positions of power and authority to bear the voices of those who have been marginalised and alienated and to respond to them in ways which offer real hope for the future.*

I recognise that you have many demands upon your time, but please do ensure that this important statement is shared as widely as possible.

With gratitude for our continued partnership in the gospel,

The Reverend Gareth J Powell

(Notices continued overleaf)