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THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: September 2022



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MINISTER'S LETTER



We are living in a massive time of change! Not only are we coming to the end of the summer with the trees starting to shed their summer coats, but our whole country, and world, is going through massive changes too.

Environmentally, we are seeing changes in our weather; from summers of extreme heat, to winters of extreme cold.

Politically, we are going through a massive time of change, with political parties jostling for power and position. By the time you read this the government leadership contest will be over, so we'll be in for more change; good or bad!

And even at this time of year some of our churches and ministers will be facing change as the stationing process takes place.

And I know that each one of us will have our own list of changes which have affected us personally.

All this change can leave us with a sense of uncertainty and can unsettle us. But within the book of Malachi God reveals something of His character when He says; *'I the Lord do not change.'* [Malachi 3:6 NIV] The same is revealed about Jesus in the book of Hebrews; *'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'* [Hebrews 13:8 NIV]

Many of our hymns also reiterate this unchanging promise...

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.*

[51 STF v1]

*In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.*

*What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.*

[351 STF v1]

So, as we prepare ourselves for *whatever* the future brings, remember we have an unchanging God. So, step out on His promises, as these, *never* change. I leave you with a quote; *“I know not what the future holds, but I know who holds the future.”* [attributed to Homer, ancient Greek author]

Every blessing,

Pastor Steve

01702 483827

pastorstevemayo@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Leadership Team Meeting – 12th Sept 2022

Church Council Meeting – 12th October 2022

Worship Consultation Meeting – 7th September 2022.

AFTERNOON TEA AND CAKES FOR 2022

Pencil in these remaining dates for your diary.

All on Thursday Afternoons 2pm-4pm in the Canteen Room.

September 29th

October 27th

Looking forward to
seeing you there, With
love Janet, Pam and Linda



SOUND for OUR SERVICES.

June, Mike and I would very much appreciate having another member for the Sound Team. September is still holiday time and with the busy schedule for Christmas on the horizon we are really stretched to cover every Sunday.

The system may look extremely complicated to operate, but in fact we only use three knobs at the most - for the more demanding Preachers! Training is available and one of us will sit with you for at least your first service. You would be included on the rota about once a month. Help!

CONNEXION MAGAZINE

Please see copies of the **CONNEXION** magazine in the concourse. Please take a copy to read. Jane tells me that Local Preachers each have a copy sent to them.

I order a bulk set, but have been asked to return a number needed. Please let me know if you would like to receive a copy and please do not assume I think you may wish to

receive. Waste is wrong, so unless you tell me then I will not order any more than my own.

I really enjoy and benefit from this magazine. Please reply by 14th. September. Eileen Simmons

CHARITIES

At a recent Leadership meeting we agreed that if any charity collection were to be made, information about it should be included in the Clarion in advance and the amount donated should also be published in the Clarion.

The Action for Children total will be included in the October Clarion, as it is not ready for the September deadline.

In the same meeting, I was asked if others thought that we might have too many charity collections. What do you think? Church Council meets on Wednesday 12th. October and Charities will be an agenda item. Traditionally the young people choose the charity that is given the collection from the Christingle service. Church Council decides which charities will be given the money collected at other

Christmas services. Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year.

Do please let me have your ideas.

Eileen Simmons Tel: 472521

eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

Southend Foodbank

Almost 60 kilos of goods were delivered to the Foodbank this week. Thank you to all who contributed – how soon can we fill the basket at the back of the church again? – our donations are desperately needed at this time.

Thursday Lunches

Thank you to everyone who has supported this venture. Thank you to Mim and her friend Kate for catering each week. We have raised just over £600 for church funds in 6 months. We are taking a break in September but WILL resume on Thursday 6th October at the usual time of 12.30pm. See you there

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 1st October

The Sanctuary Café

10am to 1pm

**Please come and support this fantastic
charity.**

**Cake donations gratefully received please get
in touch with me if you can help in anyway.**

Many thanks

Emma

077 665 888 77

emmahearnwesleychurch@btinternet.com

PASTORAL NEWS as at 18thAugust 2022

At the start of another Methodist Year I want to thank the team of Pastoral Visitors who faithfully keep in touch with individuals in their group. I have now completed, with Pastor Steve, four years in my role as Pastoral Co-ordinator and I love the job.

On 11th September during the service Pastor Steve will lead us in the Pastoral Visitors' Rededication.

There will always be need for individuals to help in Pastoral work and you do not need to be a church member to work alongside a Pastoral Visitor. We telephone people, we sometimes visit, meet them for coffee and chat, sit with them in church and introduce them to others, show interest, care and concern and be there for them. Geoff and I remember clearly, when we had come to a couple of services at Wesley back in 2013, Alison Newnham coming across to introduce herself and invite us to have coffee with her in the concourse.

I did the same last Sunday with a new couple only to find out after the service that it was the new minister, Rev. Agnes

Sam and husband Francis, who are new to the circuit. Our reputation warmth and welcome was confirmed, particularly as I promptly left them with three delightful individuals from our Wesley family over coffee whilst I continued to chat to others.

Eileen Simmons Tel : 472521 email:

eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

Your last chance for an Open Top Bus ride this Year!



For those who are interested, the Open Top Bus Service 68 will still be running in September but only at weekends.

Buses will run half hourly on 3rd/4th September and then hourly on 10th/11th, 17th/18th and 24th/25th September.

The service leaves Leigh (Old Post Office) from 09.30 until 17.30 and returns from Southend Pier from 10.00 until 18.00.

Fuller details and times are displayed at bus stops on the route.



AUTUMN CRAFT/VINTAGE FAIR

SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER

10AM -3PM

TEAS AND LUNCHES

Do book a table/space – all £10

FREE ENTRY

Café available

Lunches in Canteen room

We need to have a few more stall holders for spaces in the Youth Hall next to the grotto so please tell your friends. All the tables in the sanctuary are already booked.

We need you to come, help out and enjoy

Hope to see you there

God Bless

Jane

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

TIME FOR PRAYER

The monthly Time for Prayer meeting is now being held on Saturday morning at 09.30, in order to allow for a period of quiet contemplation prior to the opening of the Saturday Café. We hope that this will be convenient for everyone.

The date and time for the next meeting will therefore be:

- **Saturday September 17th - 9.30 am**

The date for October has yet to be decided.

We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us.

Worship Dates for September 2022

Sunday 4th September at 11:00 - Local Arrangement

Sunday 4th September at 7:30pm Circuit Service at Thorpe Bay Methodist.

Sunday 11th September at 11:00 - Preacher – Pastor S Mayo- Pastoral

Sunday 18th September at 11:00 - Preacher – Mr C Turner
- service will include communion.

Sunday 18th September at 17:30 - Inspire Creative Worship

Sunday 25th September at 11:00 - Mrs S Strachan

Worship Dates for October 2022

Sunday 2nd October at 11:00 – Preacher – Rev. P. Perowne
- service will include communion.

Sunday 9th October at 11:00 - Preacher Mrs J Fulford – Harvest Festival.

Sunday 16th October at 11:00 - Preacher – Pastor S Mayo

Sunday 16th October at 17:30 - Inspire Creative Worship

Sunday 23rd at 11:00 - Preacher – Local Arrangement

Sunday 30th at 11:00 -Preacher – United Service at Belfairs

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



Editors' information

Please could I have all items for the October Clarion by **Friday 16th September 2022**

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.

