



THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: March 2023



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Church Council Secretary: Judy Taylor
judy@wesleymethodist.org.uk

The Notices: Sue Hockett
notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Treasurer: Tina Gowers - 17 The Crest, Leigh on Sea,
SS9 5NJ -Tel 01702 528674
tinagowers@sky.com

Organist – Ashley Thompson -
dajthompson@hotmail.co.uk

MINISTER'S LETTER



Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *'lencten'*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin His ministry.

Traditionally, Lent has been all about giving things up, and over the years people have given up all sorts of things like chocolate, sweets, deserts, and even more recently Facebook and other social media activities!

I think giving things up *can* be helpful if it focuses our thoughts and prayers on our preparation for the arrival of Easter.

But I don't believe that Lent should be a time for *just* giving things up, but also for taking things up!

Sometimes, I think when we *really* look at our lives and the time we spend with our Lord, we can often come to the conclusion that we've fasted all year since the last Lenten season, or even longer; fasting our prayer life, fasting our daily devotional time, fasting our giving?

So, my prayer for all of us, myself included, is that this Lenten season we would take some things up, and really prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And as we grow in our knowledge and personal relationship with Him, Easter will be a far greater experience for us as we commune and bring ourselves into His presence in this time of preparation and confession.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells us; ¹⁶ *Rejoice always,* ¹⁷ ***pray continually,*** ¹⁸ *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*' [NIVUK]

Every blessing,

Pastor Steve

01702 483827

pastorstevemayo@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Mini – Market 1st April

For

Christian Hope International

On Saturday 1st April it is hoped to have a mini-market in the sanctuary with a few tables and a display for Christian Hope International. All money to go to the charity we have supported for many years. Please put the date in your diaries

Pam and Jane

Talking Poetry

Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

8th March- Edgar Allan Poe

22nd March – Henry Longfellow

Please contact Joan Hawkins on email
joanh838@icloud.com for further details'



PASTORAL NEWS as at 17th February 2023

David Cox was rushed to hospital and was kept in for a few days but is now home under the watchful eye of daughter Louise. He is having to take things very steadily , but is making good progress. I chatted with him very recently.

Adrian Gravatt is coping with his Parkinsons, but can be quite unsteady and so has missed a few weeks in church.

Sadly Betty Bambury died on Monday 13th February, but daughter Linda and son-in-law Mark were with her, which was such a blessing. We have sent our condolences.

It is lovely to welcome Jade Foster on to our Community Roll. Jade has been worshipping with us for a little time now.

Eileen Simmons

Tel : 472521 email: eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com



Open Garden and Bungalow

59 Briarwood Drive

Leigh on Sea

SS94LB

Saturday 20th May 2023

11am-4:30pm

Cakes, Posh Biscuits and Refreshments

Pop in for ½ hour or stay much longer

Any donations to Wesley Methodist Church

Hope to see you

With love Janet and John Whiddett

Wesley Theatre Group - Save the Date!

Wesley Theatre Group presents...

Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, s'il vous plait!

Friday 21st and Sat 22nd April at 7:45pm

Wesley Hall

The French farce has arrived at The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society, and the formidable ladies do it like no one else! An unintelligible plot, a plethora of doors and a grand range of characters make this Farndale offering as bubbly as a glass of champagne.

Sunshine Baby Bank



Sunshine Baby Bank would like to pass on their thanks for the donation received from Wesley following the collection at the Christingle Service on Christmas

Eve. They were extremely grateful for the support - as all the items they provide for families are new, it will be a great help.

Lunches on Thursdays of the month at

12.30pm

£7

Jacket Potato and salad, and Dessert

Dear all

Miriam Gifford has kindly offered to serve Light Lunches at Wesley on every Thursdays through to March 2023. For catering purposes, we are asking that you book, so food is not wasted. Please let Jane know when you see her or on 01702 714213 by midnight on the Monday of the same week.

God Bless

Miriam and Jane

AFTERNOON TEA AND CAKES FOR

2023

We shall be starting the Tea and Cake afternoons at the end of April, so pencil in these dates for your dairy.

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

April 27th

May 25th

June 29th

July 27th

August – Holiday

September 28th

October 26th

and

December 7th

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



News!!!!

Ashley Thompson our organist is moving on to pastures new and his last service with us as organist will be Sunday 26th Feb 2023. We are pleased to welcome Rory Windass as our new organist from Sunday 5th March 2023. We wish Ashley all the best in his future endeavours.

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC SERVICE at
WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH
MOTHERING SUNDAY 19TH March 11am
- 11.45am 2023

We are inviting parents and children to a Teddy Bears Service. Do hope you can join us.

If you go down to the church today, you'll be sure of a big surprise

If you go down to the church today, you'll hardly believe your eyes.



Please bring your cuddly toy

There will be marmalade sandwiches for Paddington, jam sandwiches for other hungry bears and cake for everyone

Looking forward to seeing you there

**Members and their Capacity at Wesley
Methodist Church- Current as of 24/1/23**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Rev. Peter Moorhouse	Superintendent Minister
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister (Chair of Council)
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding/Circuit Rep
Gabrielle Greenway	Co-ordinating Steward/Outreach /Circuit Rep
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit Community/Circuit Steward
Anna Wratishaw	Communication/Deputy Circuit Rep for Gaye Greenway
Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator
Emma Hearn	Youth
Sanya Strachan	Worship and Mission
Geoff Hawkins	Church Rep
Helen Boyd	Church Rep
June Childs	Church Rep
Alex Childs	Church Rep
Rupert Bertie	Church Rep

David Cox	Church Rep
Isobel Wratishaw	Church Rep
Alan Severne	Property Co-Ordinator (Non -voting)
Tina Gowers	Treasurer (Non-Voting)

**Leadership Team of Wesley Methodist
Church – Current as of 24/1/23**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister (Chair of Council)
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding/Circuit Rep
Gabrielle Greenway	Co-ordinating Steward/Outreach /Circuit Rep
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit Community/Circuit Steward
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Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator
Emma Hearn	Youth
Sanya Strachan	Worship and Mission

CHURCH FINANCES

Every church in our Southend and Leigh Circuit pays to the Circuit an agreed amount of money known as the assessment. The Methodist Year runs from 1st September to 31st August and this year, 2022-23 our assessment was markedly higher than last as there is an extra member of Ministerial staff to pay to enable each of our existing Ministers to have pastoral charge of fewer churches. Decisions on the ratio of Ministers to churches and the level of assessment are made at the Circuit Meeting.

Ideally congregational giving would cover our assessment leaving the income from lettings to pay for premises upkeep, improvement and any mission needs that meet with Church Council approval. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Our giving is much less than our assessment. We are very aware of the current cost of living crisis and that this is affecting some members of our Wesley family far more than others.

We simply would ask you to review your giving and if possible to consider increasing it.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

WELSEY 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 held on the third Saturday of each month (unless otherwise advised). The start time is 09.30, in order to allow for a period of quiet contemplation prior to the opening of the Saturday Café. We hope that this is convenient for everyone and that as many of you as possible will be able to join us. The dates of the next meetings are as follows:

- Saturday February 18th
- Saturday March 18th
- Saturday April 15th

Worship Dates for March 2023

Sunday 5th March at 11:00 - Preacher Mrs J Fulford.

Sunday 12th March at 11:00 – Preacher Pastor S Mayo/
Rev N Hooks - Communion Service/United Service.

Saturday 18th March at 09:30 Time for Prayer.

Sunday 19th March 11:00 – Preacher Mrs J Fulford.

Sunday 19th March at 17:30 Inspire Worship.

Monday 20th March at 14:00-16:00 – Memory Worship.

Sunday 26th March at 11:00 – Local Arrangement.

Tuesday 28th March at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship.

Worship Dates for April 2023

Sunday 2nd April at 11:00 - Preacher Rev P Moorhouse –
Communion Service.

Maundy Thursday 6th April at 19:00 – United Service at
Highlands.

Good Friday 7th April at 11:00 – Preacher Pastor S Mayo –
United Service.

Easter Sunday 9th April at 11:00 - Preacher Pastor S Mayo.

Saturday 15th April at 09:30 Time for Prayer.

Sunday 16th April at 11:00- Preacher Mrs E Simmons.

Sunday 16th April at 17:30 Inspire Worship.

Monday 17th March at 14:00-16:00 – Memory Worship.

Sunday 23rd April at 11:00 – Mrs S Hockett.

Tuesday 25th April at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship.

Sunday 30th April at 11:00 – United Service at Belfairs.

Editors' information

Please could I have all items for the April Clarion by **Friday 17th March 2023**

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 – juditht60@outlook.com

**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.

