



THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: April 2023



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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
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 – Rory Windass

MINISTER'S LETTER



Easter, that wonderful time of the year when we can remember the sacrifice of Jesus for each of us, and celebrate our risen Saviour all in the same weekend!

I remember a few years back in one of my previous churches, having an Easter egg hunt in the service for the children.

Before the service, and before people arrived, some of the Sunday school teachers hid foil wrapped chocolate eggs around the church. When it came to the part of the service where the children took part in the hunt, there was much fun and laughter as the one by one the eggs were found. The service then continued.

Some 3 years or so later, the church was having a Spring clean and we used scaffold to reach the high parts of the church to dust etc. Upon looking down at the church, I noticed quite high up, something shiny on top of one of the pillars, and you've guessed it, it was an Easter egg never found from the Easter egg hunt all those years before. Strangely though, nobody fancied eating it!!!

But this made me think.

How often have we been given the gift of Jesus at Easter and never unwrapped Him?

How many Easter services have we attended and never tasted the glorious riches He has for each of us because we've never unwrapped Him, or maybe never even found Him?

So, what is this gift?

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.'

[John 3:16-17 NIV]

The gift then, is eternal life!

And unlike Easter eggs, the gift of Jesus never goes out of date or perishes; the gift of Jesus lasts forever.

May each one of us unwrap Jesus this Easter and fully experience His love and grace.

Easter blessings,

Pastor Steve

01702 483827

pastorstemayo@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Talking Poetry

Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

12th April - Any humorous poem

26th April – Michael Longley

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



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The weekend of Friday 26th May to Sunday 28th May is our Church Anniversary Weekend.

On the Friday morning Pastor Steve will be in the Vestry to receive your Gift day contributions between 10am and noon.

The Sunday Service will be joint with Highlands and led by Pastor Steve and our Annual Church Meeting will take place after the service. It is open to all our Wesley Community.

CORONATION LUNCH 7TH MAY AT 12.30PM



We are having a lunch on the Sunday to celebrate King Charles Coronation. If you would like to come please sign up at back of Church. Cost same as last year £8.00 per person and £20.00 a family. For more information please contact June Childs. Thank you.

In Memory of Jean Turner

thank you!

Thank you so much for all the donations received in loving memory of Jean Turner. The sum of £224 has been sent to the Southend Foodbank. Jean's kindness to others is carrying on in this way.

Keith and Marjorie

HOSPITALITY (Ref Romans 12 v13)

I really value joining the monthly circuit Prayer Breakfast, which meets on Zoom at 8.30 am on the first Saturday of the month. It is open to everyone – ask me for details. At the end of the March meeting I said I thought it worked well on Zoom, but Norman Hooks quite rightly said that in the past we actually ate together, which was what the early church did regularly. We used to meet pre-COVID in The Elms on the London Road.

At this point I would like to give a big thank you to all in Wesley who provide our hospitality, but also offer apologies to anybody whom I omit, either because I am ignorant of their contribution, or in my haste to meet the Clarion deadline.

I think of Wesley as a warm, welcoming church, where hospitality is a big feature. It is great that after Sunday Worship the Stewards provide refreshments so we can stay and enjoy conversation and catch up. Janet's afternoon teas and cakes start again on the last Thursday of the month from 2-4pm; the first date is 27th April and continues with help from Pam and Linda until October (except August). The Friday and Saturday Sanctuary Café, organised by Emma, John, Sue, Linda and others is proving to be popular and is building up a number of regulars from the community. We can thoroughly recommend Miriam and her helpers' Thursday lunches; delicious food, good company and lively conversation.

I know the Poetry Group led by Joan Hawkins enjoys good hospitality along with their discussion and readings. The refreshments provided at Inspire and Memory Worship adds to the worship and activities. Likewise the tea and coffee is welcoming to those using the Warm Room facility on Tuesdays and Thursdays led by Geoff Fulford and his team.

We look forward to the hot-cross buns on Good Friday provided by Judy and our Coronation Lunch planned by June after the service on 7th May.

Eileen Simmons.

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

UPDATE ON GDPR

Thank you to all who have completed the Wesley Data Consent form to comply with GDPR requirements. The Managing Trustees of Wesley have a responsibility according to the guidelines laid down:

“The UK GDPR is the UK **General Data Protection Regulation**. It is a UK law which came into effect on 01 January 2021. It sets out the key principles, rights and obligations for most processing of personal data in the UK, except for law enforcement and intelligence agencies. It’s about your data protection.

GDPR's primary aim is to enhance individuals' control and rights over their personal data.

Completing the Data Consent Form meets our commitment to protect your data that we hold for you as a church attendee and to give you confidence and reassurance that we can promptly inform you of how your information is being used by Wesley Methodist Church should you request this information. “

Data includes but is not limited to: address, telephone number, email address etc.

As part of these obligations it is a requirement that we have completed Data Consent forms in order to use and store your personal information. If we do not have your consent then we are no longer able to use and store your information. These forms have to be completed every two years to make sure that the information is accurate and is still being used for the intended purpose. This action has been put in place to safeguard you as an individual and the Trustees of Wesley Methodist Church. If a breach of privacy occurs we are required to contact TMPC as the Data Controller for the Methodist Church and complete a Data Breach report.

If you do not complete a Data Consent Form then Church Council, as the Trustees of Wesley Methodist Church, are made aware and your information is deleted from the church's database, which means that we would no longer

be able to contact you on behalf of Wesley Methodist Church.

If you have not completed a Data Consent form would you kindly consider doing so, forms can be obtained from the vestry or contact either myself or Anna Wratlaw. If you have any questions please feel free to contact either of us.

Judy Taylor

PASTORAL NEWS as at 17th March 2023

David Cox continues to make good progress and it is lovely to see him back in his activities, eg. volunteering for the warm space.

Adrian Gravatt is gradually sorting out what is available for his needs and is wanting to get back to church more regularly.

It is a joy to welcome Jeannie Brooke on to our Community Roll. She has been worshipping with us since before Christmas.

I visit Pam Metcalf monthly and last week she seemed very well indeed.

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

**Lunches on Thursdays of the month at
12.30pm**

£7

Jacket Potato and salad, and Dessert

Dear all

Miriam Gifford has kindly offered to continue serving Light Lunches at Wesley on Thursdays, excepting April 6th (Maundy Thursday).

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

Open Top Bus Service Restarts



For those who are interested, the Open Top Bus Service 68 will restart on Saturday April 1st. The service operates on weekends and bank holidays until 17th September. A daily service will operate during school holidays from: 1st to 16th April, 27th May to 4th June and from 22nd July to 3rd September.

Buses will initially run hourly; leaving Leigh (Old Post Office) from 09.30 until 17.30 and returning from Southend Pier from 10.00 until 18.00. A more frequent half hourly service will run during the school summer holidays. Fuller details and times will be displayed at bus stops on the route.

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 diary.

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



CONNEXION

Please help yourself to a copy of this Methodist Magazine. If you take the last copy please read and return. They are on display in the Concourse.

NO CASH?

If you do not have any cash, to put in your weekly envelopes or offertory bag, we can also accept cheques and bank transfers. Cheques are made payable to Wesley Methodist Church and can either be put in the offertory bag or sent direct to me at 17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh on Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ.

Bank transfers details are:-

Sort Code 09-01-52

Account 15898702

Wesley Methodist Church

reference Giving or Offertory or similar (just so I know what it's for).

Of course, I'm happy to accept cash, cheques and bank transfers at any time and for anything!

Many Thanks
Tina Gowers

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.

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, or have any other general enquiries, please speak to a member of the Leadership Team.

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 two meetings are as follows:

- Saturday April 15th
- Saturday May 20th

Jocelyn Greenway

“It is with deep sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Jocelyn Greenway on Friday 17th March 2023. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gaye, Alan, Benedict, and family.

With love from
The Church Family at Wesley. “

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 at Wesley.

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 April 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.

Worship Dates for May 2023

Sunday 7th May at 11:00 - Preacher Rev P Perowne – Communion Service.

Sunday 14th May at 11:00 - Preacher Mrs M Kelly

Monday 15th May at 14:00-16:00 – Memory Worship.

Saturday 20th May at 09:30 Time for Prayer.

Sunday 21st May at 11:00- Preacher- Local Arrangement

Sunday 21st May at 17:30 Inspire Worship.

Tuesday 23rd May at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship.

Sunday 28th May at 11:00 – Preacher Pastor S Mayo this is a United Service at Wesley.

Editors' information

Please could I have all items for the May Clarion by **Friday 14th April 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.

