

June

THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: June 2023



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MINISTER'S LETTER



As I've been driving around recently, I've noticed that the Horse Chestnut trees are all out in blossom, and this has reminded of times gone by when I have collected conkers with my daughters when they were younger.

But looking at these blossoms on the trees, I had a thought about the potential of each individual flower to become a conker, or Horse Chestnut. This got me thinking about *our* potential in Christ as His disciples.

As we read our Bibles, we come across many characters who may have started out small, but over time, with God's

power and the Holy Spirit working through them, *did* fulfil their full potential.

People like Gideon, Moses and King David, but to name a few. They all may have started out small and weak, and even stumbled on their journeys through life, but eventually each of them fulfilled their potential because they allowed God Himself, to use them.

So, what about us?

How can we fulfil our full potential in Christ?

In Matthew 19:26 Jesus tells us that; '*... with God all things are possible.*' [NIV]

So, as we strive to become more like Jesus in our lives, may each one of us open ourselves up to God, allowing the Holy Spirit to direct and empower us so that each of us too, will be able to fulfil our full potential in Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Steve

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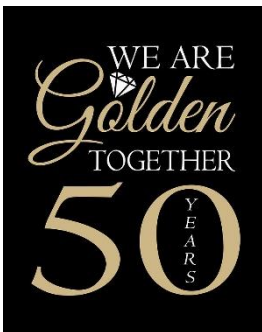
01702 483827

NEWS FROM THE PEWS



On 29th June, Mum and Dad (Geoff and Joan to all) will celebrate their Diamond Wedding anniversary . It will be 60 years since they married at Wesley on a summer's day in 1963. They have since had two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. We all wish you huge congratulations and send love on such a milestone.

Linda Parry



Linda and Peter Lister are to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Friday 16th June 2023 We wish them many congratulations and every blessing.

Talking Poetry



Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

14th June - Noel Coward

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

A special Parent & Toddler Thank you

I realised the other day I hadn't included Alexander's work as part of the P&T team in our annual report. So I just wanted to highlight this and to say a special thank you to Alexander Childs for his help. For those who aren't aware, Alexander comes into the church every Tuesday evening and sets up the P&T room tables and chairs, mat and gets all the toy boxes out ready. This saves myself and the rest of the team valuable time and lots of heavy lifting on a Wednesday morning. He's a valuable member of our team and we couldn't do it without him. Thanks Alex! From Becca, Georgina, June, Gaye x

LEGACIES

In the past our church has been fortunate to receive legacies, whereby our Wesley family have made their wills and left either a set amount to Wesley or a proportion of their assets. Such gifts have made possible a range of improvements in and around the premises. We have indeed been very grateful to such individuals for their kindness, forethought and generosity.

Over recent years, although we have continued our outreach with such initiatives as the Sanctuary Café and Warm Hub, we have not had the finance to carry out a programme of maintenance beyond essential Health and Safety purposes. We need to keep our premises in good repair, decorated and up-to-date and our organ needs money spent on it.

May I ask you to please kindly consider making a legacy to Wesley, as the needs of our church are great.

Pretty Muddy

I will be taking part in the Race for Life Basildon Pretty Muddy 5k on Sunday 18th June in aid of Cancer Research UK - a 5k run with obstacles and mud thrown in! If you would like to sponsor me for this event, the sponsorship form will be on the cafe table from Sunday 6th May, and I also have an online sponsorship page (please ask and I can share the link with you). Thank you! Anna Wratishaw

Southend Food Bank – Food Drive

Wesley continues to collect donations for Southend Foodbank and deliver these to the warehouse. A collection bin is available at the back of the church sanctuary, and all donations are very gratefully received. At the time of writing, the foodbank is giving out around 3 and a half tonnes of food a week, and the amount of people needing food parcels has risen around 80% from March 2022 to March 2023. Whilst donations have not dipped, the Foodbank is having to buy food every week to keep up with this need, and have spent £30,000 this year so far in order to keep the food parcels going out of the door. They have less than a week's stock

on their shelves for most of the food they pack into three-day parcels.

In order to further support the foodbank, we will be holding a monthly food drive at Wesley. These will take place on the first weekend of the month, and we encourage you to bring along any long-life food donations that you are able to. Whilst donations can be left at the church at any time, these food drives will provide a focus for us all as we seek to help those in our community who are struggling.

We are endeavouring to include an updated list of most needed items in the weekly notice sheet; for those with smartphones, the *Bank the Food* app can keep you updated with this list and will ping your phone when you enter a supermarket that has a foodbank donation point. The app is completely free and was developed in Southend with a local charity supporting Southend Foodbank. More information on how to donate food, drop-off points, financial donations and other ways to donate are available on the Southend Foodbank website, or please speak to Anna Wratishlaw.

Thank you for all you are able to give.

PASTORAL NEWS as at 16th May 2023

It was lovely to see David Cox at our wonderful Coronation special lunch. I have spoken to him today and he is being very well looked after by his daughter Louise and we wish him a steady recovery after his stroke.

All the Pastoral visitors are required to do safeguarding training and we are so fortunate that Judy Taylor is fully qualified to present this training

Both Rupert and Janice Bertie have been unwell, but are making progress. Again I have spoken to Janice today and enjoyed a good catch up on their news.

John Whiddett continues to make good progress.

Vanda Brockway has had another fall, breaking her other hip which has been replaced. She is now recovering at home.

Our Wesley family keeps all those who are unwell in our thoughts and prayers. We pray that we may continue to be a very welcoming church.

Since the beginning of 2023 we have welcomed and 'signed up' four sets of Community Roll attendees who seem very pleased to have joined us. They are Jade Foster, Jeannie Brooke, Dara Jones and Ursula Warwick.

Eileen Simmons Tel : 472521

email: eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

THE UNITED SERVICE at WESLEY at 11am on 20th August 2023

FAVOURITES

I first thought up and introduced this style of service at Wesley in 2021 and repeated it in 2022, both times it seemed appreciated and enjoyed. I am planned to be at Wesley on 20th. August this year and will use the 'favourites format' for the service, but this time it is a united service for Highlands and Belfairs at Wesley.

The invitation goes out this time to all three congregations to make your requests and offers for consideration. Looking back at the 2022 Order of Service we had favourite bible readings, worship songs, stories, prayers, hymns, poems,

Christian quotations and pieces of music. You are encouraged to actively take part, but others are willing to read on your behalf or explain the significance of your choice to you. Please be specific, eg. if you want Psalm 120 in the King James authorised version you need to say so!

We hope to have the Wesley Music Group to sing for us as well as musicians with their own instruments. Previously some people have given their own testimony as a natural outcome of their contribution.

I would hope to include as many people/requests as possible from all three churches so there is a limit of five minutes per item.

Please contact me during June and July with your requests/offers/ queries.

Eileen Simmons Tel: 472521

email: eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

CORONATION LUNCH

A big thank you to all who came to the lunch on Sunday 7th May. We have raised £110.00 for the church. I'd like to thank all the helpers too. Gaye, Ben, Georgina, Indiana, Isobel and Anna, Annette Charnock for doing the flowers, Janet Whiddett for making Victoria sponges and Geoff Fulford for doing sound and anyone else who helped in any way. My biggest thanks has to go to Alex who has put up bunting and other decorations, put out tables and been shopping countless times and provided discounts. Many thanks for making this an event to remember.

AFTERNOON TEA & 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.

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



**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.

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

JustGiving

Wesley is now on JustGiving! JustGiving enables people to donate directly to the church through our page on the website, or fundraise for us by linking their fundraising page to ours! So, if you know anyone who might want to fundraise for us through sponsored challenges or other events, it will be quick and easy to collect donations. There is also a new button on our website homepage which will link directly to this page.

You can find our page
at: <https://justgiving.com/wesleymethodistleigh>

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 meetings are as follows:

- Saturday June 17th
- Saturday July 15th
- No meeting in August

June Worship Dates

Sunday 4th June at 11:00 - Preacher Pastor C Turner – Communion Service.

Sunday 11th June at 11:00 - Preacher Pastor S Mayo

Saturday 17th June at 09:30 - Time for Prayer.

Sunday 18th June at 11:00- Preacher- Mrs S Strachan

Sunday 18th June at 17:30 - Inspire Worship.

Monday 19th June at 14:00 - 16:00 – Memory Worship.

Sunday 25th June at 11:00 – Preacher – Local Arrangement

Sunday 25th June at 6:30pm at Highlands – Circuit Service

Tuesday 27th June at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship

July Worship Dates

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

Sunday 9th July at 11:00 - Preacher Mrs S Hockett

Saturday 15th July at 09:30 - Time for Prayer.

Sunday 16th July at 11:00- Preacher- Mrs J Fulford

Sunday 16th July at 17:30 - Inspire Worship.

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

Sunday 23rd July at 11:00 –.Local Arrangement.

Tuesday 25th July at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship

Sunday 30th July - United Service at Belfairs.

Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the July/August Clarion by **Friday 16th June 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 – judith60@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.

