



THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: September 2023



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Content Page

Contact Information	3
Minister's Letter	4-6
News from the Pews.....	7-15
Time for Prayer	16
Wesley Prayer Chain.....	17
Worship information	18-19
Editor's information	20

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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; wild fires and floods seem to be getting more pervasive in certain parts of our world, even in areas which haven't experienced these events before.

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.

However, 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 Hebrews; *'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'*
[Hebrews 13:8 NIV]

And many of our hymns 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 for us as these never change.

'We may not know what the future holds, but we do know who holds the future.'

Every blessing,
Pastor Steve

Email: pastorstevemayo@gmail.com

Tel: 01702 483827

Harvest 8th October

We are planning to have a Harvest Lunch following the service on Sunday 8th October. This will be a ploughman's and a signup sheet will be available soon for you to choose your preference for cheese or ham. Obviously if you have any other dietary requirements, please let me know. Cost will be £8 each or £20 for a family. Please see June Childs or Gaye Greenway. Thank you



SCARECROWS

Also, as part of our Harvest celebrations we would like individuals or groups to make a scarecrow to decorate the balconies. They can be any size but the bigger the better. We will need them, at the latest, on Saturday 7th October.

GIFT MONTH

Our May 2023 Gift Month raised £2020 for which many thanks.

Tina Gowers & Eileen Simmons

Talking Poetry



Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

Wednesday 27th September – Wendy Cope

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

Dates for your Diary

Leadership Team Meeting – Mon 18th Sept 5:30pm

Property and Finance Meeting – Mon 2nd October 7:30pm

Macmillan Coffee Morning -Sat 7th October 10am-1pm

Santa's Charity Event – Sat 9th December 10am-3pm

**THANK
YOU**

We were pleased and surprised to receive so many cards from our Wesley friends offering congratulations on our Diamond Wedding Anniversary .The 60 years seems to have passed very quickly since we met and married at Wesley so long ago. Our celebration was three nights being thoroughly spoilt at the Talbooth in Dedham . Thank you all so much - Joan and Geoff

Church Life Meeting

We will be holding a Church Life meeting on Sunday 5th November after the morning service. It will be an opportunity for the church family to share thoughts and ideas around all aspects of the church's life, including worship, mission, evangelism, service, fundraising, communications etc. A sandwich lunch will be provided - please sign up on the list by the coffee table to help with numbers.

Cameo House group Autumn 2023

In the autumn we will be meeting once a month on the 3rd Wednesday from 2-3pm, sometimes a little longer, at Wesley in the concourse for discussion on a topic or on a scripture passage.

This September we are thinking about 'Prayer'.

The dates for this Autumn are:-

Wednesday 20th September

Wednesday 18th October

Wednesday 15th November

PASTORAL NEWS as at 18.8.2023

In my monthly Pastoral News I try to cover a range of issues that affect our lives. Some people are to be congratulated and have such good news

Judy Taylor, our church Secretary has been training to become a Worship Leader and I am delighted to report that she has successfully finished her course and joins Isobel Wratistlaw and Adrian Gravatt as a Wesley Worship Leader. Many congratulations Judy.

We welcome John Cochrane and Jacqui Mitchell who are now worshipping regularly with us.

I have spoken to Vanda Brockway this week. Both she and Jim have been very unwell and in and out of hospital. Vanda's deafness is such a limitation, but we managed a lovely conversation. I assured her that we keep them both in our thoughts and prayers.

Janet and John Whiddett are getting better and have appreciated the concern and interest shown.

Linda Forbes is also unwell and is undergoing tests. Paul Baker has a very bad back and is in a lot of pain.

We keep these individuals in our thoughts and prayers.

Eileen Simmons Tel :472521

email: eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

AFTERNOON TEA & CAKES FOR 2023

The Tea and Cake afternoons have restarted, so pencil in these dates for your diary.

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

September 28th

October 26th

And December 7th

Looking forward to seeing you

there, With love Janet, Pam and Linda



Creative Worship 2023 Autumn

For the Autumn these services are on the 4th Tuesday of each month for just less than an hour beginning at 8pm.

The dates this Autumn are:

Tuesday 26th Sept 8pm

Tuesday 24th Oct 8pm

Tuesday 28th Nov 8pm

Always different

Do come and join us.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Zoe Ager-Lowden and Sam Read on their engagement in America on the 31st July.

A slightly different proposal as this was underwater at the wreck of the Cornelia B Windiate a triple masted schooner built in 1874.

Zoe and Sam are both scuba divers and in their spare time, love exploring all the shipwrecks within our oceans, lakes etc.

We wish them all the best.

Love from Mum, David, Thomas and all the family.

September Prayer Diary

This month's prayer diary is somewhat different. There are a few prayers about new beginnings, but the rest are based on the books of the Bible that begin with the letters of the word SEPTEMBER. I have put OT, meaning Old Testament for the books of the Old Testament but nothing for those of the New Testament. I hope you find it interesting.

The prayer diary can be in any format but must fit two sides of A4. I am conscious that I have had to use font size 10 for September, so next month, October I intend to do one prayer for a week, probably Praise and Adoration, Confession and two Prayers of Intercessions.

If you feel you want to have a go at writing prayers for the month, please do tell me for which month, and to those who do usually write them for me - please volunteer again.

God Bless

Jane Fulford.



FERN BOUGHTON-SMITH "Fern's Fitness"

Any age are welcome to come and explore different types of exercise for fun, fitness or friendship.

It does not matter what your fitness level is , the exercises will be tailored to you!

Why not come and try! -The 1st session is free!

£7.00 a session after that.

Monday 11:00am – 12:00pm

Wesley Hall, Elm Road, Leigh on Sea SS91SJ



For further information contact Fern on 07802582733

"Men are welcome"

WELCOME TO WESLEY

Thursday Lunches at 12.30pm

£7 Donation

Jacket Potato and salad, and Dessert

September 2023

Please book by phoning Jane on 01702 714213
for catering purposes.

Please pay cash on the day. Thank you.

Looking forward to seeing you

Please note there will be **no** lunches on Thursday
7th September.

Warm Space Winter 2023/4

This coming winter we are again running the Warm Space at Wesley as energy bills will still be high and the cost of living continues to impact on household budgets. We will again be looking for volunteers to help out.

Last winter we had a very reliable team of helpers whose valuable contribution helped make the Warm Space a success.

It is intended to be open from 10.00 to 4.00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays again starting from Thursday 2nd November. If you can help either on a regular or occasional basis, please let me know by email fulford.family@btinternet.com or phone 01702714213

Last winter it was also open as a community hub as people dropped in for a chat, warmth and a tea or coffee. Everyone is welcome whether staying for 15 minutes or a couple of hours. We do need to make sure that we promote the Warm Space through banners, flyers, newspapers and websites so that everyone – not just church members - are aware that we are here for the whole community.

Thank you

Geoff Fulford

TIME FOR PRAYER

After much careful thought our monthly Time for Prayer will be moving to the third Thursday of the month from this September.

The Time for Prayer meeting will run from 10.30 am to 11.00 am and will be held in the Sanctuary as before. It will be followed by tea and cake served in the concourse from 11.00 am to 11.30 am.

To give everyone the opportunity to get used to the new arrangements and for it to settle in", we will review how it is working next summer so that any necessary changes can be decided for September 2024 onwards.

So, the dates for 2023 are as follows:

- 21st September
- 19th October
- 16th November
- December – no meeting

The dates for 2024 will be:

- 18th January
- 15th February (provisional)
- 21st March
- 18th April
- 16th May
- 20th June

- 18th July
- August – no meeting

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.



September Worship Dates

Sunday 3rd September at 11:00 - Preacher Rev B

Gutberlet – Communion Service.

Sunday 10th September at 11:00 - Preacher Pastor S Mayo

Sunday 17th September at 11:00 – Preacher Mrs J Taylor

Sunday 17th September at 17:30 - Inspire Worship.

Monday 18th September at 14:00 - 16:00 – Memory

Worship.

Thursday 21st September at 10:30am – 11:00am - Time for Prayer.

Sunday 24th September at 11:00 –Preacher- Miss S King

Tuesday 26th September at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship

October Worship Dates

Sunday 1st October at 11:00 - Preacher – Rev P Perowne – Communion Service.

Sunday 8th October 11:00 - Preacher Mrs J Fulford – Harvest Festival.

Sunday 15th October at 11:00 – Preacher Mrs E Simmons

Sunday 15th October at 17:30 - Inspire Worship.

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

Thursday 19th October at 10:30am – 11:00am- Time for Prayer.

Sunday 22nd October at 11:00 – Preacher Mrs S Hockett

Tuesday 24th October at 20:00 - 21:00 - Creative Worship

Sunday 29th October at 11:00 – United Service at Belfairs

Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the October Clarion by **Friday 15th September 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.

