



THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

Magazine Issue: November 2023



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Tel: 07825728351

MINISTER'S LETTER



I'm really not a big fan of this time of year. The days are getting shorter, the weather colder, trees are losing their leaves and the outlook is pretty bleak as we tumble on towards the shortest day of the year.

I think sometimes life can leave us with very similar feelings; darkness can seem to surround us and the cold reality of life comes upon us as a harsh winter, sometimes even cutting us to the bone.

But in creation there is a promise of new life. Even as the trees drop their leaves, already we see evidence of new life in the form of fresh buds.

And as we look forward in our lives, we also have a promise of new things to come. Isaiah 43:18-19a says;

¹⁸ *'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.*

¹⁹ *See, I am doing a new thing!* [NIVUK]

Here we have the opportunity to either look back at what has been, or to look forward with a freshness to what could be.

And as we step out into this new fresh future, we don't step out alone. Jesus Himself says in Matthew 28:20b; ^{20b} *And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.* [NIVUK]

So let us step out in confidence knowing that our Saviour walks with us into a bright, new tomorrow.

Every blessing,

Pastor Steve

01702 483827

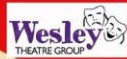
pastorstevemayo@gmail.com

News from the Pews

Dates for your Diary

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

WESLEY THEATRE GROUP PRESENTS



Camelot

by Ben Crocker



**FRI 1ST DEC
7.30PM**

**SAT 2ND DEC
2PM & 6PM**

WESLEY HALL

ELM ROAD | LEIGH-ON-SEA

**TICKETS: £7
CHILDREN: £5
FAMILY TICKET
(2A & 2C): £20**

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/WESLEY-THEATRE-GROUP**

BOOKING ESSENTIAL



Talking Poetry



Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

Wednesday 8th November – Any Remembrance Day Poem

Wednesday 22nd November – Dorothy Nlimmo

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

Thank
You

A big thankyou to all those who made scarecrows for our Harvest Festival. They looked great altogether.

PASTORAL NEWS as at 20.10. 2023

Joy Milner wishes to thank our church family for all the cards, messages, thoughts and prayers. She is now at home with a new hip and is making some progress. Unfortunately there are other medical issues which currently are slowing down the progress.

Keith Charnock - "Please continue to hold Keith and Marjorie in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult and emotional time. Keith was recently diagnosed with bowel cancer and will undergo major surgery on 15th November. Thank you. With our love Marjorie and Keith".

I went to see Adrian Gravatt, who has Parkinsons, this week. He was in good spirits and Southend Hospital have provided him with a very comfortable, quite splendid chair which can support him in various positions. We keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

Eileen Simmons Pastoral Co-ordinator

Tel : 472521 email:

eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

STILL MISSING

[A box of copies of OUR WESLEY STORIES which had been in the vestry has not turned up. If you have seen this box around or know where it was moved to, please will you kindly let me know. Eileen Simmons](#)

Cameo House Group Autumn 2023

This 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.

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. We have some new volunteers but are a little short on Thursday afternoon from 1.00 to 4.00. 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 posters, flyers, newspapers and website so that everyone – not just church members - are aware that we are here for the whole community. If you know a person or family that would benefit, please let them know.

Thank you, Geoff Fulford.

Creative Worship 2023 Autumn

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

The next dates are now for 2024:

Tuesday 23rd Jan 8pm

Tuesday 27th Feb 8pm

Always different

Do come and join us.

(Not on in November as many of those that attend Creative Worship are in the Panto – Do come to that on 1st and 2nd December 2023.)



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.
December 7th

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

WELCOME TO WESLEY

Thursday Lunches at 12.30pm

£7 Donation

Jacket Potato and salad, and Dessert

November 2023

Please book by phoning WESLEY CHURCH 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
9th November.

Toy & Gift service



Sunday 3rd December will be our annual Toy & Gift service, where we will be collecting donations of toys and gifts to distribute to local children and families who are struggling this Christmas. This year we are collecting for children in need of support at Leigh North Street school, with ages ranging from 4-11. Donations for younger or older children, and anything over and above the gifts needed by the school will be donated to Southend Toy Drive. This is run by Southend Council who liaise with local agencies and services to provide presents to families in need of support, ensuring that children in Southend have a Christmas present to open this year.

What can you donate?

New toys for babies, children and young people up to the age of 17 (if batteries are needed for toys, please include them); vouchers for toys or days out; selection packs; pens, pencils and colouring books; toiletry sets.

A polite reminder – we do ask that all toys and gifts donated are new and left unwrapped.

Your donations are very much appreciated. Thank you.

TIME FOR PRAYER

After much careful thought, our monthly Time for Prayer meeting was moved to the third Thursday of the month from September.

Time for Prayer now runs from 10.30 am to 11.00 am and is held in the Sanctuary as before. It is 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 remaining dates for 2023 are as follows:

- 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.

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



November 2023

Sunday 5th November at 11:00 - Preacher – Rev H Simmons – Communion Service.

Sunday 12th November at 10:45 - Preacher Mrs S Hockett – Remembrance Sunday

Thursday 16th November at 11:00am to 11:30am – Time for Prayer

Sunday 19th November at 11:00 – Preacher Mrs S Strachan

Sunday 19th November at 17:30 - Inspire Worship.

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

Sunday 26th November at 11:00 – Preacher – Pastor S. Mayo – Service will include The Rededication of Pastoral Visitors.

**DECEMBER SERVICE DATES NOT
AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING**

Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the December Clarion by **Friday 17th November 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.

