



# THE CLARION

**Wesley Methodist Church**

**January 2024**



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## MINISTER'S LETTER



So, how many of you made New Year resolutions?

Over the years I've made many;

- To lose weight
- To do more exercise
- To save money
- To be better at staying in touch with family and friends etc.

But unfortunately, often, before I've even reached the end of January, some, if not all of these resolutions, or promises,

have gone by the wayside! Over the years I've been rubbish at keeping New Year resolutions, and from what other people tell me, I'm definitely not alone!

In every year in the Methodist church, we renew our resolutions or promises to God through our Covenant Services, and although we may start with good intentions when making our promises to God, often, sadly, they can also fall by the wayside.

But fortunately for us, God *never* fails in His promises to us, no matter whether we manage to keep ours or not, right from His first covenant with the people of Israel, right through to us today.

So, no matter what this future year may hold for us, we can rely on God's promises to be sure and stable.

One of His promises is found in Deuteronomy 31:6; <sup>6</sup> *Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.* [NIVUK]

We can trust our God to keep His promises.

And remember; *'We may not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future.'* [Ralph Abernathy adpt.]

This January, I will be holding membership classes jointly with people from Belfairs and Wesley churches. These will be over 2 evenings. So, if you would like to explore membership of the Methodist church, please contact me using the details below. There is no pressure to sign just because you have attended the lessons, but you will be able to make an informed decision because of your attendance.

Every blessing,

Pastor Steve

[pastorstemayo@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstemayo@gmail.com)

01702 483827

## **News from the Pews**

### **Talking Poetry**

Wednesdays at 2:30pm



Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January – Percy Bysshe Shelley

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Allen Ginsberg

Please contact Joan Hawkins on email

[joanh838@icloud.com](mailto:joanh838@icloud.com) for further details'

## **Creative Worship 2024 Winter**

For Winter these services are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month for just less than an hour beginning at 8pm. The next dates are:

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 8pm

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 8pm

Always different - Do come and join us.

## **AFTERNOON TEA & CAKES FOR 2024**



The Tea and Cake afternoons, held on Thursday between 2pm-4pm in the Canteen Room, will restart in April 2024 so pencil in these dates for your diary:

April 25<sup>th</sup>

May 30<sup>th</sup>

June 27<sup>th</sup>

July 25<sup>th</sup>

August – holiday

September 26<sup>th</sup>

October 31<sup>st</sup>

And December 12<sup>th</sup>

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

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

## **Cameo House Group 2024**

We will be meeting once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday from 2-3pm, sometimes a little longer, at Wesley in the concourse for discussion on a topic or on a scripture passage. The next meeting will be held on January 17<sup>th</sup>



## **WELCOME TO WESLEY**

Thursday Lunches at 12.30pm

Are back for February 2024

£7 Donation

Jacket Potato and salad, and Dessert

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 15<sup>th</sup> February.

**NB: There are no Lunches in  
January**



**Jumble Sale**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024.**

**In aid of Christian Hope International and Wesley Methodist Church.**

Please put this event into your diaries. We need help on the day, with refreshments and sales. Please also start collecting jumble and hang on to those unwanted Christmas presents!

The proceeds from the sale and the outside food stand (provided by Steve Hockett) will go to Christian Hope and other refreshments to Wesley.

We will be able to receive your donations during the week prior to the sale. Watch out for further notices. Contact Pam or Gaye if you have jumble which you need us to collect in April.

Many thanks for your support.

Pam Boughton-Smith and Gaye Greenway

## **PASTORAL NEWS as at 14.12. 2023**

Please appreciate that events overtake us and this news can only be accurate at the dated noted. Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers.

I visited Adrian Gravatt this week which I enjoyed. He is undergoing medical investigations. He has had physiotherapists go to see him and they have given him exercises to do to help with his Parkinsons. He sends his best wishes to you all.

Paul Baker has been in hospital and was pleased to see Pastor Steve when he visited.

Similarly Audrey Bunday was pleased to see Pastor Steve when he went to her home. She wanted to send her love to us all.

Joy Milner hopes to be back worshipping with us in the New year now that her mobility is much improved after her operation.

Keith and Marjorie Charnock would like to give 'heartfelt thanks to Pastor Steve and our Wesley church family' for their kind thoughts, Get Well wishes and prayers for Keith during a very difficult and emotional time when he was in Southend Hospital for major surgery. Keith now needs to slowly recover and this is going to take time.

Please continue to hold Keith and Marjorie in your thoughts and prayers.

Some good news - Terry Harper has been successfully treated for prostate cancer and is recovering well. Terry and his family send belated Christmas greetings to all at Wesley and have made a donation to Southend Foodbank instead of sending cards this year

Eileen Simmons    Pastoral Co-ordinator

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## **Toy & Gift Service - Thank You**

Thank you so much for all your donations for our Toy & Gift service on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, all of which were taken to North Street school for distribution to families struggling this Christmas. This year, the school had identified 52 children and young people who would benefit from your gifts. This was a huge increase on last year, and really demonstrates the continued and increasing need for support in our local community. Your donations were incredibly appreciated, so thank you once again.

## **TIME FOR PRAYER**

The Time for Prayer meeting runs from 10.30 am to 11.00 am and is held in the Sanctuary. It will be followed by tea and cake, or hot soup and roll served in the concourse from 11.00 am to 11.30 am.

The next meeting is on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

The other dates for 2024 will be:

- 15<sup>th</sup> February (provisional)
- 21<sup>st</sup> March
- 18<sup>th</sup> April
- 16<sup>th</sup> May
- 20<sup>th</sup> June
- 18<sup>th</sup> 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.



## **January Service Dates 2024**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 11:00 am - Preacher – Rev B Gutberlet – Communion Service.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 11:00 am – Preacher – Mrs J Taylor

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm – 4pm – Memory Worship

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 10:30 am – Time for Prayer

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 11:00 am – Preacher - Pastor S Mayo

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 5:30 pm – Inspire Service

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 8pm – Creative Worship

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 11:00 am – Preacher – Miss S King

## **February Services Dates 2024**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 11:00 am- Preacher – Pastor S Mayo/Rev H Simmons- Covenant/Communion Service.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 11:00 am – Preacher – Mr J Phillips.

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 10:30 am – Time for Prayer.

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 11:00 am – Preacher - Mrs J Fulford.

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 5:30 pm – Inspire Service.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm – 4pm – Memory Worship.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 11:00 am – Preacher – Mrs P Smith.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 8pm – Creative Worship.

# Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the February 2024 Clarion by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**.

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](mailto:juditht60@outlook.com)

**Wesley Methodist  
Southend and Leigh**



**Church is a member of  
Circuit**

[www.southendandleigh.org](http://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.

