



# THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

May 2024



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## MINISTER'S LETTER



I regularly meet people who don't feel that they have anything to offer the church in way of gifts and talents; disheartened people who have very little hope and positivity about their role within God's family. I think it's probably human nature to look at others and wish we had their gifts or talents. But God has made us all as individuals, all different, all for a purpose and necessary for the smooth working of the church. We are all important cogs in the workings of the church.

1 Corinthians 12:14-22 tells us; <sup>14</sup> *Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part.* <sup>15</sup> *If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not*

*make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear says, “I am not part of the body because I am not an eye,” would that make it any less a part of the body? <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?*

*<sup>18</sup> But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. <sup>19</sup> How strange a body would be if it had only one part! <sup>20</sup> Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye can never say to the hand, “I don’t need you.” The head can’t say to the feet, “I don’t need you.” <sup>22</sup> In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary.’ [NLT]*

So, if you’re feeling that you don’t have a role or don’t seem to fit in anywhere in church life, then think again. YOU are important to God and to the smooth working of His church. You are a cog! Vital and important.

Take strength and encouragement from the reading above from 1 Corinthians, and find where you fit into your church.

Every blessing,

**Pastor Steve**

01702 483827

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

## **News from the Pews**

### **WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE**



SATURDAY 20TH JULY

IS AT WESLEY FROM

10AM TO 4.30PM

CONTACT JANE FULFORD FOR A PLACE

### **Talking Poetry**



Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Marge Piercy

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Pablo Neruda

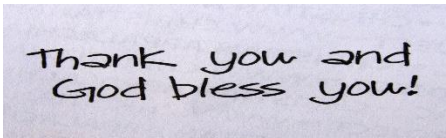
Please contact Joan Hawkins on email  
[joanh838@icloud.com](mailto:joanh838@icloud.com) for further details'

## Team Jumble

So far an amazing amount of £1,237.00 has been raised for the CH and ALS school [Christian Hope International] Many thanks go to:

- All the people involved in the advertising and promoting of the Jumble sale.
- People who moved all the tables down from upstairs and put them back again.
- All the volunteers who set the tables up and put the jumble out.
- The café and Hot Dog gang.
- The tidy uppers and the people who washed the floor.
- All the help that was given in taking left over jumble to the Charity Shops/the numerous tip runs and taking the rags for collection.

This really was a team event and would not have happened with our everyone's contribution, however small.



from Pam and Team Jumble.

## **Important Dates**

**Gift Day:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Pastor Steve will be in the Vestry to receive gifts from 10:00 to 12:00

**Church Anniversary Weekend:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Annual Church Meeting:** 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024 12:30- lunch will be provided

## **Safeguarding Training Dates:**

Safeguarding Training dates now available. If you know that you need to undertake training, please could you look at the dates available and let Judy Taylor know which one you would like to attend.

### **Foundation module.**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm venue tbc

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 9.30am at Wesley

There will also be a Saturday morning in June date tbc

The District is responsible for **Advanced Safeguarding** Training and have arranged Zoom dates. Please contact Rob Gray for further details.

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at 2pm

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7pm



## **Creative Worship 2024 Summer**

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

The dates for Summer 2024

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 8pm

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 8pm

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

No meeting in August

Always different, Do come and join us.

### **FERN BOUGHTON-SMITH**



All ages 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 – 12:00noon Wesley Hall, Elm Road, Leigh on Sea SS91SJ. For further information contact Fern on 07802582733

## Open Top Bus Services



For those who are interested, the Open Top Bus Service 68, running from Leigh to Southend Pier and Kursaal, has now restarted, running hourly on weekends and Bank Holidays.

A daily half hourly service will run during the summer school holidays and on other busy days.

In addition, a new Service 99 has been announced, which will run from Southend Pier to Shoeburyness East Beach, commencing on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

# **THE UPKEEP OF WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

We have been delighted to welcome some new people to worship with us recently and all have commented on how beautiful the Sanctuary is. Indeed our sanctuary is a real blessing; a flexible space that can be laid out differently for a range of services:

Sunday morning worship with chairs in an arc, Memory Worship with chairs laid out in a circle, an empty space for Fusion (youth group) and, as the Sanctuary Café on Friday and Saturday mornings and so on. The renovations have made all these functions possible. Before the renovations we had the old traditional fixed pews, which were a real restriction.

We are all invited to serve our church with our gifts of time, talents, commitments, and finance. As well as the Sanctuary we have a range of buildings, which make great demands on our financial resources.

I think of us as a Wesley family, worshipping together, serving and showing the love of God in our community, welcoming the newcomers, encouraging and praying for each other and offering friendship, pastoral support, and opportunities for all to contribute as you are able.

We are each in a different financial position and make our own decisions as to how much we can afford to give to

support our church, Over the coming months we intend to invite you to think again about this question.

Out of our financial resources we pay our assessment (payment) to the circuit, which is the group of Methodist Churches in Southend and Leigh. The assessment covers the stipends or salaries of the team of Ministers and Deacons, upkeep of the manses and the administrative costs of running the circuit.

We hire out the use of our buildings, but the income plus our giving does not always meet the costs of all the upkeep and repair and paying our own directly employed staff: treasurer, cleaner, organist and site manager. We are very blessed with our staff, who are very committed to Wesley and we really appreciate their contribution.

Over the coming months we intend to provide information for you to consider about some of these issues. Each year there is one extra giving opportunity when we hold Gift Day; this year it is the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Your Wesley Leadership Team:**

Pastor Steve

Ian Lowe - Senior Circuit Steward

Anna Wratishlaw - Communications

Judy Taylor – Church Secretary

Emma Hearn – Youth

Gaye Greenway - Worship & Mission

Eileen Simmons - Pastoral Coordinator

**List of issues to be included over three months:**

Role of Church Council

Tithing

Legacies in Wills

Regular weekly envelopes

Direct transfer to church account

The quinquennial assessment

Eileen Simmons Pastoral Co-ordinator.

Tel: 01702 472521

Email: [eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com)

## **PASTORAL NEWS as at 17.4.24**

It is always lovely and encouraging when new people wish to join our church and we are so pleased to welcome Carol Blakie. We are also pleased to welcome Chris Conway and his delightful children.

Wesley is an outward looking church actively reaching out into our community and Carol first came into Wesley via the Sanctuary Cafe and Chris via the Warm Room. I know both are feeling very much at home in our Wesley family.

It was good that Adrian Gravatt was able to get to church on Easter Sunday with his family members. Having had a good chat with him over the phone he hopes to return to church as often as possible.

Margaret Cotgrove is moving to Westerly Care Home so it will be much nearer for her to have visitors.

Do please keep all of our Wesley family, whom you know to be unwell in your thoughts and prayers.

Eileen Simmons Pastoral Co-ordinator

Tel : 01702 472521

email: [eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com)

## **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:

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 Helpers.

## **TIME FOR PRAYER**

Time for Prayer is held on the third Thursday of the month.  
This month it is on 16<sup>th</sup> May

The Time for Prayer meeting runs from 10.30 am to 11.00 am and is held in the Sanctuary. It is followed by tea and cake served in the concourse from 11.00 am to 11.30 am.

The dates for 2024 will be:

- 16<sup>th</sup> May
- 20<sup>th</sup> June
- 18<sup>th</sup> July
- August – no meeting



# WESLEY 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.

## **May Service Dates 2024**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 11:00am – Preacher: Rev C Samuels  
Communion Service.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 11:00am – Preacher: Mrs M  
Gutteridge.

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10:30am to 11:00am – Time for  
Prayer.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 11:00am – Preacher: Pastor S Mayo.

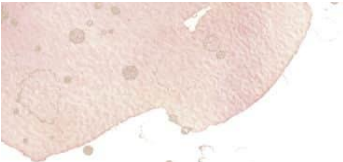
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 5:30pm – Inspire Service.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm-4pm – Memory Worship

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 11:00am – Local Arrangement.

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm – Creative Worship.

**JUNE SERVICE DATES WERE NOT  
AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING.**



Holy Father, you are the Creator of the heavens and earth and you are faithful and worthy of all the glory and honor. Thank you for the blessing of a new month. I pray for joy, love, and laughter in abundance. Guide me daily to make wise decisions in May. Drawing near to me as I draw near to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

PRAY FOR EVERYTHING



# Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the June 2024 Clarion by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 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.

