



# THE CLARION

**Wesley Methodist Church**

**November 2024**



Twitter: @leighwesleyMC



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Wesley Website: [www.wesleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.wesleymethodist.org.uk)

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[notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:notices@wesleymethodist.org.uk)

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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, at times, 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; a promise and a hope of things to come.

As we look forward in our lives, we also have a promise of new things to come. Isaiah 43:18-19a says; <sup>18</sup> *'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.* <sup>19</sup> *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 is still to come.

And as we step out into this new fresh future, we don't step out alone. Jesus Himself says in Matthew 28:20b; <sup>20b</sup> *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, our living hope, walks with us into a bright, new tomorrow.

Every blessing,

Revd. Steve

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

01702 483827

## **News from the Pews**



### **Talking Poetry**

Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Choose any poem by the given poet or subject:

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Any Remembrance Poem

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November – A E Housman

Please contact Joan Hawkins on email

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



## **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

## **Information from Church Council**

It has been agreed that, for a trial period, when our organist Rory Windass is taking annual leave, we will be using backing tracks instead of finding a replacement organist. This is a cost saving exercise, as we pay Rory Windass for his annual leave and then we have to pay a replacement organist, which doubles the cost.

This action will be reviewed and your comments are welcome.

# Ladies in Lavender

An evocative, heart-warming story of unfulfilled dreams and unrequited love, presented by the Wesley Theatre Group.

Based on the hit film screenplay by Charles Dance starring Judi Dench and Maggie Smith, and on the original short story by William J. Locke, Ladies In Lavender tells the tale of two sisters Ursula and Janet who live in a close-knit fishing village in picturesque Cornwall, in 1936. When a handsome and talented young Polish violinist bound for America is washed ashore, the Widdington sisters take him under their wing and nurse him back to health. However, the presence of the mysterious young man disrupts their peaceful lives and the community in which they live.



WESLEY THEATRE GROUP PRESENTS 

# Ladies in Lavender

Adapted for the stage by Shaun McKenna;  
Based on the film written and directed by Charles Dance  
From a short story by William J. Locke

**FRI 29TH &  
SAT 30TH NOV  
7.45PM**

WESLEY HALL | ELM ROAD  
LEIGH-ON-SEA

**TICKETS: £7**  
**BOX OFFICE**  
**01702 557764**  
**BUY ONLINE:**  
**WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK**  
**WESLEY-THEATRE-GROUP**

This amateur production of "Ladies in Lavender" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. [www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)

## **PASTORAL NEWS as at 18.10.24**

It was a delight to see **June Childs** back in church on 13<sup>th</sup> October with Alex in full support.

**Margaret Buckey** celebrated her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday recently and her thanks were read out in church on 13<sup>th</sup> for greetings received.

On the same day we also welcomed parents and children, who have been baptised over the past year. Janet Whiddett who organises all our baptisms made them all so welcome.

Following several further tests, I am pleased to say that **Joan Hawkins** has recently received a letter from the hospital giving her the all clear. She is now waiting to be discharged from the heart clinic, but is very thankful that the year looks like it will end better than it began

Eileen Simmons Pastoral Co-ordinator

Tel : 01702 472521 email:

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





## **Jumble Sale**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

We will be having our wonderful Jumble sale again next year. Please could you start gathering jumble and store at home until near the time. Collection can be arranged with prior notice.

We would like to appeal for volunteers, either setting up/on the day/packing down/taking rubbish to the tip.

There will be a brief meeting for helpers after the morning service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024, just to do some general planning.

Thank you, Pam and Gaye

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

The Tea and Cake afternoons, are held on Thursday between 2pm-4pm in the Canteen Room, so pencil in the final date for 2024 in your diary:

December 12<sup>th</sup>

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

## **CAROL SINGING**



This year the Carol singing will be on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.** We meet in the Concourse, **ready to leave at 6pm.**

We need as many voices as possible to bring the real spirit of Christmas to those living in our community. We may be accompanied by musicians, weather permitting, but anyone may bring an instrument and join in.

Please bring a TORCH so you can read all the verses of the carols from the sheet provided by Action for Children. All monies raised will go to this organization.

Children are required to bring a responsible adult, but families are always welcome – the more the merrier and louder! Please wrap up warm.

The evening will end in the usual way with possibly the same quiz, but not the same soup, rolls, mince pies and tea, coffee or squash.

For any more details, contact Jane and Geoff Fulford.  
[fulford.family@btinternet.com](mailto:fulford.family@btinternet.com)

## **Warm Space winter 2024/5**

This coming winter we are again running the Warm Space at Wesley as energy bills continue to rise and the cost of living still impacts 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 Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. We have some reliable volunteers but more are always welcome to help ease people's commitment. If you can help either on a regular or occasional basis, please let me know by email to [fulford.family@btinternet.com](mailto: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 2024/2025**

**Fourth Tuesday of most months at 8pm in the church**

Always something different, no sermon, maybe some singing or listening to hymns/songs.

Visually some activity or discussion but you can just sit quietly if you want to. Those who prepare the services, find it a discipline and a joy to think outside the box!

Preparation does take time and pre-September 2024 the numbers attending have been but a few. In a year's time we will re-evaluate this service

Any thoughts gratefully received, even better would be your presence

**We are NOT meeting in November and December**

The following are the dates for 2025

28<sup>th</sup> January 2025

25<sup>th</sup> February

25<sup>th</sup> March

**NOT in April**

27<sup>th</sup> May

24<sup>th</sup> June

22<sup>nd</sup> July

**NOT in August.**

Hope to see you there at any of the meetings

## **Communion and a Time of Prayer**

After much thought and prayer, we are offering a mid-week Communion on the second Wednesday of most months at 9am. This will be followed at 9.30am by Time for Prayer featuring private or group prayer as may be requested.

The dates for the year are:

13<sup>th</sup> November

11<sup>th</sup> December

And in 2025:

8<sup>th</sup> January

12<sup>th</sup> February

12<sup>th</sup> March

9<sup>th</sup> April

14<sup>th</sup> May

11<sup>th</sup> June

9<sup>th</sup> July

**No Communion in August**

## 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

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 Service Dates 2024**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 11:00am – Preacher: Reverend. S Mayo – Communion Service and Pastoral Visitor Rededication.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 10:45 am – Remembrance Sunday - Preacher: Mrs J Fulford.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 9am – Early Morning Communion Service followed at 9:30am by Time For Prayer

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 11:00am – Preacher: Mrs P Smith

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30pm – Inspire Service

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm-4pm – Memory Worship

**There is no Creative Worship Service this month.**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 11:00am – Preacher: Mrs J Taylor

**No December Service dates information available at time of printing.**

# Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the December 2024 Clarion by **Friday 15th November 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.

