



THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

January 2025



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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 right from His first covenant with the people of Israel, right through to 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; *⁶ 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; *'I don't know what the future may hold, but I know who holds the future.'* [Ralph Abernathy]

Every blessing,

Revd Steve

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 8th January – Joyce Grenfell

Wednesday 22nd January– Robert Graves

Please contact Joan Hawkins on email

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 1st 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

Fern's Fitness would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year and classes start back on Monday 6th January 2025.

THE CONNEXION

We receive this magazine four times a year. Do help yourself from the display stand on the left as you enter the Concourse from the Church. There are fascinating articles about a wide range of issues:

- > Eco Friendly Gardens
- > Warm Spaces
- > Methodist Woodworking Ministry
- > Methodist Heritage buildings

Eileen Simmons

PASTORAL NEWS

Congratulations to **Alex Childs** on gaining his Fork Lift driving qualification.

Wesley has looked wonderful during Advent and Christmas Time. We thank **Annette Charnock** for her skill and commitment.

On January 19th. 2025 Revd. Steve will lead our worship, during which **Jeannie Brooke, Ursula Warwick and Bruce Hopkins** will be welcomed into Membership.

Margaret Cotgrove's funeral will be held at Wesley on Thursday 2nd. January 2025 at 1pm. followed by a service at Southend Crematorium for just the family.

We are sad to inform you that **Shirley Baker** died this week. There will be a funeral in early January at Southend crematorium

Do please keep in your thoughts and prayers anyone in our Wesley family who is unwell.

Do please kindly contact me if any of your contact details change so that I can **update our records** and keep Revd. Steve informed. Sometimes people stop using a land line and rely on their mobiles.

Eileen Simmons Pastoral Co-ordinator

Tel : 01702 472521 email:
eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com



Jumble Sale

Saturday 12th 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.

Thank you, Pam and Gaye

Warm Space Winter 2024/5

This 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 open from 10.00 to 4.00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and started from Tuesday 5th 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 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 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

Happy New Year

The following are the dates for 2025

28th January 2025

25th February

25th March

NOT in April

27th May

24th June

22nd July

NOT in August.

Hope to see you there at any of the meetings.

Communion and a Time of Prayer 2025

All are welcome to Communion and a Time for Prayer on the second Wednesday of most months at 9am. This will be followed at 9.30am by a Time for Prayer including private or group prayer as may be requested. The dates for the year are:

8th January 2025

12th February

12th March

9th April

14th May

11th June

9th 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 Wratishaw 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.



January 2025 Service Dates

Sunday Jan 5th at 11:00am – Preacher: Reverend S Mayo
– Service will include Communion.

Wednesday Jan 8th at 9.00am – Early Morning Communion
Service followed at 9:30am by Time For Prayer.

Sunday Jan 12th at 11:00am – Preacher: Mrs A Briant.

Sunday Jan 19th at 11:00am – Preacher: Reverend S Mayo.

Sunday Jan 19th at 5:30pm – Inspire Service.

Monday Jan 20th at 2.00pm-4.00pm – Memory Worship.

Sunday Jan 26th at 11:00am – Preacher: Miss D Spinks.

Tuesday Jan 28th at 8.00pm – Creative Worship.

February 2025 Service Dates

Sunday Feb 2nd at 11:00am – Preacher: Reverend S Mayo
– Covenant Service and Communion.

Sunday Feb 9th at 11:00am – Preacher: Mrs. P. Smith

Wednesday Wed 12th February at 9.00am – Early Morning
Communion Service followed at 9:30am by Time For
Prayer.

Sunday Feb 16th at 11:00am – Preacher: Loc. Arrangement

Sunday Feb 16th at 5:30pm – Inspire Service.

Monday Feb 17th at 2.00pm-4.00pm – Memory Worship.

Sunday Feb 23rd at 11:00am – Preacher: Rev. A . Sam

Tuesday Feb 25th at 8.00pm – Creative Worship.

Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the February 2025 Clarion by **Friday 17th January 2025**

If you would like to contribute towards the 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.

