

THE CLARION

Wesley Methodist Church

November 2026

Twitter: @leighwesleyMC

Facebook: Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Wesley Website: www.wesleymethodist.org.uk

Content Page

Contact Information **3**

November Thought.....**4-6**

News from the Pews..... ……. **6-16**

Midweek Communion and Cameo …….....16**/17**

Reflective Worship **17**

Wesley Prayer Chain……**18**

Worship information ……..…….... **19**

Editor's information …….....**20**

Wesley Methodist Church - 76 Elm Road, Leigh on Sea, Essex, SS9 1SJ **Charity Number:** 1130293

Pastor in Charge: Pastor Mark Waghorn
Tel: 07467128048

Email: Pastormarkwaghorn@gmail.com

Fusion Link: Judy Taylor
Tel: 07504 492470
Email: judy@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Lettings: Alan Severne: Tel 01702 711851
lettings@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Church Council Secretary: Judy Taylor
Tel: 07504 492470
judy@wesleymethodist.org.uk

The Notices: Sue Hockett
sue.hockettt@gmail.com

Treasurer: Tina Gowers
Tel 07713 179111
tinagowers@sky.com

A time of Thanksgiving, Remembrance and Hope

As we enter winter, the days grow shorter and the nights get longer. It can be a difficult and lonely time for many as there are times we would rather stay at home in the warm than go out into the cold and dark to meet people. But November is also a season of thanksgiving, remembrance, and hope.

We are invited to pause and reflect on God's faithfulness throughout the year. Gratitude is not dependent on our circumstances but on the unchanging character of God. Whether this year has brought joy or challenges, we can be confident that God has walked beside us every step of the way.

November also brings opportunities to remember those who have gone before us, including those who have sacrificed so much for us. As we reflect on their lives and witness, we are encouraged by God's promise that nothing can separate us from His love. Because of Jesus, no matter what difficulties and challenges we face in this life, even when we don't understand why? God gives us his strength and peace to help us through and gives us a hope that reaches beyond this life and into eternity.

The Apostle Paul reminds us:

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Towards the end of November, we move towards the season of Advent, and we celebrate the birth of Jesus who came into our world as one of us to bring, Love, Peace, Joy and Hope.

This November, even through the dark and difficult times, may we know the light of Jesus and take time to count our blessings, support and be there for one another, and trust God's guidance and wisdom for the days ahead. Let us be people marked by thankfulness, compassion, faith and hope.

November Prayer

Loving God,

As we come into winter with the shorter days and longer nights, we thank You for Your constant presence in our lives. For every blessing seen and unseen, we give You our heartfelt thanks.

Comfort those who are bereaved, and those who are lonely, strengthen those who are struggling, and fill our hearts with Your peace and hope. Help us to trust You in every season and to share Your love with those around us.

As we journey towards Advent, draw us closer to You and remind us that Your light shines even in the darkest days.

In Jesus' name.

Amen

May God's peace and blessing be with you all this November.

Pastor Mark 😊

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Talking Poetry



Wednesdays at 2:30pm

Wednesday 11th November – Any Remembrance Poem
Wednesday 25th November – Thom Gunn

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

Afternoon Tea & Cakes



Tea & Cake Afternoons are held on Thursdays between 2pm-4pm in Room 3, so please book this date for your diary. We look forward to seeing you in 2026 on the following dates:

- November 26th

Janet and Pam.

Southend West Trefoil Guild.

We meet at Wesley Methodist Church on the first Thursday in every month from 4pm-6pm. Are you looking to make new friends? Learn new skills and give back to your community. Whether you have a background in Guiding or are completely new to the movement, The Trefoil Guild welcomed all over 18 years old. If you are interested and would like more information please contact Pam Boughton Smith. Mob: 07971785425



Charity News

£20 was given to the Dandelion Apple this month from Wesley.

Pam Boughton- Smith.



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 SS9 1SJ. For further information contact Fern

WESLEY METHODIST LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor Mark Waghorn

Anna Wratislaw

Eileen Simmons

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Isobel Wratislaw

Judy Taylor

Rupert Bertie

Sue Hockett



Hi Everyone, We are excited to announce that we are hosting a Craft Sale in Aid of Christian Hope International on Saturday 20th February 2027, make sure to pop the date in your diary so you don't miss out. We are busy working behind the scenes and there will be plenty more new and details to follow later.

Hope to see you there.

Pam and Team.



Harvest - Thank You!

Thank you for all your donations at our Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October, which were very gratefully received by Southend Foodbank. We were also able to send £120 from the retiring collection to local homeless charity Off The Streets. Thank you!



PASTORAL NEWS as at 16.10.26

We have received the sad news of **Annette Jarvis's** death. She was a beautiful soul, whose Christian beliefs were evident in her actions.

It is lovely to see **Gwen Hardy** back in church after her recent fall.

We look forward to **Lottie's** Baptism during our service on 1st. November. Lottie is Charlotte's daughter, Granddaughter of Miriam Gifford.

Recently I visited **Margaret Buckey** at home and really enjoyed a long chat. As you know Margaret had quite a bad fall and needed a hospital stay. As part of her treatment she had to have a blood transfusion. She was so grateful for this and asked me to mention how important it is for people to consider volunteering as blood donors. I used to do this regularly, but after our visit to teach in Tanzania in 2000 I was no longer allowed to give blood.

The **Rededication of Pastoral Visitors and Youth Workers** will take place during the service on 15th. November.

All members of Wesley have a named **Pastoral Visitor.** However, only some of our Community Roll have their own Visitor. Rupert Bertie is doing his safeguarding training to

become a Visitor. May I invite other Members to prayerfully consider this possibility.

Some of our church family who are unwell prefer not to have details in the Clarion and privacy is always respected.

Please continue to pray for those in our church family, who are ill at this time. Also please let me know of all family good news so that it can be shared if you are happy to do so.

Eileen Simmons Pastoral Co-ordinator

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

ACM OBJECTIVE UPDATES

We are continuing to look at the Objectives mentioned and written on our Post-It notes at our ACM this year. We would really value your support to fulfil as many of these as we can. The following is the latest update:

Buildings

Recycling: Please read this paragraph and don't necessarily think this is 'for others'. If you recycle at home, this is just what we want to make happen in the church, but we need *your* help!

As a reminder – we need to buy different colour-coded bins for strategic points within the halls. One local retailer sells 3 x 50litre bins for £40 and we need 4 sets as a minimum. We would also like to gather a few like-minded people together to move this Objective forward.

Don't forget!! We have **new wifi** and you will need the **new password** which can be found in the Vestry if you wish to use it.

Mission

Church Lunches: We have been given two very generous anonymous donations towards the cost of a new oven but would be very happy to receive more!

In order to help with the fundraising for the oven, we are offering a 2-course Church Lunch on **Sunday 15th November** following the morning service.

There will be a sign-up sheet available from 25th October for all those who wish to attend.

We would also love to hear from you if you would like to help in the kitchen!

Worship

Blue Christmas Service – a date for your diary:

We are hoping to hold a 'Blue Christmas' service on **Saturday December 19th at 3pm.** This is a service named after the Elvis Presley song and is a quiet reflective time held during Advent to support people for whom this Christmas (or any Christmas) is tinged with sadness. They may be experiencing grief, loneliness or pain. It offers a safe, welcoming space for those who find forced Christmas cheer difficult or painful. It also acknowledges sorrow by validating feelings of loss, depression, illness or the absence of a loved one. It often falls on or near the longest night of the year (21st December) to symbolise how God's light enters personal darkness.

As with all our services 'All are welcome'.

On The Way

This course will be starting on Monday 26th October from 6 – 8pm and will run for weekly for 5 weeks before Christmas, with the remaining sessions being picked up again in January. The evening will start with a shared meal and will continue in a relaxed informal way, finishing at 8pm.

If you are looking to:

- find an open and honest community of travelling companions to connect with
- get a fresh perspective on everyday life
- engage with Scripture, art, music and prayer in new ways
- explore faith in an open way, for the first time or the first time in a long time
- respond to that feeling there might be something more, even if you're not sure what it is yet

then please see Jane, Gaye or Isobel to express your interest.

You don't need to be new to Faith – you may have been journeying for some time. It doesn't matter! Everyone is welcome!

Housegroups:

Don't forget you are always welcome at either of the existing Housegroups – please see the weekly Notice Sheets for details of Cameo and Thursday Call.

Sunday Fun

This is the name given by Ruby for a new fledgeling time of fun learning about Jesus that we hope to run on Sunday mornings during the adults' worship, as and when it is asked for by the children. We are in the process of putting a number of boxes together with resources for all age groups that we can pick up and use whenever needed. As part of the resources, we need DBS checked adults to lead these

sessions. If you would like to help, please see Gaye or Isobel. If you are not currently DBS checked, don't let that put you off!! This can easily be arranged and completed online or in person.

Monthly Communion

9.00am 11th November 2026 at Wesley

Revd Heather Simmons will be offering most of our communions on the second Wednesday morning of each month throughout 2026 and part of 2027. Our Local Lay Pastor Mark Waghorn will offer a thought for the morning.

The dates are as follows:- 11th November, 9th December.

2027 13th January, 10th February, 10th March, 14th April, 12th May, 9th June, 14th July

Hope to see you there

God Bless You

Cameo

Wednesday 18th November at 2pm

Cameo is a home/study/fellowship group that meets once a month on the third Wednesday at Wesley in the quiet room at Wesley. At our November meeting we are thinking about 'Mary, the mother of Jesus.'

Our discussions are always interesting and could be on any topic – secular and even non secular! If you want to join us, please do.

God Bless

Jane

Reflective Worship

6.30pm - 7.30pm On Wednesday 28th October 2026

Reflective Worship focuses on quiet, more contemplative and meditative styles of worship, in an informal and relaxed setting.

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 07733 173810

Isobel Wratislaw 557764 mob 07508 164525
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 2026 Service Dates

Sunday 1st November at 11:00am – Preacher: Pastor M Waghorn– this service will the Baptism of Miriam Gifford's Granddaughter Lottie.

Sunday 9th November at 10:45 am – Preachers. Mrs J Fulford - Remembrance Service

Wednesday 11th November at 9.00am – Early Morning Communion
Service followed at 9:30am by Time For Prayer.

Sunday 15th November at 11:00am – Preacher: Pastor M Waghorn – This service will include the Rededication of Pastoral Visitors and Youth Workers and Communion.

Monday 16th November at 2.00pm-4.00pm – Memory Worship. All are welcome.

Sunday 22rd of November at 11:00am – Preacher: Mrs S Hockett

Sunday 22nd of November at 5:30pm – Creative Worship – Inspire – All are welcome.

Sunday 29th November at 11:00am – Preacher: Pastor M Waghorn. This is a United Service at Wesley.

AT THE TIME OF PRINTING DECEMBER DATES WERE NOT AVAILABLE.

Editor's information

Please could I have all items for the Dec 2026 Clarion by **Friday 13th November 2026**

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of The Clarion, there will be a plate out during the Sanctuary Cafe mornings and on a Sunday morning, should anyone wish to donate.
Judy Taylor – judith60@outlook.com

Wesley Methodist Church is a member of **Southend and Leigh 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.

Dementia Friendly Communities