



Weybridge Methodist Church

Newsletter October 2019



‘But I say to you, not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these.’

The
Ballet Coach
Academy



Our aim is to build children's self confidence and inspire them through dance,
but most of all ensure they have fun and learn in a supportive atmosphere.

Primary Ballet

Ages 4 - 6 years

Classes at Weybridge Methodist Church



Contact us for a

FREE

Taster Session

t: 07881 452021

 @dufeudance

e: hello@theballetcoach.com www.dufeudance.co.uk

www.weybridgemethodistchurch.org.uk

Weybridgemethodistoffice@gmail.com



Harvest Hands by Rev Elaine Lindridge.

*When he (Jesus) looked out over the crowds, his heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. “What a huge harvest!” he said to his disciples. “How few workers! On your knees and **pray for harvest***

hands!”

Matthew 9:36-38

I wonder when you read this passage what kind of harvest scene comes to mind? Perhaps you see rolling, yellow fields with full crops ready to be gathered in by the farmer. In my mind’s eye I don’t see that calming, picture postcard scene –I see people. Lots and lots of people. Crowds like one might expect to see in the city centre High Street on the Saturday before Christmas. Fields of people, people who are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

In this passage recorded in Matthew we read that when Jesus saw the crowds he was heartbroken, or as most translations put it, he had compassion on them. These people are important to Jesus and his love for them is evident in his reaction.

We know that the decline in membership, attendance and new disciples that we see – for most of us, it’s all we’ve ever known. Therefore it can be tempting to pray for a harvest of new people. But note the specific call from Jesus to pray not for the harvest, the harvest is already there, but to pray for harvest hands, to pray for missionaries.

When I visit churches and circuits, so many times I see that the problems they have are not so much about a lack of money, or the rule book (CPD), or opportunities or good ideas. Rather, it’s about people, namely not having enough people to be involved in the mission activities – the labourers are few. (Note I’m not talking about having people just to fill the many vacant jobs ‘needed’ in each local church).

So, I find myself asking, am I, are we, praying for more harvest hands, for more missionaries?

Throughout my District (Newcastle upon Tyne) I've been making a plea that we join in prayer for more harvest hands and at 10am on Mondays many of us pause to pray this prayer;

Lord of the Harvest, we pray for more Harvest Hands.

We come to you knowing that the Harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

We pray for willing Harvest Hands to join in your work in our communities so that all may come to know they are loved and cherished.

As we commit ourselves to pray, renew our hope and restore our passion so that we might welcome your guidance and influence.

May your kingdom come and your will be done. Amen.

Percentage wise, there are less and less people in Britain today involved in church or professing Jesus as Lord. We can see that as a huge problem, or we can see it as a wonderful opportunity. The mission/harvest field is literally on our doorstep, in our supermarkets, in the gym, the pub and the coffee shop. It's at the bus stop and at the sport event. The mission field even walks through the doors of our church buildings and pays us to book our hall. We are not overwhelmed with problems but with opportunities.

When we pray for the Lord of the Harvest to send missionaries, more Harvest Hands, we ought to consider listening very carefully. It may well be that God is calling us to respond, maybe we are to be part of the answer to our own prayers.



Thank you to all who contributed in any way to our Harvest Festival. Byfleet were very grateful to receive all the groceries which, combined with their own Harvest gifts, stocked the Foodbank cupboard to overflowing – although it has already started to empty.

Also a big thank you to all who were part of the Harvest lunch. We enjoyed a great time of fellowship (and scrumptious food)

www.weybridgemethodistchurch.org.uk

Weybridgemethodistoffice@gmail.com

THE FRIENDS OF ST. JAMES'



CHURCH, WEYBRIDGE

REGISTERED CHARITY 800920

GUIDED TOURS OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH

These are scheduled for the following dates, assuming there are at least 5 people booked per tour:

2.30 pm Tuesday 24th September

2.30 pm Wednesday 2nd October

2.30 pm Tuesday 8th October

3.00 pm Saturday 26th October

2.30 pm Tuesday 29th October.

The informative tour takes at least an hour and is followed by tea or coffee and cake at the back of the church with time to reflect on what you have seen and heard.

We are suggesting a minimum donation of £10 per person (no maximum!) which will cover refreshment costs and add to The Friends of St. James' Church fund, ready for the next church building expense.

We hope that you will be interested to hear the stories behind the artefacts inside our beautiful church.

Please book your slot with Carole Merritt on 01932 845174.

www.veybridgemethodistchurch.org.uk

Weybridgemethodistoffice@gmail.com



Happy Birthday

Ethan and Caitlin

Prayer Time:



Please pray for

- All those who are mentioned on our prayer tree.
- For Brenda & Keith as they continue to settle in their new home and church.
- For Rev David Faulkner as he continues his climb back to full health

The 'mobile' prayer group is open to all. Please add prayer needs as they occur to you. If you wish to be added to this group, contact Linda who will add you to the WhatsApp prayer group.

n.b the 'WhatsApp' application is downloadable from the App store and it is free. It is the safest application as it is the only one with end to end encryption of all content.



Church Property Matters

- The bi-annual treatment of the Mayfield Hall floor has been completed.
- The shed on the back patio has been weatherproofed.
- The laurel hedge has been ruthlessly trimmed and should see us through the winter.
- The church piano has been serviced.
- The annual boiler service is due during October.

~~~~~

## **Circuit Matters**

- During the summer the Circuit Invitations committee (Carol is our representative) met to consider inviting Rev David Faulkner to remain in this circuit for a further three years at the end of his current appointment in August 2020. The CIC recommended to circuit meeting that Dave should be re –invited and this recommendation was approved unanimously. Dave will continue to serve the Wey Valley Circuit until August 2023.
- The Circuit is in stationing for a presbyter at Trinity Woking.
- There is some hope for a new presbyter at Godalming United Church.
- There are still vacancies for a Circuit Steward, Circuit Property Secretary and Lay Employment Officer.

~~~~~

District Representative Synod.

This autumn's representative Synod spent most of the day considering the Marriage and Relationships report 'God in Love unites us' which comes from conference and looks at updating how the Methodist church defines marriage and relationships. The full report (69 pages) can be found at www.methodist.org.uk/MandR19

All churches are urged to discuss this report before the March 2020 Circuit meeting but as yet how we do so is unclear. All the district superintendent ministers are meeting this week to try and come up with a pragmatic way to ensure that all churches and circuits have had the opportunity to discuss the recommendations before District Synod meets in April 2020 to vote. The votes of all the district Synods will go to the 2020 Methodist Conference. This will be an emotive subject for many as

www.weybridgemethodistchurch.org.uk

Weybridgemethodistoffice@gmail.com

it includes a discussion on same sex marriages. We are all asked to pray for this subject and all those involved in the final decisions.



Dates for the Diary – October

Sunday 6 October 10.30 am	Morning Worship	Preacher: Rev Julia Monaghan <i>Steward: Pru</i> <i>Music: Jose</i> <i>Refreshments: Paula</i>
Sunday 13 October 10.30pm	Morning Worship	Preacher: Jean Shepherd <i>Steward: Jose</i> <i>Music: Adrian</i> <i>Refreshments: Lili</i>
Thursday 17 October 1.45 – 4 pm	Weybridge Old Folks Club	Our turn to help.
Sunday 20 October 10.30 am	Holy Communion & Morning Worship Gifts for Food Bank	Preacher: Rev Sydney Samuel Lake <i>Steward: Carol</i> <i>Music: Adrian</i> <i>Communion: Paula</i> <i>Refreshments: Linda</i>
Tuesday 22 October 8.00pm	CHURCH COUNCIL	PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
Saturday 26 October 11.30 – 1.30	Bedding Bank	PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF WEEK
Sunday 27 October 10.30 am	Morning Worship	Preacher: Local Arrangement(service supplied) <i>Steward: Linda</i> <i>Music: Jose</i> <i>Refreshments: Adelaide</i>

Future Dates for the diary

09 November 2019, 10 – 1 Circuit Mission Day. Venue Merrow Methodist Church. Speaker is Rev Tom Stuckey, former president of conference.

30 November 2019, Addlestone Christmas Fayre 10 - 2

01 December 2019, Our Café Church

29 February 2020. Circuit Mission Supper. Speaker is Mr Sam Monaghan, CEO of Methodist Homes.

Clothes and Bedding Bank

Claire and Carol run the clothes bank every month – usually on the third Saturday but occasionally subject to change for unavoidable reasons.

This initiative originated as a joint project of Churches Together in Weybridge but is now solely run by our church.

The project has always had links with Sure Start and Rent Start who can issue vouchers, as can the other churches in Weybridge but take up has been spasmodic and there have been times when the ladies have given up their time for no visitors.

When the Byfleet Methodist Church Foodbank opened it was decided to give them vouchers to issue to any family they felt were in real need. Thus last month the ladies had a very busy morning and felt much fulfilled to help two very needy families (one with 4 children and one with 5 children).

This aid led to further thought and we are about to talk to the Weybridge Foodbank based at St James' Church under the leadership of Deacon Louise to see if they will issue vouchers.

There is great need in the local community and we continue to find ways to tap into it.

Our church is very grateful to all the work and time Carol & Claire devote to this necessary project.



Circuit Gifts

Many of you will know that when the Wey Valley Circuit was formed in September 2016 all 13 Circuit churches were asked to provide a gift which encapsulated their church & town. Carol created a fabulous painting of historic places in Weybridge (a copy of which is on the noticeboard in the corridor and in the hall) as our offering. This year (September 2019-August 2020) it is being displayed at Trinity Methodist Church, Woking.

In 2016/17 we were gifted the offering from Stoughton, a small Methodist church between Guildford and Woking. This was a photo of their lovely church.

In 2017/18 we were gifted the offering, a lovely booklets, from Guildford St Marys Anglican/Methodist Church.

In 2018/19 we displayed the gift from Walton-on-Thames, our sister church just down the road

For this year (2019/20) we have the gift from Byfleet Methodist Church, just down the road in the opposite direction. This is a model of Concorde, the supersonic aircraft partly built at Brooklands. The eagle eyed amongst you will have spotted it sitting on the pulpit.



You're invited to:



Free event for all ages!

Messy Church logo © The Bible Reading Fellowship 2019
www.messychurch.org.uk

Messy Music

**Come and make instruments and lots
of loud music**

and

maybe sing some songs to go with it

from 3pm onwards

Saturday September 28th and October 26th

Walton Methodist Church, Terrace Road, Walton, KT12 2SR

Do phone and let us know that you are coming

01932 429184