



WELSHPOOL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Sue Lawler

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"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love"

MAY 2017 CHURCH BULLETIN

We extend a Warm Welcome to any visitors, or to anyone worshipping with us for the first time. Please make yourselves known to us, and stay after the service for a cup of tea and a chat. (There is a loop system for hearing aid users).

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK COLLECTION 2017

Envelopes are available now for return by the end of the month

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK SERVICE AND LUNCH

The Churches Together service will be held in our church at 10.45am on 14th May, and will be led by members of the Welsh Chapel. We will host the Lunch which follows. (No Bring and Share Lunch on 7th)

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS Christian Aid LENT APPEAL

Please return your collecting bag and donation to Chris Richards.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"A Recipe for Happiness"

Take two heaped cupfuls of Patience, one heartfelt of Love.

Two handfuls of Generosity, a dash of Laughter,
and a pinch of Understanding.

Sprinkle generously with Kindness and plenty of Faith. Mix well.

Spread over a lifetime and serve everybody you meet

Sunday 30th April

Lectionary

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Morning Worship at 11am at St Mary's

Evening Worship at 6pm at Cefn

(Group to Christian Guild Hotel, Willersley Castle, Matlock, until Friday, for 'Singing for Pleasure' Music, Fun and Fellowship Week)

This week:

Monday 1st Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12

Saturday 6th Coffee Morning & Friendship Lunch, 11-2

Saturday 6th Montgomeryshire Festival Concert, Hafren, 7.30pm
Vivaldi: 'Gloria in D'; Larley: 'In Praise of Music'
Please support Andrea, Bill, Derek, Kath, Roy & Janice who are singing in the Festival Choir.
Tickets available from Box Office, on line, or at door.

Sunday 7th May

Lectionary

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Bill Rowell
(No Bring and Share Lunch today)

Evening Worship at 6pm led by Nigel Evans

This week:

Monday 8th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm

Thursday 11th 'Reading the Bible Together' at 12; Picnic Lunch

Thursday 11th Safeguarding Training Session, 7pm

Saturday 13th Walking with Friends: Llangollen. Dept. 9.30am

Sunday 14th May Christian Aid Week

Lectionary

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5,15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by the Welsh Chapel,
followed by Bring and Share Lunch

Compline at 6pm led by Rev Sue Lawler

This week:

Monday 15th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm
Tuesday 16th Stewards' Meeting, 7.00pm
Thursday 18th Hymn Practice for Radio Wales recorded service, 7pm
ALL WELCOME!
Friday 19th Fellowship at 2.30pm
Friday 19th Gallery Group, 7pm
Saturday 20th PLANT SALE, Coffee Morning & Lunches, 10-2pm

Sunday 21st May Aldersgate Sunday

Lectionary

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3: 13-22; John 14: 15-21

Early Communion at 9am led by Rev Sue Lawler

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by the Jubilate Group

Evening Worship, Circuit Service for the Dedication of the Easter Offering, 6pm at Newtown. Please speak to a steward for transport.

This week:

Monday 22nd Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm
Monday 22nd Property and Finance Committee, 7.15pm
Tuesday 23rd RECORDING OF RADIO WALES SERVICE, 6-9pm
Thursday 25th 'Reading the Bible Together' at 12; Picnic Lunch

Sunday 28th May Sunday in Ascensiontide

Lectionary

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10,32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14;5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Gareth Evans

Evening Worship at 6pm led by Graham Smith

This week:

Monday 29th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12

(No meetings of Jubilate or Playgroup today)

Wednesday 31st Church Council at 7pm (*please note changed date*)

Saturday 3rd Coffee Morning & Friendship Lunches, 11-2pm

Sunday 4th June Pentecost

(June is Bible Month - all churches are asked to study James)

Lectionary

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34,35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Sue Lawler, Holy Communion
Bring and Share Lunch

Evening Worship at 6pm led by Rev Dr Jennie Hurd

This week:

Monday 5th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup
at 1pm

Thursday 8th Circuit Meeting at Newtown, 7pm

Please note that Rev Jennie Hurd will be providing pastoral cover on the following dates when Rev Sue is away: 28 April-12 May, 5-7 June, 12-14 June. For any emergency, in the first instance, please phone Janice on 850514 or any steward, who will contact Rev Jennie.

SWEET MAY - A PRAYER

Sweet May's soft brush soon shades the later trees,
Paints blossom on the hedge and stirs those furry bees.
For sky-blue days and nights that damp with velvet dew,
We thank you for the certainty of seasons new.

Sweet May's soft breath lifts birdsong high above the hill,
A skylark's notes cascade into the hazy still
Of peaceful skies; a moment's calm in busy days,
For this and all your gifts we give you thanks and praise.

Sweet May's soft steps lead slowly into summer's dance,
When all of nature vies to claim our every glance,
But in this wondrous changing world we look to you
That you might be our help and guide in all we do.

Andrea Davies

A PRAYER FOR THE WAY AHEAD

Be with us Lord, we pray, in all our doubts and fears
And bring us peace of mind to fade away our tears.

The promise of each dawn leads to a brighter day,
And helps our hopes to rise along life's future way.

If faith in Thee be strong, and trust is in Thy might;
Then fill us with Thy strength within Thy holy light.
Amen.

Elizabeth Gozney, submitted by Prue Bowen

"THE PRAYING HANDS": Albert Durer

(I recently received a card with an illustration of this well-known painting on the front, and on the back, an explanation of how it came to be written).

"The Praying Hands" was created as a result of a remarkable relationship between two artists, Albert Durer and his friend Franz Kingstein. As students they both worked as part-time labourers to try to earn enough money to carry in their studies. However in the economic climate of the time there was no way that they could both study and have time to earn enough with casual part-time jobs to survive in this way. They decided to draw lots to decide which of them should find full-time employment, and support them both, while the other would devote all his energies to his studies. Albert won, and agreed that when his studies were complete he would return and finance his friend Franz's studies.

However, when Durer, having become a great success in his field, eventually came back to fulfil his promise, he discovered the sacrifice Kingstein had made was far greater than either had foreseen. Through hard labour Franz's fingers had become twisted and bent. They could no longer delicately control an artist's brush and he could never hope to become a great painter like his friend Albert. However, he displayed no bitterness. He was glad to have played his part in his friend's success.

One day Durer found Franz at prayer and was so struck by his hands that he sketched them and later completed one of the great masterpieces of the early Renaissance period that we now know as "The Praying Hands".

It carries a story of love, faith, sacrifice and gratitude - a lesson for us all.