



WELSHPOOL METHODIST CHURCH

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"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love"

MAY 2018 CHURCH BULLETIN

We extend 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. (We have a loop system Please turn off mobile phones).

God in the "Round": for Trinity Sunday (tune: Frere Jacques)

God the Father, God the Father,
Christ his Son, Christ his Son,
And the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit,
There in One, Three in One!
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,
Like a dove, like a dove;
Jesus came to save us, Jesus came to save us,
God is love, God is love!
Son and Father, Holy Spirit,
Trinity, Trinity,
Wondrous power and glory, wondrous power and glory,
Blessed are we! Blessed are we!
God the Father, God the Father,
Christ his Son, Christ his Son,
And the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit,
Trinity, Three in One !

Andrea Davies

Sunday 29th April: Easter 5

Lectionary

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John15:1-8

Morning Worship with Communion at 11.00am at St Mary's

Evening Worship at 6pm led by John Harbron

This week

- Monday 30th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; NO Jubilate today;
Playgroup at 1pm
- Tuesday 1st Jubilate at 7.15pm
- Thursday 3rd 'Reading the Bible Together' at 12noon; picnic lunch
- Thursday 3rd Derek's Quiz Night, 7 for 7.30pm
- Saturday 5th Coffee Morning and Friendship Lunch
- Saturday 5th Montgomeryshire Festival Choir, Hafren, 7.30pm Haydn's
"Little Organ Mass" and Brahms' "Requiem" Please support
members of our circuit taking part Tickets from Theatre
Hafren, on line, or at the door

Sunday 6th May: Easter 6

Lectionary

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15: 9-17

Early Communion at 9am with Rev Marian; Breakfast

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Marian

Evening Worship with Communion at 6pm led by Rev Bob Thomas

This week

- Monday 7th Coffee Morning and **PLANT SALE** 9.30am to 12; Jubilate
at 10am
- Tuesday 8th Jubilate at 7.15pm
- Thursday 10th Prayer Meeting, "Listening for God in the Silence", 12-
12.30pm, led by Rev Marian; picnic lunch
- Thursday 10th Holy Communion for Ascension Day with Rev Marian, 7pm
- Saturday 12th Fun Beetle Drive with Refreshments, 7pm

Sunday 13th May: Easter 7

Lectionary

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

Circuit Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Canon Gareth Powell, Secretary of the Methodist Conference. Congregations from around the town will be joining us. A Bring and Share Lunch will follow.

Evening Worship, a United Service for Christian Aid Week, 6pm at St Mary's, preceded by a Bring and Share tea.

This week:

- Monday 14th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm
- Tuesday 15th Jubilate at 7.15pm
- Wednes 16th Meeting to discuss Sylvia Evans' bequest, 7pm
- Thursday 17th 'Reading the Bible Together' at 12noon; picnic lunch
- Friday 18th Fellowship at 2.30pm. Speaker: Rev Marian
- Friday 18th Gallery Group at 7pm
- Saturday 19th Coffee Morning and Friendship Lunch. We hope to be showing the Royal Wedding on the 'big screen'.

Sunday 20th May: Pentecost

Lectionary

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34,35b; Rom. 8:22-27; John 15:26-27,16:4b-15

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Terry Jobling

Circuit Service: Dedication of Easter Offering at Newtown at 6pm

This week:

- Monday 21st Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm; Property and Finance Comm. 7.15pm
- Tuesday 22nd Jubilate at 7.15pm
- Thursday 24th Prayer Meeting, 12-12.30pm, led by Rev Marian (TBC)
- Saturday 26th Coffee, Light Lunches, Stalls, 10am to 2pm Walking with Friends: Ellesmere. Dept. church at 2pm

Sunday 27th May: Trinity Sunday

Lectionary

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 104:1-9; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

Morning Worship with Communion at 10.45am led by Rev Marian

Evening Worship at 6pm led by Rev Michael Taylor

This week:

Monday 28th Coffee Morning and Light Lunches, 9.30am to 2pm

Tuesday 29th Jubilate at 7.15pm

Thursday 31st 'Reading the Bible Together' at 12noon; picnic lunch

Saturday 2nd Coffee Morning and Friendship Lunch

Sunday 3rd June

Lectionary

Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Psalm 81:1-10; 2 Cor.4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

Early Communion at 9am with Rev Marian

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Marian

Evening Worship with Communion at 6pm led by Rev Bill Rowell

This week:

Monday 4th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm; Church Council at 7pm

Tuesday 5th Jubilate at 7.15pm

Thursday 7th Prayer Meeting, 12-12.30pm, led by Rev Marian (TBC)

Thursday 7th Circuit Meeting at Newtown, 7pm

Saturday 9th June at 7.30pm: "SUMMER SERENADE"

with

JIGSAW SOUND

A return visit of this popular Shrewsbury Choir

Dates for the Diary: June, July and August

Saturday 9th June at 7.30pm

"Summer Serenade": Concert with **JIGSAW SOUND** of Shrewsbury

Tickets: £5 - for church funds and the choir's chosen charity

Sunday 10th June at 6pm

Welshpool Churches Together Service at 6pm for Bible Month, led by Jubilate, and focussing on this year's chosen book, Jonah. We shall be joined by the evening congregation from Newtown, and the service will include the singing of "**JONAH MAN JAZZ**" by Michael Hurd, a very lively setting of the Jonah story!

Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th June

We support Welshpool's **Festival of Transport** with exhibitions, activities, films and light refreshments on Saturday, and the **Festival Service** on Sunday at 10.45am led by Rev Marian.

Further details to follow.

Saturday 14th July

100 Cakes Stall and Coffee Morning raising funds for the transport of the Samaritans Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Saturday 11th August

Outing to the **BLACK COUNTRY LIVING MUSEUM** at Dudley.

Have you booked your place yet? This trip is proving very popular, so to avoid disappointment, sign up now on the list in the Meeting Room. Leaving Welshpool at 8.45am, and arriving by 10.30am, the whole day can be spent in the Museum - there is lots to see and do, both indoor and outdoor. Bring a picnic or eat in the various cafes or try traditional Fish 'n Chips. Return at 4.00pm, arriving home by 6.00pm. Cost, including coach fare and admission, is £22 (over 65s £20 and there is a cheaper rate for children).

A Selection of "Snippets" received - thanks to the contributors

The Good Old Days: A Pensioner's Memories

We met and lived a long time ago
We worked long hours and wages were low.
No TV, no radio, no bath - times were hard;
Just a cold water tap and a walk up the yard.
No holidays abroad, no carpet on the floor,
We put coal on the fire and did not lock the door.
Our children arrived - no Pill in those days,
And we brought them up without State aid.
They could go and play safely on the park,
Old folks could go safely out in the dark.
No valium, no muggings, there was nothing to rob,
We felt we were rich with just a couple of bob.
People were happier in those far off days -
Caring and kinder in so many ways.
Milkmen and paper boys would whistle and sing;
A night at the pictures was our mad fling!
We all had our share of trouble and strife
We just had to face it, it's the pattern of life.
I remember the blessings, our home and our love,
As we shared them together - I thank God above.

Christianity

- * The best vitamin for a Christian is B1
- * Under the same management for over 2000 years
- * Don't give up on yourself. Even Moses was a basket case.
- * Lead me not into temptation. I can find it myself.
- * "The Christian Church is the one organisation in the world that exists purely for the benefit of non-members" (*William Temple*)

Noah 2017

In the year 2017 the Lord came unto Noah, who was now living in Britain, and said, "Once again the earth has become wicked and over-populated, and I see the end of all flesh before me. Build another Ark and save two of every kind along with a few good humans, thy sons and their wives."

He gave Noah the blueprints, saying, "You have 6 months to build the Ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard - but no Ark.

"Noah!" he roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me Lord," begged Noah, "but things have changed. I needed a building permit. I've been arguing with the inspector about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claim that I've violated local byelaws by building the Ark in my yard and exceeding the height limitations. We had to go to an Appeals Tribunal for a decision.

Then the National Grid demanded a bond be deposited for the future costs of moving power lines and other overhead obstructions, to clear the passage for the Ark's move to the sea. I told them that the sea would be coming to us, but they wouldn't listen!

Getting the wood was another problem. There's a ban on cutting local trees in order to save the spotted owl. I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls - but they wouldn't listen!

When I started gathering the animals, I got sued by an animal rights group. They insisted that I was confining wild animals against their will. They argued the accommodation was too restrictive, and it was cruel and inhumane to put so many animals in a confined space. I am required to apply for 834 different licences to keep wild animals on private property.

Then I was told that I couldn't build the Ark until an environmental impact study had been conducted on your proposed flood. Further, the pitch to water-proof the Ark is a banned substance now as it is damaging to the environment.

Immigration is checking the status of most of the people who want to work. The scaffolding to build the superstructure is not approved by the Health and Safety Executive and is forbidden to use except for private structures less than 5 cubits ...

The trade unions say I can't use my sons. They insist I have to hire only Union workers with Ark-building experience.

To make matters worse, the Fraud Officer and the RSPCA seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to leave the country illegally with endangered species.

So, forgive me Lord, but it would take at least 100 years for me to finish this Ark."

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. Noah looked up in wonder and asked, "You mean you're not going to destroy the world?"

"No," said the Lord. "The Government beat me to it."

Appeared in Church Bulletins

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children, and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Notice in the kitchen of a Church Hall:

'Ladies, when you have emptied the teapot please stand upside down in the sink'..... to which someone has added: 'No hot bottoms on the formica, please!'

From Rev Marian

May 2018

Dear Friends,

Over the years, in Methodist Churches, usually when a committee (perhaps a Church Council) has been required to do things in a particular way, someone will ask:

‘Who says we have to do it this way?’

and there is usually someone who will answer: ‘Conference’!

The Methodist Conference meets each year around the end of June and the beginning of July. This year its representative session, which includes ministers and laypeople, will be meeting from June 29th to July 5th in Nottingham with Ordination Services taking place on Sunday July 1st. these are ‘ticket only’ services and, because large churches are needed, we sometimes borrow from other denominations!

Decisions which affect us in small, local churches, are made by representatives to the Methodist Conference. Some of those representatives are there because of the office they hold within the Church nationally (or, to use Methodist language ‘Connexionally’), others are elected by Synods, so the Wales Synod elected a number of people to represent the churches of this Methodist District.

Our General Church Meeting elects representatives to the Church Council; the Church Council has representatives – the Church Treasurer, a Church Steward and people appointed by the Church Council – who attend the Circuit Meeting; the Circuit Meeting appoints representatives to the District Synod. So, you can see that the decisions affecting our church are made by people like you and me, people based in local churches in towns, villages and cities throughout Great Britain. These include representatives from Methodist Churches overseas and a small number from other denominations in this country. A while ago, I was at a national committee of which I’m a member and someone asked for the dates of this year’s Methodist Conference. The first to find the relevant dates was a Roman Catholic priest who is an ecumenical representative to our Conference!

For us, the pattern looks like this:

Welshpool Methodist Church has a

General Church Meeting which elects representatives to the

Church Council which appoints representatives to the

Welshpool and Bro Hafren Circuit Meeting which appoints
representatives to the

Wales Synod which elects representatives to the

Methodist Conference which makes the decisions that affect us.

Over the years, I have encouraged people who have never been to Conference to visit, if they are in the area. It's become more difficult to do that but, if you are in Nottingham at the beginning of July, drop into the University, where this year's Conference will be held. There are seats allocated for visitors and observers and stewards on duty to guide you.

I was a member of Conference for nearly 30 years yet, like you, there are times when I disagree with the decisions that have been made. As a Methodist Minister, I'm required to abide by the decisions of Conference! I've always been in awe of those lay people who take a week or more of their holiday from work to attend. That's some commitment!

If you are in Nottingham, near the University, do go in. Who knows what you could bring back ... maybe a longing to attend as a representative! Not everyone can do that so the Secretary of the Methodist Conference, the Rev'd Canon Gareth Powell, is coming to us on May 13th. Do be there to give him a brilliant 'Welshpool' welcome!

Peace!

Marian