



WELSHPOOL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Marian Jones

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"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love"

NOVEMBER 2017 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).

For your particular attention this month (details inside)

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|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1st November | OPEN CHURCH MEETING, 7.15pm |
| 2nd November | STEWARDS and PASTORAL VISITORS, 10am |
| 2nd November | PRAYER MEETING, 12 - 12.30pm |
| 16th November | DEREK'S QUIZ EVENING, 7.30pm |
| 23rd November | WORSHIP CONSULTATION, 2pm |

Wanted for the Christmas Fair on 2nd December

Gift bags, ladies' handbags and scarves, cakes and preserves, items for the raffle - offers of help on the day to Fiona please.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the October meeting, together with the detailed accounts for the year 2016-17, are on the Notice Board in the Meeting Room.

Sunday 29th October

Lectionary

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thess.2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

Morning Worship at 11am at **St Mary's**

Evening Worship with Communion at 6pm at **Cefn** led by Rev Bob

This week:

Monday 30th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm

Tuesday 31st Jubilate at 7.15pm, practising for Christmas

Wed. 1st Open Meeting to discuss use of Legacy, 7.15pm

Thursday 2nd Church Stewards' and Pastoral Visitors' Meeting, 10am
"Listening for God in the silence" - Meeting for Prayer, 12 - 12.30pm; picnic lunch

Friday 3rd 'Christians Against Poverty', session 2, 7pm

Saturday 4th Coffee Morning and Friendship Lunch

Sunday 5th November

Lectionary

Micah 3:5-12; Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Bob. Bring & Share Lunch.

Compline at 6pm led by Jenny Thomas and Andrea Davies

This week:

Monday 6th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm

Tuesday 7th Jubilate at 7.15pm

Thursday 9th Reading the Bible Together at 12; picnic lunch
Music Club Concert, 7.30pm - Richard Ormrod, piano

Saturday 11th Packing Christmas Shoeboxes, 9.30am
Walking with Friends: Llanymynech to Pool Quay, 10am
Remembrance Day Silence observed 11am, Town Hall

Remembrance Sunday 12th November

Lectionary

Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Churches Together at St Mary's at 10.45am - preacher: Rev Marian
Remembrance Service at High Street, 4pm led by Rev Marian (HC)

This week:

Monday 13th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm
Tuesday 14th Jubilate at 7.15pm
Thursday 16th Derek's Quiz Night, with light refreshments, 7.30pm
Friday 17th Fellowship at 2.30pm. Speaker: Canon Julia Francis
Friday 17th 'Christians Against Poverty', session 3, 7pm
Saturday 18th Coffee Morning and Friendship Lunch

Sunday 19th November

Lectionary

Zeph. 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8(9-11)12; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matt. 25:14-30

Early Communion at 9am led by Rev Marian, followed by breakfast

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Rev Marian.

No Evening Worship (Cefn's service at 6pm led by Bill Rowell)

This week:

Monday 20th Coffee Morning 9.30am to 12; Jubilate at 10am; Playgroup at 1pm
Tuesday 21st Jubilate at 7.15pm
Thursday 23rd Reading the Bible Together at 12; picnic lunch
Worship Consultation at 2pm
Friday 24th Gallery Group at 7pm

Sunday 26th November

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Gareth Evans

Afternoon Tea Service at 4pm Prayer and Praise led by Andrea Davies

Wednesday 1st at 7.15pm

All are invited to a meeting with members of the Property and Finance Committee to discuss the various suggestions received for the use of the generous Legacy left to the church by the late Sylvia Evans. We have a huge responsibility to use Sylvia's gift wisely, and although we don't want to make a hasty decision we may later regret, we would like to take a recommendation to Church Council before the end of the church year, hence the need for us to meet together and share the decision-making. Please join us.

Thursday 2nd at 12 noon

"Listening for God in the silence" - a time of prayer, reflecting on a passage of Scripture and lasting for about 30 minutes. One of Rev Marian's initial observations is that the church doesn't have a Prayer Group, and so we are introducing this monthly meeting, and hope you will join us, and maybe stay on with a picnic lunch (drinks provided).

Fridays 3rd and 17th at 7pm

'Christians Against Poverty' - follow-up sessions (the first was on 27th October) led by Fiona Jones, Karen Kerr and Eric Pacey, who attended a CAP Training Course in October. If you were in church on 22nd October, you will have heard about this initiative, but if you would like to know more, speak to one of the leaders named above.

Thursday 23rd November at 2pm

We have been holding regular Worship Consultation meetings for a number of years, but are hoping for a better attendance by switching the meeting time from evening to afternoon. Please come along and tell us how you feel about the worship we offer, with suggestions for change or improvement, and requests/ideas for visiting preachers, as we make plans for regular worship and special services during the first half of 2018.

Rev Marian writes:

Dear Friends

I'm sure you know 'Remember, remember, the fifth of November ...'

November is a month for remembering, beginning with All Saints' Day on 1st, followed by All Souls' Day on 2nd. A particular time to remember those we love who have died and to remind ourselves that, as St. Paul constantly tells the people in the churches he writes to, we are all called saints.

For those who enjoy fireworks, there's the annual reminder of the Gunpowder Plot with sparks flying - although, where I live, already the evenings are punctuated with their noise, and it's only mid-October!

Later, in towns and villages throughout the land, people will gather at War Memorials to commemorate the lives lost in war. Last year, on the centenary of the death of a great uncle, I was in Westminster Abbey at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior (before the doors opened to the public and the crowds arrived), thinking of a man I never knew and whose body was never identified, but who had fought alongside his older brother, my grandfather.

Remembering plays a huge part in our lives and in our faith. We have a natural ability to forget those things we no longer need to remember - recently I was presented with a physics problem (one of the subjects I did for 'A' level) and it was like reading a foreign language.

Memory and identity are closely linked, hence the pain and sadness of those cruel illnesses that lead to an inability to remember.

If we rely on memory, we also need vision but that's for another time.

With best wishes,

Marian

Why remember?

Words of reflection from "Prayers for All Seasons" by Nick Fawcett

Why remember events that happened many years ago? Why perpetuate memories of a conflict long since past? Many today understandably raise such questions and had we enjoyed unbroken global peace since the two World Wars their arguments would carry much force. Only, of course, the reality is that conflict continues to be all too common - daily we have stark reminders of the tensions which continue to scar our world. There are no easy answers to such divisions, and history has taught us that peace, if secured at all, is a fragile thing, hard won and easily broken. Yet the cost of war reminds us of the need to establish global justice and to break down the barriers that continue to exact such a heavy toll. We owe it not just to the countless human victims of war but, above all, to God - the greatest victim of all.

November Prayer

Where poppies flame on wreath and coat,
November memories stir the heart;
O may the love of God bring hope
To places war still tears apart.

While burnished trees weep their last leaves
On cenotaph and private grave,
O may we share those words of truth
That Jesus died, our souls to save.

And if we live as we should live,
We spread the message of His word;
O may God's love light many fires,
Bring peace and healing round the world.

Andrea Davies