

WELSHPOOL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Revd Jacquie Evans

Tel: 01686 625690

"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love"

"THE MESSENGER"

FEBRUARY 2023

We extend a Warm Welcome to ALL - to visitors or anyone worshipping with us for the first time. Please make yourselves known to us. If you are with us on a Sunday morning, do join us after the service in the Meeting Room for a cup of tea/coffee.

"POSTCARDS FROM WELSHPOOL"

Friday, 17th February at 2.30pm

Peter and Julia Francis, and friends, make a welcome return to present again this interesting and entertaining depiction of our town and local area through a miscellany of songs, words and visual images. If you missed this in October, do come and join us and bring your friends. The afternoon will be hosted by Friday Fellowship, and will conclude with tea and cakes. There is no charge, donations for our charity are invited.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

These words, attributed to John Wesley, were included in a member's 'Thought for the Day' at the start of a recent Jubilate session. It's good to be reminded of them again.

**"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can, in all the places you can.
to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."**

Sunday 29th January

We welcome our friends from St Mary's who join us in our worship this morning.

This week:

Monday 30th Coffee Morning, 9.30am; Jubilate, 10am

Wednes. 1st Church open for Private Prayer, 10-12
Craft Group, 2-4pm

Mid-week Movie: "Anna Karenina", 2pm

Friday 3rd "Singalong with Derek", 2.30pm

Saturday 4th Coffee Morning, 9.30am

Sunday 5th February

Lectionary

Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-10; 1 Corin. 2:1-16; Matt. 5:13-20

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Graham Smith

This week:

Monday 6th Coffee Morning 9.30am; Jubilate at 10am

Wednes. 8th Church open for Private Prayer, 10-12
Craft Group, 2-4pm

Property and Finance Committee, 7.15pm

Thursday 9th Reading the Bible Together, 12noon

Meeting of Churches Together, 7.30pm

Sunday 12th February

Lectionary

Deut. 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corin. 3:1-9; Matt. 5:21-37

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Revd Marian (Communion)

Evening Worship at 6pm at the Welsh Chapel (WCT)

This week:

Monday 13th Coffee Morning, 9.30am; Jubilate, 10am

Wednes. 15th Church open for Private Prayer, 10-12
Craft Group, 2-4pm; Church Council, 7.15pm

Friday 17th "Postcards from Welshpool", 2.30pm, presented
by Peter and Julia Francis, hosted by Fellowship.

Saturday 18th Coffee and Lunches, 10am - 1.30pm

Sunday 19th February Sunday before Lent

Lectionary

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Revd Jacquie

Afternoon Tea Service at 4pm led by Revd Bill Rowell

This week:

Monday 20th Coffee Morning 9.30am; Jubilate 10am

Wednes. 22nd Church open for Private Prayer, 10-12
Craft Group, 2-4pm

Thursday 21st Reading the Bible Together, 12noon

Sunday 26th February First Sunday in Lent

Lectionary

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matt.4:1-11

Morning Worship at 10.45am led by Revd Dr Jennie Hurd

This week:

Monday 27th Coffee Morning 9.30am; Jubilate 10am

Wednes. 1st Church open for Private Prayer, 10-12
Craft Group, 2-4pm; Mid-week Movie, 2pm:

"Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat"

Saturday 4th Coffee Morning, 9.30am

News and Updates

1. **Belated Congratulations** to Tony and Margaret Harvey who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 16th January.
2. **Happy Birthday** to Gwen Jones who will be 92 on 6th February. We send good wishes to her, to others of our church family we know who have birthdays this month - and also, belatedly, to Selina Owen, who last month reached the stage in life when "life begins"!!
3. **We pray** for those members of our church family who, for various reasons, are unable to worship with us at the moment, thinking especially of Kath Smith and Rozel Kneale.
4. **We welcome back** Revd Dr Jennie Hurd, as she takes our morning worship on 26th February. Since the coming together of the Wales Synod and Synod Cymru to form Wales Synod Cymru last September, Jennie and Revd Stephen Wigley are working together as Co Chairs.
5. **February's mid-week movie**, "Anna Karenina", is a 2012 historical drama film adapted by Tom Stoppard from Leo Tolstoy's 1878 novel. It depicts the tragedy of Russian aristocrat and socialite Anna Karenina, wife of senior statesman Alexai Karenin, and her affair with affluent cavalry officer Count Vronsky, which scandalises the social circles of St Petersburg and forces the young couple to flee to Italy in search of happiness, but after they return to Russia, their lives further unravel. The film stars Keira Knightly as Anna and Jude Law as Vronsky. Free admission.
6. **Food Bank** - please place your donations in the red box in the Foyer and ensure all goods are well within use by date. Urgently needed: tinned carrots, peas, meat-meals, fruit, rice pudding; rice, jam, cereals, sugar, wash powder, toilet rolls.

Duties for February

5th

Stewards	Terry and Chris R
Music	Vio/Bet
Welcome	Gordon
Teas	Pat J and Chris P (+A N Other)

12th

Stewards	Chris P and Eric
Music	Gill
Welcome	Tony H
Teas	Pat P, Pam B and Liz P

19th

Stewards	Anne, Terry and Bert (Chris R at 4pm)
Music	Vio/Bet at 10.45am; Janice at 4pm
Welcome	Eric
Teas	Eric, Jean and Fiona

26nd

Stewards	Chris R and Eric
Music	Bet
Welcome	Gordon
Teas	Joan, Dorothy and Janice

5th March

Stewards	Anne and Bert
Music	Vio/Janice
Welcome	Terry P
Teas	Pat J, Chris P and Trish

NB. Thanks to all who serve on the various rotas. If you would like to offer your help, please speak to Janice or any Steward. We can always find a job for you!

"Heaven's Grocery Store"

As I was walking down life's highway, many years ago,
I came across a sign that read:
"HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE".

When I got a little closer the doors swung open wide,
And when I came to myself, I was standing inside
And saw a host of Angels. They were standing everywhere.
One handed me a basket and said, "My child, shop with care."
Everything a human needed was in that Grocery Store,
And what you could not carry, you could come back for more.

First, I got some PATIENCE,
LOVE was in the same row,
Further down was UNDERSTANDING -
You need that everywhere you go.

I got a box of WISDOM, and FAITH a bag or two,
And CHARITY of course - I would need some of that too.
I couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST, it was all over the place,
And then some STRENGTH and COURAGE
to help me run the race.

My basket now was getting full but I remembered
I needed GRACE.

And then I chose SALVATION, for salvation was free -
I tried to get enough of that to do for you and me.
Then I started to the counter to pay my grocery bill,
For I thought I had everything to do the Master's will.
As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER and put that in,
For I knew that when I stepped outside, I would run into sin.
SONG and PRAISE were hanging up, so I just helped myself.

Then I said to the angel, "Now how much do I owe?"
"My child," he said, "God paid your bill, a long, long time ago."

Final thoughts "Listen, my people, here is my challenge"

This month's newsletter starts with the challenging words of John Wesley, and from the earliest days of the Methodist societies, it was Wesley who invited the Methodist people to renew their covenant relationship with God, which we did in this year's Covenant Service on 8th January, when the following "new hymn" was sung, with more challenging words.

"Listen, my people, here is my challenge:

Can you be loving as I love you?

Those who offend you, hurt or ill-treat you,
Like you God's children, they're precious too!"

Do you mean us, Lord? Can it be done, Lord?

Self-giving love that looks for no gain?

If you'll stay close we'll give it a try, Lord,
Showing your mercy, sharing your pain.

"Listen, my people, here is my challenge:

Can you forgive as I forgive you?

Those who have failed you, pained or betrayed you,
Do not condemn, you've all done it too."

Do you mean us, Lord? Can it be done Lord?

You will repay, so leave it to you?

Help us to trust and let you be judge, Lord.
As you forgive, may we forgive too.

Words by Gillian Collins

Suggested tune: "Bunessan" (StF 136: Morning has broken)

Bible reference: Luke 6:27, 37 Jesus said, "I tell you who hear me: love your enemies...do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

Answers to January's puzzle - Car parts and accessories

1. Car mat
2. Horn
3. Arm rest
4. Immobiliser
5. Satnav
6. Airbag
7. Gear box
8. Interior light
9. Seat belt
10. Parcel shelf
11. Glove box
12. Ash tray
13. First Aid Box
14. AirCon
15. Radio
16. Boot
17. Clutch pedal
18. Spare wheel
19. Windscreen
20. Rev. counter

Puzzle time: Things found in Newspapers or Magazines

1. Angry remark (9)
2. Re-use fat - for distinctive parts (8)
3. Relation following excruciating pain for advice (5, 4)
4. Reach sword in any direction to find what's hidden (10)
5. Send us down one kitchen utensil to arrange numbers initially (6)
6. Popular custom or style, with attendant to bride (7, 4)
7. One of 66 in Bible with analysis (4, 6)
8. Broad kimono sash + short afternoon meal + uranium symbol + first sign of the Zodiac (10)
9. Sounds like a number of floors of a building (7)
10. I rent vests made - into commercial notices (14)
11. Heed it or I alert inside for written opinion (9)
12. Alphabetical symbols (7)
13. Sounds like enemy, digit, with German lady tennis player (10)
14. Cultivating a part around the house (9, 7)
15. One's trade - on a leaf of paper (8, 4)
16. Go Dutch - with costs (5, 6)
17. A crisis - request for cash (9, 6)
18. An initial direction with left-hand side for sailing (5)
19. Teens swim provides topical reports (4,5)
20. Sound plus Visual details (5, 3, 10, 5)

Help! I'm running out of puzzles. Do you have any? If so I would be grateful if you could pass them on, including answers!

Please submit any items for the March Messenger to Janice (rhodes4144@gmail.com) ASAP and by 20th February. Thank you!