

Wesley Place Methodist Church,
Lawton Road, Alsager

The Messenger



www.wesley-place.org.uk

April, 2018

Welcome to worship today. We are pleased that you are able to join us. Whether you are visiting briefly or are new to Wesley Place we hope that you feel at home and among friends. Please introduce yourself to one of the stewards.

Sunday 1st April 2018

10.30am: Service led Rev Rob Hilton - Holy Communion

Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service

6:30pm Service led by Rev Rob Hilton - Alternative Worship

Most glorious God, who on this day delivered us
By the mighty resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ,
And made your whole creation new:
grant that we who celebrate with joy his rising from the dead
May be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;
Through him who is alive and reigns with you,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE

Message from our Minister

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter!

I have remembered as we've studied Holy Habits a lady in a church I once knew. She cared for her husband who had chronic back pain and depression, despite doctors saying there was nothing wrong with his back. She gave so much of herself to care for him, but felt that in doing so, her own life was one of suffering. As she grew in faith, she called this her own crucifixion. It didn't bring any miraculous healing, but it helped her to live. She began to get involved in the church's prayer group and prayers for healing within that church, and she experienced what she called her own resurrection - in the midst of all that her life demanded of her she found a life, a vibrancy, and a faith that gave her a triumph and victory through all of life's demands.

One of the ways my faith has deepened over the years I think is by an appreciation of the rhythms and seasons of spirituality. Times of self examination such as lent and advent prepare for the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, and Pentecost goes on and on as life in the spirit is explored and developed.

Holy week and Easter have many seasons and moods all concentrated very closely together as we remember the story of Jesus welcomed triumphantly into Jerusalem, his passionate engagement and teaching in the temple courts, then his last supper, denial and betrayal, and crucifixion and death.

Only as we have remembered these stories of tragedy, does the triumph of Easter make sense. Only after the cross and death, does the resurrection make sense. Only when a seed is buried and dies in the ground can new life emerge.

We all know from experience that life has good times - for partying, celebrating, holidays and enjoyment. We also know that life can deal us tragic death, disappointment, depression and illness. Despite the effort of a smile, many struggle with inner turmoil.

Life has its rhythms and seasons. Which is why the Christian story makes so much sense, is real and relevant. Easter joy and Easter triumph is the pulsating life giving heart beat at the core of our faith, the powerful life of Jesus who, though dying, will not and cannot stay dead! The testimony of the first Christians, and every generation of Christian since, is that the presence of Jesus just will not go away! Seeds do grow, the light triumphs over the darkness, the company and friendship of Jesus is a constant that brings life in all its fullness. It robs regret of its power, and guilt of its fear, it gives the strength and conviction to walk another step on life's journey, and can bring a smile and a song when all seems too depressing.

The resurrection of Jesus is no magic trick with a corpse in a cave, it is a life transforming experience. Jesus is alive and with us through all the seasons and rhythms of life.

As I say, Happy Easter!

Your minister and friend, Rob

Readings for your Devotions

Acts 10: 34-43

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

John 20: 1-18

Diary for Week Beginning Monday 2nd April, 2018

Wed: 10.00am: Church open for prayer from 10 to 12 noon with "Time Out" at 10:30. Followed by Tea and Biscuits

Thur: 8:45am: Breakfast Housegroup - Mad, Sad or Glad

Sat: 10am-12noon: Action for Children Coffee Morning

Services in April

Sunday 1st April:

10:30am Service led Rev Rob Hilton - Holy Communion

6:30pm Service led by Rev Rob Hilton - Alternative Worship

Sunday 8th April

10:30am Service led by Mrs Bronwen Degg

6:30pm Service led by Rev Jim Needham - Holy Communion

Sunday 15th April

10:30am Service led by Jonathan Newbould

6:30pm Service held at URC

Sunday 22nd April

10:30am Service led by Dr Geoff Dickinson

6:30pm Service led by Rev Rob Hilton

Sunday 29th April

10:30am Service led by Mr Daniel Keen

6:30pm Easter Offering Service held at Wheelock

Service at Milton House 15th April Hilda White

Regular activities held this month

Monday Fun every Monday with Stamp Party 2pm-4pm

Women's Fellowship meet on Tuesday 2:30pm (not 3rd)

Walking Fellowship meet at Wesley Place at 9:30am 11th and 25th

Midweek prayer - Wednesday 10:30am followed by tea and biscuits

Breakfast Housegroup meet 8:45am on the first Thursday of the month

CAMEO Ladies meet 10am at Astbury Garden Centre on the 3rd Thursday of the month

Men's Breakfast 28th April

Action for Children Coffee Morning - Saturdays 10am-12 noon

Youth Clubs Sundays- 5pm-6:30pm: Sparkz - youth club for 7-11years

(term time) 7pm:-8:30pm: Ablaze - youth club for 12-18 years

Dates for your Diary

18 Apr:	8am-8pm: Day of Prayer
21 Apr:	7:30pm: Winterley Brass Band Concert for RNLI
28 Apr:	Beetle Bag Drive
13 May:	General Church Meeting
15 May:	7:30pm: Worship Consultation
19/20 May:	Church Anniversary Weekend
2 Jun:	10am: Plant Sale in aid of Leprosy Mission
9 Jun:	Alsager Carnival
14-16 Sep:	Church Family Weekend

What was the last things you saw or heard that put you in awe of what God is doing in someone's life?

The above question was asked at a recent Lent Course and the answers given were very interesting and inspirational.

Have you had any experiences in answer to this challenging question?

Remember, your words may touch the heart of someone in need.

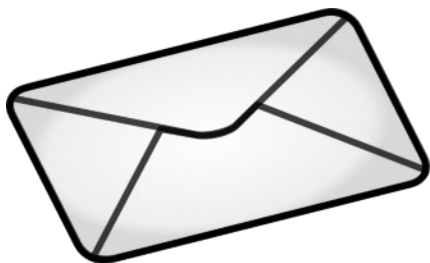
Answers please via The Messenger

Your privacy can be respected if you do not want to give your name

Pew Envelope

Envelopes in the pews this week are for Easter offering supporting the work of the World Mission Fund

Thanks Bronwen



Church Anniversary and Gift Day

Calling all the Wesley Place Church Family!

This year our Church Anniversary Weekend is a little earlier than usual on the 19th and 20th May. This coincides with the wedding of Prince Harry and Megan Markle and it's also Pentecost!

In honour of our church community and a good cross Atlantic wedding we are hoping to host an American style brunch on Saturday 19th from 10.30am before screening the Royal Wedding Coverage in the church and then finish with a quintessentially British afternoon tea from 2.30pm - outside if the weather lets us!

But that's not all!

We have heard the cries of church goers and room users about the horror that is the schoolroom chairs - we've all dodged an interesting stain or two, and then there's the chair we broke in the pantomime...

So, following on from the funds generously donated from the Can't Sing Choir's concert we are holding a Gift Day on the 19th to find new chairs. Hooray! One chair will cost approximately £50 so whether you feel able to donate a leg, a back, a seat, or a whole chair, every little helps!!

For more information please speak to Harriet but further details about tickets etc will follow in due course.

DAY OF PRAYER

WEDNESDAY APRIL 18TH

8.00am to 8.00pm

Please sign up to a half hour slot at a time that suits you. If you've not done anything like this before you'll be amazed how quickly the time goes. There will be some prayer 'pointers' available to give you some guidance if you should need it. Prayer underpins everything that we are and everything that we do, so please join in if you are able.

Collection Boxes

Could all with 'Bible Society' and 'Methodist Fund for World Mission' boxes bring them to church to be emptied please? Thank you



Lifeboats

CONCERT

Alsager Ladies Lifeboat Guild present

WINTERLEY METHODIST BRASS BAND IN CONCERT

here at Wesley Place on Saturday 21st April at 7.30pm

Tickets £7.50 including interval refreshments from Ann H, Celia, Geraldine and Harriet or on the door if available. There will also be an RNLI gift stall.

Please come along and help to raise much needed funds for the RNLI MAYDAY appeal.

Fairtrade Coffee Tasting

Coffee Morning

Saturday 14th April

10am-12pm

Wesley Place



We will also have some information stalls, U3A, Dementia Friendly Town, Alsager Partnership, Sustainability, Recycling, Tools for Self Reliance and Leprosy mission. Lifeboats and [we hope] a Kenyan charity Dea Africa selling handmade bags and baskets. There will also be cakes and if anyone is willing to bake a cake with at least two fairly traded ingredients we would be very grateful. Profits to Traidcraft Exchange

Minister: Rob Hilton (01270) 872597 robakiddles@icloud.com - Day off Friday
Lay Leader: Mrs Bronwen Degg, (01270) 872832 - Day off Wednesday
Lay Worker: Jonathan Newbould 07799 192626 jonathannewbould@aol.com
Senior Steward Team: Issy Brislen - brislen.isabel2@gmail.com (01270) 878753
 Janet Keen - janetkeen4@yahoo.co.uk (01270) 874698
Booking Secretary: Ann Pask (01270) 879633
Notices for Pew Leaflet and Projector:
 Contact **both** Sarah Simpson 07718140733 or e-mail: sarahsimo28@live.co.uk
 and Andrew Tyrell email: andrew@tyrells.co.uk
 by **Wednesday 8pm** please.

Church e-mail address - Wesley.Place@tesco.net
 Wesley Place facebook page - Wesley Place church
 If you miss a copy of the pew leaflet or would like to see photos
 of what has been happening here at Wesley Place you can find them
 on the Wesley Place website - www.wesley-place.org.uk

Visit the Circuit website (www.cheshiresouth.org.uk)
 for the Circuit news letter and forthcoming events.
 A paper copy of the weekly news letter is available to read on the Circuit notice

Church Rota	1st Apr, 2018	8th Apr, 2018
Morning Readers	Margaret Keeling Elsie Pritchard	Val Snowden Gordon Degg
Stewards	Isabel Brislen Andrew Shaw	Stuart Carron Sandra Rawlinson
Offertory	Carol Challinor Bernard Maskery Glenis Roper Elsie Pritchard	Bruce & Elizabeth Liddle Arthur Pointon Chris Morris
Welcome Morning	Errol & Pauline Triner	Jean Walker Margaret Keeling
Evening Stewards	Stuart & Val Carron	Gareth & Leona Parry
Coffee Morning	The Robells	Team Morris
Counting	Isabel Brislen Harriet Crompton Alison Bell	Stuart Carron Judith Bell Sarah Simpkin
Vestry Steward	Geoff White	Judith Bell