

Wesley Place Methodist Church,
Lawton Road, Alsager

The Messenger

www.wesley-place.org.uk

February, 2018

Message from our Minister

Dear Friends,

I said at the Covenant service that maybe this would be the year for thinking.

Then I heard someone say that the mind is like a parachute, it works best when it's open! I rather liked that.

Despite the welcome I have received since I arrived, and despite the creative and courageous work that's going on around our Methodist Circuit, I am acutely aware that we are living through a time of net decline in our Churches in Britain.

It's time to think. we need to think about ways of tackling this, and asking ourselves what Vision God has for us, what the Bible says about being God's people, and what, as disciples Jesus calls us to. There's a lot there to think about, so let's start small.

What does Jesus call us to?

Whatever our answer to that question, it is our Discipleship - the way we think, and the way we live as people who have said 'Yes' to Jesus.

The early Christian church, as recorded by Luke in the Acts of the Apostles, displayed 10 Holy Habits as it exercised its discipleship and grew to be a world wide movement.

We've either stopped thinking, got into bad habits, or let our habits become so sloppy and lax, it's time to think again.

Our Lent study beginning to look at the Holy Habits is well advertised, with sign up sheets at the entrance to Church and on the noticeboard by the vestry. Mondays at 10.30 meeting in Costa Coffee, and at Church in the evening at 7.30pm, on Mondays from 26th Feb to 26th March.

Cont

Come along and open your mind, think about Jesus and our response to Him, and remember to pack your parachute - it'll work best when it's opened!

Godbless, Rob

Services in February

Sunday 4th February:

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

6:30pm Service led by Rev Jennifer Matthews

Sunday 11th February

10:30am Service led by Daniel Keen - Education Sunday

6:30pm Service led by Mr Bryan Glassonbury

Sunday 18th February

10:30am Service led by Rev Rob Hilton

6:30pm Service held at URC

Sunday 25th February

10:30am Service led by Mrs Bronwen Degg

6:30pm Service led by Mr Ian White

Fairtrade

As we have continued and developed our campaign to promote Fairtrade we have heard from a number of people that they "Don't like fairly traded coffee!"

On Saturday 3rd March, between 10 and 12 o'clock, we are hosting a blind coffee tasting at Wesley Place Church. Can you tell the difference? You can rate the coffees according to your taste and find which you prefer. Please come along to taste and try! There will also be a Fairtrade stall selling a range of fairly traded goods, A cake stall selling cakes made with at least 2 fairly traded ingredients, Fairly traded tea, coffee and hot chocolate will be available as will toast with fairly traded jam and honey.

PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT US BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY TO HELP SOME OF THE POOREST PEOPLE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD TO TRADE THEIR WAY OUT OF POVERTY.

Church Family Weekend

This year's Church Family Weekend will take place between 14th and 16th September at Willersley Castle, near Matlock Bath in Derbyshire. Booking forms, including details of prices, are now available from Jenny Marshall, or by telephoning 01270 876088. Please note that booking forms and deposits should be returned to Jenny no later than 11th March to guarantee a place at this year's Family Weekend.



Wesley Place Church Family Weekend

14th – 16th Sept at Willersley Castle, Matlock, Derbyshire



- Workshops
- Discussion
- Challenge



**See Jenny Marshall for
booking forms**



- Games
- Competitions
- Fun for all the family

Dates for your diary:

Wesley Place Methodist Church presents Aladdin

A traditional family pantomime Written and Directed by Daniel Keen and Harriet Crompton

15th-17th March 7:30pm and 2:30pm on 17th.

Tickets: £7.50 Adults, £5 Children, £20 Family (2 adults & 2 children)

Available soon from Daniel or Harriet. All proceeds to Church funds.



The Leprosy Mission England and Wales

It is intended to hold an event a Wesley Place on Saturday May 12th in aid of the Leprosy Mission.

There will be bedding plants for sale, cakes and hopefully items such as books, toys etc. Donations of these will be greatly received and can be collected for your convenience.

Apart from the above we will need helpers for planning, publicity and to man the stalls.

If anyone would like to help me please contact either Mrs Parry or myself.

If anyone has any plastic trays about 2" deep i have a home for them!

More details to follow.

With many thanks in anticipation

Every blessing to you all

Peter Seal

Any questions please

Contact Ruth on 07708857892 (daughter)



**Congratulations to Clare
Gibson and Alasdair Nicol
on their engagement.**

**Love and best wishes from
all at Wesley Place**

WOMEN S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(INTERNATIONAL AND INTERDENOMINATIONAL)



Press Release



All God s Creation is Very Good!

The interdenominational movement of the Women s World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March with the title *All God s Creation is Very Good!* We will join an estimated 3 million people around the world that day in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it. For details of services in your area and for further information and resources, please visit the WWDP website: www.wwdp.org.uk

The Alsager and District Branch of the Women's World Day of Prayer Movement will take place at St Bertolines Church at Barthomley at 2.00pm on March 2nd 2018

The service this year has been written by Christian Women of Suriname a small country in the north of South America. All are welcome.



The Methodist Church



Visit of Jill Baker Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

Programme:

Thursday 8 February 2018 Jill will lead the District's stationed Ministers in their triannual Continuing Development in Ministry day

Friday 9 February 2018 Away Day "O God of Bethel" for the District's Lay Employees from 10:00am to 3:00pm at Nantwich Methodist Church* (CW5 5RP) (booking helpful for planning and catering purposes)

Saturday 10 February 2018 Winter Walking Pilgrimage (8½ miles) starting at Biddulph Methodist Church* at 10:00am (limited to 20 places, booking essential) – please bring your own lunch to be eaten indoors en route with drinks provided

"Horizons" early-evening event at Biddulph* (ST8 6BJ) with hot-pot supper at 5:00pm (an indication of attendance would be helpful for planning and catering) and a presentation at 6:30pm which is open to all

Sunday 11 February 2018 Jill will be preaching at 10:30am at Wesley Chester* (CH1 1DA)

World Church afternoon event "To Russia With Love" from 3:00 to 6:00pm at Trinity Halton, Runcorn* (WA7 2AT) including a tea at 4:00pm (an indication of attendance would be helpful for planning and catering)

For further enquiries or to book places at the above please contact Rob at the District Office: Telephone 01270 627774 – email chester.stoke@btconnect.com * travel directions and parking information can be provided on request

Lent Course 2018

This year we'll be considering Andrew Roberts' book Holy Habits an up to date and re-thought out approach to Discipleship. Rob will facilitate discussion on the adventure, aims, and nature of discipleship with inspirational input, Biblical reading, and conversation. If you want to buy or borrow the book and read each chapter to prepare for yourselves, let the Stewards know and we can acquire some books, though this isn't necessary.

Each session will last no more than 2 hours and will be run on Mondays - either at 10.30am at Costa or 7.30pm at Church. Please sign up to attend on the sheets in front of Church and on the noticeboard by the vestry, and show your commitment.

5 sessions starting Monday 26th February, then weekly until the last session Monday 26th March.

This course will explore the Nature of Discipleship, the first 5 sessions of the book. A further 10 sessions remain for those who may decide later to continue the study and explore the Nurture of Discipleship.

Wesley Place Presents . .

Pancake Party



Sunday 11th Feb

4:00 - 6:00pm

Family Fun For All Ages

Free Event

Minister: Rob Hilton robakiddles@icloud.com - Day off Friday

Lay Leader: Mrs Bronwen Degg, (01270) 872832 - Day off Wednesday

Lay Worker: Jonathan Newbould

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 next week: Please see Sarah Simpson 07718140733 or e-mail sarahsimo28@live.co.uk by Thursday 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

EVENTS AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Haslington CW1 5PW REVIVE – usually 2nd Friday in the month.
Friday 9th February 2018 – 7pm. Focus: Healing and Worship led by Peter Watkins

Nantwich - Nantwich Christian Men's Supper Club- meets on the second Wednesday of the month from October to April at 7.00pm at Nantwich Methodist Church. The meal will cost £8.00 and bookings should be made by noon on the preceding Monday with Margaret Kirkman on 01270 611942.

Poole - 11th & 25th February Meditation Style Service 2nd & 4th Sundays 4pm.

Winterley - Winterley Methodist Church & Community Centre, Open Day and Service, 4 March 10.00 am – 4.00 pm (Tea / Coffee served during the day) 6.30 pm – Songs of Praise