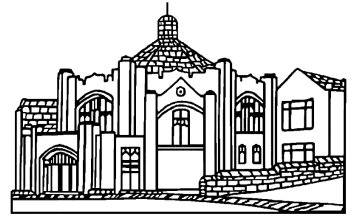




# Wesley Hall

## Part of Wesley Ebenezer Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. John Simms  
[www.wesleyhall.org.uk](http://www.wesleyhall.org.uk)



### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2011

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

#### We Welcome You to Worship Today.

We hope you find a warm welcome, particularly if you are with us for the first time. If we don't manage to speak to you personally and you would like more information, please pick up a welcome card and leaflet. All song words are projected onto the wall above the dais or can be found in the books provided. Separate song sheets are available at the back of church for any songs that are not in the hymn books. Recordings of our Sunday morning services are usually available, please see Matt Irons.

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<b>Today's service</b>	<b>10:30 am: Preacher</b>	<b>Rev John Simms (Parade Service)</b>
	<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Sarah Owen</b>
	<b>The steward on duty today is</b>	<b>Simone Hardy.</b>

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<i>And next week</i>	<i>10:30 am: Preacher</i>	<i>Rev John Simms (Holy Communion)</i>
<i>13<sup>th</sup> March</i>	<i>The steward on duty will be</i>	<i>Andrew Gray</i>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</i>	<i>6.30pm:</i>	<i>Rev John Simms (Prayer Service)</i>
<i>in Lent</i>	<i>The steward on duty will be</i>	<i>Dorothy White</i>

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## LAST WEEK...

### ❖ Messy Church

How did Messy Church go on Thursday? Please ask and find out. How can we all play our part in this new children's ministry – ask if you can help at the next event, pray, offer resources.....

## THIS WEEK...

### ❖ Handel's Messiah

Sheffield Bach Society are performing Handel's Messiah in Sheffield Cathedral on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March** at 7:00pm. This is a rescheduled performance after snow forced a postponement from December. Tickets cost £15 (£12 concessions) with under 16's who are accompanied go free. Students £6 on the door only.

### ❖ So what is Lent? Shrove Tuesday – 8<sup>th</sup> March

Also known as "Pancake Day", "Fat Tuesday" and "Mardi Gras," Shrove Tuesday always falls the day before Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent in our Christian faith. It is the day of preparation for Lent, when eating pancakes was linked to the need to eat up the eggs and fat - the eating of which were prohibited during the forty days of Lent.

## Pancake Races



Holding Pancake races is a tradition in the UK which dates back at least to the 1400's. It is thought to have originated when a housewife heard the church bells ringing for service whilst in the process of making her pancakes, so she ran out of the house still carrying her frying pan and pancake.....!

### ❖ **Ash Wednesday – 9<sup>th</sup> March**

#### **Why is it called Ash Wednesday?**

For Christians, ashes are a symbol of being sorry for things we have done wrong and want to get rid of forever. Some say it is also a reminder to them that we all come from ashes, and to ashes we all will return.

#### **Why are ashes marked on the forehead?**

For Christians, the marking on the forehead with ash, marks the commitment to Jesus Christ and God. They wanted to show God that they were sorry for the wrong things they had done in the past year.



#### **What happens on Ash Wednesday today?**

Many Christians will attend a religious service where the ashes are blessed by the church leader, and placed on their forehead. Christians believe this marks the physical and spiritual beginning of a personal Lent season in which 40 days of repentance will begin leading up to the celebration of Easter Sunday.

#### **What are the ashes made from?**

In many churches, palm crosses are burned, which have been kept from last year's Palm Sunday. They are mixed with holy water (which has been blessed) to make a greyish paste. When people go to church on Ash Wednesday, the leader dips a thumb in the paste and uses it to make the sign of the cross on each person's forehead.

#### **Why are last years Palm Crosses recycled?**

Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, so when the crosses used in the last years Palm Sunday service are converted to ashes, worshippers are reminded that defeat and crucifixion are swiftly followed by triumph.

### ❖ **Wednesday Group**

"My Norwegian Experience" with Maureen Finnegan. **9<sup>th</sup> March** – 7.30pm at Church

### ❖ **Men's Breakfast**

A group of us continue to meet for a chat over a bacon and egg sandwich from 8:30 to 9:30am downstairs in the hall. Please join us for our next meeting on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March**. If you have any queries, speak to Gareth or Jim.

### ❖ **Biblefresh - Deepening Discipleship**

Don't miss this opportunity to attend this District Day on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March** at Victoria Hall, Sheffield. There are lots of exciting workshops (more have been added) which you can read about on the notice board at the back of church. To book please fill in and return the form (also on the notice board) and send it to the District Office or book online.

## COMING SOON...

### ❖ "Wilderness" - Lent Art Exhibition

The "Wilderness Art Exhibition" has been organized by Rev Ric Stott our District Pioneer minister. Wesley Hall Church will act as a gallery and sacred space over lent so the public can visit and spend time in the sanctuary. Please sign up on the rota at the back of church to cover time slots so the exhibition can be open as much as possible over the month and people can be made to feel welcome with refreshments.

### ❖ Agape Meal/Service

Walkley Ebenezer have invited us to join them on *Maundy Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April* at 7:00pm for a shared meal (provided by them). We need to sign the sheet on the notice board to let them know how many of us will be going so please do so as soon as possible. Thanks, Dorothy.

### ❖ Lent Study – Dates, theme and times coming in next weeks News sheet.

## AND FINALLY...

- ❖ My name is Helen Hawes I am a Christian, part of Christchurch Fulwood. My son, Thomas, (5) is at Westways and I am trying to start a prayer group for the school again. I have managed to contact a couple of Christian parents so far and we are meeting to pray Tues 8th March 2pm at my house [REDACTED], Crookes. I wondered if anyone in your congregations might be interested in joining us?

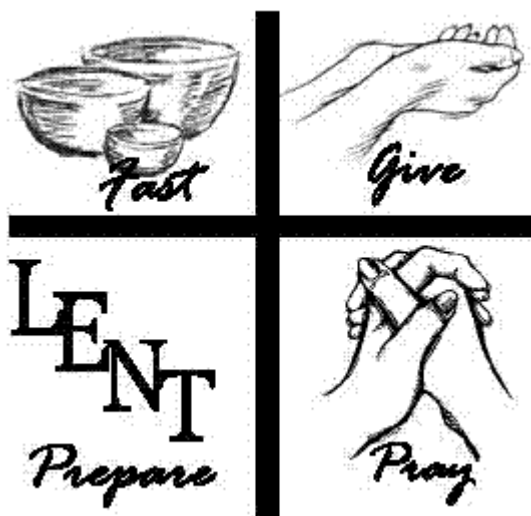
Many thanks,

HHH

Email: [REDACTED]

### ❖ Sheffield Faiths Forum

Sheffield Faiths Forum seeking new Forum members. The Forum represents 10 Faiths and over 400 Faith communities and organisations in Sheffield. If you would be interested in being one of the 14 Board Members, or just want further information see [www.sheffieldfaithsforum.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldfaithsforum.org.uk).



The editor for the month of March is Rob. Please place items for the newsletter in the pigeon hole, send an e-mail to [newsletter@wesleyhall.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@wesleyhall.org.uk) or call Rob on [REDACTED] by Wednesday evening