



Wesley Hall

Part of Wesley Ebenezer Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. John Simms
Office: (0114) 267 9040



Sunday 8th January 2012

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 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.

Today's services	10:30am Preacher	Rev. John Simms
	6:00pm Prayer Service	Rev. John Simms
	The steward on duty today is Andrew Gray	

<i>And next week</i>	<i>10:30am Preacher</i>	<i>Dorothy Warren</i>
	<i>6:00pm Space</i>	
	<i>The steward on duty will be Steve & Linda Wright</i>	

THIS WEEK...

❖ **Tapton Prayer Group:**

Tapton prayer group are meeting this *Wednesday 11th January* at 6 Hagg Lane at 8:00pm to pray for the school, the staff and the pupils. All staff and parents welcome. For further information or if you want us to pray about something please contact Wendy on [REDACTED].

❖ **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 14th January*. If you have any queries, speak to Jim.

COMING SOON...

❖ **Coffee & Crafts**

A group of ladies meet in the Church Hall for a craft afternoon, fortnightly on Tuesdays from 2:00pm to 3:30pm. As part of the craft work they are looking to produce banners for the Sanctuary. All are welcome and there is a charge of £1.50 to cover refreshments and materials. The next meeting is *Tuesday 17th January*.

❖ **Bible Basics**

Maybe you've read it a dozen times. Maybe it's all new to you. Maybe you've heard bits of it in church and wondered about the rest. Maybe you just want to understand a little more about the Bible: Where did it come from? Who wrote it down, and why? What's in it, and how does it all fit together? And what does it tell us about history, God, and the world at large?

If you want to explore these and other questions, join us for Bible Basics, a new and informal gathering where we will study and discuss together key passages through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. We will meet weekly at [REDACTED] at 7:30pm, starting next *Wednesday 18th January*. We'll aim to finish by 9:30pm each week.

We can provide Bibles, notepaper and pens, but feel free to bring your own if you prefer. If you're interested, or you want to know more, please talk to John or Judith Simms ([REDACTED]), Louise Etherington or just come along on the 18th.

❖ **X:Site:**

X:Site is for children in school years Y3-Y6, where they can learn about Jesus, have fun and games, bring their mates and listen to live music. It's held at Wesley Hall and the next event is from 6:00pm – 8:00pm on *Saturday 21st January*. Entry is £2.50 and you can get further information from: sheffield@xsiteuk.org or by calling [REDACTED].

❖ **Service of Healing and Wholeness:**

Methodist Women in Britain are holding an Iona style service of prayer for Healing and Wholeness on *Tuesday 24th January* at 2:30pm at Victoria Hall. For more information see the poster at the back of church.

❖ **WEADS Amateur Dramatic Society**

WEADS will be presenting the pantomime "Snow White" from *Wednesday 15th to Saturday 18th February* at 7:15pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:15pm at Walkley Ebenezer. Tickets are priced £5 for adults and £3 for children and are available from Brian and Sue Mills.

❖ **Made In Dagenham:**

Methodist Women in Britain have organised a special showing of the film Made in Dagenham at the Showroom cinema on *Wednesday 14th March* at 10:30am. This is in solidarity with International Women's Day and Millennium Development Goal 3, 'Promote Gender Equality and empower women.' We have 110 tickets to sell so hope you can spread the word far and wide about it. Tickets are available from circuit MWiB secretaries or from Chris Simmonds on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

PLEASE PRAY...

Following the death of North Korea's reclusive leader Kim Jong-Il, observers are warning that Christians and adherents of other underground religions should not expect a major policy change from the former leader's proposed successor, his third son, Kim Jong-Un.

Kim Jong-Il spent most of the last 18 months of his life ensuring that Kim Jong-Un would survive as the ruler. Brother Simon, Open Doors' main contact for North Korea says, "Since [Kim Jong-Un] came closer to the helm, North Korea has stepped up its attempts to uncover any religious activities. There have been more house raids, more spies trained to infiltrate religious and human rights networks and one South Korean Christian was murdered in China because he helped refugees. Kim Jong-Un was only designated as the next leader in October 2010, during a rare Worker's Party Congress. He is young and inexperienced. There may be a power struggle, which he may not win. On the other hand, the clique around the Kims has been able to hold the ropes for over six decades. Like the rest of the world, North Korean refugees were shocked to learn that the 'Dear Leader' has passed away. Few will mourn him, but it is hard to imagine that the man they used to worship is gone."

"I am just happy I do not have to stand in line to cry like a madman," says one refugee. "Some may act like they are sad, but others are genuinely ignorant, like I was ignorant about the Kims once too." Another refugee says, "I am not sad. How can I be sad after the things he has done to me and my family? We were separated and I had to live on the streets as a child. I am worried about the future though. There may be a power struggle. Anything can happen."

During this power shift, Open Doors calls on Christians to pray that the inhumane dictatorial rule which has characterised the Kim dynasty will change radically, allowing basic human rights and freedoms.

Please pray:

- For real change both politically and economically. Pray that all citizens will be free to live how they want and believe what they want.
- For the dismantling of the notorious labour camps, such as Yodok and Hoeryong, which hold more than 1 per cent of the population. Among them are 50,000 to 70,000 Christians, who are considered 'enemies of the state'.
- That North Korea will develop an effective economic policy that will end the chronic famine

The editor for the month of January is Matt. Please place items for the newsletter in the pigeon hole, send an e-mail to newsletter@wesleyhall.org.uk or call Matt on [REDACTED] by Wednesday afternoon.