



Wesley Hall

Crookes, Sheffield



www.wesleyhall.org.uk

Wesley Hall Methodist Church is a registered charity number 1150284

Sunday 16th April 2023

We hope you find a warm welcome, particularly if you are with us for the first time. All song words are projected onto the wall at the front or can be found in the books provided. Large print hymn books are available at the back of church along with separate printed sheets for songs that are not in the books.

Today's service **10:30am** **Local Arrangement Service**
The steward on duty is Jenny Jones

Sunday 23rd April 10:30am *Rev. Mike Jones (Holy Communion) with AGM & Gift Day*
Sunday 30th April 10:30am *Louise Etherington*
Sunday 7th May 10:30am *Glenn Evans*

THIS WEEK

❖ **Worship in the Building – COVID Precautions**

- Please be considerate of those who wish to maintain social distancing and ask before sitting close to somebody.
- We are not passing the offering plate around, but there is one on the hatch where we serve tea/coffee. Please make use of it if you have brought an offering with you today.

❖ **Leadership Team**

The Wesley Hall Leadership Team meet monthly to pray, share ideas and plan/review church events and their next meeting is on *Monday 17th April*. Please pray for the meeting and let a member of the team know if there is anything that you would like to be discussed.

❖ **Circuit Prayer Gathering:**

The Circuit Prayer Gathering will be taking place this Wednesday from 8pm to 9pm via Zoom and all are welcome:

<https://zoom.us/j/94411865948?pwd=R200cHBZSk1kNmErcTZRcWZXRmdVUT09>

Meeting ID: 944 1186 5948 Passcode: 999757

(Telephone connection: 020 3481 5237)

❖ **Stitching the Sheffield Methodist District Justice Quilt Project**

We are looking for volunteers to help to hand stitch the braiding on the patchwork. A room has been arranged at Millhouses church on *Monday 17th April* from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Tea and coffee provided, but please bring sandwiches. Thimbles, needles and thread will also be provided. Look forward to seeing you!

❖ **Representative Synod/ District Gathering**

Join us this *Saturday 22nd April*, starting at 9:30am, for a day of learning, sharing and worship with a buffet lunch provided. It will provide an opportunity for you to renew existing connections

Minister Mike Jones 07485 779 262
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across the District and to meet new people. We will also be unveiling the Justice Quilt. Within the District Gathering we will hold the life of Methodism across our district in prayer, renew our relationship with our wider Connexional church, and make any formal decisions required of us as a district.

Revd Jill Marsh, Connexional Inclusive Church Implementation Officer, will lead us in looking at the question "What does it mean to be a Justice Seeking Church?". There will be several "How To .." groups that will offer practical suggestions and advice about how your church can be a church like that! These will include:

- Turn Vision into Action: Introducing Faith Rooted Organising — led by Deacon Kerry Scarlett, part of the Methodist Learning Network West Midlands team
- Act Justly with Money — led by Rosie Venner, programme manager at the JustMoney Movement
- Influence your MP — led by Roo Stewart, a member of the Joint Public Issues Team
- Become a Church of Sanctuary — led by Revd Inderjit Bhogal
- Become more accessible — led by Maria Brown and Beth Wright from Mencap
- Hold an "Ask Me Anything" conversation — led by Revd Jill Marsh — How to create a safe space to hear from 'Experts By Experience'.

There will also be a Market Place to explore other ways in which you can help to work towards a more just world and purchase resources, so don't forget to bring your purse/ wallet!

❖ **Representative Synod/ District Gathering (Help Needed)**

We are really looking forward to this event and delighted that so many people have registered to come. However we are in need of extra steward volunteers and First Aiders.

Please let Rev. Jonathan Haigh (j.haigh100@btinternet.com, [REDACTED]) know if you are able to help as soon as possible so that name badges can be organised. You will need to be at the event for 8:45am.

COMING SOON

❖ **Church AGM**

We will be holding our AGM after our worship next *Sunday 23rd April*. It will be an opportunity to hear from our lay workers, feedback on where we are now, and look at future plans. The meeting is open to everyone, whether you are a member or not, so please put the date in your diary.

We will also be appointing the Leadership Team, worship stewards, Church Council and Circuit Meeting representatives as well as the members of our lay worker management groups. If you are interested in any of these roles, please see Mike or Matt.

❖ **Gift Day 2023**

We have committed our annual Gift Days to supporting the employment of both a Families Co-Ordinator and a Pre-teen & Youth Worker.

About a third of the income for the Children, Families and Youth Fund comes from our Gift Day. Our target for this year is £8,000, with £2,000 already received from those who make a regular gift each month. However, we have not yet managed to secure all the grant funding we had hoped for, so if it is possible to increase your donation from last year, that would be fantastic, although we do completely understand that there are many other pressures on people's finances at the moment.

Our Gift Day this year is next *Sunday 23rd April*, which is the same day as our AGM. We are very happy to accept gifts at any time by cash, cheque, bank transfer, standing order, or online

The editor for April is Matt. Please e-mail items for the newsletter to newsletter@wesleyhall.org.uk or call Matt on [REDACTED] by Wednesday evening.

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(www.stewardship.org.uk), but please make it clear that your donation is for Gift Day. Gifts are welcome as a one-off on or around the Gift Day, or spread over the year on a quarterly, monthly or weekly basis. Thank you very much for your generous support to date. If you have any questions about Gift Day, please contact Matt Irons.

❖ Joseph Gray - Leeds Half Marathon for Charity

On *Sunday 14th May*, Joseph will be running his first half marathon. He will be fundraising for the 'Bodie Hodges Foundation'. After Henry, Joseph's cousin, died at just 8 months old in August 2020, this charity provided Henry's family with bereavement counselling, and continue to support them now. Donations to help the charity continue this invaluable service would be gratefully received. Please use the link below, especially if you're able to Gift Aid your donation; alternatively, see any member of the Gray family. Thank you.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/joe-gray03?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=joe-gray03&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=65c6444da2174d819c70aa97bf7dc729

EASTER REFLECTION

By the Revd Graham Thompson, President of the Conference

On Holy Saturday 2022 I visited the former Maya centre at Lamanai, Belize. Among the many incredible facts we learned about the Maya was the account of how they came to leave their settlement by the New River Lagoon in 1534, after over three thousand years on the land. By then they had established a thriving trading centre and were well-established in an area stretching for ten miles on one side of the river. There were between forty and sixty thousand people living with customs, religion and vast temples that they had built over the years.

The Spanish attacked this community in 1534. The Maya repelled them but then made the incredible decision to leave. They knew the Spanish would be back with larger forces. We don't know how quickly they decided to leave or whether some stayed behind for a while but we know that, eventually, they all left and their homes, edifices and temples were left to the elements and to be overtaken by the forest.

The Maya sacrificed everything they had and all that they had established over three thousand years. They did not cling to the past but gave up everything in order to guarantee a future for the generations to come.

This Easter Weekend we have celebrated and rejoiced in the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We recall the sacrifice of the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the whole world. We revel in the resurrection and the new life that is ours in Christ.

Though the Maya knew little, if anything, of Christ's sacrificial love, they are people created in the image of God. To this day, there are still Maya in and around Belize because of the sacrifices of their people in 1534.

Settlements, centres and communities do not need to make such sacrifices to enjoy new life in Christ. It is Jesus who has made the sacrifice. We are invited to give him our lives so that we might know life in all its fullness. We die with Christ, that we might rise with Him. It is amazing what sacrifices previous generations have made for our sake but the sacrifice that is above all else is understood in the death of resurrection of Jesus who died, that we might live - and live eternally.

Hallelujah, Christ is risen!

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PRAYER POINTS

- ❖ Please pray for those known to us who are ill or recovering from surgery.
- ❖ Please pray for all those who have suffered in the Turkey-Syria Earthquake and for all those people and organisations that are assisting in the rescue missions.
- ❖ Please pray for Andrea and Mercy Ships as surgery gets underway on the new ship.
- ❖ Please continue to pray for a resolution to the war in Ukraine, that peace may prevail.
- ❖ Please pray for Wesley Wigglers, which runs on a Thursday; we have had a number of new mums attend; please pray that they continue to come, and that Wigglers will continue to grow.

If you have any prayer points to include in the newsletter, please pass them on to the Editor (see contact details at bottom of page).