



Wesley Hall

Crookes, Sheffield



www.wesleyhall.org.uk Wesley Hall is part of Wesley Ebenezer Methodist Church (charity no. 1150284)

Sunday 23rd December 2018

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** **Rev. Sally Coleman (Carol Service & Holy Communion)**
The steward on duty is Jenny Jones

Christmas Day *9:30am* *Christmas Day Family Celebration*
Sunday 30th December *10:45am* *At Walkley Ebenezer* *6:00pm* *Stay & Pray*
Sunday 6th January *10:30am* *Rev. Sally Coleman (Holy Communion)*

A MESSAGE FROM SALLY...

Dear Friends,

Here we are, just before Christmas time, and almost on the edge of the New Year, a time for hopes and dreams, longings and wishes. It is often a time for memories and can be difficult for some as they remember times gone by, and miss loved ones.

Into this mixed blessing and into our lives we are reminded that Christ comes, frail and vulnerable, revealing God to us in human flesh, a God who we can touch and hold, and who offers to hold us. In a time of great change, both in the world and in the church, this should bring us great comfort, for the love that dwells in the heart of our self-giving God still runs deep and true and is unchanging and unfailing. Love is the constant that runs throughout the world and can run through our lives if we allow it to, and love comes from God and is of God.

So, as we approach this sometimes challenging, sometimes lonely, sometimes overflowing, time of the year my prayer is that you will encounter the love of God afresh, that you will know the wonder and mystery of God with us, Emmanuel in a deep and real way.

I leave you with a prayer:

This Christmas-time Lord, take a corner of my life and steal in, invade the busyness of my doing with the quiet of your coming....

This Christmas-time Lord, take a corner of my mind and steal in, illuminate the darkness of my thinking, with the brightness of your seeing....

This Christmas-time Lord, take a corner of my heart and steal in, infuse the coldness of my loving with the warmth of your being...

This Christmas-time Lord, as at Bethlehem's stable come and steal in, take the unprepared places of my life, and make them fit for your dwelling...

With love and prayers for a peace-filled Christmas and a hopeful New Year

Sally (Reverend Sally Coleman)

CHRISTMAS EVENTS...

Christmas Day	9:30am	Christmas Morning Family Celebration
Sunday 30 th December	10:45am	Joint service with Walkley Ebenezer at Walkley

CHILDREN, FAMILIES & COMMUNITY...

- ❖ There is a **Film Day** (Small Foot) on *Friday 4th January*, so save the date and invite a family. If you are able to help set up, pack away or serve in the kitchen please get in contact with Jacque.
- ❖ **Stay & Play** is on *Saturday 19th January*. If you would like to be involved in planning please contact Jacque.
- ❖ The **Funday** is on *Friday 22nd February*, and the theme is Mega Makers, if anyone has any craft ideas, please see Jacque.
- ❖ **CRAFT SUPPLIES:** If you have any jars with easily removable labels or margarine tubs you don't want they'd be useful to have in the church cupboard.

AND FINALLY...

❖ Christmas Cards

This year I have donated money to the Salvation Army's Christmas appeal for the homeless in lieu of sending Christmas cards to friends at church and work. Wishing you a Happy & Peaceful Christmas & New Year God bless, Andrea Killingsworth.

❖ More Christmas Cards

As a church we have received Christmas card from Joan Frith, Michael Hambrey, Walkley Ebenezer, PXI (the Parson's Cross Initiate and the Sunday Centre. They are all displayed on the wall of the prayer space if you would like to have a look at them.

❖ Kilombero 90kg Rice Challenge

Just to say thank you to everyone who bought any bags of rice for the Kilombero rice challenge. It has now all been sold! 90kg is the amount of rice a farmer in Malawi has to sell to enable them to send a child to secondary school for a year and so by completing the challenge, we have helped provide a better life for those in some of the poorest communities in Malawi.

❖ Photoboard

We are updating the 'Wesley Hall Family' photo board at the back of church, which has photos of everyone in the congregation and wider church family. If you would like your photo adding to the board, or want to update your existing photo (more for children and young people who have changed quite a lot since the board went up!), please see Jo Owens who will be very happy to take your photo and add it on!

❖ New Offering Envelopes

The new offering envelopes for 2018 are now available to pick up at the back of church. People give regularly to Wesley Hall either by standing order (bank transfer) or by using the weekly offering envelopes. We are also able to claim Gift Aid on nearly all of the donations we receive, which makes your gift worth 25% more, at no extra cost to you. If you have any questions or would like to start giving to Wesley Hall, please see Matt.

❖ Drop - in Centre

Jim and Dorothy would be pleased to receive any warm clothes/blankets etc you might be able to donate to for the drop-in centre.