



Wesley Hall

Crookes, Sheffield



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

Sunday 13th December 2020

THIS WEEK

❖ Zoom Service

We'll be meeting via Zoom again this morning, Sunday 13th December, for the third Sunday in Advent. Our services will be available to watch on YouTube. They are unlisted videos so they are not available to people searching YouTube and can only be accessed using a direct link. If you would like the link, or would prefer a DVD or audio recording of the services, just ask Matt (matt.irons@wesleyhall.org.uk, 0114 267 9040).

Zoom details:

<https://zoom.us/j/96423971221?pwd=WmxNMlI2THVhSUswY3dVL0JmRC9pQT09>

Meeting ID: 964 2397 1221

Passcode: 526491

There is also an option to connect by telephone for audio only. If you would like to do this, please follow these instructions:

- Dial one of these numbers –
0131 460 1196
0203 051 2874
0203 481 5237
0203 481 5240
- An automated voice will ask you to enter the Meeting ID followed by hash; enter 964 2397 1221, #
- It will ask you to enter your Participant ID (you don't have one) or just press hash, so press #
- It will then ask you to enter the Meeting Password followed by hash; enter 526491, #
- You will be in the meeting!

❖ Zoom Worship

The Leadership Team are looking to put together a team of people who are willing to take responsibility for putting together a Zoom worship service on a rota basis. The Vine material is always available and we are hoping to get hold of some recorded sermons from the Circuit, so this is likely to entail finding readers and choosing the songs for the service. It would also be really helpful to know who is willing to take part by reading or leading prayers. If you are interested in taking part in any way, or would like to find out more, please ask Matt.

❖ Sunday Home Worship Options

As well as our Zoom services you may still wish to utilise any of the various other worship resources which are still included in the newsletter, but have moved to the last page.

❖ Daily Advent Stories

The Methodist Church Christmas campaign for 2020, #GodIsWithUs, seeks to share the Christmas message of Emmanuel, the good news that God is with us, through twenty-four stories of individuals and their experiences of this extraordinary year. Each day of Advent they will share a testimony from somebody connected to the Methodist Church, reflecting on what hope has looked like for them this year and how they have experienced God with them. The individuals whose stories the campaign tells include those who have felt the painful effects of isolation this year, who have experienced extreme poverty, who have struggled with poor mental health, who have lost loved ones – like so many millions of others. But ultimately, incredibly, God's loving presence radiates from each of them in beams of powerful hope. Hope that is so necessary for such a time as this. We will be sharing these stories each day via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WesleyHallCrookes/> so please like our page if you would like to follow the stories.

❖ Fellowship Group

Our Thursday Fellowship Group continues to meet for Bible study and prayer (and fellowship!) at 8pm on Thursdays, via Zoom. All are welcome. Please ask Andrea Killingsworth for more information or for the Zoom details.

COMING SOON

❖ TRIBE Nativity – Sunday 20th December

We have a plan for our TRIBE nativity 2020 and wondered whether this year you would like to join us in telling the Christmas story? The nativity will be very different to other years and there's more opportunity than usual for anyone of any age in our church family to play a part, if they would like to.

We have a script written by Jacque's sister. It is a series of rhyming paragraphs each for different characters, so the script is like a long poem. The idea is that each paragraph can be filmed and the different video clips all put together to make up the story. There are 7 main characters and some optional ones. You might like to do the reading to be played over a clip of our young people acting out the scene or you could dress up and act too.

I am excited about the possibilities this year - it is sad we cannot perform it at church but on the plus side, the set could be anywhere! You could act out a shepherd scene in the Peak District surrounded by real sheep; you could use characters from a nativity set at home; you could be an innkeeper in front of a Holiday Inn; the three wise men could journey through all sorts of local woods and parks and look up at the stars from a back garden. There are some costumes at church which we can distribute out and I'm sure everyone will have things at home that could make good props or costumes.

I am allocating parts at the moment, so if you would like to find out more, please get in touch. I can share the script with you and we can find a part/role for you, your household or bubble. Alternatively, if anyone has video editing experience/skills, I would love to hear from you. God bless, Liz.

❖ Christmas Day

As usual, we'll be having a service on Christmas morning, at 9.30am. This year we'll be meeting via Zoom and the service will be led by Louise.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

❖ Toddler Group

Our Toddler Group hasn't met for a while due to lockdown and Tier 3 restrictions. However, Claire has started up the Facebook group we have for Toddlers and will be regularly posting links of useful information, activities, songs and stories for the families to access (this can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/959150864141956>). We will advertise Messy Church on there as well. Claire is putting together some Christmassy packs for Toddler families to do over the Christmas period. These will be available over a two-week period at the beginning of December. Get in touch with Claire if you or someone you know would be interested in an activity pack. They are suitable for toddler and preschool age children (12 months to 4 years).

❖ TRIBE

Claire has made some Advent bags for each family, with some crafts and activities for them to do at home between now and Christmas. There is a letter in there from her too. Louise has been busy sewing some little Nativity characters for each family and these are included in the bags. They look amazing. Please see attached photos of the bags and Nativity characters.

❖ Wigglers

Our weekly baby group has started up again! The families were really pleased to be back and we were pleased to see them! We will continue to meet weekly now (Thursdays at 10:30am and 1pm), with a break over the Christmas holidays and return in January.

CAROLS

❖ Sheffield Carols

We will not be having a Carol service at Wesley Hall this year but would encourage you to consider a new way of carolling in Sheffield. Each Thursday in December at 8:00pm, people can stand on their own doorstep and join with neighbours (also standing on their doorstep, at a safe distance) and join in with the Carol for that week. Musicians can join in too! The Carols will be:

- Thursday 17th December: While Shepherds Watched / Sweet Bells
- Thursday 24th December: Away in a Manager / We Wish you a Merry Christmas

The words to Sweet Bells/While Shepherds Watched have been sent out with the newsletter this week. If you would like any printing (for yourself or to give to neighbours) just ask Matt: matt.irons@wesleyhall.org.uk, 0114 267 9040.

❖ Carols on the Doorstep

On *Sunday 20th December*, at 5:30pm, the whole country has the chance to join in 'Carols on the Doorstep', with four carols for everyone to sing along to music played through your radio. The project comes with invitations and posters to engage your neighbours and communities. Find out more from: <http://www.carolsonthedoortstep.co.uk>

PRAYER POINTS

- ❖ For our building, that we would be able to raise the required £15,000 in new bookings and grants in order to break even this year.
- ❖ We have a grant application in to help with our projected deficit due to reduced bookings because of COVID. Please could you pray for this application and for those who are meeting this week to consider how to allocate the grant money?
- ❖ For Drop Inn, WHY and Sean; that the young people who take part feel members of this community and feel the love and support of the Lord.
- ❖ For Wesley Wigglers and Claire as they are able to meet in person again.
- ❖ For our church, community, country and the world as we deal with and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.
- ❖ For Dorothy and Jim, now both recovering at home.
- ❖ For Val recovering from her operation.
- ❖ For Christopher for heart, health, strength and salvation.
- ❖ For Lunch Club as we look to the future and try to keep in touch with our members.

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).

AND FINALLY

❖ Christmas Cards

Christmas will soon be upon us! Many people usually write their cards and bring them to church to give out either in person or via the pigeon holes, but since we are not meeting for worship in person we will not be able to do that this year. Instead, we are going to dedicate a special page of the newsletter to Christmas greetings and encourage people to make a donation to Action for Children with the money saved by not buying cards. If you would like to take part in this, just send your message to the newsletter email account or pop it to in the letterbox at church and then either donate to Action for Children directly or give it to Matt to pass on.

❖ Christmas Card Messages...

- Wishing all my friends at Wesley Hall the peace and joy of the Christmas season and a happy and healthy 2021. With love, Gill x
- Season's greetings & God bless. Love to all, Pat Wright.
- Happy Christmas and best wishes for a better 2021! Margaret Gray.
- To all at Wesley Hall church and Luncheon Club. Hope you are all keeping well and we will soon be able to meet up again. Best wishes, Ann Wilkinson (from Alexander Court)
- With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, from Cath Marriott.
- Wishing a Merry Christmas and a hope-filled New Year to all our church family. Carole, Andrew, Joseph & Benjamin x

❖ Offering Envelopes

The new offering envelopes for 2021 are now available so if you are currently using the envelopes, just pop in to church from 9am to 5pm Monday to Wednesday this coming week, or in the New Year. Thank you to everyone who has found an alternative way to give while we are not meeting for worship during the pandemic; your continued support is very much appreciated! If you have any questions or would like to start giving to Wesley Hall, please see Matt.

❖ Dorothy and Jim...

...would like to say thank you everyone for their prayers and support over the past few weeks, and wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

❖ Good News!

Mehrab & Moj have had a baby girl, '■■■■', born on 7th December.

❖ Farewell Gift for Sally

As I am sure we all want to mark Sally's leaving Louise is going to make a book filled with all our messages to say goodbye to her. And if you would like to put something towards a leaving gift for Sally, let Matt have this by cash cheque or bank transfer. We have had a good number of contributions to Sally's leaving gift (thanks very much!), but not as many messages for Louise to add to the book she is preparing. If you would like to add a message to Sally, please email Louise at: ■■■■

❖ Keeping in Touch (with TRIBE)

One of the ideas that came from Claire's last management group meeting was trying to put people who live alone in touch with children from TRIBE. Ideally, those who would like to be involved would be paired up and could then arrange to phone/video call/Zoom to keep in touch and help combat isolation during lockdown. If you are interested, (as either a person living alone or a TRIBE member), please let Claire know families@wesleyhall.org.uk, 07412 124 310).

❖ Extraordinary Gifts from All We Can

Christmas is a special time of year to gather together with families and loved ones and, as Christians, to celebrate Jesus, the most extraordinary gift of all. Although this year will be different, you can still spread joy and hope at this special time of year through giving your loved ones All We Can's Extraordinary Gifts, which will in turn bring hope and joy, as well as helping to change lives in some of the world's poorest communities.

With every Extraordinary Gift from All We Can, you'll receive a card to pass onto your loved one, showing them the difference that their gift could make. This year, make sure your Christmas is extraordinary by helping a family in need. Order your Extraordinary Gifts today at: <https://www.allwecan.org.uk/shop/>

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Today we, along with most churches, will not be worshipping in our church buildings, but in our own homes. Below are a number of options (in no particular order) to help us to do this:

❖ Vine at Home Service

Along with this newsletter, there should also be a separate attachment called 'Service 1 (Vine)'. This is a short service that can be used at home and includes prayers, a reflection and songs (that can be played via the embedded YouTube links).

❖ Methodist Church in Britain Worship at Home

Along with this newsletter, there should also be a separate attachment called 'Service 2 (Methodist)'. This is a short service that can be used at home and includes prayers, a reflection and songs (that can be played via the embedded YouTube link).

❖ Wesley's Chapel - Livestream

Wesley's Chapel in London is live-streaming worship, adapted for a non-physical congregation, at 9:45am and 11am today. The YouTube link for the stream is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAUqhmhevz5sqhh72LIMxA>

❖ Methodist Central Hall, Westminster - Livestream

The team at Methodist Central Hall are providing live worship via their YouTube channel at 11.00am every Sunday. Alternatively, you can watch again online at a time convenient to you. Just click on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn9TkFzl-gk--V3JapCS0sQ> or type "methodist central hall Westminster youtube channel" into your search engine and it should pop up. The service is between 45 mins and an hour.

❖ Sheffield Methodist Circuit Streamed Services

[Victoria Hall](#)

[Greenhill Methodist Church](#)

[Coal Aston Methodist Church](#)

[St Paul's Methodist Church, Dronfield](#)

[St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church](#)

[Carterknowle Methodist Church](#)

[Totle Rise Methodist Church](#)

[Stocksbridge Christian Centre](#) (as part of the Cornerstone Mission Partnership)

[Christ Church Stocksbridge](#)

[Stephen Hill Methodist Church](#)

[St Andrew's Gosforth Valley](#)

We will endeavour to continue to offer a variety of home worship options each week. If you come across a good one, please send it to the newsletter account.