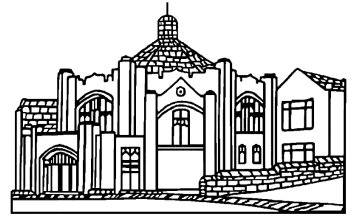




Wesley Hall

Part of Wesley Ebenezer
Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. John Simms
www.wesleyhall.org.uk



Sunday 16th October 2011

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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|------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Today's service | 10:30am | Preacher | Rev. John Simms (Pastoral Service) |
| | | Worship Leader | Tim Jansen |
| | | The steward on duty today is Pat Singleton | |

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|--------------------------------|----------------|--|--------------------|
| <i>And next week</i> | <i>10:30am</i> | <i>Preacher</i> | <i>Mandy Boyce</i> |
| <i>23rd October</i> | | <i>No Worship Leader</i> | |
| | | <i>The steward on duty will be Andrew Gray</i> | |

THIS WEEK...

❖ New Songs

If you would like to learn some new songs so that you feel more able and confident to sing them during worship, then you would be very welcome to gather around the piano from 10:15am on a Sunday morning to learn together. Beth & Emma

❖ Pastoral Service

Our Pastoral Service this year is today. As well as commissioning our pastoral leaders we will also be welcoming three new members into the church family. To celebrate this, there will be a faith lunch downstairs in the Church Hall after the service to which all are welcome.

❖ Wednesday Group

The Wednesday Group will be meeting here at Wesley Hall this *Wednesday 19th October* for their AGM.

❖ Rend Collective Experiment

Cliff College is developing its annual Festival to include two extra events each year. The Festival weekend (1st – 4th June 2012) will be preceded by a performance by Rend Collective Experiment on *Friday 21st October* (doors open 7pm), and another concert to be held in March (details TBA). Tickets for the Rend gig are available from Cliff College Reception or by phoning 01246 584200. The cost is £5.00.

❖ Faith in Fiction

Join us as four well-read Christians (Rev. Robert Beard, Very Rev. Peter Bradley, Jenny King & Rev. Janet Lees) talk about novels which reflect their faith. Have you discovered such a novel? Would you encourage others to read it? Bring the details and we will compile a list of recommendations to share.

Faith in fiction is next *Tuesday 18th October* at 2:00pm at St. Andrew's United Reformed Church Hall, Upper Hanover Street, Sheffield, S3 7RQ. Admission is free, refreshments will be served and voluntary donations to help cover costs will be much appreciated.

For further details and to book a place, please call contact [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED].

COMING SOON...

❖ WEADS Pantomime

The WEADS pantomime this year will be Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs and will run from *Wednesday 15th to Saturday 18th February 2012*. Rehearsals are beginning on Fridays at 7:30pm at Walkley Ebenezer. If you would like to get involved, please see Sue or Brian Mills.

❖ Church Away Day

Our Away Day this year will be on *Saturday 5th November* at Dungworth from 10:00am to around 3:00pm. The congregation from Walkley Ebenezer will be invited to join us as we take stock of where we are and where we are going. Please bring a packed lunch.

❖ Talking Of God

Talking of God is a new faith sharing course following on from the 2005 report to the Methodist Conference Time of Talk of God, which featured on the Church Times list of bestselling Christian books. It is designed to help individuals and congregations to talk about their faith journey and John will be running the course jointly for Wesley Hall and Walkley Ebenezer over the four weeks leading up to Advent:

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Starting the Conversation | Thursday 3 rd November | 7:30pm at Wesley Hall |
| Conversation Stoppers | Tuesday 8 th November | 7:30pm at Wesley Hall |
| Conversations in Context | Monday 14 th November | 7:30pm at Walkley Ebenezer |
| Living the Conversation | Wednesday 23 rd November | 7:30pm at Walkley Ebenezer |

❖ Celebration of Sport Service

There will be a Celebration of Sport Service at the Cathedral on *Monday 14th November* at 7:30pm. For more information contact Peter Allen (Chaplain for Sport in the Dioceses of Sheffield) on [REDACTED].

❖ Wesley Ebenezer's Got Talent

There will be a Wesley Ebenezer's Got Talent show here on *Saturday 19th November*. Please put the date in your diary and if you would like to perform and be involved in the show, please see Mandy Boyce.

❖ Saints Alive

The Saints Alive puppet team (who performed at the Stay & Play morning last week) present their Christmas show 'A Christmas Party' which will be held at the Montgomery Theatre on *Friday 2nd December* at 7:00pm. The show will also feature the Christian magician Steve Macbeth. Ticket cost £5 for adults, £2 for children and available by calling the SCEC office (0114) 272 0455 or Glyn Jones [REDACTED]. All profits will go towards the redevelopment of Montgomery Hall.

AND FINALLY...

❖ Leprosy Mission

The Leprosy Mission Christmas Catalogue is on the table in the foyer. If anyone would like to order card, gifts etc. please see Sue Mills.

❖ Fairtrade

I usually open the 'shop' in the corner of the Church Hall on Friday lunchtimes but as I sell so little after one or two customers from CBS have been, I am not staying around as long as formerly. There will be a sale of Traidcraft goods after church on *Sunday 27th November* at St Thomas's. I am hoping to have a table out in Wesley Hall foyer after church on *Sunday 30th October* when the Christmas card should have arrived and also on *Sunday 18th December* for anyone wanting 'last minute' items. If you want Divine Chocolate Advent Calendars this year please let me know as we have problems getting rid of them last year. Thank you, Audrey Bellamy.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

I've recently been sharing with you the views of the General Secretary of the Methodist Church, Rev Dr Martyn Atkins, that Methodism needs to see itself increasingly as 'A Discipleship Movement Shaped for Mission'. In order to do that we need to remind ourselves that the Methodist Church isn't so much the building we meet in but the people who meet there. It's very nearly impossible for a building to be a movement, but a group of people – that's much easier.

Our focus over the last few weeks & months has been in two main areas: firstly, the money that we committed to raise towards the maintenance of the building – the roof and the employment of Matt as Building Manager; and secondly our worship life here at Wesley Hall. These areas are essential for us in working out what it means to be God's people called Methodist here in Crookes, but only if we see them as vehicles for the mission which we share with God in this community. We don't meet here in order to maintain a building, nor do we maintain a building in order that we may meet here. The building is a resource for outreach to the community around us, nothing more. Similarly the worship we share is a way of engaging with God so that we might be equipped and inspired to reach out, and also a means of that outreach as we seek to provide an environment where people can be drawn closer to God. Worship is primarily not for our benefit, but for God's.

It is a great joy today to be celebrating this mission, as we welcome Steph, Beth & Tim into formal membership of this congregation, and to affirm and commission those who share in the pastoral work here. But let us not rest on our laurels: where are the next group of new members coming from?

Elsewhere in this Newsletter are details of the 'Talking of God' course that will be running during November here and at Walkley. Can I encourage as many of you as can to come along to these evenings, where together we can explore what it means to share our journey of discipleship with others.

Rev. John Simms

The editor for the month of October 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 evening