



Wesley Hall

Crookes, Sheffield



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

Sunday 19th January 2020

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** **Mr. David Harris**
The steward on duty is Jenny Jones

Sunday 26th January *10:30am* *Mrs. Wendy Cartwright*
Sunday 2nd February *10:30am* *Mr. Neil Craig*
Sunday 9th February *10:30am* *Rev. Jonathan Haigh (Holy Communion)*
 6:00pm *Prayer Service*

THIS WEEK...

❖ 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 20th January*. Please pray for the meeting and let a member of the team know if there is anything that you would like to be discussed.

❖ Church Council

Our next Church Council will be at Walkley Ebenezer on *Thursday 23rd January* at 7:30pm. If you have any agenda items, please give them to Sally as soon as possible. We are also looking for a secretary to send papers out before the meeting, take minutes and then distribute them afterwards. If you are interested in this role or would like to know more, please see Matt.

❖ St Mark's Gospel Choir Concert

A number of choirs hire Wesley Hall for their concerts, and it has been suggested that we could run concerts ourselves as a community event and to raise money for church funds. Our first concert will be by St Mark's Gospel Choir on *Saturday 25th January* at 7:30pm. In order for this to work, we will need a few people to help with taking money on the door and serving refreshments, as well as spreading the word so that people come along! If you are able to help with this, please see Matt.

❖ Sleeping Beauty at St Tim's

St Tim's presents their 2020 panto: *Sleeping Beauty!* Friday 24th January 7pm; Saturday 25th January 1pm & 7pm. Contact Kate for tickets on 07855 752581; adults £5, concessions £3.50.

❖ Litter Pick

The next community litter pick is happening on *Saturday 25th January* (weather permitting). Meet at 9.45am in The Ball pub, 171-173 Crookes.

❖ **Suzy Senior at CLC Bookshop**

Come and chat with local children's author Suzy Senior and save £1 on the day when you buy her latest book, 'Just As You Are' (RRP £5.99). The beautifully illustrated book is suitable for children from 4 to 7 years old. Its message is clear and simple: God wants a relationship with us regardless of our background or present circumstances. Suzy will be at CLC Bookshop, beside the Cathedral, from noon to 2pm on *Saturday 25th January*.

COMING SOON...

❖ **Sally's Sabbatical**

Our minister, Rev. Sally Coleman, will take the remaining month of her sabbatical in February.

❖ **'Left to Their Own Devices'**

The internet has revolutionised the way we live our lives. Smartphones, social media and digital technology are now a vital part of how we function day to day and we have opportunities to build connections like never before. Many of our children have grown up in this digital world and it can leave us as parents feeling out of touch; unsure how to best protect them from the potential dangers such as online bullying, pornography and the pressure of the selfie culture. Care for the Family have put together a one evening session called 'Left to their Own Devices' to power up your parenting for the online generation. The Sheffield event is at St Thomas Philadelphia (S6 3BL) on *Wednesday 11th March*, 7:30pm-9:30pm. Tickets are available from Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/left-to-their-own-devices-sheffield-tickets-83307901175>, costing £4 before 21st January, £7 if booked after.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES...

- ❖ The next **Funday** is on Friday 21st February 10am-4pm. If you're able to help on the day (either morning, afternoon, or both) please let Jacque know. If you'd like to book-in your child (5-11yrs old), the booking link is open (but not yet externally advertised): <https://forms.gle/MG4trhgXusFvXZ2m6>
- ❖ A massive thank you to everyone who supports or is involved in the work with families and children in this church, be it a physical presence at an event, collecting supplies, prayer or another way. It wouldn't be the same without you.

PRAYER POINTS...

- ❖ For those of our church family who are ill at the moment, particularly for Louise.
- ❖ For new room hire bookings so that our income will still be on budget. Two regular users have stopped or reduced their sessions at Wesley Hall, leaving us with a shortfall.
- ❖ For the Leadership Team meeting on Monday 20th January.
- ❖ For the gospel choir concert coming up; that people will come along and would have a good time!

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...

❖ **New Offering Envelopes**

The new offering envelopes for 2020 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.

❖ **Thank You from Sue Mills:**

A big 'thank you' to everyone for the cards, flowers, prayers and donations following Brian's death. £1,285 has been raised for the activity fund at Moorend Place, which will help them to provide outings, theatre trips and activities for the residents. God bless you all, Sue and family.

❖ **Photo Board**

We have a photo board at the back of church with pictures of all of our Wesley Hall church family. If you are not on the board and would like to be, please see Andrew Gray or Matt Irons. If you are not sure who they are, take a look at the board!

Dear Friends,

First, may I wish you all a very Happy New Year, and many blessings as we move into 2020, I realise that I am a little late in doing so, but the sentiment is the same. I do hope that you have all had a mostly enjoyable and peaceful Christmastime, I was sorry not to be with you, but due to personal illness that just wasn't possible.

It was my personal illness that has had a knock on effect going forward, and while we had planned to hold conversations on the God in Love Unites Us report that has been sent out to the whole of the Connexion by the Conference for consultation in January, we have not had time to properly prepare for these. Therefore, I am offering two dates on Thursday 5th and Thursday 12th March, for us to consider the report. It covers all aspects of human relating and asks us to make some responses, which we can do both together if we wish to, and as individuals. Printed copies of the report are available, and it can also be found online (along with some more information here):

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/marriage-and-relationships-2019/the-2019-marriage-and-relationships-report/>

Apologies because it is rather a long web-address. Alongside the report, we also have leaflets from MET (Methodist Evangelicals Together) and Dignity and Worth (a group who affirm those in the LGBTQI community and their supporters) to take away. I would encourage you to read all of the available materials prayerfully and carefully.

The purposes of the consultation are not to change anybody's mind on any of the topics contained in the report, which include, marriage, singleness, cohabitation, divorce, and same-sex partnerships, all of which are treated with compassion and care. The questions we are being asked are about how we might live together as Methodist people with differing opinions and views.

I am very happy to talk to anybody about my own stance on all these areas of human relating, but not with a view to changing your mind, but with the desire to listen to you and respect who and where you are. I believe that this would very much be Jesus' way, and that when he called people to follow him, that he was calling them to a transformative journey that would be different for each one. The gospels have no one size fits all blueprint for salvation, beyond the deep call to love and to serve one another.

I do encourage you to come to these consultation meetings which will be held at Wesley Hall on Thursdays 5th and 12th March at 7:30pm (7:00pm for refreshments), and will finish at 9:30pm.

As we prepare for this meeting let us hold one another in love and in care.

Peace and blessings

Sally

(Reverend Sally Coleman)