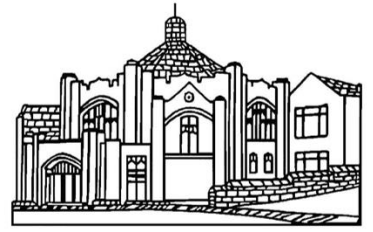




Wesley Hall

Crookes, Sheffield



www.wesleyhall.org.uk

Wesley Hall Methodist Church is a registered charity number 1150284

Sunday 28th April 2024

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. Michelle Deans (AGM – see below)**
The steward on duty is Steve Wright

Sunday 5th May *10:30am* *Rev. Michelle Deans (Holy Communion)*
Sunday 12th May *10:30am* *Glenn Evans*
Sunday 19th May *10:30am* *Brian Jones*

THIS WEEK

❖ Church Annual General Meeting: TODAY!

Our AGM, led by Michelle, will take place during morning worship today. It is a chance to hear about the church's work over the last year and explore future ideas and plans.

The AGM will be followed by a bring and share lunch downstairs in the Church Hall to which everybody is welcome! We've plenty of food, so do please stay even if you haven't brought anything along.

❖ Circuit Prayer Gathering:

The Circuit Prayer Gathering will be taking place as usual *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)

❖ Church Gathering: Thursday 2nd May

Following on from the AGM, Michelle will host a meeting on Zoom this *Thursday 2nd May* from 7:30pm to 8:30pm to bring the church's life and mission before God to ask for His guidance, wisdom and strength.

<https://zoom.us/j/92311829129?pwd=c05JZUhyNi9EZWQrWDVPR25zcmFIZz09>

Meeting ID: 923 1182 9129 Passcode: 923336

(Telephone connection: 020 3481 5237)

❖ Gift Day 2024

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 £1,400 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 5th May*. We are very happy to accept gifts at any time by cash, cheque, bank transfer, standing order, or online (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.

❖ **Faith Perspectives on the Middle East Crisis**

You are invited to a meeting at St Mark's Church, Broomhill 7:00pm to 8:45pm this evening (*Sunday 28th April*) at which we will consider the current Middle East crisis from the point of view of the three religious faiths that are involved, Jewish, Muslim and Christian. How can a just and lasting peace be secured?

The meeting will begin with four short talks by the following speakers:

- Rev Dr Casey Strine, Senior Lecturer in Ancient Near Eastern History and Literature and the Bishop of Sheffield's Adviser on Inter Faith Relations – on Palestine as a Holy Land for three religions
- Dima Shami – from Sheffield's Palestinian community.
- Professor Jane Ginsborg – Chair of Seven Hills Shul, formerly Sheffield and District Reform Jewish Congregation.
- Mark James – Kairos Sheffield, a network of Christians in Sheffield concerned and active for justice and peace in the Holy Land

These talks will be followed by Q&A and discussion. The meeting will end with a period of private prayer.

COMING SOON

❖ **Cliff Festival 2024**

Cliff Festival 2024 runs from *Friday 24th – Monday 27th May* at Cliff College in Derbyshire. Expect morning and evening worship and Bible teaching, seminars, games and activities for people of all ages, opportunities to be reenergised and resourced for mission – and all in the stunning surrounds of the Peak District. The theme this year is Rerouted and the morning bible studies will be led by Matt Miofsky from the Gathering Church in Missouri. Other contributors will be announced shortly and closer to the event the programme will be available on the Cliff College website. They run excellent youth and children's work provision for children aged 2 and upwards.

There is the option to visit for the day as well as buying a ticket for the whole weekend (entry is free to all under 18s). Day passes are £25 for adults or £18 for concessions (65 or over/ students/ living with a disability or on benefits). We won't be having a service here at Wesley Hall on Sunday 26th May, so that would be a great opportunity to come and see what it is like!

Come for the day or bring your tent (like the Irons family) and stay for the weekend. Visit www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/cliff-festival to find out more and book.

❖ **Joint Churches Event**

Following on from the success of the repair café, our next joint churches event will be a workshop run by Hope for the Future, likely on *Friday 7th June*. Time and venue TBC.

❖ **Circuit Leaving Service**

There will be a Circuit service on *Sunday 21st July* at 3pm at Wisewood Methodist Church to say farewell to Rev. Lisa Quarmby and Rev. Mike Jones. Save the date, more information will follow.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

❖ **Toddler Group**

The Toddler group Teddy Bear Picnic is on *Wednesday 15th May*, this is a fundraiser for Christian Aid. Part of this will include a bake sale, if you are able to bake anything for it please let Jacque know.

❖ **Messy Church**

Messy Church is on *Saturday 18th May*, if you're able to help in the kitchen, with a craft, with setup or just being a friendly church face please let Jacque know.

AND FINALLY...

❖ **Card for Mike Jones**

We recently received the following message from Mike:

"Unfortunately, my dad was taken into hospital on Good Friday and died yesterday, the following Thursday. It was not a surprise as his dementia has got much worse, removing his ability to do most things. We are just glad that it was not an extended time for him once the outcome was inevitable."

There is a card at the back of church which we will send to Mike to show that we are thinking of him at the sad time. If you would like to, please do take the opportunity to sign the card and leave him a message.

❖ **Update on Casting the Net**

The March Circuit Meeting received a 'Casting the net on the other side' conversation paper and encourages all churches to discuss this and share their responses so that the June Circuit Meeting might be able to make informed decisions. Copies of the paper are available at the back of church, and it has been sent out with this newsletter.

Churches are asked to respond to this paper however they wish, but included are some question members of the Circuit Meeting were asked to discuss that may help to focus your conversations. Please send your responses to admin@sheffieldcircuit.org.uk by *Wednesday 15th May*.

❖ **Snowdrop Fundraising**

Jane and Neil Offord would like to thank everyone who bought cakes when Neil preached at Wesley Hal, with £65 having been raised. Jonathan Buckley has now reached £2,000, which is half of the target he set himself. Jonathan Buckley is also running 4 half-marathons in 4 weeks to celebrate his 40th birthday. If you would like to sponsor Jonathan, please do so via his Just Giving page: [Jonathan Buckley is fundraising for The Snowdrop Project \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Jonathan-Buckley-is-fundraising-for-The-Snowdrop-Project)

The Snowdrop Project is a Sheffield-based charity which supports and empowers survivors of modern slavery and exploitation to recover from their pasts and rebuild their futures. For more information, please see: [The Snowdrop Project | A Future Free From Modern Slavery](#)

❖ **Message from Phill Borkett**

I'm so sorry that I didn't make it to Wesley Hall on Sunday 7th April. I left home early, but clearly not early enough as every route I tried was blocked because of the half marathon. Eventually I found myself on a diversion via Longshaw but even that route was closed. I do hope you enjoyed the rousing hymns and my grateful thanks to whoever stood in for me.

Hope to be with you again, but not a half marathon day!

Sincerely, Phill.

PRAYER POINTS

- ❖ Our current Wiggles cohort are mostly returning to work or moving up to toddlers, so there's a transition time at Wiggles (this happens every 6-12 months) so if you could keep this group in your prayers especially that would be helpful.
- ❖ For new users to boost our room hire income and help meet our running costs this year.
- ❖ Please pray for those known to us who are ill, in hospital or recovering from surgery.
- ❖ For Casting the Net on the Other Side, as churches meet across Sheffield to pray, discuss and consider what our future looks like.
- ❖ For our application to the Benefact Trust for a car park resurfacing grant, that it would be successful and progress quickly
- ❖ Please continue to pray for a resolution to the war in Ukraine, and the conflict between Palestine and Israel, that peace may prevail.
- ❖ For continued progress on the employment of a joint youth worker.
- ❖ For the continued exploration of how we can use our building and location to reach out and serve the people of Crookes.