

Llangollen Methodist Church

Worshipping by the River Dee

18th February 2018

Number – 954

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to our worship this Sunday

11:00 *All Age Communion – Rev Phil Poole*

Music provided by Ted Blackman.

You were greeted at the door by Margaret Davies

Books were given out by Marion Blackman

Refreshments by the Jackson Family

Today's Stewards are Peter & Amanda Brookfield

Happy Birthday to:

Elias Storm (*Thursday*)

Kath Morris (*Friday*)



*Do join us
for tea & coffee
after the service this morning*



Church Diary

Sunday 18th February

11:00 All Age Communion — Rev Phil Poole

Monday 19th February

2:00 Home Group at 5 Gerddi-y-Bache.

6:00–8:00 Games & Activity Evening at the Memorial Hall

Tuesday 20th February

10:00 Coffee at the Hall — join us for coffee, a chat and a bit of Bric-a-brac

7:30 “Jerusalem Joy Rehearsal” at Wrexham Methodist Church

Wednesday 21st February

10:00 Prayer Group meet in the vestry — you are very welcome to join us

11:30 Lent course in the Upper Room, St Collen’s

7:00 Church Council in the Memorial Hall — all members are welcome to come to the meeting.

Thursday 22nd February

3:00–5:15 After school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall for Secondary School Pupils.

Friday 23rd February

12:00–2:00 Lent lunch at Holy Cross Parish Rooms

Saturday 24th February

3:00–5:00 Messy Church at the Memorial Hall

Sunday 25th February

11:00 Morning Worship — Rev Richard Parkes

Monday 26th February

7:30 Worship Consultation Group Meeting at 5, Gerddi y Bache, Come and meet with Phil to discuss the worship life of our church.

Tuesday 27th February

10:00 Coffee at the Hall — join us for coffee, a chat and a bit of Bric-a-brac

12:30 Lent course at the Memorial Hall

7:30 “Jerusalem Joy Rehearsal” at Wrexham Methodist Church

Wednesday 28th February

10:00 Prayer Group meet in the vestry — you are very welcome to join us

11:30 Lent course in the Upper Room, St Collen's

Thursday 1st March

3:00–5:15 After school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall for Secondary School Pupils.

Lent Course 2018

You are invited to join us for our Tuesday Lunchtime Lent Course in Llangollen Memorial Hall.

We will be studying, "On the Third Day" a new 5-session York course written by Bishop John Pritchard.

27th February. Have I got news for you!

6th March. So what? The implications of the Resurrection

13th March. 'Let him easter in us'

20th March. Celebrating and praying Easter

27th March. A risen Church

On the course audio Simon Stanley puts questions to Revd Prof Tom Wright, NT scholar and former Bishop of Durham; Paul Vallely, journalist and broadcaster; Revd Ruth Gee, former President of Methodist Conference and Bishop Libby Lane.

Copies of the course booklet cost £3.50 and will be available at the first session on 27th February

Sessions begin at 12.30pm, but we'll be eating lunch together from 12noon for those who can come early.

Phil Poole

There will be a get together of all those interested in the social and fundraising aspect of our Church, on Tuesday 20th February at 11am in our coffee morning in the Memorial Hall. This will be to collect ideas for the coming year and try and put a programme together. If you cannot come along but have some suggestions to put forward then please let me have them before that day.

Many thanks

Sheila

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday March 2nd

This year's celebration to take place at
Holy Cross R.C. Church
Oak Street
Llangollen.

At 11am

The service for 2018 comes from
SURINAME
A country in the north east of South America.
The theme is
'God's Creation'

Followed by
Soup & refreshments in
Holy Cross Rooms

All are Welcome

Volunteers Required

If you are able to help in the Women's World Day of Prayer, there will be a run through of the service on Friday 23rd February in Holy Cross at 11:00.

Everyone who can help with the service is welcome to come.

Save The Date

Monday 9th April 2018

We will be having our Spring Party on this date in the Memorial Hall at 6pm.

Further details to follow in a week or two.

LENTEN SOUP KITCHEN

At
Holy Cross Church Rooms
(along the alleyway opposite the Library)

Every Friday during Lent
From February 16th until
March 23rd (inclusive)
12 noon until 1.30



Proceeds to CAFOD
(for overseas development)
Includes table top sale

All Welcome

The editor's jottings!

“Open the Book” — if you are interested in helping to take Bible Stories into the Primary School assemblies please contact Elisabeth or Janet

“Lent Studies” — there will be lent studies on Tuesday Lunch times at the Memorial Hall and at St Collen’s Upper Room on Wednesday Mornings.

“Women’s World Day of Prayer” — this is at Holy Cross this year, and they would like some help with the service. If you can help do go along on Friday at 11:00.



Norman

Readings

Mark 1:9-15 *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."* (v.15)

Psalm 25

Background

Mark's Gospel opens with an emphatic statement: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." The original language and style of this sentence particularly emphasise that a moment in history has arrived: there is something significant, final, once and for all about the coming of Jesus.

The society to which Jesus came was one that longed for justice. The words of Psalm 25 would have found resonance for those who were part of it. The writer pleads for God's deliverance, describing their situation with words like "lonely", "afflicted", "troubled of heart" and distressed (Psalm 25:16, 17). As we read the Psalm, we might consider who in today's world could describe their circumstances in such terms.

Psalms like this can also be difficult to read. They often speak of God coming to the rescue of those in trouble, leaving us with questions about why some peoples' suffering seems to continue unabated. Are there situations like that which you struggle with?

Mark's Gospel announces Jesus as God's response to the hopes and longings of our world – bringing near the possibilities of God's kingdom with all its righteousness and justice. For those who are followers of Jesus, this presents an unavoidable challenge. We too are called to be God's response; to bring near God's kingdom; to fight for justice and stand against what we recognise to be wrong. If God appears silent in the face of injustice, is that because God's people are failing to respond?

Jesus invites those who hear the message of God's kingdom to repent. This means more than simply saying sorry (although the Psalm reminds us of our need for God's forgiveness and restoration). To repent is to turn around

and live differently – to deliberately choose to walk in the ways of God’s kingdom, a kingdom of justice and righteousness.

To Ponder

How would you respond to someone who asks why God rescues some people and leaves others to suffer?

What does God’s kingdom mean to you?

What part does repentance play in your understanding and living out of God’s kingdom?

Bible notes author: Phil Jump

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio each week

BB21 16:25 Sunday 18th February — Songs of Praise

Great British Hymnwriters

In a programme celebrating Britain’s greatest hymnwriters, modern legend Graham Kendrick tells Sean Fletcher about the story behind his contemporary anthem Shine, Jesus, Shine, and Pam Rhodes talks to the leading modern hymnwriters Timothy Dudley Smith and Bernadette Farrell.

At the Royal Albert Hall a congregation of 5,000 sing some of the country’s favourite hymns.

BBC2 21:00 Friday — An Island Parish — After the hurricane

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday — Celebration

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

Radio 2 — 6:00–9:00 Sunday – Good Morning Sunday – Rev Kate Bottley and Jason Mohammad

Radio 4 — 8:10 Sundays — Sunday Worship

Radio 4 (LW) — 9:44 Weekdays — Daily Worship

Information for ‘Riverside Weekly’ should be sent to the editor,

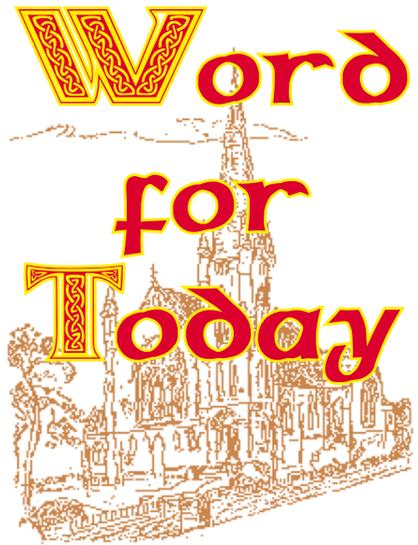
Page 7 **Norman Pybus** ☎(01978) 861390 Email:-editor@llangollenmethodist.org.uk

Remember Those Who Have Helped You

'You sent help more than once.'

Philippians 4:16 NLT

CHARLES SWINDOLL tells the story of the giving tree: 'When the boy was young he swung from the tree's branches, ate her apples, and slept in her shade...But as he grew up he spent less and less time-with the tree. "Come on, let's play," said the tree. But the young man was only interested in money. "Then take all my apples and sell them," said the tree. The man did, and the tree was happy. He didn't return for a long time, but the tree smiled when he passed by one day. "Come on, let's play!" But the man, older and tired of the world, wanted to get away from it all. "Cut me down. Take my trunk, make a boat, then you can sail away," said the tree. The man did, and the tree was happy. Many seasons passed — and the tree waited. Finally the man returned, too old to play, or pursue riches, or sail the seas. "I have a pretty good stump left. Sit down here and rest," said the tree. The man did, and the tree was happy.' Swindoll continues:



'I stared into the fire, reviewing my life as I grew older with the tree and the boy. I identified with both — and it hurt. How many giving trees have there been? How many people have given themselves so I might grow, accomplish my goals, and find wholeness and satisfaction? Thank you, Lord, for each one. That night I crawled into bed. I had wept, now I was smiling. "Good night, Lord." I was a humble man. Thankful I'd taken time to reflect.' Paul remembered those who helped him — and so should you.

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For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman



Princess Street
Langollen



The **Methodist Church**