

22nd April 2018

Number – 963

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to our worship this Sunday

Today's Flowers given by Marion for her brother, Hywel's Birthday.

11:00 Morning Worship – Church Members

Music provided by Peter Brookfield & Ted Blackman.

You were greeted at the door by Sheila Spedding

Books were given out by Margaret Davies

Refreshments Markus & Ellen

Readings:-

John 10:11–13 (*page 98 in NT*) — Elizabeth Roberts

1 John 3:16–24 (*page 230 in NT*) — Markus

Today's steward is Joan Wilson

Do join us for tea or coffee after the service this morning

Your Gifts And Talents.

We will be giving out, after the service, £10 to all willing persons/families and we ask you to use your gifts and talents to increase your £10.

You'll have plenty of time because we won't be collecting the money until September when we'll receive it during our Harvest Festival service.

Many thanks

Sheila



Happy Birthday to:
Lillian Williams (*Monday*)
Fiona Owens (*Tuesday*)



Church Diary

Sunday 22nd April

11:00 Morning Worship — Arranged by church members

Tuesday 24th April

10:00 Coffee Morning by Llantysilio Church—the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 25th April

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

4:00 Cytûn Committee at the Upper Room which will include our farewell to Andrew

7:30 Bible Study at Paul & Anna's – studying 1 Peter chapter 3

Thursday 26th April

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

Saturday 28th April

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

Sunday 29th April

11:00 Morning Worship — Nigel Burns

Monday 30th April

2:00 Home Group at 5, Gerddi y Bache — “Philip”

6:00 till 8:00 Games & Activity Evening

Tuesday 1st may

10:00 Our Coffee Morning — the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 2nd May

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

Thursday 3rd May

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

Friday 4th May

12:30–1:30 Souper-Friday — join us for soup, a roll and a chat in the Memorial Hall.

Sunday 6th May

11:00 Morning Worship — Tim Guy

Circuit Coach Trip to Cliff Collage for a day of Teaching and Fellowship

Meryl Thomas is organising a Circuit Coach Trip to Cliff Collage, Derbyshire on Monday 28th May, where there will be some teaching on “God’s Holy Spirit -A Blaze”.

The coach will leave Wrexham at 8:30am and set off back from Cliff Collage at 5.30pm.

Adults: £10; Children: £8. The cost of the coach will be extra.

If you are interested in going or would like further details, please contact Meryl on 01978 354721

Cytun Notice

Revd. Andrew Sully will be conducting his last service in St. Collen’s on Sunday April 29th at 11am. It would be good if some representatives from other churches could be there, and anyone is invited to attend the farewell buffet lunch in the Church Hall which follows. So that the caterers have an idea of numbers, please ring Stephanie Morgan 861774 if you are able to go along. We wish Andrew and Mary every blessing as they move to Llandudno.

The editor’s jottings!

“My Fair Lady” — our congratulations to all involved in the marvellous production of My Fair Lady put on by the Operatic Society.

“Coffee Morning” — the month of May is upon us and on Tuesday the 1st of May is the next church coffee morning. The usual help and items for sale and raffle are required.

“Changes to the Plan” — now Nigel Burns will be coming on 29th April and Tim Guy on the 6th May.

Norman



Tea Party to support our Youth Work.

On Saturday 12th May at 1pm, there will be a Tea Party at the Memorial Hall in aid of our Circuit Project, which this year is to fund our Circuit Youth Worker, Trish Erlam for a further three years.

Trish is doing some fantastic Christian work with children and young people across the Circuit, and in Llangollen where she co-ordinates the After School Drop in for Secondary School Pupils and helps with the Games & Activity Evenings. Trish will be speaking to us more about her role as Circuit Youth Worker at the Tea Party.

Do please come along and enjoy a Traditional Afternoon Tea, some live music and a chat and support this very worthwhile cause.

So that we know the exact numbers to cater for, please could you purchase your tickets in advance from Amanda, Peter or Sheila during the after-service fellowship.

If you are unable to attend the event but would like to support our Youth Work, any donations may be given to Sheila.

Thank you.

Amanda.

A Date for Your Diary

For all Church Friends & ex-This'n'That-ers...

Advanced notice of our Summer Evening meal

This will be held on Monday 11th June

at

Sweeny Hall, Oswestry

7:00 for 7:30

We would love you to join us in sharing this time of friendship together, transport can be arranged for non-drivers.

Names to Gill or John please by Sunday 3rd June if possible (Friday 8th June at the latest).

2 course menu with coffee/tea for £22

Menus available nearer the date!

Llangollen Methodist Church Social Events Calendar 2018

May

12th May, 1pm (Memorial Hall) – Tea Party with live music to celebrate the Royal Wedding! In aid of the Circuit Project (Youth Work). Tickets: £8.95 Adults, £6.00 Children

June

11th June 7:30pm – Church Summer Evening Meal at Sweeny Hall, Oswestry. Arrive at 7pm for 7.30pm sitting. Cost £22.00 per person

July

2nd July, 7pm (Methodist Church) – To begin Eisteddfod Week, “Festival Praise”. Music led by the Salvation Army Band and Songsters and guest artists. Doors open from 6.30pm. Free entry. Offering for Charitable Causes

2nd–7th July (Memorial Hall) – Hospitality and Outreach Week (various times – please check back for further details)

15th July, 1pm – Family Summer Picnic, with games

August

4th August – Canal Boat Trip with Afternoon Tea

September

17th September (Memorial Hall) – Harvest Supper, with “Home-Grown” entertainment!

October

1st October (Memorial Hall) – Dave Cooke speaking about Teams 4U. Refreshments available

19th October – “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner!”

November

16th November (Memorial Hall) – Fish & Chip Supper and Quiz Night

December

4th December, 10am – 12pm (Memorial Hall) – Church Christmas Coffee Morning.

Regular Events

1st Tuesday of each month, 10am - 12pm – Church Coffee Mornings, at the Memorial Hall

1st Friday of each month, 12:30pm – “Souper Friday”, at the Memorial Hall

3rd Monday of each month, 6-8pm – Games Night, at the Memorial Hall. Open to all ages

Readings

John 10:11-18 "I am the good shepherd." (v. 11)

Psalm 23

Background

From Easter to Trinity Sunday this year the main Sunday lectionary Gospel readings are all from John (except for a brief excursion into Luke last week to pick up the immediate aftermath of the encounter on the Emmaus Road). Today, we move away from the resurrection appearances into the rest of John's sweeping theological presentation of Jesus, with its signs (like feeding the five thousand (John 6) and healings, such as the blind man in John 9) and the "I am" sayings. Today we have "I am the good Shepherd".

Jesus is drawing on imagery which would have been commonplace in the rural society in which he lived. It was also a strong element in Hebrew scripture, notably in the best-known of all the Psalms, "The Lord is my shepherd" (today's set Psalm). However, typically of John's presentation of Jesus, that imagery is used in quite complex ways, taking us some way beyond the picture on the Sunday School wall of Jesus patting lambs on the head. John's Gospel takes us straight to the themes of sacrifice, and of Jesus being God's best and greatest intervention and revelation. Relationship is a key theme in this passage: Jesus's relationship with the Father, and, crucially, his relationship of love and care with his followers – love and care which take him all the way to the cross. But the passage ends in Easter hope as Jesus talks of both laying down his life and taking it up again.

An aspect of the passage often overlooked is God's universal care for all people. Jesus speaks of many flocks, not just the one into which he was born and where he was ministering at the time. This challenge to exclusivism and, maybe, nationalism, is a sharp challenge in our times where people feel anxious about globalisation, diversity and identity. "One flock, one shepherd" is quite an aspiration.

To Ponder

What does it mean to be a member of a flock?

What differences does it make that Jesus is the shepherd?

Read the hymn *In heavenly love abiding* (StF 736), with its reference to "my Shepherd is beside me", and compare it with Psalm 23 (on which it is based).

Bible notes author: The Revd Alan Bolton

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio this week

BBC1 15:30 Sunday 22nd April — Songs of Praise

Northampton All Saints'

Josie d'Arby presents Songs of Praise from Northampton's All Saints Church.

To mark the 25th anniversary of Stephen Lawrence's murder his mother, Baroness Doreen Lawrence talks to Sean Fletcher about how her faith has helped during her 18 year fight for justice for her son.

On the eve of St George's Day, the Rev Rose Hudson-Wilkin reveals the Middle Eastern identity of England's patron saint.

Josie finds out about the Good Loaf cafe run by the Christian charity Crime 2 Christ and visits the town's premier rugby club, the Saints, which was founded by a clergyman at the end of the 19th century.

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday — Celebration

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

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

Radio 4(FM) — 5:43am weekdays — Prayer for the Day – A reading and a reflection to start the day with the Rev'd Dr Stephen Wigley, Chair of the Wales Synod of the Methodist Church.

8:10 Sunday 29th April — Sunday Worship — Abiding in Christ Choral Eucharist live from Lancing College Chapel, West Sussex, in the chapel's 150th anniversary year. The preacher is Dr John Inge, Bishop of Worcester, President of the Woodard Corporation. The Choir of Lancing College Chapel sing a vibrant setting of the Mass by the College's Director of Chapel Music Neil Cox.

Radio 4 (LW) — 9:44 Weekdays — Daily Service – A space for spiritual reflection with a Bible reading, prayer and a range of Christian music

Information for 'Riverside Weekly' should be sent to the editor,

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

Show Them God's Love

'Do you see this woman?'

Luke 7:44 NKJV

Luke writes: 'Behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner"' (w. 37-39 NKJV). This scene took place in the house of Simon, a religious leader who was more concerned about 'right and wrong' than he was about hurting people.

He may have been theologically correct, but he lacked compassion. And Jesus confronted him about it! 'He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman?"' Simon saw her as a sinner and a loser. But not Jesus. He responded to



the gift she brought and to the heart of love behind it. In determining her future potential to God's Kingdom, He didn't consult her sordid past or even refer to it. He saw her tears, understood her need, and shocked the religious crowd that day by saying, 'Your sins are forgiven' (v. 48 NKJV). Be careful: when you've been in church for a while and forgotten what it's like to be on the outside, you can become hard-hearted and fail to show the love of God to those who need it.

Published by UCB, Stoke on Trent

**For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman**