



Llangollen Methodist Church
Worshipping by the River Dee

10th June 2018

Number – 970

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to our worship this Sunday

Let's remember to give to the *Benevolent Fund* this Communion Sunday

11:00 Bible Club at the Memorial Hall

11:00 Holy Communion – Rev Phil Poole

Following the service we will be having a shared lunch, then the Church council to which all church members are invited.

Music provided by Ted Blackman.

You were greeted at the door by Anna Smith

Books were given out by Sue Smith

Refreshments Amanda Brookfield

Readings:-

Psalm 104:24-31 (*page 565 in OT*) — Sue Cheshire

Jonah 2:1-11 (*page 885 in OT*) — Paul Smith

Today's steward is Sue Cheshire

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

Happy Birthday to:

Ted Blackman (*Today*)

Rev Phil (*Wednesday*)

Anna Smith (*Wednesday*)

Poppy Hughes (*Friday*)



Church Diary

Sunday 10th June

11:00 Bible Club at the Memorial Hall

11:00 Holy Communion — Rev Phil Poole

Following the service we will be having a shared lunch, then the Church council to which all church members are invited.

Monday 11th June

2:00 Home Group at 5, Gerddi y Bache

7:00 for 7:30 Church Summer Meal at Sweeny Hall

Tuesday 12th June

10:00 Coffee Morning by FLIME — the Memorial Hall

7:30 Circuit Meeting — Rhosnesni Methodist Church

Wednesday 13th June

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

Thursday 14th June

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

Sunday 17th June—Father's Day

11:00 Church Anniversary, Gift Day, All Age Worship — Karen Turley-Rose

Monday 18th June

6:00 Games & Activity Evening our Midsummer walk to Castell Dinas Brân

Tuesday 19th June

10:00 Coffee Morning by Rhosymedre Methodist Church — the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 20th June

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

Thursday 21st June

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

It is with sadness that we heard of the passing of Lillian Williams on Wednesday.

We send our love and condolences to her family

Hospitality at the Memorial Hall during Eisteddfod Week

For the past four years, as a Church, we have provided hospitality and refreshments at the Memorial Hall during Eisteddfod Week, which has been very much appreciated by townsfolk and visitors alike. It would be great if we could do the same again this year!

There will be “sign-up” sheet on the coffee table after the service this morning for anyone who is able to help on any of the days. If anyone would like to contribute in other ways, for example by baking cakes, making preserves or providing items for the tombola, we would be very grateful.

In previous years, funds raised from Hospitality Week have helped acquire useful Worship Resources for the Church, and we hope this will be the case again this year.

Thank you.

Amanda & Peter.

For our £10 challenge, we would like to make a Recipe Book of the Church’s favourite “sweet” recipes. Therefore, if you have a favourite cake, desert or preserve recipe that you would be willing to have included in the Recipe Book, we would be grateful if you could give it to us during the next few weeks.

Thank You.

Peter & Amanda

Holiday Bible Club – August

We are planning to have a three day Holiday Bible Club in August.

We plan to run from Wednesday 15th till Friday 17th August.

We are looking for people to help with all of our activities

Story Telling — Craft activities — Games — and lots of fun — refreshments

If you are available to help in any way please let Amanda, Norman, Elisabeth or Trish know.

“Conversations with God” — sounds the title of a suitable book, and the children’s and teens versions sound suitable for our children to read; but this is not the case.

The series is written by Neale Walsch, (*which he claims to be the answers God gave him to the questions he asked, although admitting in interview that the voice he heard over his shoulder could have come from inside his head!*)

The answers are not those that God or Jesus give in the bible, teaching that we should do just as we like and nothing is wrong, not even the things that Hitler did!.

This is a series of books to be avoided, and to make sure that our children, and grandchildren avoid them.

Norman (written in response to information from Sheila)

The editor’s jottings!

“*Gift Day*” — Letters & Envelopes for Gift Day, which is on 17th June, are available today. Please make sure you take one of these letters and please take and give them to others connected to Church who are not worshipping with us today.

“*Llangollen Round*” — our congratulations to all who took part last weekend, and all who helped to raise funds for Cancer Research.

Norman



Llangollen Methodist Church Social Events Calendar 2018

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 (not in June, July or August)

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

Readings

Jonah 3:1-10 "And the people of Ninevah believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth." (v. 5)

Psalm 37:1-11

Background

Jonah has to be one of the strangest people in the Bible, yet he has some interesting lessons to teach us about both human nature and the nature of God.

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time (verse 1), we read - because the first time he simply disobeyed it. Told by God to go to Nineveh and cry out against its wickedness, he instead took a boat to Tarshish (Jonah 1:3) - about as far as he could possibly go in the opposite direction - sparking a train of events which resulted in his brief encounter with the stomach of a large fish. To his credit he acknowledged he was to blame for the tempest ravaging the boat, even telling the crew to throw him overboard if they wanted to avoid going down (Jonah 1:8-12). Cue the whale, three days and nights of prayer and repentance in its belly, and Jonah's eventual re-acquaintance with dry land.

Eventually Jonah did make it to Nineveh to warn the Ninevites of God's impending judgement on their city. And, despite the apparent lack of conviction behind his message, they took him seriously, instantly proclaiming a fast and repenting without reserve. The Ninevites even donned sackcloth and ashes, including the king. And God, seeing this 'turning from evil' (verse 10), decided to spare and not destroy their city.

It's striking that the people of Nineveh responded wholeheartedly to Jonah's message despite its extreme brevity and his lack of passion in delivering it. As we read later, Jonah would much rather the people hadn't repented and got what he thought were their just deserts (Jonah 4). He certainly doesn't go overboard (this time!) in persuading them to change.

This is a reminder that, however hard we try to reach people with the gospel, in the end it is God who changes people's hearts. We might carefully craft our sermons and go to great lengths to get people to hear them, and rightly so. But, if God chooses, the entire population of a city can be brought to repentance on the basis of one unpolished sentence delivered by a person who didn't even want people to hear it!



To Ponder

Have you ever felt tempted to try to get as far away as possible from where you fear God wants you to be? Why?

What might be an equivalent expression of repentance today to putting on 'sackcloth and ashes'?

Have you ever felt God has used you beyond your capacity or conviction? If so, what happened? And how did it feel?

Bible notes author: Phil Jump

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio this week

BBC1 13:25 Sunday 10th June — Songs of Praise

Aled Jones returns to Grenfell Tower 12 months after Britain's worst peacetime fire, in which 71 people lost their lives, to hear inspiring stories of faith and to find out how the community is coping. He catches up with the pastor still helping survivors and hears the moving story of one woman and her family, who lived on the 13th floor of the Tower. He meets Gaby Doherty who has written a book capturing stories of hope from within the community and finds out how one young man volunteers his time to create new green spaces for families to enjoy.

Josie d'Arby heads south to meet Esme Page who was so moved by the fire she set up Cornwall Hugs Grenfell to provide free holidays for those affected and there's music from around the country offering words of comfort and support.

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 spiritual comment and prayer to begin the day with writer and broadcaster, Sarah Joseph.

8:10 Sunday 17th June — Sunday Worship — Choral Eucharist live from St Bride's Episcopal Church, Glasgow, marking the city's West End Festival.

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,

Push Through To Victory
*'Problems...develop endurance...
strength...hope.'*

Romans 5:3-4 NLT

MICHAEL PHELPS captured the gold for his country in the Beijing 2008 Olympics and brought home a record eight best-time gold medals. But it won't just be the number of medals we'll remember, but his invincible spirit when things turned drastically against him in the 200 metre butterfly. As he touched the wall, winning the race, nobody knew what he'd undergone to accomplish it. As Michael pulled off his goggles and the world watched, incredulous, water poured out of them. He'd swum 200 meters almost blind, an experience swimmers dread. Counting strokes, looking desperately for any marks on the pool floor, he finally touched the finish wall, an Olympic conqueror in every sense. Phelps used his frustration to increase his stamina and determination to win. Paul says: 'We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know...they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope... And this hope will not lead to



disappointment' (w. 3-5 NLT). What a catalogue of amazing benefits God provides us when we face problems! Endurance: a commitment to draw on His grace and keep moving forward regardless of circumstances. Strength of character: inner fortitude based on personal integrity. Confident hope: a deep conviction that whatever it takes, ultimately we'll make it. And to crown it all, we're guaranteed success in our God-appointed mission because 'this hope will not lead to disappointment!' When you can't see clearly what's coming, stretch yourself — the finish wall is just ahead!

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For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman

