



Llangollen Methodist Church

Worshipping by the River Dee

8th July 2018

Number – 974

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to everyone joining us to worship at the end of the Eisteddfod

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

11:00 Holy Communion – Rev Phil Poole

Music provided by Ted Blackman & Peter Brookfield.

You were greeted at the door by Norman Pybus

The books were given out by Marion Blackman

Refreshments by Paul & Anna Smith

Reading:-

Mark 6:1–13 page 38 in the NT read by Markus Gellesch

Today's steward is Alan Williams

The Church has been beautifully decorated for the Eisteddfod by Sue, keeping the flowers in good order in spite of the hot weather

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

Happy Birthday to:

Megan Collins (Friday)

Happy Anniversary to:

Peter & Amanda Brookfield (Wednesday)



Church Diary

Monday 9th July

9:30 “Open the Book” rehearsal at the Memorial Hall

2:00 Circuit Stewards meeting

2:00 Home Group at Margaret’s, “Fairholme,” Llangollen Rd. Trevor

Tuesday 10th July

10:00 Coffee Morning at the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 11th July

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

11:00 Party in the Park Planning at City Church

7:30 Refugee Support Group Talk at the memorial Hall

Thursday 12th July

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

Saturday 14th July

The Circuit Barbecue has been postponed till September

Sunday 15th July

11:00 All Age Worship — Trish Earlam

1:00 pm – Family Summer Picnic, with games

Smiling in the Sunlight — Laughing in the Rain
Llangollen Operatic Young ‘Uns

1950s portrayed by today’s youngsters

Monday 16th July, 7:30 at the Methodist Church

Free admission including tea & biscuits

The editor’s jottings!

Everyone appreciated the very successful Festival Praise last Monday — a big thank you to everyone who helped make it a success.

At the end of the Eisteddfod we are thankful to all those who gave their time and energy to make it a success.

Also a big thank you to everyone who made our church a welcoming venue for prelims and rehearsals throughout the week.

Norman

Amanda's Recipe Book

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, dessert 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

Aqueduct Boat trip

We are planning to organise an aqueduct boat trip on Saturday 4th August. It would leave at 12:15 and last for 2 hours.

The cost of the boat trip and a bus back is £13 per person for a group of 20 or more.

Food is available at a cost of £4.95 for a selection of sandwiches or £5.25 for a Welsh cream tea.

Please let Jeanette know if you are interested (01978)861064

Hospitality Week

Thank you to all who worked hard to serve refreshments at the Memorial Hall this week and also to those who provided food, cakes and Tombola prizes. Thanks also to those of you who visited or supported the event in other ways.

We really enjoyed welcoming and chatting with those who came, and it was lovely to meet again with some local folk and others from various parts of the county who have shared hospitality with us in previous years.

THANK YOU!

Amanda & Peter

Refugee Support Group

7:30 on Wednesday 11th July at the Memorial Hall.

Talk by the son of a refugee.

Everyone welcome

Minister:- Rev Philip Poole ☎ (01978) 860877 Email:- philpoole@btinternet.com

New President of the Methodist Conference promises a year of radical grace

The Revd Michaela A Youngson is looking forward to helping the Methodist Church consider the radical nature of God's grace and the ethic of hospitality and love-centred mission that flows from that grace. During her Presidential address, Michaela commented: "God's grace is radical. It goes beyond what is only fair, to a prodigious reckless generosity. It is prevenient grace, which flows from the Lover's desire to see the beloved flourish, to be whole and to live in delight.

"We need to let go of our tendency to 'niceness' and, prompted by just how uncomfortable God's grace is, make a nuisance of ourselves again in the market place and in the public square, refusing to remain silent in the face of systems that reinforce injustice, and oppress vulnerable people."

New Vice-President reflects on Transforming Hope

Bala Gnanapragasam, reflected on 'Transforming Hope'.

Reflecting on hope, Bala said: "Hope is vital, and it is right at the heart of our faith. I want to engage in the sort of listening and conversation that makes friendships, builds communities, and encourages hope."

Bala spoke of his passion for social justice: "We face poverty and injustice at every point of our lives and in every place. So I ask myself constantly: 'Can this be what God wants for his people?'"

"A church that abandons the poor is no longer the church of Jesus Christ and we do abandon the poor if we don't challenge these ideas.

"But in the middle of this apparent hopelessness, I know that God must be doing something – changing things, calling us to new journeys so we have to be ready!"

Mr Gnanapragasam gave his address to an audience at the Conference which included friends from Sri Lanka celebrating the first Sri Lankan Methodist to be made Vice-President of the British Conference.

Llangollen Methodist Church Social Events Calendar 2018

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

Mark 6:1-13 [Jesus] ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics." (vv. 8-9)

Psalm 123

Background

Jesus shows his humanity, in that like us he had difficulties and obstacles which frustrated and limited what he could do among those he grew up with in his hometown of Nazareth. These people could only see him as the local and ordinary carpenter, son of Mary. Prophets are not always honoured by their family (Jeremiah 11:21). Why is he so 'up' himself?

The twelve disciples (appointed and named in Mark 3:14-19) were sent out in pairs to continue Jesus' work. They are no longer simply disciples, followers of Jesus, but are becoming apostles, sent and commissioned with a special purpose. They proclaim repentance (verses 10-12); cast out unclean spirits (verse 7) and heal (verse 13). On their journey, they must travel light (verse 8). The staff is used for support and protection and is symbolic of authority (Exodus 4:20). Take no bread, beggar's bag or money are instructions to trust in both God and neighbour for provision and hospitality. Jesus warns them to expect rejection in some places, but they are to "shake off the dust" (v. 11) on their feet and continue on, taking the rejection lightly.

The passage suggests the need for a deep sense of humility and dependence on God and other people to work with God's power and make visible signs of God's kingdom of love and justice. We like to sense our giftedness and strength, but often it is in the stretched limits of our weakness and vulnerability that we are most effective channels of God's power as disciples (and apostles). The resources we need are to hand, but we have to have the eyes to see them, ears to hear what to do, the humility to ask and depend on God and others. Importantly, to take risks for God's kingdom, we must learn not to be afraid of making mistakes and failing.

To Ponder

It is tempting to want a bank of resources to meet every eventuality in our daily life.

What qualities might form in us if we had to look beyond ourselves for some of these resources?

Why do you think that God seems to have made us in such a way that we need, not only to give to others but also to depend on others and receive from them?

What does this do to the power equation in our relationships?

The first lesson in learning to ice skate is to fall down on the ice and pick yourself up again. When you can stop being afraid of falling over, you can start to learn the moves to glide and jump gracefully. From what fears do you need to be freed, in order to risk gliding over the ice for God?

Bible notes author: The Revd Jenny Ellis

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio this week

BBC1 16:15 Sunday 8th July — Songs of Praise

The Rev Kate Bottley is in the Lake District to explore the stunning scenery of this World Heritage site. She joins a church youth group taking part in a team-building exercise at the YMCA's National Centre, Lakeside, tries her hand at sailing on Lake Windermere and even has a go on the outdoor centre's zip wire.

The programme finds out about the inspirational beauty of God's creation in Eycott Hill Nature Reserve through professional photographer Andrew Heptinstall, and JB Gill visits Cartmel Priory, thought to be the first church in the world to have created a virtual reality experience.

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday — Celebration

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

Radio 2 — 6:00–9:00 Sunday 15th July – Good Morning Sunday with Angie Greaves and the Rev Kate Bottley – Nelson Mandela's grandson, Ndaba Mandela, joins Kate and Angie to talk about his experience growing up with him and the wisdom he received which he has put into a book: "Going to the Mountain: Life Lessons from My Grandfather, Nelson Mandela". Ndabab, has been named as one of the "28 Men of Change" in the USA, as he continues to promote Nelson Mandela's message of freedom.

Radio 4(FM) — 5:43am weekdays — Prayer for the Day – A spiritual comment and prayer to begin the day with Canon Ann Easter.

8:10 Sunday 15th July — Sunday Worship — *Forgiveness and the Love of God. A reflection on the Old Testament book of Jonah is the focus of worship from the Chapel of Rugby School. The Chaplain, the Revd Richard Horner explores its teachings on obedience, repentance and forgiveness as he asks: who is the God of Jonah?*

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,

JOIN CHRIST'S VICTORIOUS CHURCH!

*'On this rock I will build my
church.'*

Matthew 16:18 CEV

THE CHRISTIAN church is twice the size of its nearest rival. The odds against that are staggering. Suppose today a group of missionaries showed up in your town and told you that a peasant who'd been put to death was reputed to have risen again. Furthermore, He was no less than the Creator of the universe. Would you buy it? The apostles did in the pagan Roman Empire, and what's more - they succeeded in overthrowing the Roman Empire. In the face of terrible persecution, Christianity continued to flourish. Even the attempts of Julian the Apostate to overthrow Christianity and re-establish the pagan Roman religions met with no success. When Julian's onslaught against Christianity was at its worst, one of the emperor's followers asked a Christian, 'What is your carpenter's son doing now?' The Christian replied, 'Making a coffin for your emperor!' It wasn't long after this that Julian was mortally wounded in battle. Falling to the ground, he picked up a handful of sand mingled



with his blood, tossed it into the air, and declared, 'Thou hast conquered, O Galilean.' No, the church is not perfect; that's why people like us are welcome there! Nevertheless, there are many valid reasons why the church of Jesus Christ continues to triumph. It's a hospital for the wounded, it's a family for the lonely, and it's a school for those being trained in the principles of discipleship. And ultimately, when everything temporal goes up in smoke, it's the only thing that will be left standing (see 2 Peter 3:10-12). So commit your life to Jesus Christ and join His victorious church!

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