



Llangollen Methodist Church

Worshipping by the River Dee

15th July 2018

Number – 975

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to everyone joining us for all age worship today

11:00 All Age Worship – Trish Earlam

1:00 pm - Family Summer Picnic at Ty Brethyn,
including games

Music provided by Ted Blackman, Peter Brookfield & Trish Earlam.

You were greeted at the door by Janet Storm

The books were given out by Sue Smith

Refreshments by Sheila Spedding

Reading:–

Luke 10:25–37 Read by Elisabeth, Elias, Paul and Trish
on page 67 in the New Testament

Today's steward is Jeanette Robinson

Flowers provided by Elizabeth Roberts to remember her parents

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

Happy Birthday to:

Godfrey Rashayi Today

Bridget 21 on Thursday

Mabel 6 on Thursday

Happy Anniversary to:

David & Yvonne (Tuesday)



Church Diary

Sunday 15th July

11:00 All Age Worship — Trish Earlam

1:00 pm – Family Summer Picnic at Ty Brethyn, with games

Monday 16th July

6:00 Games & Activity Barbecue at Elias & Janets, first a walk then the eats!

6:00 CLT meeting at Wrexham

Smiling in the Sunlight — Laughing in the Rain
Lllangollen Operatic Young 'Uns

1950s portrayed by today's youngsters

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

Free admission including tea & biscuits

Tuesday 17th July

10:00 Coffee Morning by Welfare House celebrating 90 years — the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 18th July

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

7:30 Bible Study at Elias & Janet's – Looking at the book of Ruth

Thursday 19th July

2:00 Messy Church Planning meeting at the Buttered Crust

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

Sunday 22nd July

11:00 Morning Worship — Kate Lewis

“Party in the Park”

is getting very near, on Saturday 28th July, to be exact.

Your help, either on the day — manning a stall — running a game — chatting to folk who come along, will be vital for a successful event.

Setting up will start at 11:00, please see Elisabeth if you could be added to the rota to help in any way.

Thank You

Is it you or the sausages sizzling?

Although it is amazing weather and many years since constant sunshine blessed the International music festival, I think most of us have felt the heat and I am one of them. I have changed my lifestyle, I now go out early morning and late evening, spending the heat of the day in doors working on my book. As a result of this new timetable I have missed all of the outreach concerts and much of what has been going on in the town during Music Week.

But in spite of this I have seen some very strange and beautiful events, so please may I share with you a very different view of the music festival.

The first of these beautiful events happened the weekend before the festival began, early evening with the sun very strong, one of the little sparrows who feeds regularly at my bird station flew to the food from the west with his wings outstretched. The sun shone through the little sparrow like an X-ray machine making his whole body appear to be translucent and made it shimmer a pale shining silvery gold colour. I was treated to this amazing sight four or five times, because of the young that the sparrows are feeding. The strange thing was that each time I saw this golden bird it seemed the wonderful.

The heat has caused a number of problems for drivers and I was amused to read that in Newbury a dust cart wagon sunk up to its back axils due to the melting tar and the road breaking up. The amusement came closer to home when asking if anyone had seen the abnormal loads recently, and I was informed that they had been stopped because of the combination of extreme weight and heat which had caused the road near Pentrefoelas to break up. This statement was enlarged when I was asked if I had heard about the turbine that had been hit and damaged, Ops! I hope the driver of the second wagon in the convoy was not involved. He has become a bit of a favourite with some of us at Tan-y- Plas, as he always waves and calls out hello when he drives by.

The little junk/book shop in Oak Street has changed hands, with Emma the young lady who did own leaving to go to Manchester Uni to study Japanese. Emma is a little nervous about being a mature student, my experience was that maturity was a blessing at Uni, so please remember her in your prayers as her studies will take her to Japan for a year.

Another of the joys of the past week has been friends. Wednesday a friend I had not seen for a while appeared at the same road junction as myself and we spent the hour or so drinking tea and putting the world to rights. On Thursday concerns for a friend and her husband's health found me knocking on their door to see if all was well and resulted in us sitting in her garden guzzling tea, laughing and chatting the whole morning away. Laughter is a great medicine.



Which brings us to the Friday parade, I'm sorry but I do not like the parade on Friday, Tuesday gave the town a lift, Friday's parade closes it. But that just my feelings. The parade was long and I felt sorry for the splendid young man dressed in a kilt and wearing busby and playing the pipes. I don't think I will ever go to the parade again without taking with me a spare bottle of water.

It was a joy to see our loving friend Terry Waite, and again I was able to say hello and received as always a hug and a kiss. It was good to see Terry looking so well, and I wonder how many people realise just how lucky we are to have him here with us every year here in Llangollen. Thank you Terry you are always in our prayers.

Another amazing sight was one of our much loved and respected librarians dancing, laughing and swing her money bucket in tune with the music it was good to see her having so much fun, although I think her feet were aching on Saturday!

Sadly someone was in need of the paramedics help just before the parade, when the sun was just too hot for them.

Sunday morning 10am, and the opening of the new town square by Terry Waite, was both enjoyable and thought provoking. Terry concentrated on Peace and brought the young Polish choir into the limelight, by reminding everyone of the important role the Polish people played here in Britain during the second world war, and how the two nation fought and supported each other side by side, and sadly died together, so that we might live in freedom and peace, if this is a world of peace, and have the freedom to laze in the sun. I think sometimes we forget the wonderful sacrifices so many made for us. The silver band under the guidance of one of their new conductors played for us and many of the town dignitaries roasted in their hot suits.

It was a shame that more people did not know about the event, I only found out by accident on Saturday morning, more advertising may have resulted in many more locals enjoying a very enjoyable service.

Alfie Boe's concert I understand was great fun, with Alfie talking Terry into singing a solo, when a goal was scored at the world cup, Alfie turned his laptop towards the audience and got the media cameras to put the goal up on to the big screens. Afterward the show Alfie left the stage and went into the audience to hug Terry, and that is how I leave you with a hug, and if you have ever had the joy of being hugged by Terry Waite you have been well blessed.

God Bless to you all and thank you Terry for your love of this town

Pam Williams-Hughes

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Llangollen Methodist Church Social Events Calendar 2018

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

Holiday Bible Club — “Mega Splash”

To all volunteers the dates 15th, 16th & 17th August and plans are coming together — the same club “Mega Splash”, which is based on the book of Jonah, is being run in Wrexham from the 25th to 27th July, then after that it will be adapted for use in Llangollen. Look out for a date for the detailed planning and please let’s remember the Wrexham HBC in our prayers.

The Methodist Prayer Handbook

must be ordered by the end of July, if you would like a copy of next years prayer handbook please let Norman know asap.

Readings

Luke 10:25-37 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." (v. 27)

Psalm 25

Background

The lawyer in this story is out to challenge Jesus, to test him, to see if his claims to speak for God are true. To be a 'lawyer' in Jesus' day meant to be an expert in the Scriptures - what we today would see as a religious teacher. Jesus recognises this expertise and draws out of him the answer to his own question. It is the lawyer who summarises the Jewish Scriptures with the famous saying about loving God and loving your neighbour. But it is Jesus' own teaching and actions which demonstrate just how hard human beings can find it to keep the balance between loving God, loving neighbour and loving self.

The phrase about loving your neighbour as yourself has caused a lot of discussion in the Church. It is worth reflecting on what it does not say. It does not say love your neighbour as much as you love yourself, but rather as you love yourself. The focus is not on how we feel (ie Do I have the same emotion for my neighbour as I do for myself?) but on how we act (ie Do we demonstrate the same care for others that we do for ourselves?) Jesus' own words in Matthew 7:12 about "do[ing] to others as you would have them do to you" spring to mind.

The conversation with the lawyer leads to the parable of the Good Samaritan (verses 29-37), which is then followed by the incident with Martha and Mary (verses 38-42). In the parable, the Samaritan is commended for going out of his way to show practical love to an injured man. Although the reading for today stops at the end of the parable it does help to read it alongside the following story.

Martha is wearing herself out trying to show practical care for others and is encouraged to copy Mary in sitting at Jesus' feet. Could it be that holding both these stories in our minds might help us to understand better what it means to love God with all our hearts, and our neighbours as ourselves?

To Ponder

Looking back over the last week, how well have you balanced the need to love God, to love others and to take proper care of yourself?

Who are the neighbours that you and your church could care for? Are you doing enough for them? Are you focusing on practical care to the exclusion of sitting at Jesus' feet? What might you change?

Bible notes author: The Revd Judith Rossall

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio this week

BBC1 12:10 Sunday 15th July — Songs of Praise

Sacred Places

The programme visits the village of Walsingham in Norfolk, one of the country's most holy places and, as Pam Rhodes finds out, a major pilgrimage destination famed for its shrine dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Sean Fletcher joins pilgrims travelling to Mont St Michel in Normandy, and Katherine Jenkins spends the day with Brother David on holy Caldey Island.

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday — Celebration

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

Radio 2 — 6:00–9:00 Sunday 22nd July – Good Morning Sunday with Jason Mohammad and the Rev Kate Bottley – The Rend Collective and Cariad Lloyd join Kate and Jason. Originally from Bangor in Northern Ireland the Rend Collective are well known on the Christian music scene for their experimental blend of folk, rock and worship sounds. Their recent song 'Counting Every Blessing' was written in response to one of the band member's experience of depression. As they tell Kate, they wanted to remind themselves about all the good things they do have and that they can always count on God to support them.

Radio 4(FM) — 5:43am weekdays — Prayer for the Day – A spiritual comment and prayer for the day with Chine McDonald.

8:10 Sunday 22nd July — Sunday Worship — *The importance of Mary Magdalene in the gospel accounts is marked by their writers' frequent references to her, and although the Bible offers little biographical detail, the hints at a personal story of dramatic transformation continue to fascinate and inspire. On her feast day, a live service from Bangor Cathedral both celebrates her role in Christ's story and explores the inspiration she offers us today.*

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!

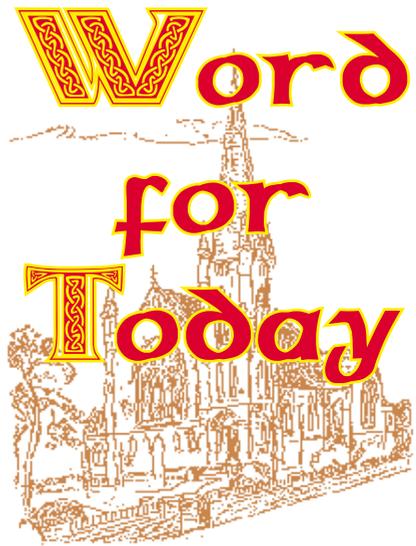
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*'Receive him ... not now as a
servant, but ... a brother.'*

Philemon 1:15-16 KJV

WHAT FINALLY brought about an end to slavery? The gospel of Jesus Christ. Note the small letter Paul wrote to Philemon. A runaway slave was thrown into a Roman prison along with Paul, and Paul converted him to Christ.

And when the slave was released, Paul sent him back to his owner, Philemon. The custom at that time was to kill escaped slaves after they'd been recaptured. But now Philemon had also become a Christian, another convert of the apostle Paul, who instructed him to 'receive him ...not as a servant, but above a servant, a brother'. And in that new brotherhood slavery found its death knell. Now, fast forward to the days of William Wilberforce, who was convicted of his sin and converted under the preaching of John Wesley. Wilberforce, a slight, hunch-backed man, became one of the most powerful members of Parliament. Consumed by the gospel and the freedom that Christ offered, Wilberforce devoted all his energies



and eloquence to overthrowing the obnoxious African slave trade. And his success in abolishing it throughout the British Empire led to agitation for similar action in the United States. In fact, it was through the proclamations that thundered from pulpits throughout the northern states that abolitionist parties came into being and succeeded in destroying slavery once and for all. So it was through the church that slavery was eradicated. Jesus came 'to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives' (Luke 4: 18 NKJV). Are you a member of Christ's redeemed church? If not, you can sign up today!

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For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman



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The **Methodist Church**