



Llangollen Methodist Church
Worshipping by the River Dee

9th September 2018

Number – 982

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to everyone joining us for worship today

11:00 Bible Club at the Memorial Hall

11:00 Morning Worship led by Phil Oliver

Music provided by Ted Blackman.

You were greeted at the door by Fiona Owens

Books were given out by Marion Blackman

Refreshments by Amanda Brookfield

Today's steward is Jeanette Robinson

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

Flowers provided by Elisabeth & Anne to celebrate their sister Meg's 70th birthday in New Zealand

Happy Birthday to:

Jeanette on Monday

Rachel on Monday

Dorothy on Thursday



Church Diary

Sunday 9th September

11:00 Bible Club at the Memorial Hall

11:00 Morning Worship led by Phil Oliver

Monday 10th September

2:00 Messy Church Planning at the Buttered Crust

6:00 Games and Activity evening

7:30 Local Preacher's Meeting at Ruabon Methodist Church

Tuesday 11th September

10:00 Coffee Morning by Friends of the Eisteddfod at the Memorial Hall

7:30 Circuit Meeting at Llangollen Methodist Church

Wednesday 12th September

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

2:00 Singing Group Practice at Church

7:30 Bible Study at Elias & Janet's – starting the book of Hebrews

Thursday 13th September

3:00 After-school Drop-In at the Memorial Hall

Sunday 16th September

11:00 Harvest Festival and All age Communion led by Rev Phil Poole

Let's remember to give to the *Benevolent Fund* on Communion Sundays

Monday 17th September

2:00 Home Group at 5 Gerddi y Bache

6:00 Harvest Supper & Entertainments at the Memorial Hall

Tuesday 18th September

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

Wednesday 19th September

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

11:00 Church Gardening all helpers welcome

Harvest Festival 16th September 11:00

Harvest Gifts

Once again we are asking for donations of dry foodstuffs to be given to the Wrexham Food Bank for distribution in the region. Their stocks of pasta, UHT milk and tins of rice pudding are particularly low at the moment, but anything would be very welcome! Thank you.

Harvest Supper

The harvest supper this year is on Monday 17th September at 6pm and will include hot pot, bread and butter, a dessert and a cup of tea to follow. The cost will be £7.

If there are any volunteers willing to provide some entertainment please let me know ASAP so that I can put a programme together.

Many thanks

Sheila

Reminder

Will all those who took up the £10 challenge please remember to let us have your proceeds in by or on Harvest Sunday which is 16th September.

Many thanks

Sheila

Worship Consultation Meeting

“The next Worship Consultation Meeting will be held at church after worship (around 12.30pm) on Sunday 23rd September. The meeting is open, and everyone is invited to attend. This is an important meeting to review our worship during the current quarter and plan our worship for the next quarter (December to February). We also be considering our monthly evening Praise & Worship Service. If you wish to contribute but are unable to attend, please contact me. Many thanks. Peter.”

Singing

There will be an opportunity to practice 2 lovely songs for the entertainment at the Harvest Super. 2:00 on Wednesday in Church — hope to see you there. Amanda

Church Garden

Now that the season is changing once more, we wonder if any individual, couple or group would enjoy sponsoring or planting up and tending one of the tubs in the church garden.

If this appeals to you please see Elizabeth or Elisabeth as soon as possible

Action 4 Children Boxes

Would everyone with an Action 4 Children collecting box please let Catherine have it by the end of September for emptying and counting.

Last Tuesday's Coffee Morning

Many thanks to everyone who came and helped, we made a total of £116.16

When Fighting Stops

...one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. But Jesus answered, 'No more of this!' And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

Luke 22:49-51 (NIV)

A prayer from Remembrance 100

O God, when we have destroyed infrastructure to win a war so that others are hungry and homeless, help us to move swiftly to ensure that the vulnerable do not continue to suffer once the fighting has finished, that we may become peacemakers, for we ask in Jesus' name. Amen

An action from Remembrance 100

In any current conflict think what is the first thing that will need to be done once the fighting stops and then consider how that might be achieved.

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

Llangollen Methodist Church Social Events Calendar 2018

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 Film — Edie at the New Dot Cinema

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

Social and Fundraising Group

Friday 16th November; Fish and Chip Supper (with Apple Pie dessert) in the Memorial Hall at 6pm, followed by walking round together to the Town Hall to see the Dot Cinema’s showing of “Edie” at 7.30pm. This is an inspiring story of determination when 83year old Edie (played by Sheila Hancock) embarks on an adventurous climb of Mount Suilven in Scotland. Total cost to be confirmed – Yvonne and David will be collecting names and money in advance.

Readings

Mark 7:24-37 Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. (v. 29-30)

Psalm 146

Background

I wonder how you respond to Jesus' initial rejection of the Canaanite woman? This is a difficult passage, but a good introduction to our reading for the week. The woman is apparently rejected for being a foreigner – but she speaks up for herself and in the end gets the healing she seeks. For much of this week we are going to be reading a story in which the non-Jews, the foreigners, do their best to respond to God and it is the Jew (and a prophet no less) who constantly does the opposite.

This passage is difficult for us because we no longer have the expectations of the original readers. The people in the Early Church who first read this passage faced questions around whether someone who was not a Jew could join the Christian church and, if they could, what that meant they had to do. If that was your issue, imagine for a moment reading a story in which Jesus first rejects, but then responds, to someone who is not a Jew. If we focus on the rejection, we get one image of Jesus, but if we focus on his careful attention and willingness to change his mind in response to her, we get a very different image.

For any good Jew would know that the Old Testament is full of Jewish people of faith who dared to disagree with God when it seemed that God was acting or was going to act in a way that they did not understand. Examples would be, Abraham (Genesis 18:16-33), Moses (Exodus 3-4) Elijah (1 Kings 19) Jonah (chapter 1) and Jeremiah (chapters 12 and 20). All of these stories are quite difficult if we look only at the picture of God given at the start of the argument, but they also communicate something very important about what faith is like in a difficult world where we do not always understand what is going on.

To Ponder

What image of faith emerges from these stories?

Why do you think Jesus tried to keep the deaf man silent?

Bible notes author: The Revd Judith Rossall

Some of the religious programmes on TV & Radio this week

BBC1 15:00 Sunday 9th September — Songs of Praise

Bristol Ballons

Josie d'Arby visits Bristol's 40th Balloon Fiesta and meets Christians making a difference in the city, including mayor Marvin Rees and a cleaner given a surprise gift by university students. Josie joins members of St Peter's Hospice, sharing its 40th birthday with the Balloon Fiesta, and takes to the skies for an unforgettable hot air balloon ride. She also hears from a Christian changing the lives of homeless people by converting shipping containers into homes. Hymns are from around the UK, including three from St Alban's Church in Bristol.

Radio Wales — 7:30 Sunday 16th September — Celebration — A service from St Catwg's Church, Llangattock near Crickhowell led by the Rev'd Rana Khan.

9:00 Sunday — All Things Considered

Radio 2 — 6:00–9:00 Sunday 16th September – Good Morning Sunday with Rev Kate Bottley and Jason Mohammed

Radio 4(FM) — 5:43am weekdays — Prayer for the Day – A spiritual comment and prayer to begin the day with Rev Dr Lesley Carroll.

8:10 Sunday 16th September — Sunday Worship Sacred Space: Common Ground — *Live from Lichfield Cathedral ahead of the first National Cathedrals Conference and led by the Dean, the Very Reverend Adrian Dorber. Preacher Becky Clarke, Director of the Church Buildings division for the Church of England, will explore how the ministry of cathedrals contributes to the life of church and nation as a place for meeting and reconciliation. Music from Lichfield Chamber Choir includes Gjeilo “Ubi caritas et amor” and John Tavener’s “Mother of God here I stand”. Readings from Philippians 2: 5-11 and John 19: 25-30.*

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

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

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

Let God Be Seen - Not You

'Take care not to do your good deeds publicly or before men, in order to be seen by them.'

Matthew 6:1 AMPC

JESUS RESERVED His harshest condemnation for those who did good deeds 'in order to be seen.' He flipped on the spotlight and exposed every self-righteous mole and pimple. He called them hypocrites, the original Greek for 'actor'. First-century actors wore masks. So a hypocrite is someone who puts on a mask, a false face, and performs for the applause of others. Jesus didn't say, 'Don't do good works.' Nor did He say, 'Don't let your good works be seen.' We must do good works, and some of them must be seen in order to have impact. So let's be clear. To do a good thing is a good thing. To do good to be seen is not. In fact, to do a good thing to be seen is a serious offence. Here's why. Hypocrisy turns people away from God. When God-seekers see singers strut like Las Vegas entertainers... when they hear the preacher — a man of slick words, dress, and hair — play to the crowd and exclude God... When church attendees dress



to be seen and make much ado over their gifts and offerings... When people enter a church to see God yet they can't see God because of the church, don't think for a second that God doesn't react. Jesus was clear on this issue: 'Be especially careful when you are trying to be good so that you don't make a performance out of it. It might be good theatre, but the God who made you won't be applauding' (Matthew 6:1 MSG). Today let God be seen — not you.

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