



Llangollen Methodist Church

Worshipping by the River Dee

8th September 2019

Number – 1033

Riverside Weekly

A warm welcome to everyone joining us for our service this morning

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

11:00 Holy Communion – Rev Phil Poole

Reading:

Hebrews chapter 11 verse 29 chapter 12 verse 3 page 216 in New Testament

Read by Markus

Music by Ted and Peter.

Paul & Anna gave out the books,

Gareth & Gillian are providing refreshments.

Paul Smith is today's steward.

Flowers provided by Margaret

“In memory of Alf on our anniversary 3rd September”

Birthday greetings to:

Rachel on Tuesday

Jeanette on Tuesday

Dorothy on Friday

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



Church Diary

Sunday 8th September

11:00 Holy Communion — Rev Phil Poole

Monday 11th September

2:00 Open the Book at Ysgol Bryn Collen

Tuesday 10th September

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

2:00 Messy Church Planning at the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 11th September

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

7:30 Bible Study at Paul & Anna's, continuing in Colossians chapter 4

Thursday 12th September

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

Friday 13th September

10:15 Country Market at the Memorial Hall

Sunday 15th September

11:00 Harvest Thanksgiving — Rev Patrick Rudden — followed by the Harvest Lunch

Monday 16th September

10:30 Stewards Meeting at the Meeting Point

2:00 Home Group , meeting at 5 Gerddi-y-Bache

7:30 Book of the Month Club at the Memorial Hall

Tuesday 17th September

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

1:00 Pastoral Meeting at the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 18th September

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

Thursday 19th September

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

Friday 20th September

10:15 Country Market at the Memorial Hall

Church Gardening will be done as and when volunteers are available

Harvest Festival Service — Sunday September 15th 11:00

Harvest Gifts:

Donations of dry foodstuffs for local food banks will be very much appreciated. The Wrexham foodbank has several satellite outlets in our area, and is also very supportive to Matt's foodbank here in Llangollen. Small packets of tea, coffee and sugar are best for food parcels, and cartons of UHT milk. Thank you.

More details of the food bank on page 4

Tuesday 24th September; A.G.M. of Llangollen Cytun (Churches Together) 7:00 in the Upper Room at St. Collen's Community Hall. This is an open meeting at which we have a visiting speaker to tell us about the Wrexham Churches project to offer night shelter to the homeless during the cold winter months. Please come along!

Monday Home Group

Meetings restart on Monday September 16th, 2:00 for tea and chat, 2:30 bible study and prayers. New members welcome.

5, Gerddi y Bache , phone Yvonne 01978 860557.

Action for Children Boxes

Its time for the 'Action for Children' collecting boxes to be emptied.

Please bring to church and give to Catherine, or leave in the vestry for Catherine to collect.

Many thanks to everyone who has a collecting box.

Wrexham Foodbank Harvest 2019 Information for Churches

THANK YOU for your support of Wrexham Foodbank this Harvest time. We really value your donations to enable us to continue running the project which over the last 12 months has given out over 2000 food parcels feeding nearly 5000 local people in crisis. Please take the time to read the information below and share with those involved.

WHAT FOOD CAN WE DONATE?

Items we are collecting: Tinned tomatoes. Tinned rice pudding. Tinned ham / corned beef. Fruit juice cartons. Small jars of coffee. Tinned fruit. Tinned vegetables. Toiletries – shampoo, deodorant, toilet roll.

Items we do not need at this time: Tinned soup, beans, potatoes, fish, ready meals. Cereal. Tea. UHT milk. Soap.

Items we cannot accept: Fresh, refrigerated or frozen food.

There are lists and posters with this information on attached to the email sent to the church, please print these for your congregation.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN WE DONATE IT?

Our warehouse is located at Unit 1, Puleston Industrial Estate, Ruabon Road, LL13 7RF (behind Wrexham Tyres).

It is open on Tuesdays and Fridays between 10am and 3pm.

We do not have a collection facility.

If you really cannot deliver the food then get in touch and we will see if one of our volunteers can collect but please make sure the food is in bags or boxes and there are people available to help load it into their car, thank you.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE FOOD?

The food is weighed in to the foodbank and sorted by date and type. It is then sent out to our six distribution centres where local people in crisis who have been referred by one of our partner agencies can come and collect a three-day food parcel. They also receive a friendly welcome and signposting to further help if appropriate.

**HELP BY DONATING AN ITEM OR TWO FROM
OUR SHOPPING LIST TO ENSURE WE CAN
PROVIDE FOOD TO PEOPLE IN CRISIS**

SHOPPING LIST **TOP TEN ITEMS**

Tinned tomatoes
Tinned rice pudding
Tinned ham / corned beef
Small jars of coffee
Fruit juice cartons
Tinned fruit
Tinned vegetables
Pasta
Rice
Toiletries

Don't forget...

*You can help transform
more lives with a financial
donation too.*

Readings

Luke 14:25-33 'Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.' (v. 27)

Psalm 1

Background

Many adverts, especially for 'financial products' and 'special offers', end with the words (invariably in very small print or spoken very quickly) 'terms and conditions apply'. Given that things are rarely quite what they seem in advertisements, we are always well-advised to 'read the small print' before we commit ourselves to anything we might later come to regret. And that was certainly the case with the earliest Christian Gospels – except that there was no attempt to conceal the 'terms and conditions' in the small print at the end. To decide to follow Jesus, to be a disciple, to learn from Jesus, is, according to the account in Luke's Gospel, not a decision to be made lightly. While he may be exaggerating to make his point, Jesus is certainly saying that to be his disciple means being willing to give up everything we might hold dear – family, friends, status, possessions, even our lives.

Two issues immediately present themselves. The first is that we cannot be sure these words were actually spoken by Jesus. For two reasons: Jesus never, in Luke's Gospel's account, spoke of himself being crucified, so why would he use the image of "carrying the cross" (here and in Luke 9:23)? This only makes sense later, when his followers looked back to his death. And the circumstances Jesus described applied, again, only after his death – Luke's Gospel was written after the fall of Jerusalem in AD70, when Jews were being persecuted by Rome and punished by crucifixion. Gentiles (non-Jews) who became Christians risked being treated as rebellious Jews, and Jews who became Christians risked being ostracised, and betrayed, by their families and friends. The second issue is simply this: this is not the 'gospel' we are comfortable with. The more familiar 'gospel' offers forgiveness, blessing, healing and comfort. In Luke's Gospel's account, Jesus certainly offers these things to sinners, the poor, the sick and the marginalised. But for his followers, just the promise of "the resurrection of the righteous" (Luke 14:14). So how should we respond to this passage?

To Ponder

Even if Jesus did not put it in these words, this was certainly how Luke's Gospel understood what it meant to be a disciple. Do you think it was right? Why?

If we are going to take this passage seriously, how might it challenge our understanding of 'the gospel'?

What 'terms and conditions' might apply to Christian discipleship today?

Bible notes author—The Revd David Rhymer

“Book of the Month” club

A book reading group reading the Bible

Led by Richard Parkes, around the circuit, the group will read a book from the bible each month and then meet to learn more about and discuss the book. **(Each months session will be repeated four times, in different places, so everyone can attend when and where it is convenient)**

Review 1 & 2 Kings — prepare 1 & 2 Chronicles

Monday 16th September 7:30 at Llangollen Memorial Hall

Tuesday 17th September 2:00 at Gresford

Wednesday 18th September 7:30 at Wrexham

Friday 20th September 2:00 at Caergwrle.

More Information from Richard 01978 852742

revrparkes@btconnect.com

The editor's jottings!

“September Plan” — the new plan is now available, please make sure that copies go to those not here today.

“Coffee Morning” — thanks to everyone who helped and supported the coffee morning on Tuesday, we raised £135.90



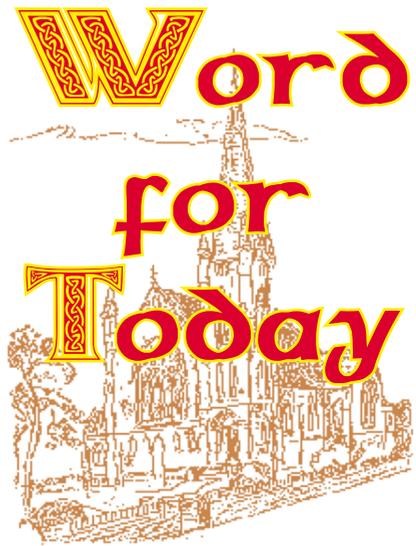
Norman

Stop Putting It Off

'Teach us to number our days.'

Psalms 90:12 NKJV

IN A 1985 newspaper essay, Anne Wells wrote: 'My brother-in-law opened my sister's bureau and lifted out a tissue-wrapped package. It was an exquisite silk handmade slip; the price tag with an astronomical figure on it was still attached. "Jan bought this the first time we went to New York... eight or nine years ago," [he said]. "She never wore it; she was saving it for a special occasion. Well, I guess this is the occasion." He put the slip on the bed with the other clothes we were taking — to the mortician. Then he turned to me, "Don't ever save anything for a special occasion. Every day you're alive is a special occasion!" Those words changed Anne Wells' life. She continued: 'I'm not saving anything anymore. Now we use our good china...for every special occasion — like losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, the first camellia blossom. "Someday" and "one of these days" are fighting a losing battle to stay in my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing, hearing, or doing, I want to see, hear, and do it now. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and lustre to our



lives. And every morning when I open my eyes I tell myself this is a special occasion.' Makes you think, doesn't it? Makes you want to drain the last ounce of joy out of every day and break free from the cement of procrastination that whispers, 'You can do it later.' Wise up! Forgive that offence, tell that person you love them, take that trip, go back to school. Decide today to do the thing you've been putting off.

Pray for the courage to take the first step in something you've been putting off.

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For free daily readings see
Elisabeth or Norman

