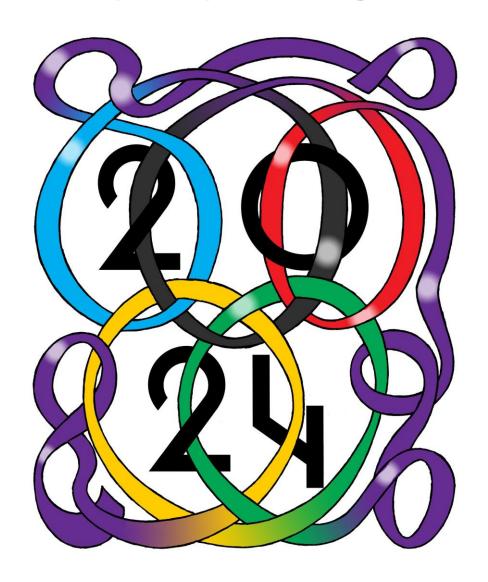


# WINDOW ON WESLEY'S





July & August 2024

### STAFF

Ministers: The Revd Canon Dr Jennifer H Smith BA PhD

M.Phil (Superintendent)

Associate Ministers: The Revd John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)

The Revd Paul Hulme BA (Supernumerary)

The Revd Dr John Lampard BA M.Th

(Supernumerary)

The Revd Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)

The Revd Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

Lay workers: Miss Jessy Mhone (Global Mission Fellow)

Mr Thomas Smith (Leysian Missioner)

**Museum:** Mr Christian Dettlaff MA (Curator)

Mrs Charlotte Hay-Campbell (Learning &

Community Engagement Officer)

**Administration:** Miss Beatrice Omane (Administration Assistant)

Mrs Tracey Smith (Administration Manager)

**Choir:** Mrs Mikyung Kim

Church Office: 49 City Road

London EC1Y 1AU 020 7253 2262

administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk

# Dear friends,

Welcome to this summer 2024 edition of Window on Wesleys and please note the happy event of two Welcome Services!

Wednesday 21 August at 7 PM Wesley's will host the London District welcome to its new co-Chair, the Revd Dr Jonathan Dean. And Saturday 31 August at 10.30 AM, just after Morning Prayer, we will welcome our own two new interim ministers, the Revd Stephen Poxon and Deacon Myrtle Poxon. We will of course say a further welcome during the President and Vice President's visit on Saturday 1 September, when we receive new members. Start planning your menu now for the bring and share International lunch!

Stephen and Myrtle will each be part-time with us, and during the year we will be in stationing for a permanent Minister of the Chapel to serve alongside me; this process will begin quite quickly in the Autumn. Both Stephen and Myrtle will be working to build our capacity – not just to fill in all the gaps themselves!

This summer we are opening for three family activity days, Wednesdays from 10.30-12.30 on 31 July, 7 August, and 14 August: children (with adults accompanying) are invited for craft, activity, learning and fun – this is a wonderful addition to our community offer. And of course, we have seen five large choirs from the USA back at the Chapel this month, a true joy.

I hope this summer finds you well, and you can take part in all on offer at church! Look out for notices about the seaside trip, 3Generate, and more....

# Every blessing, Jen

# Wesley's on the road...

Jennifer will be participating in the **Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies**, in Oxford from 4 August – 11 August; she is giving a paper entitled 'Preaching God's Providence in an Age

of Chaos: 'God is in control". **Professor Kojo Okyere of the University of Cape Coast, Ghana**, will be visiting the Chapel for the month of August as a fellow participant.

World Methodist Council, Gothenburg, Sweden
Jennifer will be representing the British Methodist Church at the WMC, 11-19 August in Gothenburg, along with senior connexional leaders.

### **GENERAL CHURCH MEETING NOTES - 2 June 2024**

# **Agenda**

- 1. Prayers
- 2. Membership of the meeting and apologies A sign in sheet was circulated, there were ca. 60 present with some coming and going.
- 3. UPDATES: ministry, manses, finance, new members... Report about ministers coming in September – and idea of interim ministry – building capacity. We reported the transfer of the manse to the connexion, noting the valuation and payment to us of 1.725 m allowing some headroom to release capital if we can buy a manse quickly on a budget of 1.5. We noted the urgency, with ministers coming for 1 September. Questions about the trusteeship of manses and who owned them – clarified managing and custodial trusteeship. Concern expressed. Reported about giving and encouraged to get into online giving. General positive reception to that. Asked for new members to notify for a receiving on first Sunday in September.
- **4. Getting involved.... WHAT WORKS for you?**People spoke to neighbours in buzz groups a variety of opinion. Whatsapp or other messaging top choice email not as useful. Phone calls, letters. Mentioned weekly update.

# 5. The Michael Aderinola Memorial Music Development Project: testimony from Mrs Bunmi Osoba

She spoke movingly about her son and his love of music, and lots of comments and questions in response – very positive response about the grass roots approach, and ideas for music in worship – music therapy, music tuition, music and prayer, adults and children –

We asked for all names to be gathered – Charles Burnett and Mikyung Kim immediately offered.

# 6. LONDON CITIZENS: and voting!

Jessy Mhone gave an intro to London Citizens, and to their voter preparation sessions. Thomas Smith spoke about the success of registering people today, and we agreed to publish the voter registration info in the weekly update.

Closing with the grace.... And followed by a brief meeting for those willing to be the Sunday lead steward in the coming weeks.



# Dear Friends,

A warm invitation to all our friends at St Giles, St Joseph's, St Mary Moorfields and Wesley's Chapel to the 250th Anniversary



celebration of Jewin Welsh Church. We do hope that you will be able to join us.

# Saturday 7th September 3pm Afternoon Tea followed by a concert at 5pm with the Joyful Company of Singers including a

piece of music specially commissioned for the anniversary: 'Yma' (Here) by Gareth Glyn (2024) on words by Iwan Teifion Davies.

# **Sunday 8th September**

Service at 10.45am led by the Rev'd Richard Brunt, Minister. We will be going to Cote restaurant, Barbican following the service if you would like to join us.

For catering for the afternoon tea could you please let Richard know by the end of July (<a href="mailto:rwbrunt@gmail.com">rwbrunt@gmail.com</a>) if you are able to come and also if you would like to join us at Cote so that we can book tables.

Also a warm invitation to a concert by the NyAko choir from Madagascar in Jewin on Sunday 14th July at 3pm.

Finally, does anyone know of someone living locally who might be interested in some part time caretaking work at Jewin (including opening and closing for groups using the church)?

With many thanks and all good wishes,

Llinos Morris and Richard Brunt - Jewin Church

# **Born in Song Music Academy**

Methodism was born in song, and we still have many fine musicians and song-writers. Yet, if our love of music and singing is to be carried on into the coming generations, then investing in our future instrumentalists, singers and writers must be a top priority. In order to support this important work, Windsor Methodist Church is exploring the possibility of starting a Saturday academy for 11-18 year olds. Running from 10am - 4pm, singers and musicians from far and wide will join together weekly during term-time to sing, play together, form worship bands, choir and orchestra, and write songs and hymns. In addition, there will be regular termly workshops and masterclasses for solo instruments and singers with the aim of building skills that can be taken back to their home churches. Windsor Methodist Church is situated ten minutes' walk away from Windsor and Eton Central and Windsor and Eton Riverside train stations and also of course, from the iconic Windsor Castle. Please see this flier for details of the exciting taster day on 6 July.

# Try adding some joy

Perhaps I am just a very simple creature, but I often find that I can improve my mood by simply changing what I am reading and listening to.

A recent poll suggested that more people are just not watching the news. After the last few years, perhaps that's what's best for them.

One of my all time favourite books is "I still dream about you" by Fannie Flagg. I actually had to check I hadn't written for WOW about it before it is SUCH a favourite.

I won't spoil the plot, but the core message of the book is simply one of hope, delivered through the adventures of Maggie, who is planning to kill herself.

Despite that, I promise it's actually a light jolly read as you go through it, even with such an opening! At this point I will say, if you are tempted, go put this article down, read the book, and then come back to this.

If you're not convinced yet, read on.

Maggie spends her life worrying about all the things she could/should have done, and all the ways things are going wrong.

The lesson of the book is, perhaps it's your outlook on life that's making you sad, not the world itself.

A key part of Maggie's improvement in mood comes from not reading the news anymore, and deciding to watch movies she actually likes. With happy endings.

I do sometimes find if I've been reading the news a lot I am actually more glum. If I switch to reading novels, cheerful things etc, I actually feel better.

Similarly, if I switch my music from the glummer selections to the bright cheerful and silly, up goes my mood.

If my bible reading takes me out of the gloomier books of the bible, up goes my mood.

Sometimes reading serious gloomy things is what's good for you. Sometimes, maybe you just need something pleasant. Those folk whose religion is all "God condemns" and "you'll go to hell if" may well be a theologically justifiable thing...but it really isn't Christ's focus. The Gospels and the letters are about things are going to be better. God went to work to make things hopeful. Recognise that!

Our hymn books are full of hymns saying how wonderful God is and how great He has made things. If we think of the world more in those terms, might it not do us some good?

# Thomas Smith - Leysian Missioner

# Remembering the Rwandan genocide

Thirty years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1994, the Rwandan genocide ended. Up to 1.1 million people were killed by the Hutu-led government and other militias between April and July.

Rwanda is a small central African country in the Great Rift Valley, dwarfed by the Democratic Republic of Congo to its west and close to the Equator. It is inhabited mainly by Hutus and Tutsis, the latter a distinct and more sophisticated group originating probably in the Nile Valley, who over centuries tended to occupy dominant positions in the country.

They were favoured by the Belgians who were helping to run Rwanda on behalf of the League of Nations after the first world war and later. This irritated the Hutus, who formed a large majority (probably 80 per cent) of the country's inhabitants, and violence against the Tutsis was frequent even before the genocide, which was sparked by the shooting down of the President's plane in April 1994.

The UN were slow to designate the huge numbers of killings as genocide, and the Belgians and other Europeans and Americans quickly left the country when it became obvious that they would be defenceless without outside support, which no-one wanted to supply for largely PR reasons.

The Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front, based originally in Uganda, led a counter-attack which overcame the Hutus and formed a stable and overtly democratic government that still holds power. There are restrictions on some religious groups and other freedoms, but forgiveness and healing have reached remarkable levels – an estimate of 97 per cent reconciliation rate has been suggested, and the emphasis after the catastrophic events of 1994 is now firmly on unity.

# **The Olympic Games**

This month sees the start of the Olympic Games in Paris. In describing the Christian life as a marathon race, the writer of Hebrews (12:1-2) challenges us to finish well.

# 'throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles' (1)

As in a normal race, we have to get rid of any burdens that weigh us down (eg possessions, worries, what others think of us) and besetting sins (wrong habits or attitudes). We can cast our burdens on the Lord (Ps 55:22) and be assured of His forgiveness (1 John 1:9).

# 'run with perseverance the race marked out for us' (1)

The Christian life is like a marathon not a sprint race, which calls for endurance. The course is *marked out* for us, as we all have a unique race to run, with its opportunities and difficulties. God knows our path and will provide all that we need to complete the race.

# 'fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith' (2)

The runner keeps their focus on the finishing line and avoids all distractions. Our focus is on Jesus, who has run the race before us ('author'), but is the one who can show us how to finish well ('perfecter').



We are also surrounded by a 'great cloud of witnesses' (1). These are God's people, both past and present, who are cheering us on!

During the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the British athlete Derek Redmond was running in the 400

metres semi-finals. About 250 metres from the finish his hamstring tore, and he fell to the ground in pain. However, his father ran on to the track to support him in completing the race.

Let's not forget that whatever we face, God is there beside to enable us to finish the race!

# 'Threads Through Creation'

# Eight million stitches expressing God's love!



'Threads through Creation' is an extraordinary, uplifting textile art exhibition coming to Southwark Cathedral, on show from 20th July to 26th August as part of a nationwide tour of 21 cathedrals and great churches. This is the one and only chance to see it in London.

# Bringing new colour to Genesis It consists of twelve beautiful silk

panels re-imagining the story of creation from Genesis. You've read it in black and white – now see it in amazing colour! The panels are huge (nearly 3m high) and truly breath-taking.

It took Christian textile artist Jacqui Parkinson three years - and eight million stitches! (Some members may remember Jacqui in a former life, when she was Jacqui Frost, married to the late Re vd Rob Frost.)

Further information will be available in the coming weeks.

# Sharing and outreach

We have had some lovely feedback from churches around the country. It's a great opportunity for sharing – bring along some non-Christians, and there'll be some interesting conversations! Some churches have organised very enjoyable group trips. Everyone comes out buzzing ...

See <a href="www.cathedral.southwark.anglican.org">www.cathedral.southwark.anglican.org</a> Admission free, donations welcome See more at <a href="www.creation-threads.co.uk">www.creation-threads.co.uk</a>

### Join us this summer for......

# Family fun drop-in mornings at Wesleys

Bring the children along to Wesley's courtyard and get hands-on with some fun-filled nature activities. We'll be making and planting, with different activities each week. Wednesday 31 July, 7 August and 14 August from 10.30am-12.30pm. Please note that children must be supervised by a parent/carer.

# Georgian re-enactment at John Wesley's House

Bring all the family to come and see John Wesley's beautiful house on a summer's day, and meet his household in Georgian dress. Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 11.00am – 3.00pm. Free children's activities in the courtyard. Please note that children must be supervised by a parent/carer.

# Sea Sunday - 14th July

Look around your home. How much of the contents of your bedroom, kitchen, living room and even garage came to you over the seas, via the great merchant ships? What would your home be like without them?

Yet when did you last give a thought to the people who bring them to you?

It is a curious fact that seafarers are one of the most important, and yet invisible, people groups in our society. We depend on them to bring us more than 90% of the world's goods and fuels, yet we rarely even remember their existence.

It suddenly makes Sea Sunday seem a very good idea: an annual opportunity to give thanks for the 1.89 million seafarers of the world, and to pray for their personal well-being. For going to sea is a lonely occupation. It separates families for up to nine months on end. It is also one of the world's most dangerous occupations, with physically demanding work as well as the threat of piracy, shipwreck and even abandonment.

So this Sea Sunday, let's pause and give thanks to God for the seafarers of the world. Let's remember how their work so enriches our lives. Let's pray for them, for their families, and let's support the organisations that offer them care and support through their chaplaincy work.

One such is The Mission to Seafarers, which has Seafarers Centres in 50 countries, and offers not only practical support such as access to Wi-Fi and a place to relax, but also emotional and spiritual aid through its ordained Port Chaplains, who are constantly visiting the ships.

### Men of the Sea

Your first disciples, Lord, were men of the sea:
Hardy fishermen from the shores of Galilee.
They knew from experience the perils of the deep...
They also knew Your presence with them in their darkest hours.
We pray for those who face like hazards today...
Lord of the sea, be near to guard them in every danger...
And let them hear Your voice above the tempest,
'It is I, be not afraid'
So bring them to their haven in peace.

From a prayer by Frank Colquhoun

# Did you know that it was.....?

125 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1899 that the Gideons International was founded. The evangelical Christian association places free Bibles in hotel rooms, hospitals, schools, military bases and prisons around the world.

100 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1924 that British sprinter Eric Liddell won the men's 400 metres gold medal at the 1924 Olympics in Paris. He preferred the 100 metres, but the heats were held on a Sunday, and he refused to run in them.

# SEASIDE OUTING TO CLACTON-ON-SEA



Saturday 10th August 2024
Chapel Gates open 8am
Be assembled 8.15
Return departure: 5.15pm
£10 per adult, £5 per Child

Tickets available after Sunday services or from Office

# **Thoughts from Retreat**

By the kindness of the Chapel I was able to spend a few days on retreat at Buckfast Abbey in Devon.

Here's some of my idle thoughts from that time:

- The hill country is such a tonic to the soul
- The Monks' Buckfast tonic is definitely something that won't catch on in Methodism
- With an alongside-translation worship in another language is quite easy to follow
- Without you get lost very quickly if you're not fluent
- Reading someone else's sermon if done well, can be good
- All farm animals are picturesque at a distance (the distance must be beyond smell range)
- Not all ruins are ancient the village church of Buckfastleigh was burnt out and abandoned in the 1990s.
- I am honestly happier when I can hear a steam train whistle at random moments in the day.
- Weirs really aren't great for nature
- Listening to a book during a meal is a good way to get through your reading list
- A simple plain chapel conveys holiness beautifully
- Lavender smells like a hug
- Honey for breakfast is great. Coffee is a bit much first thing.
- Our grandparents were right; you should take your big meal at lunch time.
- Having to be silent makes you appreciate the joys of silence
- I can spontaneously start singing hymns if the mood is right.
- Birdsong is the best thing to hear out the window
- Paddington Station's First Class Waiting Room being Queen Victoria's waiting room is a lovely treat before you have to get on the tube.

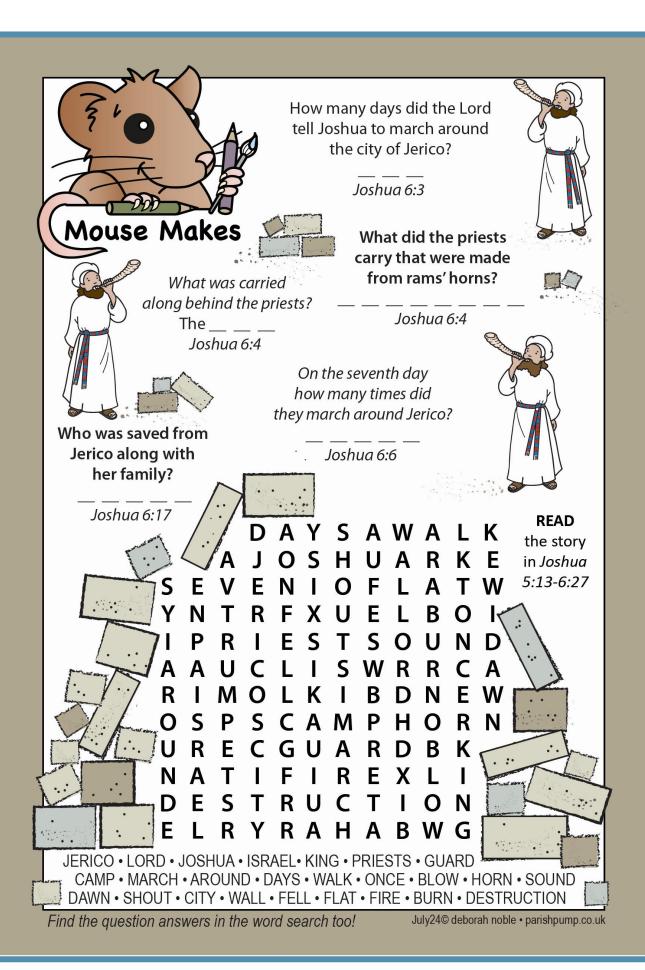
## **CHILDRENS PAGES**

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complain Joshua people chased Egypt leaders children Hebrew bigger Canaan Abraham God desert

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14/7 a 3yh Capel Jewin EC1Y OSA Cyngerdd/ Concert

13/7 @ 7:30yh
Capel Moreia Leytonstone E11 1HR
Noson gyda'r Côr cyfle i gymdeithasu ac addoli
Come and meet and worship with the choir

Mae perfformiadau'r côr am ddim, ond maent yn dibynnu ar roddion arianol gan eu cynulleidfaoedd a gwerthiant eu creftau o Madagascar er mwyn arianu'r daith. The group does not charge for their performance but relies on people's donations and the sale of crafts from Madagascar during their concert to fund their tour.

# Finally with the upcoming General Election on our minds.....

# **General Election expressions and terms**

**Parliament -** This comes from French meaning a conference or assembly. Dates from around 1300.

**Vote -** Comes from Latin votum "a vow, wish, promise to a god, solemn pledge, dedication."

**Poll -** Again from about 1300, originally meaning a single head, then counting heads, from about 1620s.

**Going to the country -** A phrase from end of 18<sup>th</sup> Century, meaning to call for a General Election and test the mood in the country.

**Canvass -** This originally meant to sift things in a sheet, and then to examine items carefully, then "solicit votes or test support before an election" (1550s).

**Hustings -** From about 1720, it means a temporary platform from which, previous to the Ballot Act of 1872, the nomination of candidates for Parliament was made, and on which these stood while addressing the electors.

**Ballot -** From late 16<sup>th</sup> Century, meaning a box in which balls or pebbles are put to indicate votes.

**Mondeo man -** After the Ford Mondeo, a family car, popularised by a phrase used at a party conference in 1996, though the vehicle mentioned was actually a Ford Sierra. It means the average voter who wants to better themselves and their families.

**Swingometer** - Do you remember when television graphics were simple? This was a device consisting of a dial with a movable pointer, used to demonstrate (on television) how a likely or observable 'swing' should influence the outcome of an election. From 1965.

# Worship at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission

# **Monday – Saturday**

10.00am Morning Prayer from the Methodist Worship Book

# Wednesday

12.45pm Service of Holy Communion

# Sunday

9.45am Service of Holy Communion (except first Sunday of the month)

11.00am Morning Worship

7.00pm Service in the style of Taize (first Sunday of the month)

All services except the Wednesday Lunchtime Communion Service are also live streamed

(<u>www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming</u>) and remain viewable afterwards at: <u>www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/previous-services</u>

# **Worship via Phone**

You can also share in most of our services by telephone. Call 020 3880 0873 just before they begin and, when instructed, enter the following 'Conference ID' number on your 'phone keypad: 135 491 69 followed by #. You will hear the person leading, and you will be able to share with all others who are on the line in saying the responses together—or simply listening if you prefer. If you are willing and able to mute your end of the call this will increase the quality of audio for those using this function by reducing background noise.

We also have a dedicated email address for prayer requests which will be received directly by our ministers Jen and Steven, and will be prayed during the course of the Daily Morning Prayer service. Please send all prayer requests to: prayer@wesleyschapel.org.uk

# **Weekly Programme**

**Sunday** 

9:45am Holy Communion (except first Sunday in the month)

11:00am Morning Service & Sunday School

12.30pm Methodist Women in Britain (first Sunday in the month)

12.30pm Wesley's Chapel Ghana Fellowship (last Sunday in the month)

5:00pm Zoom Fellowship5:15pm Zoom Bible Study6:00pm Zoom Evening Prayer

7:00pm Taizé Style Service (first Sunday in the month)

**Monday** 

10:00am Morning Prayer

2:00pm Sisterhood

**Tuesday** 

10:00am Morning Prayer

1:05pm Lunchtime Recital (except July, August, December)

6:30pm Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association

**Wednesday** 

10:00am Morning Prayer

10:15am Stay & Play (under 5's - term-time only)

12:45pm Service of Holy Communion (30 mins)

6:00pm Holy Club (young adults aged 18-35)

**Thursday** 

10:00am Morning Prayer

**Friday** 

10:00am Morning Prayer

**Saturday** 

10:00am Morning Prayer

5:00pm Choir practice (except Saturdays following singing in morning service)

