

CONWAY ROAD METHODIST CHURCH NOTICE SHEET – October 2020



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Dear All,

It has been good to open up some of the activities of the church. I hope this will continue.

At present we are struggling with some bad news regarding the virus. I hope we soon see it beginning to reduce again. In the meantime, I suggest that we keep to the Welsh government's guidance and instructions. This is a time to keep ourselves safe.

A lot of people are going to need kindness. I think in particular of those who are struggling with mental health issues and those suffering economic effects as well as those who are either suffering from the virus or who have loved ones so affected.

We need to reflect the compassion of Christ in all we do and say at this time.

You friend and minister
Paul Martin.

Sunday Services



Worship will continue at Conway Road Methodist Church on **Sunday mornings at 10.30am**. Services will last around 40 minutes and will be suitable for all ages – doors will be open from 10.15am. Social distancing will continue to be strictly adhered to.

October	4	Rev Paul Martin – Harvest Festival
	11	Rev Paul Martin
	18	Vera Ruddock (On trial)
	25	Maddy Stonehewer (On Trial)

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be on Sunday October 4th.

We will be unable to receive the usual gifts of food due to the current Covid-19 pandemic. However, we will be accepting gifts for All We Can – the Methodist Relief and Development Fund as usual. Further information about this Charity can be found later in this leaflet.



Envelopes will be available on the day which can be placed in a collection plate as you leave the Church. You can also donate online by control and clicking the link below:

<https://www.allwecan.org.uk/give/make-a-donation/>

Future Dates

Church Council – Tuesday 6th October at 19.30

To be held by Zoom – invitations will be sent out early next week.

Lectionary for October

4th October – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19,

Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46

11th October – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 32:1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

Isaiah 25:1-9 and Psalm 23, Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14

18th October – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99,

Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13), 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22

25th October – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1 - 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 - Matthew 22:34-46

Opportunities for Worship

BBC Two Sunday Morning Live at 10.00am (*note change of channel*)

Sean Fletcher and Sally Phillips take a look at the week's talking points and explore the ethical and religious issues of the day. The show shines a light on inspiring, unique, and occasionally unusual stories and people.

BBC One Songs of Praise on Sunday at 2.00pm

Kate Bottley shares her journey of faith, from becoming a Christian as a teenager to her ordination and beyond, as she visits the people, places and music that have shaped her.

BBC Radio Wales Celebration on Sunday at 7.30am

A service led by the Canon Jenny Wigley, who explores the life and example of St. Francis of Assisi as we face the challenges of rising Covid numbers and new restrictions.

BBC Radio 4 – Sunday Worship at 8.10am

Marking Black History Month, exploring the theme Black Lives Matter everywhere through the lens of climate injustice, poverty and inequality around the world.

For those of you with online access this link will give you many more options:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/seasons-and-themes/worship-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Cathays Methodist Church continue to hold a Zoom service on Sunday mornings at 10.30am :
Login details – meeting ID - 834 1190 5949, password - peace

All Sunday Services held at Conway Road can be accessed by control and clicking the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/reverendpaulmartin/videos/>



Happy Birthday to Elsie Binstead – who will be celebrating her 99th birthday on Saturday 3rd October. Many happy returns with love and best wishes from all at Conway Road.

Cleaning

This week a huge thank you to all who volunteered to join our new cleaning rota – quite a few of you have already experienced the joys of cleaning the Church and hall – and I have to say the premises are looking pretty good!

Many thanks to those of you on the rota in the weeks coming up – any further willing volunteers gratefully accepted!



World Poetry Day

World poetry day was this week so a selection of poems:

Heaven Is

(by David Kitchen)

Heaven is where your friends remain your friends
Where you don't fall out
Over a careless word
Or a failure to phone,
Where what you say is what you do
And what you do is what you meant to do.
Heaven is the place where all that lost innocence
Is found again:
The trust you had as a child
That got broken into a dozen pieces by experience,
The hope that got battered by consistent failure
To even get close to your dreams,
The love that got chipped away
By the sheer grind of daily details.
Heaven turns the clocks turn back
To a time before your world grew grey,
Takes away the pain of what has been
And opens your heart to what can still be.

H E R E W E A R E

(by Jayne Powell)

(Full Poem this time – apologies for editorial error in last issue!)

Cards that read – ‘Happy New Year and let's hope it's a good one’ –
WELL – that went well when all is said and done!
March came, and rumours were rife,
That a virus was here and would cause trouble and strife.
It surely has done that you'll all agree.
Shops ran out of food and more importantly paper for use in our lavatories!!
People went mad, they just couldn't get enough –
So, they queued for hours, not bothered it wasn't their usual soft stuff!
Any ply it didn't matter, strange what some people did whilst the virus attacked!
Then some were helpful and caring, by bringing their neighbours groceries back.
Essential worker carried on – twenty-four hours – weary all the time.
No time for their families or to stand in long orderly supermarket lines.
Who knew what 'lockdown' meant and to what length
Of time, we wouldn't see families, and wondering if we had the strength.
Having people working from home for the past five months -
Lovely to have them but some days they really could give you the 'grumps!'
We have learnt how long is two metres – so now we are all versed in metric.

Those who loved the old cowboy robbers can wear a mask, and even go shopping wearing it
Here we are now and somethings are slowly getting better –
Outside dining under gazebos, eating your steak and chips, pity the weather has got wetter!
We are back in church, but with no singing and no organ
playing –
But just to see friends and be back in God's House is amazing.
We have made it, we survived, we shall continue to pray for
one another –
And when feeling down, just remember those rainbows,
symbolising hope and full of colour.



And one from Charles Wesley – a truly fabulous hymn!

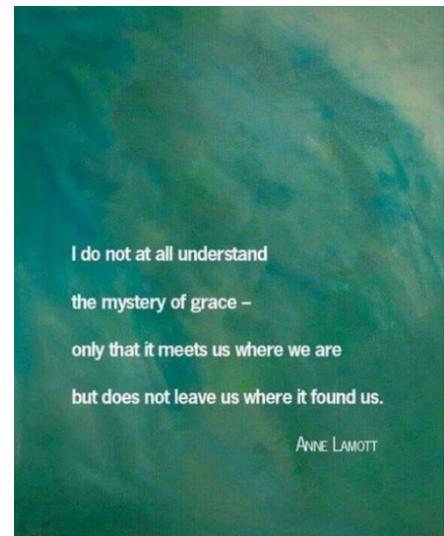
Let earth and heaven combine,
Angels and men agree,
To praise in songs divine
The incarnate Deity,
Our God contracted to a span,
Incomprehensibly made man.

He laid his glory by,
He wrapped him in our clay;
Unmarked by human eye,
The latent Godhead lay;
Infant of days he here became,
And bore the mild Immanuel's name.

Unsearchable the love
That hath the Saviour brought;
The grace is far above
Or man or angels thought;
Suffice for us that God, we know,
Our God, is manifest below.

He deigns in flesh to appear,
Widest extremes to join;
To bring our vileness near,
And make us all divine:
And we the life of God shall know,
For God is manifest below.

Made perfect first in love,
And sanctified by grace,
We shall from earth remove,
And see his glorious face:
Then shall his love be fully showed,
And man shall then be lost in God.
Charles Wesley (1701-1778)



Methodist Church - Year of Prayer



The Conference has declared 2020/2021 a year of prayer so that our Church-wide commitments to evangelism, church growth, church at the margins, and pioneering and church planting will flow from a deep, contemplative orientation to God's grace and love.

Be part of this movement of prayer as we ask the Holy Spirit to help us be a growing, evangelistic, inclusive, justice-seeking Church of gospel people.

Weekly Online Prayer Meeting - Tuesdays at 12.45pm

Join others across the Methodist Church to pray together every Tuesday from 12.45 to 1.00pm. *More information can be found at the www.methodist.org.uk/yearofprayer/ website.*

A Pen Picture from Roger Yeo

Rejoice the Lord is King (Singing the Faith 335, Hymns & Psalms 243)

This hymn begins with a joyful gallop which, like many of Charles Wesley's hymns, begins as powerfully as it ends. It is a triumphant celebration of who Jesus is - not a teacher, not a prophet, not a seer, not a leader, but the King. As the hymn states, 'Jesus the Saviour reigns' - that is why we rejoice. Rejoice is the opening word and the keynote of the hymn, matched with a tune written by Handel for this hymn.

Music

It has been wonderful to be able to enjoy music at our Church services since we have returned - even though the singing of hymns is prohibited.

Conway Road is fortunate to have so many proficient musicians and huge thanks go to Catherine Dodd for the great piano playing over the past few weeks.

And it was brilliant to have Roger 'back in harness' on the organ last week.



And speaking of Roger - one of his excellent jokes:

The Sunday school teacher was trying her best to teach her class of eight year olds the parable of the prodigal son. "Now, can you tell me who was unhappy when the prodigal son came back?" she asked them.

Silence - then inspiration struck Dougal, and up went his hand confidently. "Please, Miss," he said, "the fatted calf!"



All We Can

All We Can is an international development and relief organisation, working to see every person's potential fulfilled. Focussed on serving the world's most marginalised communities, All We Can is rooted in the Christian faith.

What do we do?

Change happens when we all work together.

All We Can has served the most marginalised on earth for the last eight decades – since a group of Methodists answered the call of refugees in Europe, in the 1930s. Our story is about the inherent value and potential in all people. Whether children fleeing tyranny; communities facing extreme poverty, or families hit by disaster, we answer through partnering with local innovators, projects and churches to unleash potential.

We work with the very poorest communities, and have developed a reputation for doing development differently: pioneering sustainable, locally-owned solutions in response to John Wesley's call to, 'Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.'

Family News

Many of our families have children who are away at University or college at the moment.

Fran and Gordon took Gregor back to University not long ago – and then the Cardiff lockdown was announced.

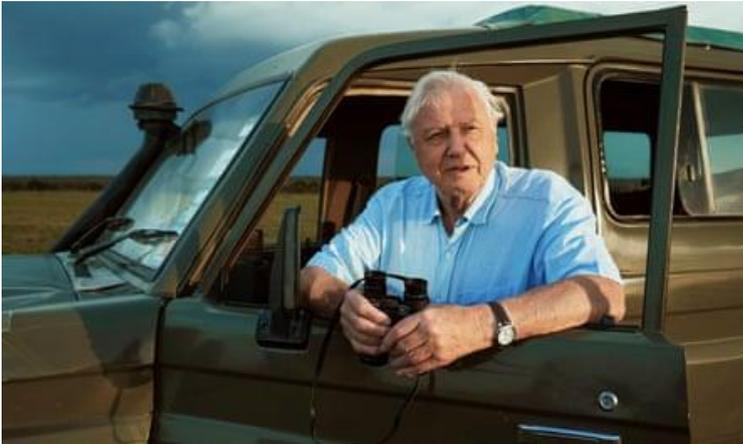
So Fran writes: *We went to Plymouth to visit Greg (before Cardiff lockdown) as we were not sure when we would see him again.*



They had a delightful afternoon in sunny Salcombe and here are Gordon and Greg enjoying the ride on the boat from the mainland to the Isle of Wight.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our University students, away from home at this time, unsure when they will be able to return home. God's blessing be with you.

A Message from David Attenborough, to a five-year old in particular, but also for us all to take note this week:



You can do more and more and more the longer you live, but the best motto to think about is not waste things,” Attenborough replied. “Don’t waste electricity, don’t waste paper, don’t waste food. Live the way you want to live but just don’t waste. Look after the natural world, and the animals in it, and the plants in it too. This is their planet as well as ours. Don’t waste them.

Leading to a prayer from George Ginn, Local Preacher, Ely and Newmarket Circuit

Creator God, help us to remember that the earth is yours, and not ours. Forgive us that our collective human activity has put your wonderful world at risk and that we are in danger of destroying all life on this planet. Your prophets, the scientists, have long warned us of what was happening but we have given no heed to their findings and what they have declared is now coming to pass. We pray that world leaders will forget their differences and come together to take what drastic and radical measures are necessary to combat climate change. Lord, all of us have a part to play in the way we live our lives, even if we find it difficult and costly. Guide us in all our actions of response, world without end. Amen.



And to finish – a lovely joke from Marie