

CONWAY ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

NOTICE SHEET – May 2024



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Dear Friends,

The Ascension...

Jesus said, ‘You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

Acts 1: 8-9



Then Pentecost...

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Acts 2: 1-2

On Sunday 19th May we will gather as a Circuit to celebrate Pentecost with a service and a picnic. Together we will give thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit and, no doubt, pray for guidance in discerning our own future. Something immensely powerful and special happens when a large group of Christians join together in prayer. Praying like this is nothing new. During the 10 days between the ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Jesus’ disciples dedicated themselves to prayer and the reading of the scriptures. They dared to pray ‘thy kingdom come’ – not knowing what would happen next but trusting in God to show the way.

What happened next – the gift of the Holy Spirit into the hearts of Jesus’ followers -had huge implications for the developing church and changed the lives of the disciples forever. God active within them and around them. God guiding them and equipping them. God sending them out to spread the word to those who never got to meet Jesus and didn’t know the good news he had brought. Over the centuries and across the world Christians have continued to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit, and for discernment in how to follow her



lead. We do it every time we say The Lord’s Prayer. Of course I hope to see as many of you as possible on the 19th, but I’d like to encourage you to use these ten ‘in-between days’ (9th – 19th May) as a focused opportunity to ask the Holy Spirit to work not just in our own lives but in those of our friends, neighbours and church community.

Love and blessings,
Laura

May

Sunday morning worship commences at 10.30am – and includes Junior Church, who meet with us in the Church and then go down for their own activities part way through the service.

Sun 5 th May	10.30am	Local Arrangement – Mrs Alison Garner
Sun 12 th May	10.30am	Rev. Delyth Liddell Holy Communion
Sun 19 th May	10.30am	Circuit Service at St Teilo's School
Sun 26 th May	10.30am	Ms Gauri Taylor-Nayar

Junior Church

Junior Church finally got outside and have done a great job of weeding and propagating the plants. We hope there will be tomatoes, beans, carrots, sun flowers and more! The children made Bubble Tea, it is a sweet Malaysian tea with boba (small balls of juice) that is very popular with children and youth at the moment. We linked the boba to popping away our worries as we give them up to God. The children have also been learning about communion and joined the congregation to either take or be blessed during communion. This is a topic we will be continuing with when Laura comes and speaks to Junior Church on 12th May.



Junior Church will be adding a new addition to the Spring Fayre - GAMES! - Splat the Rat, Spin the Wheel and a Guess the Quantity game. we hope to see you there!


YouthSpace: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at Wesley Canton, year 6 and upwards, between 10am and 12.30pm – which should allow time for parents to attend their own church services.

Vision Day

Thanks to all who attended our Vision Day on Saturday 28th April.

Feedback from the day has already been circulated by John – however please do sign up for the Action Reviews by either adding your name to the lists in the New Room, or by emailing John.

Dates for your Diary

Sat 18 th May	10.00am to 12.00pm	Spring Fayre – more information below
Fri 24 th May Sat 25 th May Sun 26 th May	3.00-8.00pm 3.00-7.00pm 3.00-7.00pm	Art Exhibition in the Sanctuary at Conway Road Methodist Church by the Cable Collective – all welcome to visit
Sun 23 rd June	10.30am	Church Anniversary followed by the General Church Meeting All are welcome to join us at this meeting – a good place to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - review what has been going on in the past - find out what is going on now - consider our hopes and dreams for the future It would be great to see as many of you as possible!
Sun 7 th July	12.00pm onwards	Church Family Picnic on the fields by Black Weir bridge Bring your own food and chairs and enjoy the sunshine together. Everyone welcome – just be there from 12 noon onwards. Usual games and scavenger hunt for the children (or any adults who fancy the challenge!) See you there! 

Conway Road 50+ Group

May 8th	Brunel in South Wales – His achievements and legacy. Stephen K Jones - Author on local and industrial history and photography.
May 15th	Women Saints and Mystics Diana Gruffydd Williams - Author
May 22nd	Under Milk Wood – Dylan Thomas. Read by Conway 50+ people. (Adapted by Iona Gordon).
May 29th	Chiropractic Treatment – Helping people out of pain Andrea Howell - Lead Chiropractor at The Whitchurch Clinic



Spring Fayre
Saturday 18th May
10.00am to 12.00pm



Donations required as follows please:

Sarah - **paperback novels or children's books** in good condition please, no hardback books thanks!

Marie would appreciate any donations of **plants/cuttings**

Heather would appreciate lots and lots of **cakes and biscuits** please

Avril would like any **gifts** for her stall

Val would be grateful for **clothes, bags etc.** for the nearly new fashion stall

Any raffle prizes also appreciated – thanks in advance!

Pop in and join us for the morning!

Message from the Ground Crew:

There won't be a Work Morning this month - we are observing 'No Mow May'! The Crew will be supporting the Spring Fayre instead.

Notes from the Orthodox Church

I have to begin with an apology for the long silence. The Orthodox Church has never been accused of doing things quickly, and as an Orthodox priest, I seem to naturally align with this approach. Consequently, every time the call goes out for contributions to the monthly newsletter, I tend to realise only too late that I should have got something written in time!

Once again, I want to express my personal gratitude, but also that of the whole Parish of St Theodore and St Teilo, for the opportunity to serve in this place. The Methodist community has made us feel entirely welcome, and we have particularly appreciated the opportunity to see many of you during the 'overlap' while you enjoy coffee and fellowship after your services, and we sneak in to start setting up for ours. I, myself, grew up in a church that we shared with a Lutheran congregation, so it is a situation I am quite used to, and believe it can be enriching to both communities to see, know, and love one another.

As you will have noticed, our Lenten period and subsequent celebration of the Lord's Resurrection happened quite far apart this year, so by the time you read this, we will only just have served our rather heavy round of liturgies for Holy Week and Pascha. Indeed, it is likely that we will have only just left the building a few hours before you all arrived this morning (Sunday, 5 May). Pascha (or Easter) is, of course, the most joyous of Christian celebrations, and is something that brings with it a renewing energy every year. To this end, I believe that our two communities have a shared vocation to proclaim the love of God in this place, and the liberation, joy, and salvation that follows on Jesus' conquering of death.

The Conway Road Methodist Church building is especially well-poised as a platform from which to do this. Sitting as it does high above street-level, it serves as something of a beacon to those who live near or pass by that there is life in Christ, and as long as the doors are open, everyone is welcome to encounter it here. In this respect, when our Orthodox parish started up in this place in the spring of 2021, we were very small in number and had to trust that we would be able to find our feet. Today, by contrast, we are strong—with new people visiting or beginning to attend regularly almost every week—for which we give deepest thanks. This is in no small part because of your generosity of spirit and the hospitality you extend through this building.

My hope is that this gives you hope. I have noticed when I arrive here on Sundays, in time to set up for our Orthodox Liturgy, that your congregation is made up of a good number of people, young and old alike. There can be a tendency to think that, because numbers aren't what they once were, however, this is a sign that a local church is on its way out. Yet nothing could be further from the truth. There were once only twelve apostles and today the Christian family counts itself in the billions. We of the Orthodox Church here in Wales have none of the resources that the more established churches do, yet we see ourselves as (in a way) just starting out, with a great mission in front of us. It is worth it for all of us who profess Christ to consider what we have going for us, and to remember that—in the Holy Spirit—we are ever young, with vast fields in front of us ripe for the harvest.

Together, we have much for which to be thankful, and even more on which to base our hope... both in the present and for the future. The Paschal season is, in the deepest sense, a reminder of this, and should give us the energy to keep going with our work for God's sake, for the sake of all the people around us, and for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.



**ORTHODOX
EASTER**

Easter like you've never known it before

Schedule of Services:

Matins of the 12 Gospels	Thurs., 2 May 15:00
Vespers of Entombment	Fri., 3 May 19:00
Nocturns at the Tomb	Sat., 4 May 23:30
Paschal Matins	Sun. 5 May 00:00
Paschal Divine Liturgy	Sun. 5 May 01:00

All services take place at
Conway Road Methodist Church, CF11 9NT

orthodoxcardiff.com

Family News



Alys is now a proud big sister to **Eira Esme**, born on 10 April, second daughter for Emily & Jamie and granddaughter to **Jenny & Michael**.

Heather and Stuart's daughter Shelle is getting married to Matt Siggins at Conway Road on Friday 31st May at 2.00pm. We would be delighted to see any of you who would like to come and join us for the ceremony on the day.



Rob Williams is back in hospital and not very well at all. Please keep Eileen and Rob in your thoughts and prayers at this time.



Happy Birthday to **Reg Jenkin** – 89 years young on 5th May. Hope you have a wonderful celebration with the family this weekend Reg!

And to finish;

2024 is the 200th anniversary of the Royal National Lifeboats Institution. In Penarth recently, I spotted this knitted letter box top to commemorate the anniversary. Apart from being blown away by the skill and talent of the person who had crafted it, it got me thinking.

The RNLI website says *'In every single lifeboat, the crew are the same: unwilling to stand by and do nothing when people are in trouble'*. I think that mirrors a significant part of our mission here at Conway – to spot when help is needed and offer genuine kindness and support.

If you look closely at the photo, there is a person whose is being kept afloat with an inflatable rubber ring. We all need a 'rubber ring', particularly when life is tough and we feel overwhelmed. A cuppa and chat is often all that's required.

Fran MacDonald

