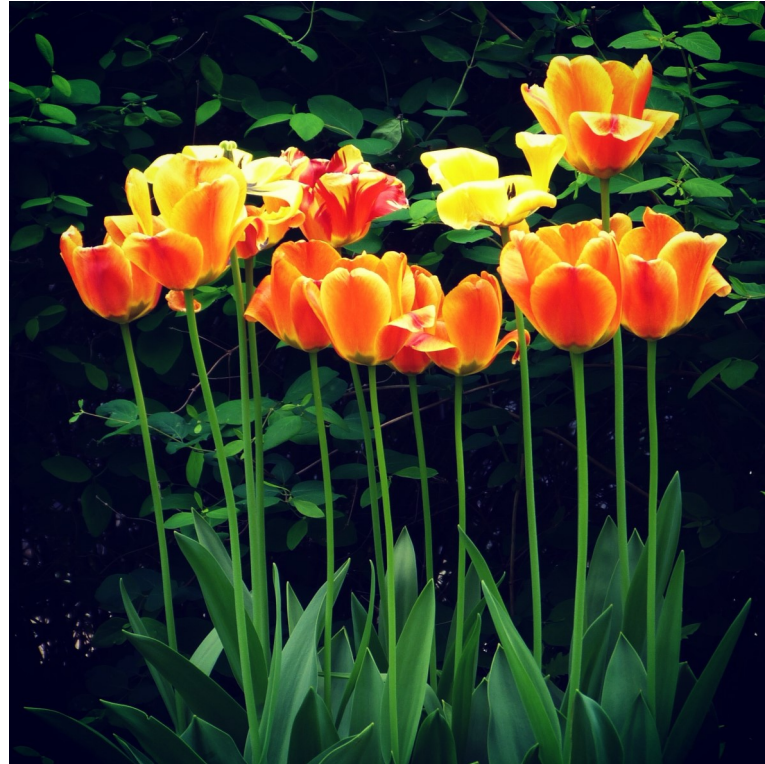


Newsletter

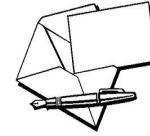


St. John's Methodist Church
Whitchurch
April 2024

Message from the Manse

Easter 2024

Hello friends,



Easter, a time of celebration and joy; yummy chocolate eggs wait to be eaten and we celebrate again the risen Christ we are serving.

Hatch, match and dispatch, is one of the privileges of being a minister. Hatching – a time when we celebrate the birth of a child in baptism, Matching – the celebration of a couple and their commitment to one another in marriage, and Dispatching – the celebration of life, as we say goodbye to our loved one and pass them into God’s loving care in the funeral.

Through it all though there is a sense of celebration; the celebration of new life, the celebration of love shared and a celebration of a life lived.

One of the joys of living here by the Nature Reserve is to see the stars in the night sky, they remind me that we are part of something bigger and greater, and how wonderfully made we are. Stephen Hawkins was not a man of faith, but he once said, “Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet”.

It’s so easy to look down at our feet and to think of the hard and difficult journeys that feet often have to walk through. But there is so much wonder and amazement in our world, if we just look up to see it.

Stewards Letter

Hello All,

Bob and I returned from a weeks holiday in North Wales last week. It was lovely to be beside the sea again. We walked the beaches of our childhood holidays and it brought back some lovely memories. Bob always prefers to plan a scenic route when we go anywhere and driving through the welsh hills was a real treat. We even got some sunshine. Our little dog Roxy is nearly 17 now and, whilst she still likes to walk, she doesn't want to go too far but she did very well.

The change of air really did blow the cobwebs away and was just what we needed. We called at St. Asaph on the way home and visited the cathedral there and I picked up this lovely prayer;

*Dear God,
I am learning to be quiet.
Just to be—
And know that you are with me.
Thank you that I don't need special words
To talk to you,
Or even any words at all.
You are here; I am here.
You hold me
In the stillness of this moment*

Now we're back I'm feeling ready to meet the challenges ahead and looking forward to our Church events.

God Bless

Dot Charlesworth

All the Dates for April

BBT. 9.30—11.30 Every Monday in termtime

MORE. Mondays 12-4

Thursdays 1-4

Drawing Room. Thursdays 10-12.30

BRASS BAND CONCERT April 13th 6pm

Library Book Group. Saturday 20th April 11-12

ZOOM Service. Sunday 21st April 4pm

Quiz & Fish & Chip supper Friday 26th April 7pm

Deadline for May Newsletter. Friday 26th April

Recycled Sewing Bee. Saturday 27th April 12-4pm

Preachers for April

April 7th—Mr. Ivan Perry

April 14th—Rev. Donna (H.C.)

April 21st—Mr. Peter Robertshaw

April 28th— L.A.

Stewards Rota for April

April 7th—Dot

April 14th—Hazel

April 21st—Andrew

April 28th—Mike

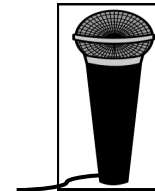
Sound for April

April 7th—Andrew

April 14th—Mike

April 21st—Brian A.

April 28th—Sarah



Tea & Coffee for April

April 7th—Brenda & Sarah

**April 14th—Hazel & Linda Jenkins
April 21st—Briony & Linda Weston**

April 28th—Chris & Elaine



Help for April & May Events Please?

We need help with refreshments and donations of cakes for the Brass Band Concert on Saturday 13th May. We also need Raffle Prizes

We need help with the preparing and serving of lunches at the midday concerts in May on,

3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th of May.

If you help in any any way please speak to Dot or Chris.

St. John's Methodist Church

present

Whitchurch Brass Band

in Concert



**On Saturday,
13th April at 6.00pm**

Tickets £10.00. (including *refreshments*)

**Available from 'Barlows' on the High Street
or you can pay on the door**



St. John's Methodist Church

Whitchurch

Present a series of FREE Midday Concerts

in May

As follows:

Friday 3rd May: Ukcs Aloud followed by a Monologue by David Hack and a 'Singalong to Show Numbers' with our resident organist Gwen Reeves.

Friday 10th May: Elaine Gollins and Christopher Jones, Oboe and piano duets. Christopher Jones, organ solo. Poetry and prose with Bob Charlesworth

Friday 17th May: The Tither Recorder Ensemble followed by the Trigelows - Vic, Helen & Rachel.

Friday 24th May: Whitchurch Singers (WS) with a piano solo by Maurice Posniak, a Monologue by Graham Turner, and a solo (supported by the WS) by Stephen Price WS's Lead.



All concerts will be followed by a complementary ploughman's lunch and your donations will be gratefully accepted



**Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper on Friday 26th April—
Don't miss it!**

We are holding another Quiz evening with a fish & chip supper on Friday 26th April here at church. It will start at 7pm. The cost is £10 per head, and will include nibbles on the tables and supper.

Don't be put off if you don't have a team - just turn up on the night and teams will be created. Friends and neighbours are welcome.

A list will be at the back of the church soon for you to sign up and indicate which 'supper' choice you would like. Choices are: fish & chips box, chicken box, burger box and a vegetarian burger box with salad. Mushy peas and/or baked beans with any choice. Pay on the night.

The quiz is being organised by Mike Nimmo.

Chris Crowther & Dot Charlesworth



Thank you to everyone who helped with the posies
for Mothering Sunday.
They were greatly appreciated.



Easter Hope Journey Friday 15th March

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Easter Hope Journey this year when we welcomed 60 children from Year 4 at Whitchurch Junior Academy. They walked around the church in groups learning about the events of Holy Week and had a great time waving palm leaves, making crosses and planting bulbs to represent new life.

Christian Aid Lent Lunches



Thank you to everyone who helped or supported our 5 Lent Lunches held at the Watergate Centre this year. A total of £824 was raised compared with £508 last year.

Brenda & Briony

BBT@St Johns



Bumps Babies and Toddlers provides a friendly welcome to children and their carers. Between 12 and 15 children come along each week for craft, toys and toast with singing, stories and prayers. If you would like to help or just want to come and say hello, please speak to someone on the rota..

The Rota for April is below.

	Leader	Open up	General & Craft	Kitchen	
1st April	Easter	Holiday			
8th April	Kathryn	Chris/Avril	Dot	Brenda	
15th April	Kathryn	Mike	Chris/Elaine	Hazel	
22nd April	Kathryn	Mike	Dot/Brenda	Hazel	
29th April	Kathryn	Briony	Chris/Elaine	Sarah	



Christian Aid Week is coming

Christian Aid Week is 12th-18th May this year and St John's will be hosting the Churches Together **Christian Aid service on Sunday 12th May** at 10.30am..

On Saturday 18th May there will be a **Street Collection outside the Civic Centre 9am to 4pm** and a **coffee morning at Bargates 10am to 12.**

If you are able to help with either event, please let us know.
Thank you for your support.

Brenda & Briony

Zoom Service

The next Zoom service will be on Sunday 21st April at 4pm.
Please ask Avril for the link.

Ordination of Fiona Weir

Fiona Weir, our previous ministers wife, will be ordained at Bradford Cathedral on 30th June 2024

Thank you Gift Day March 2024

Thank you to everyone who was able to make a donation for our Gift Day appeal. This raised £1470 towards the cost of our insurance.

Thank you to everyone who continues to pray for St Johns and to everyone who gives their time to support our mission in Whitchurch.



**Methodist Women
in Britain**

for women, for justice, for Christ

*The envelopes for the **Easter Offering** of the Methodist Women in Britain are available. The money donated goes towards the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The envelopes can be placed in the collection bags and there will be a service to dedicate the offerings in May.*

Can you remember.... Our answers

...what /who used to occupy the premises that these businesses are in currently? *You may have more than one answer but here's our choice!*
(ERG/CHC)

On the High Street:-

Costa**FULGONI**.....

Severn Hospice**J. DUDLESTON**.....

Lorna's**OWEN' SHOE SHOP**.....

Gallery Flowers**WAGSTAFFE'S**.....

St. Mary's Arcade ...

WOOLWORTH'S + WODJAS.....

Joli café**BARCLAYS BANK**...

Barlows**TSB BANK**.....

Barbers Estate Agents ...**BRADLEY'S (GENT'S OUTFITTERS)**

Splish Splash**VICTORIA HOTEL**...

Other streets:-

Scrivens ... **NEWBOLD'S (OPTICIANS)**

Jones' Coffee shop**JONES & ALLMAN (OPTICIANS)**

Wagstaff's**HATTON & WILLIAMS**

Beacon Centre ...**SWAN HOTEL & T. PEAKE & SONS**

Taxi



Sunday 7th April—Peter Shingler

(The rest of the month will be announced in Pew News)

May Newsletter

Please let Vic Trigg have all your submissions for the next Newsletter by Friday 26th April

The Drawing Room Group

We meet every Thursday morning at
St. John's Methodist Church 10am to
12.30pm.

If you already enjoy drawing or if you want to
learn please come and join us. Materials are
provided.

Just one and try it the first week is free!

It's the best couple of hours of the week according to Mark, one
of our members.

Contact me for more information.

Bob Charlesworth



Recycled Sewing Bee and The Linus Project

At our March meeting we were visited by the local coordinator from the Linus Project who came to talk to us about making quilts. Linus is a cartoon character who always has a comfort blanket and the project was started to give comfort to sick babies and children in the form of patchwork quilts. We are hoping to make some quilts for either the special baby unit at Wrexham hospital or the cerebral palsy unit at gobowen.

We meet once a month 12-4pm. Our Meeting dates for the rest of this year are,

Saturday 27th April

Saturday 25th May

Saturday 29th June

Saturday 27th July

Saturday 31st August

Saturday 28th September

Saturday 26th October

Saturday 30th November

Saturday 21st December—Christmas Coffee at Joli at 2pm

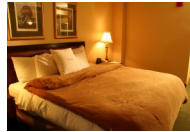
Dot Charlesworth

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Kitchens Business based at 46a High
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project! Or re-vamp your existing
kitchen, bathroom or bedroom



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*“people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how you made them feel.”*

May Angelou

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