



Focus on July 2024



WELCOME TO WESLEY CHAPEL

We are open for Sunday Morning Worship, 10.30am, see p3 for details of our services.

The Nidd Valley Circuit presents a weekly pre-recorded worship, TED Talk style. Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

Circuit Morning Prayer Live runs every morning Monday to Friday at 8am on Facebook. This is available for watching again after the live broadcast/ <https://www.facebook.com/NiddValley/>

All links (and much more) can be accessed via our website <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk>

or if you need more information leave a message:
<https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/contact>

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Charity Registration 1134055

The deadline for 'Wesley Focus on August is 20 July. Please send any notices, news, articles, photographs to Judith Yeats: 07733 064697 judithyeats0@gmail.com. Focus is also on the website. <https://www.wesleychapelharrogate.org.uk/our-focus>

WHAT'S ON AT WESLEY

SUNDAY 30 JUNE 10.30am. Morning Worship led by Rev. Gordon Hay.

MONDAY 1 JULY 1pm Lunchtime Recital. (See page 15).

SUNDAY 7 JULY. 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Leonora Wassell.

THURSDAY 11 JULY 2pm. Wesley Fellowship. 'Hobbies and Collections (stamps, coins, key rings etc.) with David and you???' Everyone invited to bring along their favourite things to show and tell their story.

SUNDAY 14 JULY

10.30am. Morning Worship led by Sue Whalley.

6pm. Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

FRIDAY 19 JULY 10am. Online Coffee. (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

SUNDAY 21 JULY 10.30am Morning Worship. Local Arrangement. See p6 for more information.

SUNDAY 28 JULY

10.30am. Morning Worship led by Deacon Gary Hoare.

6pm Wesley Sunday Share via Zoom (Link will be sent out or contact Les or Judith).

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST 10.30am. Morning Worship with Holy Communion. led by Rev. Peter Whittaker.

TUESDAYS. 10.30am to 1pm. Wesley Wheelie Welcome Café/ Warm Welcome. Come and join us for a chat. Refreshments will be served.

NIDD VALLEY CIRCUIT JUNE ONLINE TALKS. SUNDAY 9am.

07 July – Rev. Moses John

14 July – Rev. Moses John

21 July – Rev. Moses John

28 July – Rev. Ruth Parry

**WESLEY WHEELIE WELCOME CAFÉ 2024
DUTY ROTA**

	10.30 to 12 noon	12 noon to 1pm
02 July	Jean and Wendy	David and Laura
09 July	Christine and Les	Christine and Les
16 July	Jean and Wendy	Judith and Les
23 July	Jenny and Philip	David and Laura
30 July	Maureen and Mike	Maureen and Mike
06 Aug	Jen and Wendy	David and Laura
13 Aug	Eileen and Ian	Maureen and Mike
20 Aug	Jean and Wendy	Judith and Les
27 Aug	Christine and Les	Christine and Les
03 Sep	Jean and Wendy	Christine and Les
10 Sep	Maureen and Mike	Maureen and Mike
17 Sep	Jean and Wendy	David and Laura
24 Sep	Eileen and Ian	Judith and Les

AN APPEAL FROM LYNNE

We are planning to have a stall outside at one of our Tuesday coffee mornings in the near future. Please will you look out any bric-a-brac
Many thanks. Lynne.

THANK YOU FROM LES

Thank you for your support for Methodist Homes following our MHA service in June. We raised a total of £140 to support their 'befriending activities'.

WESLEY FELLOWSHIP

In our June meeting we spent a happy afternoon with our Minister, Gordon, who shared some special stories with us.

March - Welcome back and the St. Peter's handbell ringers

11 April 'All-sorts' Quiz – led by Les Sudron.

09 May. 'Best medicine' led by Frank Ellis.

13 June. 'An afternoon with the minister' led by Rev. Gordon Hay.

11 July. 'Hobbies and Collections (stamps, coins, key rings etc.) with David and you???' Everyone invited to bring along their favourite things to show and tell their story.

08 August. 'Beetle Drive' - last year's was so competitive and full of fun!

12 September. 'Let me introduce another Harrogate composer' led by Andrew Hitchen.

10 October. 'Monologues, Poems, Tales and other things..' with Jenny and you again???' Bring along your favourite poem, short story, funny story or joke!

14 November 'Open House' led by Deacon Gary and Rev Angie Hoare.

12 December Rev Brian Hoare will give a talk entitled 'Advent Customs around the World'.

All meetings are on the second Thursday in the month at 2.00pm at Wesley Centre.

All are welcome.

Leadership team: Mike, Judith, Lynne, Les, Mary and Frank.

Happy Wanderer transport Co-ordinator: Les (797406)

Happy Wanderer driver: Colin (07875 555807)



Many thanks for your generous donations for Christian Aid in May 2024. We raised a total of £216.37.

Our church's gift could help families in Burundi in Eastern Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world, where a combination of extreme poverty and the climate crises are making survival a daily challenge. With our support, Christian Aid can provide training, equipment and funds, to help people escape the inhumanity of poverty.

Ulrike

WESLEY CHAPEL LOCAL ARRANGEMENT SERVICE SUNDAY 21 JULY...IT'S YOUR SERVICE!!!!

A number of Wesley folk have asked if we could have a 'Songs of Praise' type service at our next LA service and the answer is 'Yes'. Therefore please send me the hymn you would like us to sing, the reading you would like us to read, the prayer you would like us to pray and any faith journey reflection you would like us to reflect upon!!!!

Judith is playing the piano and is really looking forward to what is requested.

If we get too much for one service, no problem as we have two LA's every quarter.

Don't delay send your request now....

Les

*We are the music makers and we are the dreamers of dreams.
We are the movers and shakers of the world, forever, it seems. ~
Arthur O'Shaughnessy*

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations

Malcolm celebrated his 80th Birthday in June. He celebrated his special day with Helen and the family at Southlands.



The police wish to speak to these ladies with regards rowdiness at a recent coffee morning at Wesley Chapel....

Church Family News continued.

Christine sends us this account of a recent holiday.

A Hebridean Adventure

Recently Maureen, Mike, Les and I went on a short cruise around some of the Outer and Inner Hebridean Islands.

The seas were calm for all the five days – so no need for sea sickness tablets!

We hired cars for both of our “on land” days and Les drove us through some dramatic scenery.

On the Isle of Lewis our circular trip took us from Stornoway to the Butt of Lewis and the most northerly Lighthouse and then back along the western coast road to visit a reconstructed, traditional blackhouse village. We continued on to the amazing Callanish standing stones which pre-date even Stonehenge.



We felt at home on the very flat and almost ‘Yorkshire Moors’ terrain with the mountains of Harris in the far distance.

Our second ‘on land’ day was around the northern end of the Isle of Skye. We landed at Portree and the land was a lot more fertile and hilly place. We passed the ‘Old Man of Storr’ and stopped to look at Kilt Rock with its’ waterfall and then drove across country to Dunvegan Castle.

Continued

A Hebridean Adventure continued



Of course, no trip to Scotland is complete without a highland cow and after much searching, we found one!!

Back on the boat we thoroughly enjoyed sailing close by the “Small Isles” and the major sights of the The Dutchman’s Cap, Fingal’s Cave on Staffa (complete with playing of Mendelssohn’s music of the boat’s tannoy). We then moved on past the wonderful island of Iona.

Throughout our journey we were treated to some amazing sunrises and sunsets (see front cover), and we all agreed it had been a wonderful time shared.



*Christine and Les
contemplating their
next house move.*

Churc Family News continued.

Ulrike and Andrew enjoyed a family outing to Beningbrough Hall on Father's Day. Esther was over from Berlin for a friend's wedding while Martin was in Germany for a friend's stag do!



Christine really likes watching tennis and for a birthday present was taken to the Ilkley Trophy Challenger Tour event in June. It was a lovely day and the tennis was amazing. However the highlight for Christine was meeting with Andrew Castle the former British No. 1 who played at Ilkley 40 years ago; today he is a leading tennis TV commentator.



Continued p14



DESERT ISLAND DISCS

This month Robert Walwyn has shared his desert island discs. Robert is Judith's son, and has long shown a great interest in life at Wesley. He and his wife Belinda are avid readers of Focus.

There are two young fishes swimming along in the sea. They happen to meet an older fish swimming the other way, who nods at them and says 'morning boys, how's the water? The two young fishes swim on for a while. Eventually one of them looks over to the other

and says 'what the heck is water?'

These young fishes have spent their entire existence surrounded by water without being aware of it. Just like them we spend most of our time surrounded by music, without consciously thinking about it. To have the time to sit down and listen deeply to a piece of music is a rare gift; being stranded on a desert island provides the perfect opportunity to take a step back, settle down in peace and quiet with no distractions and really dig down into the music. My list is heavily weighted in the classical tradition, because there is so much more scope to develop your own interpretations. I want to become the older fish, and consciously experience the water all around me; for that I need the time and space which modern life denies us.

Violin Concerto in D Major Op 61 by Ludwig van Beethoven. Beethoven has a claim to be the most significant figure in the long history of Western Art Music. Nobody will ever come close to matching his contribution; it feels like he was placed on the earth to provide humanity with a glimpse into another dimension through his music. Beethoven didn't write his Violin Concerto for the audience of 1806; it is such a profound step into the future that it could not be fully appreciated until the advent of recorded music, allowing the listener to rasp the incredible wealth of interlinked ideas which make it up. The Larghetto in particular has the ability to make me stop whatever I am doing and lose myself in another world for ten brief minutes whilst I contemplate the huge range of emotions which it elicits.

Continued

Desert Island Discs continued.

Piano Sonata No 8 in C Minor Op 13 (Pathetique) by Ludwig van Beethoven. We inherit our musical preferences from our parents; if this is true then I was handed an ace through my parentage. My mother introduced me to Beethoven's three masterpiece piano sonatas (Moonlight, Pathetique and Appassionata) when I was still developing my musical ideas – and they stuck. My favourite of the trio is Pathetique with its sublime adagio, and feelings of peace, tranquillity and sympathy; it is only a short piece but there is plenty there to keep me enthralled as I gaze out over the serenity of the waves which surround my desert island home.

Clarinet Concerto in A Major (K622) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Equally poignant for me is Mozart's Clarinet Concerto which I believe was my father's favourite piece. My parents used to duet with the Adagio in public performances before my time, and I was lucky enough to repeat this with my mother in a more recent performance at Wesley. It has such emotional depth, and the solo part makes such dramatic use of the clarinet's three-octave range that you can't help but be moved by the overall effect. On top of that, it was the last complete piece that Mozart wrote before he passed away; the culmination of a glittering compositional career.

'Benedictus' from The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins. In the Benedictus from The Armed Man, Jenkins uses the cello to create a haunting, melancholy melody which becomes a perfect musical representation of the prayer upon which the piece is based. It then gives way to the human voice, and the interplay between the two choirs lifts the listener up to the heavens in an act of thanksgiving which resonates through the imagination long after the sound has passed. This is one of the very few pieces of music which has the ability to make me weep.

Quatuor pour la fin du Temps (Quartet for the End of Time) by Olivier Messiaen. The backstory to Messiaen's Quarter is captivating. Conceived and written in 1942 during his imprisonment in a concentration camp and premiered in front of an audience of prisoners and German soldiers, this piece offers hope and reconciliation more than any other. It is also filled with philosophical ideas which will provide hours of fun while I sit contemplating on my island.

Continued

Desert Island Discs continued.

Does the end of time refer to the end of the war? The end of humanity? Of the universe? Or does it refer to the music itself with its rejection of conventional concepts of the rigid structure of time and rhythm in western music. The ethereal third movement, a seven-minute clarinet solo of breathtaking difficulty due to its extraordinarily slow tempo would be enough for most pieces, but in the case of this piece it is framed by a further six movements which offer something different every time you hear it.

Piano Concerto No 2, op 102 by Dmitri Shostakovich. I discovered the music of Shostakovich during my degree course. Initially I was compelled by the way he stood up to the authoritarian regime he spent most of his career trying to circumvent. But I soon grew to love his music in its own right. Shostakovich is the nearest thing western music has come to another Beethoven, and I believe that this piece reveals him at the peak of his artistic power.

Two twentieth century poets have overwhelmingly dominated the soundtrack to my life, and my list concludes with a representative work from each of them. Their music means so much to me that I could have comfortably filled my list with eight Cohen compositions or eight Dylan songs, and none of them would have felt out of place. It has taken a considerable effort to whittle the hundreds of candidates down to these two masterpieces.

Every Grain of Sand by Bob Dylan. This song was written in 1981, which ironically was the same year that I first discovered the great man. My older brother had convinced me to listen to one of his early albums. From the first note I was mesmerised, and by the end of that first song my life-long obsession with Dylan's music had begun. 'Every Grain of Sand' is a deeply spiritual song with a haunting melody and such thought-provoking words that they still provoke reflection whenever I listen to it now, 40 years later. The combination results in a spellbinding and electrifying piece of music. Dylan claimed that the words came to him as though channeled through him from another place. Listening to the song it is easy to imagine the divine intervention which took place to launch the song onto a grateful world.

Continued.

Desert Island Discs continued.

Thanks for the Dance by Leonard Cohen. Leonard Cohen had an even more profound impact on my life than Dylan. I know his songs so intimately that when he passed away I felt like I had lost a personal friend. This song was the title track from his final, post-humous album. For me it is the perfect farewell from a legendary artist to his devoted followers. It also feels like the right way to round off my list of the finest music I know.

Thank you for your superb choices Rob. Though I might have to listen to Messiaen a few more times before I'm convinced. I do want to hear more of Cohen though—influence works both ways,

Next month our Minister, Gordon will be our castaway.

Church Family News continued.

News from Janet

Anna my goddaughter was successful in her application to the Chelsea Art Society open exhibition taking place in June. The first photo shows her by her work of clementines in a jug, the second photo shows Anna with an overview of the exhibition which was in the rather grand Chelsea Old Town Hall. She took an A level in art when in the sixth form and has recently become a keen artist again.



LUNCHTIME RECITALS

Monday, 1st July 2024 at 1pm Richard Wetherall Trio – Jazz Concert.



The final event of the 2023/2024 season will be our annual jazz concert on Monday 1st July 2024 at 1pm, given by the Richard Wetherall Trio. The trio is made up of piano, bass and percussion. They have been coming for many years and are very popular. If you have not attended a performance by the trio, I can thoroughly recommend them.

The cost of entry is £10, payable at the door (free entry for 26 and under). For further information, please would you contact me by email a.hitchen81@gmail.com or by telephoning 01423-883618.

Continued

Hot can be cool, and cool can be hot, and each can be both. But hot or cool, man, jazz is jazz.”

Attributed to Louis Armstrong

Lunchtime Recitals continued.

2024/2025 season

Here are the dates, and in some cases the performers, for the lunchtime recitals for 2024/2025, which will be the 30th season of Wesley Concerts.

Monday, 7 October 2024 (1pm) The Lenore Trio

Monday, 4 November 2024 (1pm) Susan Tomes (piano)

Monday, 2 December 2024 (1pm) Elena Urioste (violin), Tom Poster (piano)

Monday, 6 January 2025 (1pm) Ashley Riches (bass-baritone), Joseph Middleton (piano) *Leeds Lieder Recital*

Monday, 3 February 2025 (1pm) artist to be confirmed

Monday, 3 March 2025 (1pm) artist to be confirmed

Monday, 7 April 2025 (1pm) Jess Dandy (contralto), Simon Lepper (piano)

Monday, 12 May 2025 (1pm) artist to be confirmed

Monday, 2 June 2025 (1pm) Mishka Rushdie Momen (piano)

Monday, 7 July 2025 (1pm) Jazz concert



Bilton Amblers. We had our walk in Middlesmoor and had a lovely walk. After the walk we attended the 156th Annual Bell Festival at St Chad.s. It was a beautiful day and the scenery outside the church was lovely and very clear. **Pat Webber**



AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Bilton Methodist Amblers. The next walk is Saturday 13 July. All walks start on the car park of Bilton Area Methodist Church where we meet to arrange transport at 9.30. Summer walks 5-6 miles. Please bring a packed lunch but we normally go on to a pub or café at the end. If interested please contact Janet Allen, 01423 524634, E-mail janetallen09@btinternet.com

Future Walks. Saturday 10 August, Saturday 14 September, Saturday 12 October.

(See photo p16).

Bilton.

Wednesday 3rd July 12.30 pm Lunch Club

1 July Bible Study on Genesis. (8 July at Starbeck).

6 July 10 -11.30 Coffee Morning. All welcome.

3 August Table Top Sale - time to be confirmed

Gracious Street

Bridge Café is open Mondays 09.30-11.30am, Tuesdays 10.00-11.30am, and Wednesdays 9.30 p 11.30am. Bridge Café with Resurrected Bites is open Fridays 10am-2pm (last orders 1.30pm)

Men's Breakfast 8.45-11.15am.

Saturday 6 July. Diane Maguire. What is Fairtrade.

Saturday July 13, 4pm: Summer Dreams Saturday,

Saturday July 27, 10am-1pm in the Castle Room. Elegant Ladies' Quality Clothes Sale (Wedding outfits, "posh frocks" and occasion wear including hats, shoes and handbags.)

Continued

Around the Circuit. Gracious Street continued.

Saturday, July 27, 10.00am-12.00pm: Coffee Morning in support of Open Doors 09.30- 11.30am.

Harlow Hill.

Mondays 10am—11.30am. Coffee Morning.

Please note: Monday Coffee Mornings will not take place throughout August. We shall start up again in September.

Killinghall

Every Thursday, 11:30 - 14:00, Resurrected Bites

Coffee Morning. Last Saturday in the month 10.30am to 12 noon through the year except September and December.

10 July 7pm. Village Voices Concert,. £7 includes light refreshments

19 July 7pm. Beetle Drive. Tickets £7 adults, £3 school age children. Pie and pea supper Ring Julie, 07890 093969 or Brenda, 07890 993209

Pannal.

Tuesday 9 July 2024 and Tuesday 13 August. Pannal Community Tea, (There is no fee but a donation to the charity of that month is appreciated).

5 July 2024. Pannal Plodders which usually walk between 3.5 & 4.5 miles and usually followed by lunch

Craft Group on Monday 1st July & 29th July 2024 starting at 1.30pm

Burnbridge Bookworms meets at 2.00pm on the second Monday of the month in the Church Hall,

Pannal Bookworms Club meets on the third Friday of the month at 2.30pm and is hosted by a congregational member. The next date is 19th July 2024.

Around the Circuit continued

Park Grove Park Grove invites you to an afternoon of fun & frivolity! Call My Bluff and a Cream tea Saturday 6th July 2024 at Park Grove Methodist Church - 2.30pm To book a place - ring Margaret Grant. 07521175783 .

Starbeck. Sunday 7 July 2.30. U3A Singing 4 Pleasure Choir. Songs for s Summer's Day. Tickets £8. Proceeds in aid of Yorkshire Ambulance.

Wesley. Civic Society Heritage Weekend. **Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September.**

Woodlands.

Every Friday morning in term time from 7.45am to 10am. Toast Café. Pay-as-you-feel café serving tea, coffee, toast chat. Unplug, Reconnect, Refill.

Every Friday in term-time from 12.15pm. A home-cooked 3 course meal in good company. Contact 07966 755215 to book your place.

CIRCUIT SERVICES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY 21 July at Woodlands 6.30pm. Farewell Service for Moses.

SUNDAY 8 September at Woodlands 6.30pm. Welcome service for Rev. Ian Bryon.

PRAYER FOR AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION

God of justice, love and grace we pray for all who stood as candidates in the General Election. We pray for our newly elected Government and for those parties who will serve on the opposition benches and those independent Members of Parliament.

May all who serve in Parliament do so with integrity, with care for the most vulnerable, and with concern for the common good. We pray they will be filled with compassion, wisdom and mercy.

May every member of the Government seek to do what is right, for the benefit of all. <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/resources/prayers/a-prayer-for-after-a-general-election/>

ONLINE SITES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST.

Nidd Valley Circuit YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCGs9zOlnk5tMKC8SCeQY1w

Nidd Valley Circuit Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NiddValley

Gracious Street Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/graciousstreetmethodist

Knaresborough TV: www.youtube.com/c/KnaresboroughTV

Please continue to support All We Can, Harrogate Fair Trade Shop, Harrogate Foodbank, Harrogate Homeless Project & Resurrected Bites.

CONGRATULAIONS TO LEONORA

I submitted a photograph, which was in the June issue, of me and my lovely nieces taken by Rev. Leonora Wassell. In case you thought that was a bit random, I just wanted to let you know that Leonora bumped into us in town when she had just found out that she had been appointed as Co Chair (North) of Methodist Women in Britain and was thrilled to share her good news with us. I didn't mention this before as it wasn't my news to tell and I didn't know if it was official. Leonora tells me that it is now so I just wanted to say a big congratulations to her. I hope the next three years turn out to be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for her. I am sure everyone at Wesley will join me in these sentiments. We can look forward to her induction service. I am sure that further details will be announced nearer the time.

God Bless you Leonora as you embark on a new adventure.

Lynne Harvey

Yesterday I was clever so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.

Rumi

THREE STORIES AND A QUESTIONABLE CONNECTION

Mike's Story. In a Focus Magazine from Christmas 2003, Mike Greenberg wrote an article following his attendance at Leeds District Synod. Mike wrote 'We were given the privilege of being addressed by a lady who, with her small daughter, fled from Zimbabwe recently. It was a harrowing tale of danger and persecution in her homeland, but almost as bad was the appalling way she was treated on arrival in this country. They were exhausted after many days travelling, yet were subjected immediately on arrival to many hours of interrogation, with no access to legal advice or the opportunity to contact anyone. The full story was a shameful indictment of the way this country treats asylum-seekers, relieved only when a Methodist Church in Leeds befriended them'.

Judith's Story. I grew up a few streets away from Cousin Pam, (my Mum's cousin), near Newcastle-under-Lyme. She was 11 years older than me and she used to take my sister and me for walks when we were little. We all eventually went our separate ways. Then Pam and her widowed mum moved to Leeds. We didn't meet up for many years, although we did exchange Christmas cards. It was only when I retired from work in 2004, and became engrossed in my family history that I finally visited her in Leeds. We spent a lovely time reminiscing about her mother and father our wider family and the early days. We didn't meet up again, although we fully intended to, but both of us were busy, she at her Methodist Church in Chapel Allerton, and me at Wesley and the Nidd Valley Circuit. We had so much in common quite apart from our family connections, we were both church stewards, both trustees, both edited our church magazines, both very involved in the work of our respective churches. It is one of my biggest regrets that we didn't meet up more often. How easily our paths may have crossed at circuit synods when Nidd Valley was in the Leeds District. It was only when a friend of hers contacted me to tell me that Pam had died that I was able to find out what a very special person she was, and how much she had done for her church and community. My cousin, Pam. How I had, as a child, admired and looked up to her. With good reason it turned out.

Pam's Story. An immigrant family came to Chapel Allerton Methodist Church one Sunday morning in 2001. They had been sent to Leeds by the Immigration Department whilst their request for asylum was considered.

Continued

Pam's Story continued.

It seemed they had come to England from Africa and had been abandoned at Victoria Bus Station by the person accompanying them. The family consisted of a mother, three children and another one expected. The members of the church were quick to offer help in many ways and several individuals, including Pam, took a special interest in supporting the family. Over the years Pam became particularly close to the family and they called her grandma. She took a keen interest in their schooling, driving them there and back and worked with the school staff in all kinds of situations. She enlisted the help of the local MP when there was a likelihood of the family being deported and with the help of a lawyer contacted through the Methodist Church, and who worked pro-bono, went down to the Home Office on two occasions to seek to get the family 'leave to remain'.

The family became British citizens and were a close, caring family. Pam became part of that family; a new baby was named after her, and all members of the family became successful in their chosen careers.

A Questionable Connection. I like to think there is a connection between Mike's story and Pam's adopted family. Maybe not. Perhaps the lady who spoke at Leeds Circuit Synod is not the same mother that was befriended by my cousin. But it doesn't matter. The story Mike told in 2003 is still very relevant today, and it is important that we are reminded of it. Pam's story has a happy ending, and it is an indication of the love and care to the community by one Methodist Church not so very far from here. **Judith**

PRAYER CORNER

Holy God, creation is your gift of grace,
pregnant with your presence.
You have adorned it with goodness,
with jewels of kindness that shimmer and cast light into life.
The radiance of your Spirit refracts through the lives of your people
and illuminates the darkness, disturbing it with hope.
As your hand unveils what is hidden, may we reflect what you reveal
for the good of all you have made. Amen.

Kerry Tankard, District Chair, Yorkshire West District

SUNDAY SHARE

Malcolm shared this hymn with us at a recent Sunday Share.

It can be sang to either Old Hundredth: 'Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow' or the Tallis Canon.

Doxology for Humanity

Praise life that makes us change and grow
Praise love that makes compassion flow
Praise peace that ends all strife and fear
Praise hands that work for justice here

Praise ears that hear the children's cries
Praise truth that counters cruel lies
Praise hearts that value human worth
Praise lives that build a better earth

Praise eyes that see all human need
Praise minds that cast out selfish greed
Praise lips that challenge those in power
Praise those who struggle every hour

Praise faith that keeps us ever strong
Praise hope that triumphs over wrong
Praise dreams that make our spirits rise
Praise voices raised in joyful cries

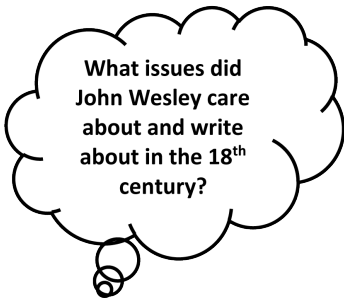
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<https://followingjesus.org/doxology-for-humanity/>

Sunday Shae Continued.

As we are right in the middle of General Election fever, Les shared John Wesley's Manifesto.

JOHN WESLEY'S MANIFESTO



- 1. Reduce the gap between rich people and poor people**
- 2. Help everyone to have a job**
- 3. Help the poorest, including introducing a living wage**
- 4. Offer the best possible education**
- 5. Help everyone to feel they can make a difference**
- 6. Promote tolerance**
- 7. Promote equal treatment for women**
- 8. Create a society based on values and not on profits and consumerism**
- 9. End all forms of slavery**
- 10. Avoid getting into wars**
- 11. Share the love of God with everyone**
- 12. Care for the environment**

Continued

John Wesley – in his own words

1. Be ye ready to distribute to everyone, according to their necessity.
2. Wickedly, devilishly false is that common objection, 'They are poor only because they are idle.... Find them work.... They will then earn and eat their own bread.'
3. How many are there in this Christian country that toil, and labor, and sweat... but struggle with weariness and hunger together? Is it not worse for one, after a hard days labour, to come back to a poor, cold, dirty, uncomfortable lodging, and to find there not even the food which is needful to repair his wasted strength?
4. Beware of that common, but accursed, way of making children parrots Regard not how much, but how well, to what good purpose, they read.... The end of education....[is to] help us discover every false judgement of our minds, and to subdue every wrong passion in our hearts... [and] to understand as much as we are able .'
5. I continue to dream... [of the time when the potential of] each person can be unleashed
6. Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion?
7. May not women as well as men bear an honourable part....yield not to the vile bondage any longer. You, as well as men, are rational creatures. You, like them, were made in the image of God.'
8. In seeking happiness from riches, you are only striving to drink out of empty cups. And let them be painted and gilded ever so finely, they are empty still'

9. Let none serve you but by his own act and deed, by his own voluntary action. Away with all whips, all chains, all compulsion! Do with everyone else as you would he should do to you..
10. War: What farther proof of do we need of the utter degeneracy of all nations from the plainest principles of reason and virtue? Of the absolute want, both of common sense and common humanity, which runs through the whole race of mankind?
11. The world is my parish.
12. Lead us beyond an exclusive concern for the well-being of other human beings to the broader concern for the well-being of the birds in our backyards, the fish in our rivers, and every living creature on the face of the earth.

<https://www.ctcinfohub.org/wp-content/uploads/john-wesleys-manifesto-new.pdf>



PRAYING HANDS

In the same Focus (Christmas 2003) as my story on page 21 there is a piece by Molly, which is still of interest, it gives us some background into the praying hands that we see in our prayer corner today.

'October 12th was the Church Anniversary. It was also the beginning of the Week of Prayer for World Peace. Shaun was the preacher and during the service he gave to the church a lovely, very appropriate gift—that of the Praying Hands, sculptured in wood in Nigeria by the people who the Methodist Guild support through the Nigerian Health Project' This has been set in the prayer corner, a constant reminder of our need of peace, inwardly and outwardly'. **Molly Blades.**

If there is righteousness in the heart there will be beauty in the character.

If there is beauty in the character there will be harmony in the home

If there is harmony in the home there will be harmony in the nation

When there is harmony in each nation there will be peace in the world. (Also from Christmas 2003 Focus)

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurels grow, along the thin red wall,
You'll find the tool- and potting-sheds which are the heart of all,
The cold-frames and the hot-houses, the dungpits and the tanks,
The rollers, carts and drain-pipes, with the barrows and the planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'Prentice boys
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise;
For, except when seeds are planted and we shout to scare the
birds,
The Glory of the Garden it abideth not in words.

And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the Glory of the Garden occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made
By singing:—"Oh, how beautiful!" and sitting in the shade,
While better men than we go out and start their working lives
At grubbing weeds from gravel-paths with broken dinner-knives.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick,
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth every one.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner in the Glory of the Garden.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden that it may not pass away!

And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away!

By Rudyard Kipling

THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN



*Left. .
Beningborough Hall.
Ulrike and Andrew*

*Below. Judith's
Garden*

