

# Belfairs Methodist Church

## Where old friends meet and strangers feel at home

## Newsletter

Issue 2013

May 2023

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If you do **NOT** want your name to be published, please advise the Editor when submitting the article.

Please read our Privacy Policy for further information. This can be found on the church website or on our church noticeboards.

### Thought for the month

Father, everything we see and hear  
Everything we taste and touch  
Reminds us that the life we have is a gift from you.

**Our mission is to provide an open, welcoming and accepting, living place of Christian worship and service in our community, in which we seek to serve and follow Jesus Christ.**

[www.belfairsmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.belfairsmethodistchurch.org.uk)

This month we will witness the coronation of King Charles III. Although I was alive for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, I was both too young and living in Malta, so have no recollection of the day. This historical event will be an entirely new experience for the majority of this country. There is a lot of symbolism in this event with the regalia, orb, sceptre and much else have some form of significance., often dating back a thousand years. However, there is an important moment which began in Biblical times. In 1 Samuel Chapter 8, the people clamour and petition God and his prophet Samuel to anoint a King. Samuel was very reluctant to carry out this request, as he feared that this power would corrupt a person. Consequently, he tried to convince the people that this was unwise. We learn in Chapter 10 that he eventually acceded to their request and God commanded that he anoint Saul. This he did with a vial of oil poured over Saul's head. This was to signify that the King was appointed to be God's representative in their Kingdom. In other words, as King Charles has himself stated, he is to be the "Keeper of the Faith". This is a difficult and awesome responsibility. Indeed, as the book of Samuel recounts, Saul failed, and David was anointed before he even died.

Even though King Charles' power is less than his predecessors, he still has immense influence and authority. His mother Queen Elizabeth II took her responsibilities seriously; especially in respect to those concerning her faith in God. Therefore, we offer King Charles III our prayers and ask that God's grace and peace rest upon him; we trust that he will put his faith in God and let that wisdom guide him.

Yours in Christ

*Rev Clifford Newman*

Bible Study will be held in the foyer on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm. We will be looking at Revelation Chapters 1 -4.

## Sunday Services May 2023

7th 11.00 a.m. Rev. Clifford Newman - Holy Communion

14th 11.00 a.m. Mr. Mike Spaull

21st 11.00 a.m. Mrs. Jane Fulford - Parade Service

28th 11.00 a.m. Rev. Clifford Newman

## Other May dates for your diary



1st Early May Bank Holiday

6th Coronation coffee morning 10.00 a.m. (the coronation of King Charles III will be shown during the coffee morning)

8th Bank Holiday for Coronation of King Charles III

11th Thirsty For?? at 7.00 p.m. - Café style worship - all are welcome

17th Bible Study at 2.00 p.m.

29th Spring Bank Holiday

### Advance Notice:

**4th June - British Heart Foundation Coffee Morning** (see article in newsletter for further information)

## **Point of Contact**

Below is shown details of the Sunday Stewards, Communion Stewards and musicians relevant for this month.

### **Sunday 7th May**

Sunday Steward a.m. - Mike Spaull

Communion Stewards - Dawn Howard & Jim Halstead

Musician a.m. - Sue & Mike Spaull/MIDI Box

Flowers - Coronation - arranged by Anthea Meek & Jan Andrews

### **Sunday 14th May**

Sunday Steward a.m. - Jan Andrews

Musician a.m. - Patrick Dromgoole

Flowers - Phil's 60th birthday - arranged by Margaret B

### **Sunday 21st May**

Sunday Steward - Phil Gladman

Musician - Anthea Meek/Mike Spaull

### **Sunday 28th May**

Sunday Steward - Pat Crabb

Musician - Patrick Dromgoole

Flowers - Pat Pace, in loving memory - arranged by Pat

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

**14 - 20 MAY**

Christian Aid is over 75 years old and in that time have done extraordinary work helping the vulnerable affected by poverty, natural disasters and conflict, like those in The Ukraine, Syria, Turkey and many more. Teams are out there in the danger zones providing daily essentials. In many countries all over the world Christian Aid workers help the vulnerable with Christian Love, providing food, shelter and education.

During CHRISTIAN AID WEEK you will receive an envelope for your donation to support their vital work. Please be generous in your giving.

May God Bless you all.

Neeltje



Following the success of the Recharge | Refresh Circuit Day last year, we are planning a new Circuit Quiet Day. Advanced notice to put in your churches' diaries and keep the day free if possible so any members of your churches can attend:

**Next Circuit Quiet Day will be at UMC Shoebury,**

**St Andrews Road, Shoebury, SS3 9HX**

**Saturday 3rd June 2023**

**Time 10am - 2pm**

**Bring your own lunch**

**Refreshments available all day**

More details will come out in due course about the Theme of the Day.

### **Painting Pictures**

I lift my pen and conjure up  
The words that I must write  
To put them down upon my pad  
Which will make my picture right  
The colour and the paint I use  
Must all be made from words  
All the things you see in it  
Are things I've seen or heard  
My pallet is my paper  
Where I must try things out  
The pen is my brush, with which  
I splash the colour about  
The images are the words I use  
Each one must know its place  
and lie there on the pallet  
Until fitted in its space  
The emotions and the feelings  
Are all expressed by me  
In this picture that I've painted  
And I've called it poetry.

Supplied by Sylvia Smith

### **God's Gifts**

I've never seen an angel  
But I know they're there  
God has never spoken to me  
But he answers my prayers  
I do believe in miracles  
Because some have happened to me  
I feel things around me  
That I never see  
Lots of things amaze me  
Like the stars in the sky  
Sometimes I wonder  
Who puts blue in a baby's eye  
Who made the little daisy  
Perfect in every way  
Who taught the cuckoo to sing  
When spring is on its way  
All these things that happen  
Are not man-made at all  
These are the things that God makes  
Because he loves us all.

Supplied by Sylvia Smith



Please remember you are free to put your prayer concerns on the board at the back of the church. If it is not for you, please make sure you have the named persons consent .

Please add your name and date to the request on the reverse of the white cards provided which are by the board. These will be removed after two months, but can be updated if necessary  
(please make sure you re-date the update).

If you have any questions or queries, please speak to Sue.



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,  
HIGH ST GREAT WAKERING

YOU ARE INVITED TO A  
**CORONATION  
CELEBRATION  
SERVICE**

ON SUNDAY MAY 7TH AT 3.00 PM  
LED BY REV AGNES SAM

**SPECIAL MUSIC AND  
HEARTY HYMN  
SINGING**

**TEA  
COFFEE  
CAKE**

**TRADITIONAL PATRIOTIC SONGS**

**FEEL FREE TO WEAR RED/WHITE/BLUE  
FLAGS WILL BE PROVIDED**

ODDMENTS  
THEATRE CO

PRESENTS...

# THE ROAD TO THE CROSS



**"The light shines in the darkness"**

**Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**at 7.30 p.m.**

**Rayleigh Methodist Church**

Eastwood Road, RAYLEIGH SS6 7JP

*Tickets: £10 in advance £12 at the door*

Contact: [manager@rayleighmethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:manager@rayleighmethodistchurch.org.uk)

**Tickets available online or from your church**

[www.oddmments-theatre.co.uk](http://www.oddmments-theatre.co.uk) / [info@oddmments-theatre.co.uk](mailto:info@oddmments-theatre.co.uk)

## **A.C.T.I.O.N. Afternoon Club on Thursday In Our Neighbourhood**

Last month our members enjoyed a talk by **Vic Hare** about the Second World War when many children were evacuated to places considered safer than cities and towns. Vic's father had a liking for Australia so sent his elder children there. Vic was too young so wasn't sent with his elder siblings.

After the war when the children were finally able to return they couldn't all settle and some went back to Australia. Vic was able to share many photos making the talk even more interesting. He told the members that he did meet up with his elder brother years later when his brother attended the Olympic games one year when they were held in Europe. Apparently his brother trained a boxing team and set up many boxing clubs all over the place to keep the kids off the streets.

The members really enjoyed the talk and we are very grateful to Pat for asking him to come to Belfairs. Afterwards the members enjoyed cakes provided by Margaret.

**Our next meeting will be on Thursday 25th May at 2pm.** All ladies and gentlemen are welcome for an afternoon of friendship and fellowship.

Neeltje

### **Refreshments after Worship**

Following the complete refurbishment of the front foyer, it has been proposed that refreshments should be made available after worship on Sunday mornings. It's a great way to extend our time together and an opportunity to talk about the service and other things that may come to mind.

In order to achieve this, we are going to need some volunteers to join a team of helpers to prepare the drinks and area before worship and then serve the refreshments afterwards. If we have adequate volunteers, you may need to only volunteer once a month. To keep the task simpler, we propose using disposable cups, should someone then wish to take their drink with them, we have suitable lids available as well.

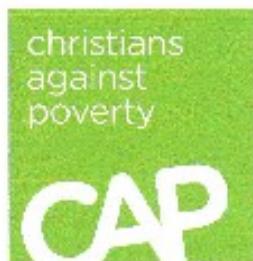
If you would like to join the team, please speak with Mike Spaull who is trying to put together a rota of volunteers.

Many thanks Belfairs for helping to create this extension to our worship.

Mike Spaull  
Senior Church Steward

# Charity Meal Night

Where ? - @ Zen City  
(Hamlet Court Road SS0 7EW)



When ? - 7:30 pm Wednesday 31st May  
2023

*How much ?* - Suggested cost of £20 per person (with £7.50 going to Southend CAP Debt Advice Centre)

*What?* - 2 Course Meal and a fundraising auction

Please contact Amanda and Paul Wilson on [paul.amanda03@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul.amanda03@yahoo.co.uk) to book tickets and make payment.

**Christians Against Poverty** has been providing free professional debt help through local churches throughout the UK since 1996.

Poverty is so much more than going without. It's so much more than lacking materially. Poverty destroys lives. It robs people of joy, hope and opportunities. It tears families apart, isolates those most in need of support, and leads many to believe there is no way out. Before seeking help, 1 in 3 of our clients had considered or attempted suicide.



**ANTHEA and ALIX'S ANNUAL  
CAKE SALE AND COFFEE MORNING**  
in aid of

**THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION**  
is on

**SATURDAY JUNE 3rd**  
**FROM**  
**10.00-12.00**

There will be.....

A BOTTLE TOMBOLA .... anything from perfume to vinegar!  
A HOME MADE STALL..... cards, jams, crochet, jewellery etc. etc.  
A CAKE STALL..... always delicious  
A BOOK STALL ....anything from Ladybirds to War and Peace  
A PLANT STALL.....last chance to stock up for summer  
2 GUESSING GAMES..... plus some puzzles ??????????

**AND**



**some fabulous cakes will be raffled at 12.00 pm!!**

**Many of us have reason to be grateful to the research  
carried out by the BHF, and our donations keep this work  
going.**



**Southend & Leigh Circuit invites you  
to our**



## Wholeness & Wellbeing Service

**26th April**

**24th May**

**26th July**

***Wednesdays - 7:45pm***

BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH SS7 5JH

For more details contact southendleighcircuit@gmail.com



SOUTHEND AND LEIGH  
CIRCUIT INVITES YOU TO  
OUR

## Wholeness & Wellbeing Service



SUNDAY 25TH JUNE 4:30 PM

HIGHLANDS METHODIST  
CHURCH SS8 3PT

For more details contact  
[southendleighcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:southendleighcircuit@gmail.com)



## The Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.  
He referred to the dates on her casket from beginning to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears,  
But he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time she spent alive on earth  
And now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars, the house, the cash,  
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change  
For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what is true and real  
And always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more  
and love the people in our lives like we have never loved before.

If we treat others with respect and more often wear a smile  
Remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash.....  
Would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?

Supplied by Marion Hammond

'This poem was read at the funeral of a friend and it made a deep impression'.

## **WE HAVE A GOAL WE NEED A TEAM!**

With the current financial difficulties it is hoped that we can put a few heads together and come up with some fund raising ventures to help support our church.

This idea does not involve any regular meetings, but perhaps giving support to someone who might have an idea but is not sure how to proceed.

**CONTACT the Leadership Team if you have an idea which would help support our church.**



***First prize - a vibrant, healthy church, serving our community for another 112 years!!***

## **A TRIP TO TOWN !**

It is now almost 10 years since our coach trip to Westminster. Most people went on a gilded tour through the Houses of Parliament but many just took the opportunity to get to the heart of London in luxury: so many of London's major attractions are within easy walking distance.

We plan to go again - in the autumn Prices will again be very reasonable and we look forward to a full house! Further details will be forthcoming, but in the meantime please spread the word. We will have another great day out!

Jan Andrews

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

**Note to self:** When things feel overwhelming remember.....  
One thought at a time, One task at a time, One day at a time.

I am in competition with no one. I have no desire to play the game of being better than anyone, I am simply trying to be better than the person I was yesterday.

Be grateful for every second of every day that you get to spend with the people you love. Life is so very precious.

When life gives you a hundred reasons to break down and cry, show life a million reasons to smile and laugh. Stay strong.

The best portion of your life will be the small nameless moments you spend smiling with someone who matters to you.

To be kind is more important than to be right. Many times what people need is not a brilliant mind that speaks but a special heart that listens.

It's not what we have - but who we have

I will choose to find joy in the journey that God has set before me.

**The Salvation Army**  
**LEIGH-ON-SEA CORPS**  
ELM ROAD LEIGH-ON-SEA SS9 1SP



**SATURDAY 24 JUNE 2023**  
**AT 6.30 PM**

## **CHELMSFORD CITADEL BAND**

BANDMASTER ALEX CAMPBELL OBE

*In concert*



**MUSIC FOR A  
Summer Evening**  
ADMISSION FREE & A COLLECTION DURING THE CONCERT

ALL PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF  
THE SALVATION ARMY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

THE SALVATION ARMY

CAPTAIN ROBERT DAVIS CORPS OFFICER ELM ROAD LEIGH-ON-SEA SS9 1SP

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01702 716607

Registered Charity Numbers: 215174 and 214779 (England and Wales)

BELFAIRS METHODIST CHURCH Eastwood Road North, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

## **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS :**

**SUNDAY SERVICES** 11.00 a.m. (6.30 p.m. as announced)

10 O'clock Club      10.00 a.m. (except 3rd Sunday Parade Service)

**MONDAY**      5.30 p.m. Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys  
                  6.30 p.m. Boys' Brigade Junior Section  
                  7.30 p.m. Boys' Brigade Company Section

**TUESDAY**      8.00 p.m. Badminton Club

**WEDNESDAY**      10.00 a.m. Parent & Toddlers  
                  5.30 p.m. Girls' Brigade Explorers & Juniors  
                  7.00 p.m. Girls' Brigade Seniors & Brigaders

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**      10.00 a.m. 'Open House' Coffee Morning - first Saturday of the month

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Thirsty For??	7.00 p.m.	2nd Thursday
A.C.T.I.O.N	2.00 p.m.	4th Thursday
House Groups	7.30 p.m.	2nd Tuesday - Please speak to Stewards for more details.

#### **June Deadline:**

Articles are welcomed at any time, but the deadline for last minute items is **21st May 2023.**

Articles can be e-mailed to [sue.spaull@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sue.spaull@hotmail.co.uk) or placed in the newsletter box in the front foyer. Thank you