

Belfairs Methodist Church

Where old friends meet
and strangers feel at home



Issue 240

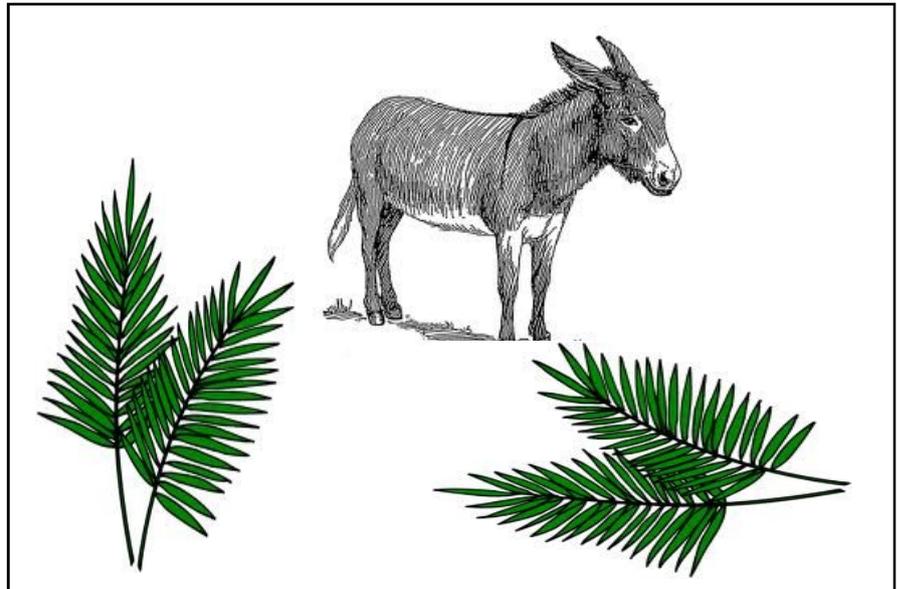
March 2026

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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 God

Help us to be witnesses to a fearful world

Of your love that casts out fear

Of your love that is as strong as death

Of your love that never ends

Because your banner over us is love

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

The BRF Book of 100 prayers



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



As we step into March, we find ourselves journeying through the season of Lent; a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. The longer days and early signs of spring remind us that God is always at work bringing new life out of what can seem barren and still.

Lent invites us to walk with Jesus toward the cross. In Luke's Gospel, we are reminded of Jesus' steadfast determination as he *'set his face toward Jerusalem'* (Luke 9:51). His journey was not one of ease, but of obedience and love. In our own lives, we too are called to faithfulness, in prayer, in service, and in acts of compassion.

The Methodist tradition has always emphasized practical discipleship. John Wesley encouraged early Methodists to practice works of piety (prayer, fasting, reading of the Bible) and works of mercy (feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, standing with the poor). Lent is a meaningful opportunity to renew both.

March also brings Mothering Sunday, a day when we give thanks for the love and nurture we have received from our mothers, from those who have cared for us, and from the church family that we are part of. It can be a joyful day, but also a tender one. Let us hold one another gently in prayer.

As we move closer to Holy Week and Easter, may we allow God to search our hearts and renew our spirits.

The promise before us is not only the cross, but the empty tomb. Even in seasons of uncertainty, we are people of resurrection hope.

Every blessing,

Revd. Steve

01702 483827

revdstevemayo@gmail.com

Sunday Services March 2026

1st	11.00 a.m.	Mr. Mike Fogg
8th	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Steve Mayo - Holy communion
15th	11.00 a.m.	Ms. Deborah Spinks - Parade Service - Mothering Sunday
22nd	11.00 a.m.	Mrs. Pam Smith
29th	11.00 a.m.	United Service at Wesley Methodist - Rev. Steve Mayo - Palm Sunday

Other March dates for your diary



1st	St. David's Day
7th	Coffee Morning - Crafternoon - Cake Stall
8th	Church Council (after church service)
12th	Thirsty For?? At 7.00 p.m. - all are welcome for café style worship
17th	St Patricks Day (Northern Ireland)
26th	A.C.T.I.O.N at 2.00 p.m. - All are welcome.
29th	British Summertime begins (clocks go forward 1 hour)
29th	Crafternoon - 3.00 p.m.- 4.30 p.m. see article for further information

Point of Contact

Below is shown details of the Sunday Stewards, Communion Stewards, Musician, Flower Rota and coffee/tea stewards relevant for this month.

Sunday 1st March

Sunday Steward - Phil Gladman

Musician a.m. - Sue and Mike Spaul/Midi Box

Coffee/tea stewards Ann Kendall & Sue Spaul

Sunday 8th March

Sunday Steward - Jan Andrews

Musician a.m. - Patrick Dromgoole/Backing tracks

Communion Stewards – Neeltje Charles & Dawn Howard

Flowers - V A C A N T - arranged by Jan

Coffee/tea stewards Mike Spaul & Phil Gladman

Sunday 15th March

Sunday Steward a.m. - Mike Spaul

Musician a.m. - Small band

Coffee/tea stewards Jan Pope & Jackie Heinrich

Sunday 22nd March

Sunday Steward a.m. - Alan Pace

Musician a.m. - Patrick Dromgoole

Flowers - Pat Pace for her wedding anniversary - arranged by Pat

Coffee/tea stewards -Sue Spaul & Margaret Bailey

Sunday 29th March

UNITED SERVICE AT WESLEY

Advance Notice - Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April

United Tenebrae Service at Fisherman's chapel at 7.30 p.m.

Rev. Heather Simmons



Good Friday, 3rd April

United Service at Wesley Methodist at 10.30 a.m.

Rev. Steve Mayo

Easter Day, 5th April

Service at Belfairs at 11.00 a.m.

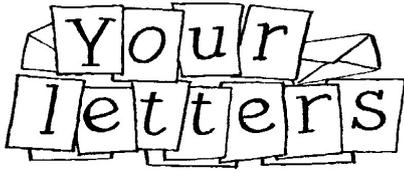
Mrs Jane Fulford

Easter Prayer & Praise Celebration Service at Belfairs at 6.30 p.m.

Circuit service including circuit worship band



Letters Page/Church family news



Welcome back into the church at Belfairs

So welcome back everyone to our newly fitted out church, freshly decorated throughout, new electric heater panels and a complete clean throughout the church, all within the allotted time. A very special thanks goes to Annetta who spent 3 weeks of her time here ensuring that the decorating was completed to the highest standard, to Mike, Steve, Eddie and Geoff who also gave many hours fitting all the new wall panels and heaters, and then with Sue's help we all joined in to make sure the church was cleaned throughout. Steve and Mike were able to re-install the sound system in a much tidier state by hiding a majority of the cables needed and a finishing touch was to add a new 'prayer request' board and clock to the back of the church area, so all in all, phase 1 is now complete.

Over the next couple of months the property team will be meeting with our builders, PR Construction, who will be taking on phase 2 of the project. This is to convert the currently unused alleyway between the church and Fellowship hall into a 'closed in' accessible link between the front foyer and the rear of the premises. Adding a flat roof and suspended floor to the area will make overall access much easier for everyone, no doors to manage, and completely flat and wheelchair friendly. A starting date is to be agreed but hopefully there will not be too much disruption to the general use of the premises whilst the work takes place. When the date is known, all organisations will be duly notified of any temporary restrictions of accessibility.

Again, all this work is sponsored so there is no actual cost to the church but hopefully all will be able to enjoy the benefits of the new addition to our premises.

Mike and Sue Spaul (on behalf of the 'Tomlin' project).

Birthdays

For all of you who celebrate birthday/anniversaries, or remember loved ones during this month, the following is for you, although of course everyone can read it!

May God bless you

And keep you in his love

Reach out to you in need

Christ guard and guide you and

Hold you safely in his arms.

Ed.



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.



5 Golden Rules

Be kind and respect everyone

- teach that kindness and respect opens more doors than anything else in life.

Never stop learning

- encourage a mindset where curiosity and learning are lifelong habits.

Believe in yourself

- Confidence is key, mistakes are okay and part of growing.

Choose Friends Wisely

- the people you surround yourself with shape your character and future.

Take responsibility for your actions

- owning up to mistakes builds trust, maturity, and true leadership.



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Crafternoon Coffee Morning

We are holding the Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th March between 10.00am to 12 Noon.

There will be the usual tea, coffee and biscuits plus a cake stall.

All monies raised will be split between the Crafternoon and the Church and your support will be appreciated.



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Family Summer Crafternoon!

We would like to invite your family to a Summer Crafternoon on Sunday 29th March from 3.00pm-4.30pm.

We want this to be a time for families to come together, learn together, create together and worship together!

Refreshments will be served.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Andrea Clarke Tel 07883 173612



Eco Church - March 2026

Take part in a local litter pick or beach clean during The Great British Spring Clean (Friday 13-Sunday 29 March), the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. Litter picking benefits the environment by removing rubbish that can be hazardous for wildlife and helps bring people together. See if there's a litter pick in your local area or consider organising your own - after church on Sunday or with a youth group for example. Pray for your local area as you do the litter pick and ask God for opportunities to share why you are doing it. Find out more and pledge to pick up a bag at [Great British Spring Clean](#)

Tina Gowers

Let Go

L - Leave your worries to God

"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" 1 Peter 5:7

E - Entrust Him with what you can't control

"Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him" Psalm 37:5

T - Trust His timing

"There is a time for everything" Ecclesiastes 3:1

G - God is still working

"He who began good work in you will carry it on to completion" Philippians 1:6

O - On your behalf

"The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still" Exodus 14:14

Let Go. God is faithful

Ed.

Brilliant Brass

An evening of melodious music with
f The Southend Band

conducted by Paul Hillson

Saturday March 14th at 7pm

Wesley Methodist Church • Elm Road • Leigh-on-Sea SS9 1SJ

*** Complimentary Admission**

With Interval Refreshments

***Please register** in just ONE of these ways
stating your name and number of seats requested

Phone: 01702 552668 (Answerphone service)

Email: info@southendband.com

OnLine: buytickets.at/thesouthendband/2067589



A voluntary retiring collection will be taken

EASTER EGG APPEAL

Collecting until 15.03.2026

We're collecting Easter eggs for people experiencing homelessness in Southend.



Every egg counts and your donation brings a little joy and hope to someone who needs it.



Your Local Homelessness Charity

Registered Charity No: 1098126

Being **humble** means recognizing that we are not on earth to see how **important** we can become, but to see how much **difference** we can make in the lives of others.

Recipe for a great day.

Pinch of *Patience*
Spoonful of *kindness*
Dash of *laughter*
Heap of *love*.

The best things in life are the people you love, the places you've seen and the memories you've made along the way.

I'm not old, I woke up, I lifted my arms, I moved my knees, I turned my neck, everything made the same noise:
CRRRRAAAAACCCCKKKKK! I came to a conclusion:
I'm not old, I'm crispy!

Fight for you
Respect you
Include you
Encourage you
Need you
Deserve you
Stand by you.

If you have a family that loves you, a few good friends, and a roof over your head you are richer than you think.

Kindness doesn't cost a thing, but its impact echoes forever. One smile, one gentle word, one moment of grace can turn someone's whole day around - including your own.

If you have a friend who checks on you when you're quiet
Keep them.
If you have a friend who listens to you vent about the same thing again and again..... Keep them.
If you have a friend who makes time for you even when they're busy Keep them
If you have a friend who's seen you at your lowest and still loves youkeep them.

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)

Family Crafternoon 3.00 p.m.-4.30 p.m. (Dates as announced)

MONDAY
6.00 p.m. Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
6.00 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

April newsletter:

Articles are welcomed at any time, but the deadline for last minute items is **15th March 2026.**

Articles can be e-mailed to sue.spauill@hotmail.co.uk or placed in the newsletter box in the front foyer. Thank you