ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH WOOLTON L25 7RJ

Web address: http://stjameswoolton.org

MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes <u>peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk</u> 0151 364 0134

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.



NEWSLETTER – 11th September 2022

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God our Redeemer, who called your Church to witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us so to proclaim the good news of your love that all who hear it may be reconciled to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Gracious God, like a mother you give us new life, and make us your children in Jesus Christ. Look on us in your love, and bring us to the inheritance which you promised. Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Son. **Amen.**

Minister's Message

At this time we give thanks for the life of Queen Elizabeth 2nd and along with her family and the nation, mourn her passing. We will remember her as an example of Christian faith and service. May we follow her example as a Christian who kept the promise of dedicated service which she made as a young woman.

Our Church will be open for prayer this Wednesday (14th) from 1.30 - 2.30pm. Please feel free to come, be quiet and pray.

God Bless us all at this time of change for our country, Peter

Warm Spaces in Autumn and Winter - We need your help!

The current energy price crisis is causing many people to worry about the cost of heating their homes. Coming to a place such as a Church or public building can be a way for people to keep warm for free.

We are considering opening our buildings during the Autumn and winter for one session a week (possibly a Tuesday afternoon from 2 - 4pm) so that people can come and enjoy a warm place and a warm drink, rather than sitting at home in the cold.

This would be in addition to our Thursday Coffee Morning which remains open to all each week in Church. To do this we would need a small team of volunteers who would be willing to open up, welcome people and serve drinks. If you would be willing to help with this, hopefully on a rota basis.

Please, contact Revd. Peter Hughes as soon as possible.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

1926 - 2022

Phillip came to me today, and said it was time to go. I looked at him and smiled, as i whispered that "I know"

I then turned and looked behind me, and saw I was asleep. All my Family were around me, and I could hear them weep.

I gently touched each shoulder, with Phillip by my side. Then I turned away and walked, with My Angel guide.

Phillip held my hand, as he led the way, to a world where Kings and Queens, are Monarch's every day.

I was given a crown to wear or a Halo known by some. The difference is up here, they are worn by everyone.

I felt a sense of peace, my reign had seen its end. 70 years I had served my Country, as the people's friend.

Thank you for the years, for all your time and love. Now I am one of two again, in our Palace up above.

A prayer on the death of Her Majesty the Queen

Creator God,

We give thanks for the life of Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

We honour her life of service built on a firm foundation of faith and an exemplary commitment to duty.

Comfort those who mourn and bring peace to those in distress.

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

A Prayer from the United Reformed Church:

O God, our rock, and our redeemer, we come to worship you and to give thanks for your servant Elizabeth. We thank you for her long life and her dedicated service to commonwealth and nations.

We thank you for what she has meant to each one of us. We treasure memories of meeting her

of celebrating and marking moments in her life, of the opening of parliament, of her presence at significant times in our history, and of her speaking to us on radio and television.

We rejoice that she lived and shared the faith we hold and that she followed her vocation, hearing a call to serve. We pray for those who will miss her most deeply, that they may find comfort and hope.

We celebrate and affirm our faith that death is defeated, that new life awaits your children, and that creation is renewed in Christ.

We pray for our nations at a time of change and for our new King. May he follow his mother in faithful service and may your blessing rest on him.

We pray too for our elected representatives in parliament, for our public servants and for all citizens, of all faiths and none.

And, in this day and time, we pray, as we are always glad to pray, may your Kingdom come.

Amen

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER 2022	
7.00 p.m. MAG (Mission Action Group)	
9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Coffee morning	
Coffee Morning	
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship – Liz Hudson & Worship Team	
7.30 p.m. House Group	
9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Coffee morning	
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship – Revd. Peter Hughes (Holy Communion)	
2.30 p.m. Fellowship meeting / Bible Study (in church) All welcome.	
7.30 p.m. Safeguarding	
9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Coffee morning	
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship – Revd. John Lansley	
9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Coffee morning	

SUNDAY MORNING Tea and Coffee following worship:

We are pleased to offer this opportunity to chat together over a cuppa following worship on the Sunday mornings following a Holy Communion Service and following an All-Age Worship (AAW) service. This means there will be usually two Sundays in each month when we can meet and catch up on news, renew friendships and welcome visitors. The weekly news sheet will remind us of these dates.

Quiet Prayer Times will now be held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, between 1.30 and 2.30 pm.

Come and offer your personal and global concerns quietly to God. Light a candle or leave a prayer on the message board while you are here or leave a prayer request in advance in the prayer book in the porch or in the 'Say One for Me' box by the main notice board. We will pray for you.



Drop-in for just a few minutes or stay for a while. Everyone welcome.

BIRTHDAYS

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, wishing you a wonderful time ahead. Happy, happy birthday,

That's my birthday wish for you, I hope your day brings you joy, Whatever you plan to do. Live each moment to the fullest, Every single moment is dear, This is the time to remember, You only get one birthday a year.



As a welcoming congregation, St James' Church is registered for Marriage Services of a man and a woman and for Marriage Services of people of the same sex. We are pleased to respond to enquiries from all couples. Thanks Peter

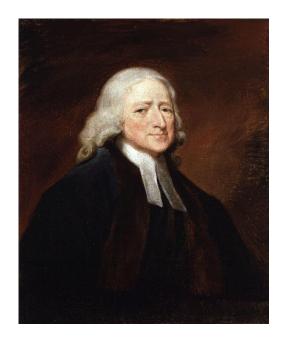
John Wesley – Quotes

We were lucky enough to have a service undertaken by Paul Holt. He shared with the congregation the advice from John Wesley on to deliver a sermon.

Here is a copy of the postcard that he bought at the New Room that includes his whole advice.

JOHN WESLEY'S ADVICE ON HOW TO PREACH

- Always suit your subject to your audience.
- Do not preach more than twice a day during the week or three times on Sunday.
- 3. Choose the plainest texts from the Bible to preach on.
- 4. Take care not to ramble from your text but to keep close to it.
- 5. Be sure to begin and end at the time appointed... People imagine the longer a sermon is, the more good it will do. This is a grand mistake... the Methodist rule is to conclude the service within an hour
- 6. Speak justly, readily, clearly... Clearness in particular is necessary... because we are to instruct people of the lowest understanding... Constantly use the most common, little, easy words (so they are pure and proper) which our language affords.
- 7. Beware of clownishness ... Avoid all lightness, jesting, and foolish talkin
- 8. Never scream. Never speak above the natural pitch of your voice.
- 9. Take care to avoid anything awkward or affected either in your gesture or pronunciation.
- 10. Don't just say 'I read only the Bible' in order to preach, read the most useful books, and that regularly and constantly... at least five hours in twenty-four... or return to your trade.
- 11. There is no need to throw, away old sermons just because they are old the best can be reused.
- 12. Never preach without doors when you can with any conveniency preach within.



Following on from Paul Holt's service, I decided to research some more of John Wesley's advice.

In Select Hymns: with Tunes Annext (1761), John Wesley included a short guide to singing this collection of Methodist hymns. Titled "Directions for Singing," Wesley lays out seven principles when it comes to hymns.

1. Learn these tunes before you learn any others, afterwards learn as many as you please.

2. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.

3. Sing All – see that you join the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up and you will find a blessing.
4. Sing Lustily – and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half-dead or half-asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sang the songs of Satan.

5. Sing Modestly – do not bawl so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation that you may not destroy the harmony but strive to unite your voices together so as to make one melodious sound.

6. Sing in time – whatever time is sung, be sure to keep with it. Do not run before and do not stay behind it; but attend closely to the leading voices and move therewith as exactly as you can and take care not to sing too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from among us and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

7. Sing spiritually – have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

Benevolent Collection.

If anyone has a charity, they would like to nominate to receive the proceeds of our monthly benevolent collection, please let me know with some details of the charity by 25th September 2022.



Christian Aid Pakistan floods appeal

Pakistan's government have described devastating floods as a "climate-induced humanitarian crisis of epic proportions."





Devastating flash floods have washed away roads, homes, and crops - leaving a trail of deadly havoc across Pakistan.

Unprecedented floods have affected 33 million people and killed at least **1,325**, including **466 children**.

One-third of Pakistan is underwater. Village after village have been wiped out. Millions of houses have been destroyed.

Revd. Peter Hughes has agreed that we send something from our last benevolent fund to Christian Aid Pakistan floods appeal. If any of our members want to contribute on top of this, you can either put a donation in a sealed envelope and give it during the offertory or to any of our stewards.



Floods are devastating Pakistan, leaving millions in need of urgent help to survive.

If you can, please donate.

PRAYERS NEEDED

Lord, I come before you today in need of your healing hand. In you all things are possible. Hold my heart within yours, and renew my mind, body, and soul. I am lost, but I am singing. You gave us life, and you also give us the gift of infinite joy. Give me the strength to move forward on the path you've laid out for me.

Guide me towards better health and give me the wisdom to identify those you've placed around me to help me get better. In your name I pray, **Amen.**

We pray for His Majesty, King Charles III on the sad passing of his mother and our Queen, Queen Elizabeth II.

We also pray for Billy Lamb, Arthur Evans, Kay (Jan's sister), Joan Greenall, Graham Martin and Dave and Madge Tilly.

ST MARY'S WOOLTON - DEMENTIA INFORMATION SESSION

RAISING AWARENESS: on Monday 19 September 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. (tea and coffee from 6:30pm) in the parish hall. We are delighted to welcome Jill Pendleton, Lead Dementia Specialist for NHS Merseycare Trust as our guest speaker. We will also have presentations from Serena Jones Specialist Nurse with expertise in dementia and Mary Monkhouse Dementia Friends Ambassador. The event is open to everyone, but especially those living with dementia and their carers. Please come along and join us.

WORSHIPPING BY PHONE

This Sunday our preacher will be Revd. Peter Hughes

To join us for a short (15-20 minutes) Act of Worship: Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday: From your normal "landline" telephone: Dial: 0333-006-7775 On being asked, enter the following number, or "Pin": 08 39 09 01 You will be able to chat with everyone else who joins until the service starts. This Sunday's Act of Worship, or short service, will comprise:

COST: - The above number costs the same to dial as ordinary UK numbers – if you have "free minutes" from your telephone supplier then there will be no cost.

The Host for this service is Liz Hudson

Order of Worship:

- Welcome and notices
- Opening prayer
- Bible reading:
- Lord's Prayer
- Talk or "mini sermon"
- Prayers
- Grace and dismissal.

NEWSLETTER NOTICES NEXT WEEK

If you would like to share anything with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations, or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at

jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk

