

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

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk
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Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

Weekly Notices 26th February – 5th March 2023

This Week's Collect:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Sunday Lent:

Gracious Father, your blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world. Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This Sunday's Worship:

10.30am 26th February: Revd. Peter Hughes - 1st service in Lent & Holy Communion (**Wendy Doig & Glenys Evans*)

The Benevolent Fund collection at the communion service on 26 February will be for Open Door.

Open Door is an organisation whose purpose is to support the Church where it is living under or facing restriction and persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ. It provides Bibles and literature, media, leadership training, and socio-economic development. It helps prepare churches living in threatened or unstable areas to face persecution and suffering. It also educates and mobilises Christians living in the free world to identify with threatened and persecuted Christians and be actively involved in assisting them.

Kathy Till, from Open Door, will be at the service and will be telling us more about its work.

Forthcoming services at St James'

March 5th: Revd. Dr Sheryl Anderson

March 12th: Revd. Peter Hughes - 3rd service in Lent & All Age Worship, **(Chris Hickey and Margaret Peterson)*

March 19th: Patrick Evans - 4th service in Lent, Mothering Sunday & Holy Communion

Forthcoming events:

Monday 27th February – 2.30pm Bible Fellowship Group (At Pam Drapers house)

Wednesday 1st March – 7.30pm – 9.00pm Wednesday Fellowship Group (In Church)

Thursday 2nd March - 9.30am – 11.30pm Coffee Morning

Sunday 12th March - arrivals from 3.45pm, singing from 4.15pm **Harmony Café**

WORSHIPPING BY PHONE

IF YOU CANNOT COME TO WORSHIP AT ST JAMES IN PERSON WHY NOT LISTEN IN

to the live afternoon telephone worship at 2.30 p.m. which lasts 15-20 minutes.

Just dial 0333-006-7775 from your landline telephone between 2.20-2.30pm; then enter the "Pin" number: 08 39 09 01 and say your name when asked to do so. You will be able to chat to everyone else who joins until the service starts. Worship includes an opening prayer, a Bible reading, the Lord's Prayer said together, a short reflection on the reading, prayers of intercession and a blessing before we share the words of The Grace.

This Sunday the host is Graham Martin, speaker is Revd. Peter Hughes, prayers Chris Bolton. The reading is Luke 4:1-11

Everyone is invited to, and very welcome at, this time of worship and fellowship.

LENT COURSE: RADICAL WELCOME

Radical Welcome is a four-session programme from the educational charity Inclusive Church aimed at helping churches begin to look at what it might mean to go beyond being inclusive - to be radically welcoming.

The Wednesday fellowship group will run this course on 1st, 8th, 22nd and 29th March 7.30-9pm @ St James'.

Matthew Dyer will run this course on 6th, 13th, 27th March and 3rd April 8-9.30pm @ 93 Waylands Drive, L25 0LX.

You're more than welcome to join us! To join, or find out more, please email Kieran: kieran.bohan@yahoo.co.uk

Prayers

We pray for all that are in need of our prayers this week. We pray particularly for Billy Lamb and his family, Arthur Evans, Ron Swindells, Robyn Hyde, Joan Greenall, Ken Kitchen, Heather Hughes and Luca Kilroe.

Message from Margaret Dee: I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, messages, help & care that I had following my mishap last month. I am much better but still receiving some treatment. Also, could I thank you for your prayers for my sister, Janet who is making really good progress. Thank you. Margaret Dee.

Harmony Café

Harmony Café meets again at St James' on Sunday 12th March

You are warmly invited to join us to sing (or listen to) songs people have suggested that are favourites from School Assemblies or Sunday School. Come and join us for tea/coffee and cake in a relaxed atmosphere **from 3.45 pm for a 4.15 pm start** – please note the new earlier start time. Cakes to share with our visitors would be much appreciated please, you can drop them off the day before at the March Coffee morning or at that morning's service. All are welcome - why not invite a friend! **Roy and Lynne Barker**

Monetary Offerings

Your monetary donations are vital to the running and future of St. James Church, please contact Margaret Dee if you would like to change your giving to a Standing Order or join the Weekly Envelope scheme. Also, if you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aid.

Thank you for all your prayers and donations for the people affected by the earthquake in Syria and Turkey. We raised £253.50 for the Christian Aid emergency appeal.

Church Flowers

If you would like to donate money for flowers on a particular Sunday - perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a happy event - please speak to **Jonquil Dickson** who can add you to the calendar for the months ahead. Also, if you would simply like to donate for flowers so that we can make sure all Sundays are covered, please speak to Jonquil. At present, we have many dates available.

Fundraising

I completed my 56 miles on the 15th February and to date I have raised **£340** for **REFUGE**. I am continuing to walk until the end of February and people are still able to sponsor me on Facebook or in my sponsor form in church. Many thanks to those who have already sponsored me. **Many thanks from Pam Alexander**

Half-marathon challenge for Parkinson's UK

In memory of my father-in-law, Fred, who passed away after living with Parkinson's disease for many years, I'm going to run the Liverpool half-marathon (13.1 miles) on 26th March to raise money for Parkinson's UK. The charity helps people with Parkinson's to live as well as they can and hopes to make finding a cure for Parkinson's a reality. If you would like to sponsor me, I'll have my sponsorship form in Church – and, to add an element of fun, I invite you to guess my finishing time for the opportunity to win a prize! My training is underway and I can often be seen pounding the streets of Mossley Hill, Garston and Woolton at rather random times of the day – please do shout some words of encouragement if you see me! No matter how well prepared I am for the challenge, the last four miles of the race are along Otterspool Prom – so I'm hoping the weather is kind on the day! Thank you for your support! **Debbie Stanford**

NOTICES NEXT WEEK

The March newsletter will also be available next week.

You can download all weekly notices and newsletters [from our website](#). Anything you wish to be included in the weekly notices or the monthly newsletter, please email by Thursday evening: newsletter@stjameswoolton.org

Helen & Steve Miller

