

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

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

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk
0151 364 0134

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

NEWSLETTER – November 1st 2020



Almighty God, you have knit together your chosen people in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord. Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys which you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All Saints

Holy God, you have called witnesses from every nation and revealed your glory in their lives. Grant to us the same faith and love that, following their example, we may be sustained by their fellowship and rejoice in their triumph, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone, I hope you are all safe and well. We are all saddened by the number of people close to us who are suffering with the virus or have even died from it. We are also blessed by the prayers, love and support received from those who God sends to support us. If you need someone to talk to, remember that there are people from Church, including me, who are there for you.

My desire to walk on the Canal this week has been thwarted by the weather! However, I hope to get back on the towpath sometime in the week ahead. My comments last week about the buses, cars and lorries as I walked up Speke Boulevard prompted one person to remind me of a hymn we used to sing in Sunday School, which was about the glory of God experienced in the sights and sounds of the city. I fished out my copy of "the School Hymn Book of the Methodist Church" and was inspired to read the words of that hymn (261 "Come let us remember the joys of the town"). Verse 3 reads "And let us remember the life of the street, The horses that pass us, the dogs that we meet, Grey pigeons, brown sparrows, and gulls from the sea, And folk who are friendly to you and to me"

As those of us who can get out have had our daily walks, we have often met kind and friendly people who have exchanged a smile and a greeting. The hymn reminds us to pray and work so that everything in towns and cities will be pleasing to God. May we pray this week that God's healing and helping hand will help our city to come through this challenging time. God Bless, Peter.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, remember, count not the candles...see the lights they give. Count not the years, but the life you live. Wishing you a wonderful time ahead.

Everyone at St. James' wishes a happy birthday and enjoy your special day.

ST JAMES SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE – November 2020

During November, you are invited to bring a ribbon or small strip of cloth (any colour) to tie to the church railings in memory of someone important to you who is no longer with you.

If you would also like to put your name, or theirs, on a piece of paper in the prayer box near the gate, they will be included in the Church's prayers.

If you can't get to church to tie a ribbon and would like someone to do it on your behalf, please ring Liz on 0151 428 7252, Margaret Dee on 051 428 3356 or Irene Elliott on 0151 722 0579

Ribbons etc will remain in place till Friday November 27th. If you would like to take yours home again, please collect it before Thursday November 26th.

Thank you.

Telephone Worship – Sunday 1st November 2.30p.m.

Dial In Instructions: **Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:**

From your normal "landline" telephone: **Dial: 0330-159-6644**

On being asked, enter the following number, or "**Pin**": **37 38 18**

You will be invited to say your name and will then be admitted to the Worship Session.

Order of Worship:

- Welcome and opening prayer (Host – Liz Hudson)
- Bible reading 1 Thessalonians
- Lord's Prayer
- Talk or "mini-sermon" Chris Bolton
- Prayers
- Grace and dismissal.

Many thanks, and God Bless

Graham Martin

Host's Pin 649010 (just in case)

[Call me on 0151-222-5832 or 07712-525239 if you have any questions]

HARVEST COLLECTION

Well done - yet again to St James' family, rising to the Harvest Collection challenge!

We managed to fill 14 large bags (during these difficult times) which were extremely heavy.

We took them to South Liverpool Food Bank (Bridge Chapel). We also have collected monetary donations of £160, so far.



PRAYERS NEEDED

Dear Lord, You are the Just judge, Holy and True.
You are the Most-High God. You give us life.
You hold all power in your hands.
You are the Mighty one from God who carries the world and is ruler over all the earth.

You Oh Most Blessed One are the giver of life. In you are only good things.

In you is mercy and love. In you is healing of the nations.
In you is freedom of worry and freedom of pain.

Lord Almighty, You loved us so much. You were sent from your Father,
sent to save us from destruction.

We truly can never make it to Heaven without the help of Jesus the Son, who was sent to earth to help us.

You, Lord are full of mercy and grace, please forgive us for our faults.

Lord Jesus, in you all healing is performed. You Lord are the miracle worker.

In your Spirit, your gift of healing is alive. In you Lord we can put our trust that you can heal us,
and protect us from the enemy, and death of our soul.

You, Lord are miracle worker for the sick, and for the lost souls.

You, Lord forgive us and save us from condemnation. You cleanse us and make us born again new.

You give us a clean heart full of peace.

You Lord are the Light.

In You is all truth. Your way Lord is the way to Heavenly Hope.

Your hands Lord created the universe. You Lord are the True giver of Life.

Every child is a miracle of Life. Life rests in Your Hands.

Wrap us as a close-knit family, draw us near to you Lord, and bind us with your Loving Hands.

Let us be drawn closer to You. You are the Vine; dear Lord and we are the branches.

You carry all knowledge and all power. You Lord are our medicine. Your Words Lord are Truth and Life.

Help us put our trust in You. You Lord are the greatest physician.

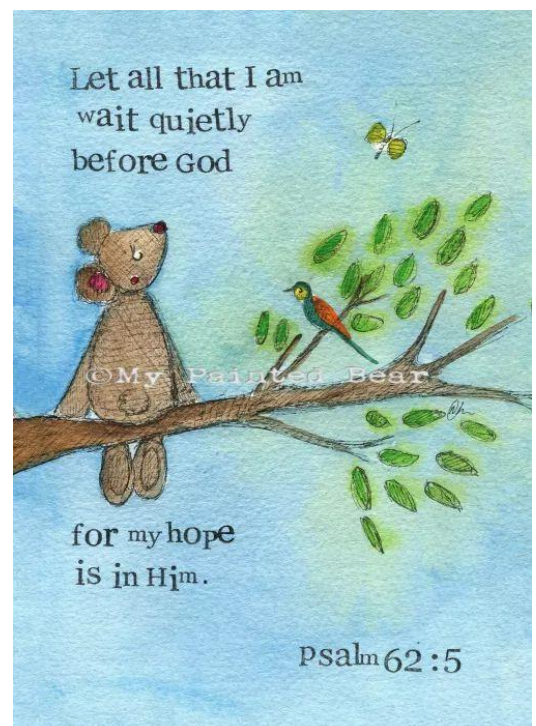
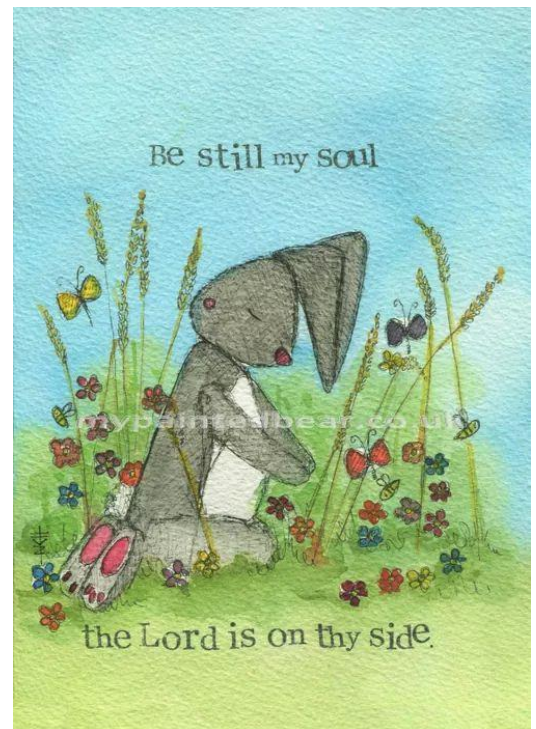
You heal, You protect, You care, You love, You are kind, You are patient,

You are thoughtful, You are strength. You Lord are our Creator.

You know our thoughts, our sighing's and our crying's and every hair on our head.

You are Wonderful and make all good things for us. Heal us Lord, if it be Your will.

Amen



Special prayers for Delilah Morris and family after Delilah's recent operation. Nan Street in hospital. Everyone having or waiting for treatment and appointments and those struggling at this time.

We also pray for all those in need at this time, especially those who are dealing with COVID-19.

ST. JAMES' RAILINGS

This week's picture from our Church railings relates to All Saints Day - Sunday 1st November. The beautiful picture and words remind us of our Christian hope. Because Jesus died and rose again for us, we can rejoice that those who before us are safe with God. Jesus is the Morning Star and the Light of Life, especially comforting at a time when the nights are long and the days getting shorter.

In the future we, together with our loved ones who have died, will enjoy everlasting day.

As we begin what has become known as a "season of remembrance", let us pray:

"Holy God, you have called witnesses from every nation and revealed your glory in their lives. Grant to us the same faith and love that, following their example, we may be sustained by their fellowship and rejoice in their triumph; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen"



NEWS

Reminder that There will be a "12 noon, After Worship Coffee Chat" on Zoom this Sunday (tea drinkers also welcome!)

Jayne McLaren is hosting, and joining details are:

By computer or tablet... Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81823449612?pwd=UHK5ZlhxYmVab3dxc1VlakNrYlJWUT09>

or use following via the Zoom "App":

Meeting ID: 818 2344 9612

Passcode: 828715

Some lovely news...

Louise Gregson got married on Monday... praying for Louise and Ben and wishing them a long and happy life together. Also praying for all the family on such a beautiful occasion which will have been tinged with sadness without their mum, Linda.

Pam Draper has been recently blessed, when one of her granddaughters has just got married and another has got engaged. Congratulations to all

COVID -19 LOCKDOWN COMMUNITY QUILT

Members at St. Peter's have been putting together squares to make a quilt, which will be on display, memories of folk in our community of their Lockdown experiences. If there is anyone who would like to make a square (or more than one!) you are welcomed to be included. There is a short time limit however – these squares need to be submitted no later than 15th November. Here is what is asked for and details:

The square needs to measure **20cm x 20cm**. your design inside should measure **18 x 18cm** to allow for join. If possible, try to make the bottom square a cotton fabric – you can use whatever fabric and threads/embellishments in your design. The actual design could be anything that is significant to you during lockdown – the NHS...rainbows....walks...our village...buildings....people etc. It can be hand or machine sewn.

It would be lovely to get a good selection.

Please put your finished squares in an envelope and write your name on it as we will make a list to display alongside of everyone who has made a square. Post the envelope through the letter box in the Simon Peter Centre, Church Road Woolton L25.

If you would like a photograph of the finished quilt put your email address on the envelope too.

Any questions to thehub@stpeters-woolton.org.uk

NOTE: if anyone is unable to deliver their squares please contact Wendy Doig on 07867795179 or wdoig45@gmail.com and I will collect from you by arrangement no later than 14th November.

Music in dark Times... 1pm on Wednesdays

You are welcome to attend the upcoming 'Lunchtime Concert Series', run by the University of Liverpool which will be free to watch online.

The concerts are streamed online accessible at any of the three locations below at **1pm each Wednesday**.

Each concert will last approximately 35 minutes and will be free to view on the following platforms:

Set your alarm to remember to join at the start!

Department of Music website - <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/music/events/lunchtime-concert-series/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/lunchtimeconcertseries>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJicHtqmT-ewkmZxTzIz21w>

CHURCH BULLETINS BLOOPERS

Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters.

These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water.

The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus.

Ladies don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you .

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday, there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

HYMNS FOR FACEBOOK

For those who don't use social media, since our church closed and lockdown began I have been posting a worship song a day on our church Facebook page for people to start their morning to, listen during the day or taking a moment to reflect.

This has been extremely successful but I'm running out of hymns and worship songs so if you have any suggestions at all please send me them via email amybates93@aol.co.uk or text 07951977709- all suggestions welcome.

And for Christmas I will be doing an advent calendar countdown of people's favourite Christmas carols... please send me your favourite as soon as possible as I need 25 and the most popular will make the advent countdown!

Amy

BIBLE READING

Thessalonians 1 New International Version

1 Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' Faith

2 We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. **3** We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

4 For we know, brothers and sisters¹ loved by God, that he has chosen you, **5** because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

7 And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore, we do not need to say anything about it, **9** for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, **10** and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

FELLOWSHIP (BIBLE STUDY) GROUP

Dear All. Thank you to everyone who responded to the enquiry about meeting on Zoom for a Fellowship Group. From the answers I thought it would be worth trying two meetings with an Advent theme on Mondays 30th November & 14th December. They will run from 8.15pm for about an hour. The late start time is to include everyone who responded, some have family duties which prevent an earlier start. I know that Advent is a busy time, but probably not as busy this year as many of the activities we would normally doing won't be taking place. EVERYONE is welcome to join us, whether you answered the original e mail or not.

If anyone is not sure about Zoom, you could ask a family member who is in your bubble to help you. Also, Graham Martin has offered to help people over the phone.

If you would like to join us please let me know and I will let you have Zoom details nearer the time. Depending on how things go we may continue with a group in the New Year.

Best wishes, Peter.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Across: 1 Repentance, 6 Anoint, 7 Steal, 9 Pierce, 10 Urn, 11 Heap, 14 Mist, 15 Eli, 16 Stream, 17 Sinai, 18 Nathan, 20 Gethsemane.

Down: 1 Run, 2 Philip, 3 Nature, 4 Answer, 5 Cherubim, 6 Alphaeus, 8 Lengthen, 9 Patience, 12 Isaiah, 13 Bronze, 14 Martha, 19 Axe.

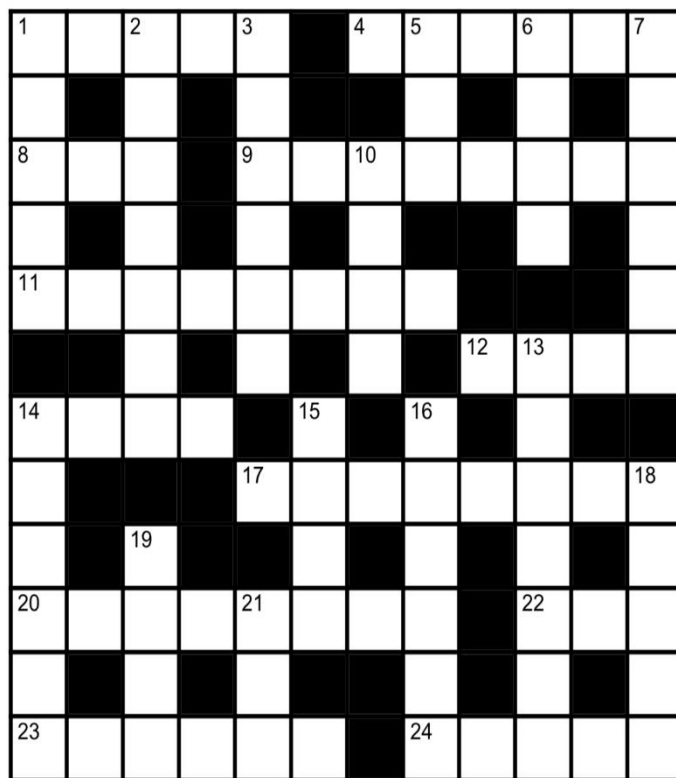
THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Calm (5)
- 4 Purim heroine (6)
- 8 Where there was no room (3)
- 9 Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar for example (8)
- 11 Mistaken identity of Jesus after resurrection (8)
- 12 Material used to make Solomon's cups (4)
- 14 Not narrow (4)
- 17 Jubilated (8)
- 20 Teaching (8)
- 22 Reverence (3)
- 23 Rabbi (6)
- 24 Place of the dead (5)

Down

- 1 Scorpion attack (5)
- 2 Didn't heed (7)
- 3 Object of Jacob's dream (6)
- 5 Red, for example (3)
- 6 To be bruised by the serpent (4)
- 7 Observed the Sabbath (6)
- 10 Where Adam spared a rib? (4)
- 13 Fruit farm (7)
- 14 Solomon's strength (6)
- 15 Son of Leah (4)
- 16 Brother of 15 down (6)
- 18 Works (5)
- 19 Follower of the Gospels (4)
- 21 Repent (3)



by Philologus

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MAG Group - Christmas Wishes 2020

Christmas!! Yes, I know I'm starting early but I know how organised many of you are!! Over a number of years at St James we have had a "Christmas Wish Tree" in church where we have invited you, instead of exchanging individual cards with all your church friends, instead to write a Christmas message, hang it on the tree, and make a donation to give to the charity we had chosen.

Sadly, this year, due to our current circumstances, this will not be possible. However, we have come up with a plan for our church family to share Christmas messages with each other and we need your help. We are hoping to create a St James Family Christmas Card / booklet which will include everybody's greetings. We will then print copies of the card / booklet and distribute a copy to everyone. We feel that this will be a small way of connecting all our Church family members together at a time when we would normally be sharing and enjoying so many Christmas services and events together but will not be able to do so this year.

If you would like to have your greeting included, and you can send a photo too if you wish, you can either email me at pambellis@hotmail.com or you can write to me at 3 Park Cottages, Kinseys Lane, Ince, CH2 4NS. Please write your name clearly so that I know who the wishes are from.

If you also wish to make a Christmas donation with your wish then this can be done

- by Bank Transfer (Ref. CHRISTMAS WISH) as you would your weekly collection OR
- by post – a cheque payable to St James Church (please write CHRISTMAS WISH on the back) - to (the Treasurer) Mr S Elliott, c/o St James Church, Church Road South, Liverpool, L25 7RJ

Rightnow where did I put my Christmas cake recipe?!

Many thanks. Pam Bellis

MAG Group - Give Your Heart for Christmas

As many of you will know, for many years we have offered a "Christmas Experience", inviting the children from Woolton CP School and all the members of our Youth Organisations to come to church and share in the Christmas Story through Story Stations and activities, with a particular focus each year. Sadly, due to the circumstances this year we will not be able to provide this in the same way.

However, our Mission Action Group are keen to carry on our outreach and to try to offer something, particularly to the children from Woolton CP, although obviously not in church. In past years we have always given the children an item to take home with them, to remind them of the visit and what they have learned. During our discussions at our meeting we agreed that something we have all learned from the current situation is that it is not "things and possessions" that are important to us in our lives, but "people and acts of kindness". We thought that we would like our theme this year to be "Give Your Heart for Christmas" and that our "giveaway" could be a small heart.

A few years ago, I put out a request for knitted and crocheted poppies for our Remembrance Commemoration and was overwhelmed by your support. This year I would like to ask you to support us again by knitting, crocheting or sewing small hearts approximately 3ins / 8cm in size for us to use. If you would like to support us, the instructions are given below and we invite you to make as few or as many as you would like. Please let us know if you have made one / some and hold on to them for now, we will organise you getting them to us in a few weeks' time.

Thank you in anticipation for your support, which I KNOW will happen!

See previous newsletter for instructions.



Christmas Fayre Gift Day – 14th November

We hope everyone is keeping as well as possible in these strange times.

Thank you to all of you for the financial support you have been giving to St James Church over the past 7 months. We appreciate that many of our fellowship have continued to contribute by direct payments into the Church's bank account. Others who previously have put their offering on the plate had put their money aside and contributed when they returned to Church. Others have now started to make direct payments. We are grateful for this help and without it the Church would have faced some significant difficulties.

At this time of the year we would normally be well into the preparations for our Christmas Fayre but sadly the current regulations mean that we cannot hold one this year. The Christmas Fayre is a significant part of our income at this time of the year, raising on average more than £1500.

In an attempt to help with our finances, we have decided to hold a "socially distanced" Christmas Fayre Gift Day instead. It would be really helpful if you could consider supporting this gift day as a way of making up this source of income. Perhaps you could send a gift to the value of what you would expect to spend at the Christmas Fayre.

Instead of bringing a gift to Church as we would for a normal Gift Day, we are asking you to get this to us by another method.

We have enclosed an envelope (if you have not received this by email) and if you wish to contribute to this, you could send a cheque to the Church with St James Church as the payee. The address is St James Church, Church Road, Liverpool, L25 7RJ

Or as an alternative this could be done by direct payment into the bank

If you wish to do this our bank details are

HSBC

Account name St James Methodist United Reform Church

Sort Code **40-29-39**

Account Number **11060856**

If you use this method, it would be helpful if you could email the treasurer (stevewelliott@aol.com) so he can look out for the payment.

Those of you who receive weekly Service Sheets through your door could give by arranging to safely pass your envelope to the person who delivers your Service.

We do of course realise that not everyone will be able to assist in this however, can we thank everyone for the gifts of time and money that you do give to God through St James'; it is really appreciated, as without everyone's' dedication, support and sacrificial giving, none of the good work that St James' does in the name of Christ would be possible.

Take Care

Steve Elliott

Treasurer.

NEWSLETTER NOTICES FOR NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything during lockdown 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