

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

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

MINISTER: Revd. 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 – 8th May 2022

This Week's Collect

Fourth Sunday of Easter

God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, with the blood of the eternal covenant: make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

UPCOMING SERVICES & PREACHERS

Sunday May 8th Revd. Alan Fretwell (St. James') & Steve Elliott (phone)

WORSHIP AT ST. JAMES'

There are now 3 ways in which you can enjoy our Sunday morning services.

- By attending St James'
- Via telephone
- Via Zoom

All details and information are below.

Please use the Zoom link below

Joining from 10.15 for a 10.30 am start – Jayne McLaren

Either click on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=aVdZcFpaZVVaMDdsZ1BiR3lhRE1yQTo9>

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610 Passcode: 12466 We hope to see you there.

If you want to listen in to the Service on Sunday, dial the above number, then PIN and listen in. You can chat up to 10.30, but when the service starts everyone will be "muted" to avoid feedback/noise.

This Sunday our preacher will be Steve Elliott

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:

The Host for this service is Graham Martin

Order of Worship:

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

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.

God Bless Graham Martin Communications officer (and local preacher) St. James' Church



Minister's Message

Hello Everyone,

I hope you have had a good week. Last week, Anne and I were fortunate to have a holiday in the cottage near Keswick which we often stay in. We were blessed with lovely weather and a time of rest. This Sunday's Gospel reading reminds us that the risen Lord Jesus is our Good Shepherd. This is a reassuring picture, knowing that Jesus is watching over us, leading us and protecting us. We saw many sheep as we walked in the Lake District each day, including two which seemed to have been abandoned by their mother. However, she was not far away – keeping a watchful eye and ready to take action if her lambs were in danger. Even when God seems distant, he is not far away and is there to help whatever our need may be.

God Bless Peter



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Annual Church Meeting - Sunday 15th May 2022.

Christian Aid week is the 15th-22nd May.

We have a stall with St Peters' at the farmers market on 14th May and they are organising a quiz night on 20th May.

Exciting news **Star for a night**...not to be missed Saturday 21st May 7-9.15pm
Live performances from our own talented individuals, refreshments, raffles, glow sticks and stars for our younger guests. A night of fun and entertainment.

All proceeds are for Christian Aid. £5 adult, £3 children and £15 family.

Tickets are available from Jane and Tony Laverty 07963961951 janelaverty5@gmail.com and Jayne McLaren jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk

Midweek Coffee mornings will start again this week, on a trial basis till the end of May, but on THURSDAYS (**not Tuesdays** as previously). Tea, coffee, biscuits and toasted snacks will be available this **THURSDAY, May 12th from 9.30 – 11.30 a.m.** and every following Thursday till the end of May.

ROYAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION ANNOUNCEMENT from the Mission Action Group: We are planning to create a 70-year timeline highlighting events across the Queen's reign. We are particularly keen to collect any personal connections or memories of that period you may have, e.g., personal stories, memorabilia, photographs etc. Please contact Lynne Barker or Kate Cook ***as soon as possible*** to let them know what you may be able to contribute. Precious items and photographs will be safely collected nearer the time.



Click on the link below to help support St. Peter's Quiz. This is also in aid of Christian Aid.

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/stpetersquiz>

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 (out now). Also, if you are a UK Tax payer, please consider Gift Aid, as the Church is able to claim 25% from the Government at no addition cost to you (for example, for every £10 the Church would receive £2.50).

We thank you for your continued support. Contact Margaret Dee (428 3356).

Church Flowers

We have recently resumed our beautiful flower displays in Church each week. 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. We will then deliver those flowers to people after the Service. If you know someone who you feel would be blessed by receiving flowers from Church please speak to **Jonquil** or a steward. We will also need some more volunteers to take flowers out to people.

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.



St James' Show in A Week is back...

We are excited to announce that Show in a Week this year we will be rehearsing & performing **Madagascar JR**. After two years, we are hopefully able to celebrate our tenth year of **Show**

In A Week and look forward to welcoming back returning families and welcoming new families too.

Please share the information and news with any families who you think may be interested in joining us

Dates for this year are Monday 8th to Sunday 14th August with the pre-show workshop and auditions being held on Sunday 26th June.

Please note all children must be able to attend all dates to be involved.

Please email **Amy** for a form or more information. amybates93@aol.co.uk



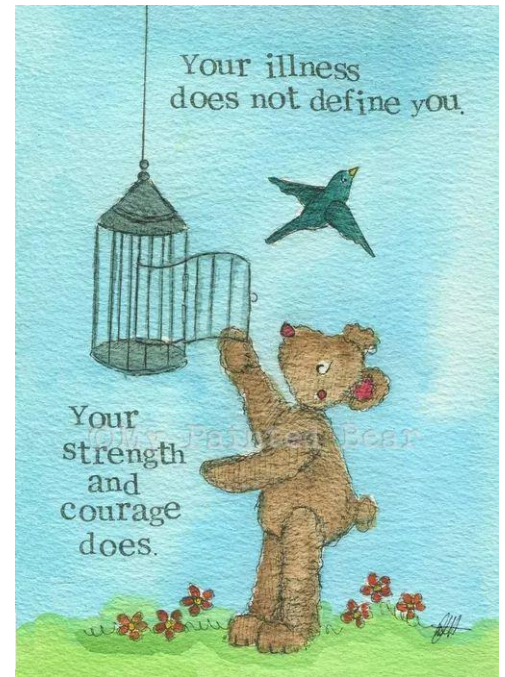
PRAYERS NEEDED

Dear Lord, it is my will to surrender to you everything that I am and everything that I'm striving to be.
I open the deepest recesses of my heart and invite Your Holy Spirit to dwell inside of me.
I offer you my life, heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit.
I surrender to you my past, present, and future problems.
I ask You to take hold over every aspect of my life.
I surrender to You all my hurt, pain, worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety, and I ask You to wash me clean.
I release everything into Your compassionate care.
Please speak to me clearly, Lord.
Open my ears to hear Your voice.
Open my heart to commune with You more deeply.
I want to feel Your loving embrace.
Open the doors that need to be opened and close the doors that need to be closed.
Please set my feet upon the straight and narrow road that leads to everlasting life.

Amen.

Please remember those at St. James who need our prayers this week, we pray for those close to our hearts, for those known to us and for those only you know of. For those due to undergo surgery and for those recovering.

We continue to pray for Ken Kitchen, John and Sylvia Pagan, Ian Taylor, Arthur Evans, Pat Fagan, Pam Draper, Alex and Doreen Banks, Ron Swindells, John Jeffers, Mike Hughes and Helen Stanford and her family.



Worship with us

Praise God through songs, enjoy cake and fellowship

When: Sunday 29 May 2022

Time: 6.30pm start

Venue: Waterloo United Free Church

Crosby Road North Liverpool L22 0LQ

For more details contact Rita on 07838 103310 or synodclerk@urcmerseysynod.org.uk



It will be livestreamed too.

Christian Aid Week – 15th – 21st May



In Zimbabwe, the climate crisis is causing aching hunger for families like Jessica's.

The combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict, and drought have robbed her of the power to provide for her children.

And 7,000 miles away, the war in Ukraine will drive up food prices in Zimbabwe, and around the globe.

Without the fertiliser and food - like wheat and cooking oil - that Ukraine and Russia produce; vulnerable families will be pushed even deeper into hunger. But hope does not disappoint. Hope lives in you.

With every gift, every action, every prayer, we celebrate and share hope with our sisters and brothers facing crisis around the world, from Ukraine to Zimbabwe.



Donate, and help turn hunger into hope.

If you would like to donate to Christian Aid there will be envelopes in Church on 15th and 22nd May.

If you would prefer to give directly, St James' has an e-envelope, just use the following link: <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/st-james?channel=copy>

Thank you for your support, generosity and prayers.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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W	H	I	T	E	W	A	S	H		A	L	P	H	A
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V		L		L		N		E		E		R		E
E	G	Y	P	T		T	H	A	D	D	A	E	U	S

Across: 1 Scripture, 6 Chasm, 9 Deborah, 10 Deliver, 11 Noose, 12 Zealously, 13 Thirty-Two, 15 Ridge, 16 Empty, 18 Strongest, 20 Whitewash, 23 Alpha, 25 Leisure, 26 Sukkoth, 27 Egypt, 28 Thaddaeus.

Down: 1 Sidon, 2 Rabboni, 3 Perfectly, 4 Uphaz, 5 Endeavour, 6 Calno, 7 Advised, 8 Mercy Seat, 13 The Twelve, 14 Testament, 15 Ransacked, 17 Privily, 19 Explore, 21 Exult, 22 Hosea, 24 Ashes.

PROGRAMMES YOU MAY ENJOY – Sunday 8th May

6:00 – 9:30 a.m. Radio Merseyside: Daybreak

Helen Jones brings you the Sunday magazine reflecting Merseyside's worlds of faith.

8.10 a.m. Radio 4: Sunday Worship – Love took my hand

A celebration in music and word of the life and works of the priest and poet George Herbert, from the Chapel of St John's College, Cambridge.

13.20 BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Spring Harvest

Claire McCollum joins thousands of Christians in Minehead for 'Spring Harvest', the annual festival that combines a holiday with worship, music and fun for all ages.

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

