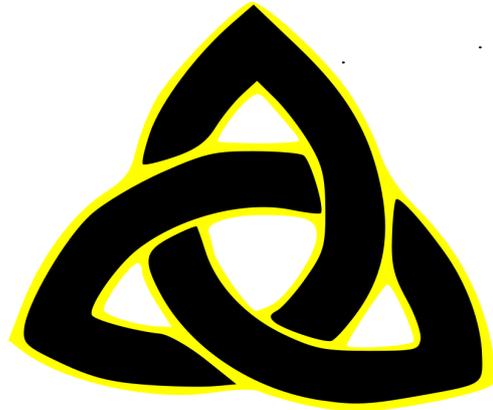


The Highlander

May 2016

Holy Trinity, three in one,
lead us as we journey on.
Send us out, in your great name,
for your glory and your fame.
AMEN.



Sunday Worship in May 2016

1st	9.30	Breakfast Fellowship
	11.00	Holy Communion Service at Wesley Methodist Church - Rev Julia Monaghan
	4.00	Circuit Easter Offering Service at Rayleigh
8th	10.30	Parade Service - Rob Briant
15th	10.30	Morning Worship - Andrew Thomas
22nd	10.30	Morning Worship - Eileen Simmons Trinity Sunday
29th	10.30	Section Service of Holy Communion at Highlands - Rev Peter Moorhouse

“S Club” meets at 10.30 am every Sunday
Sunday Club for Children - Crèche available

No. 814 Vol. LXVIII



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**Highlands Methodist Church
Hospitality in the Midst of our Community**

Minister	Rev. Julia Monaghan	483827
Secretary to Church Council	Patrick Smith	557702
Church Stewards	Lesley/Andrew Hyde	473111
	Jean/Frank Edmonds	525250
	Steve Jones	553898
	Kathy McCullough	714528
Worship Leaders	Jennifer Courtenay	556140
	Frank Edmonds	525250
Church Treasurer	Janet Watson	555702
Property Co-ordinator	Anne Lane	01268 565644
	e-mail: annelane8@btinternet.com	
S Club Leaders	Jean Edmonds	525250
	Ros Bryant	478631
Pastoral Co-ordinator	Maureen Kelly	556152
Church Flowers	Jean Burgess	556278
Lettings/Use of Premises	Les Davis	558381
Mission Enabler for Older Persons	Julie Peek	479804
Website :	www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk	

All items for the June 2016 issue of *The Highlander* should be handed in writing to

Frank Edmonds (or put in the "E" section of the pigeon box in Jubilee Room) latest 10.30 a.m.

Sunday 22nd May 2016. Preferably, items may be emailed to frank66thecroft@sky.com

The *Highlander* will be ready for distribution on Sunday 29th May 2016.



A Message from your Minister

Be Connected to the Power Source



'If the alive and present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bring you alive to himself.' **Romans 8: 10 The Message**

So after the 50 days of celebrating Easter and The Risen Life, here we are again waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. I have to confess that compared to writing about God, the Father and Jesus, the Son, I've always found the person and work of the Holy Spirit much harder to come to grips with and talk about. I know the feel of the Spirit and I see the Spirit at work, but I find it more difficult to talk about. I suppose that's something to do with the mystery of the being herself and the depth and breath of the experience, that makes you end up talking more in metaphor than anything else.

The early biblical writers seemed to find the same thing. They talked of Spirit as life, and drew their pictures from nature. So God's Spirit hovers over the earth and brings forth creation brimming with life. In the same way, she is also understood as wind, invisible and uncontainable, the very breath of life that God breathes into his creation.

Another picture that crops up regularly is that of water, for without water life cannot exist. Ezekiel describes a river that flows from the Temple, where God's presence dwells. The trees that line its bank bear lush fruit and the water brings life and health (Ezekiel 47).

The other symbol of course of this life force is fire. We read that as gold is purified in a furnace so God's Spirit purifies the human heart making it capable of pure love. St John of the Cross, talks about this flame wounding the soul, in its deepest centre, with compassion.

I'm taking a baptism service at Highlands on Sunday, and I have read again this morning of Jesus symbolically receiving the Holy Spirit before he embarked on his public ministry. He allowed something to happen to him. He got connected to the source of life. As I think of my computer coming to life, when it's connected to the mains, so the life that can animate us spiritually is divine. I think of Jesus receiving the first installment, if you like, at his baptism, which enabled him to wrestle and then step out in his mission.

Jesus the person lived for 33 years and embarked on his God given mission for the last 3 years of his life. But the Risen Jesus, holy and anointed one, lives on through his body of believers for all time. The power supply is permanently switched on, as the Holy Spirit coming from the Father through Jesus the Son, continues to work in the church and the world, bringing in the end all creation to new birth, which leads to resurrection life.

Some of my most favourite poetic reading on the Spirit comes from the Book of Wisdom and I offer it to you here so that you might be built in faith.

P.T.O.

All that is hidden, all that is plain, I have come to know, instructed by Wisdom who designed them all

There is in her a spirit that is intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, mobile, clear, unpolluted, distinct, invulnerable, loving the good, keen, irresistible, beneficent, humane, steadfast, sure, free from anxiety, all-powerful, overseeing all, and penetrating through all spirits that are intelligent, pure, and altogether subtle.

For wisdom is more mobile than any motion;

Because of her pureness she pervades and penetrates all things.

For she is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing defiled gains entrance into her.

For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness **Wisdom 7: 21 – 22, 25 -26**

Rev Julia

Annual Church Meeting

At the Annual Church Meeting on 17th April we said goodbye to Ros Bryant as a steward. She was presented with a card and flowers as a big thank you for her long stint as a steward. We hope that Ros has a more restful time although she still works with us as a member of church council.

We are pleased to welcome Kathy McCullough as a Steward and look forward especially to her spiritual contribution to the Stewards team.

FUTURE CHURCH MEETINGS

Family Committee

Property & Finance Committee

Monday 23rd May at 8.00 pm

Church Council

Thursday 9th June at 8.00 pm



Prayer

We pray for our friends who are ill, housebound or bereaved and for those in residential care: Audrey Dobson at *St Martins Care Home*, Joan Field at *Merrie Loots Farm*, Marie Moore at *Archers Court* in Hitchin and Margaret Ross at *Memory House*.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families at this time.

Congratulations

To Rupert and Emily Saville on the birth of Freddie Alexander on 12th April Weighing in at 7lbs 8 oz. A brother for George and a second grandchild for Andrew and Pauline Saville.



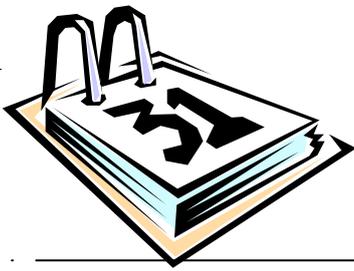
To Ester Barter and Andrew Willims married in Brisbane, Australia on Friday 15th April.

There will be a Blessing Ceremony at Highlands on 7th May.



Flower Rota for May 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donated by</u>	<u>In memory of</u>	<u>Arranged by</u>
1st		Joint Service at Wesley	
8th		Wedding Blessing	Mary & Jean
15th	Mary Barter	Family	Mary Barter
22nd	—	—	—
29th	Joan Ford	Gordon	Hobbies



Dates to Remember

Knit and Natter Social Group

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on Tuesday morning from 10am to noon during term time. Some of us knit, some crochet and some of us just natter. We enjoy each other's company and a cup of coffee/tea and biscuit. You will be made very welcome if you would like to join us.



MOTHs

On Tuesday 3rd May Sylvia Cornwell and Ros Bryant will talk about the work of Action for Children. All are welcome at 2.30 pm.

Fundraising Concerts

Saturday 21st May - *Gaudeamus*

(This will perform some music that they will be singing during their tour to Paris including Notre Dame Cathedral)

Saturday 16th July - *Allegro*

Proceeds to Highlands so we need lots of people in the audience please



Leigh Music Festival

This will take place at Highlands during the periods 9-11 June, 17-19 June, 23-26 June, 1-3 July and the Prize-Winners concert on July 10.

Highlands Hobbies

We meet on 5th May for flowers, card making and various crafts. We follow with a bring and share lunch for those who wish. We will also meet on 19th May from 10 to 12 noon. Why not look in for coffee and a chat and see what we get up to, all are welcome to join our happy group.

(Contact : Jean Edmonds 525250 or Ros Bryant 478631)

ABRSM Exams

The next exam period which will be from 13th June to 16th July working around the Leigh Music Festival dates. Volunteers will once more be required for stewarding. A list will appear soon in the Jubilee Room.

Polling Day Days

On both 5th May - Polling Day and 23rd June - Referendum Day the Lounge and Room 2 will both be in use from 6.15 am to 10.30 pm.

Action for Children

An amount of £214.55 has been sent to Action for Children from the Home collection boxes for this year. Once again, thank you to all the collectors. Also sent is an amount of £53.35 from a recent Coffee Morning. Again many thanks to all helpers and supporters. If anyone would like to hold a collection box for Action for Children, I would be very pleased to let you have one for this very worthwhile cause. Sylvia.

Other Highlands Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 28th May - Plant Sale / Coffee Morning Plus
Saturday 22nd October - Highlands 90th Anniversary
Sunday 23rd October - Highlands 90th Anniversary

Circuit Events

The Circuit website :- " www.southendandleigh.org " contains details of Circuit events, prayers, contacts and the Circuit Plan

Alternative Worship

Belfairs Methodist Church - "Thirsty For ?? " - 2nd Thursday
Next date — 12th May at 7.00 pm

+ + + +

Wesley Methodist Church - Informal Worship - 4th Tuesday
Next date - 24th May at 8.00pm



Coffee Mornings

7th May - Music at Highlands
14th May - Christian Aid
21st May - Craft Group
28th May - Coffee Morning Plus

Highlands 90th Anniversary Celebrations

Over the weekend of 22nd/23rd October we will be celebrating 90 years of Highlands. We hope to have a display of historical events at Highlands & maybe some floral arrangements to portray the decades, together with a guest preacher on the Sunday.

On Saturday we are proposing a display of talent on the stage:-
A Barber Shop Quartet, mini pantomime, sketches, monologues, musical pieces. If you or any of your friends would like to participate please speak with Frank Edmonds who is drawing up the programme.

Fundraising Event

The Coffee and Cards morning at the home of Janet Watson raised £74 for Church Funds. Thank you to all who attended.

If anyone would like to arrange a fundraising event we would love to hear about it.

MOVIES @ HIGHLANDS

Presents

BROOKLYN



**Wednesday 18th May at 1.30pm
Highlands Methodist Church Hall**

An Irish immigrant lands in 1950's Brooklyn where she quickly falls into a romance with a local. When her past catches up with her, however, she must choose between two countries and the lives that exist within.

A FREE event (come from 12 noon with your picnic lunch and enjoy some soup. Tea and coffee also available)

CHRISTIAN RESOURCES EXHIBITION

EXCEL ARENA 17th - 20th May 2016

300 exhibitors; workshops children and youth work; administration; evangelism; web site out reach; worship and theatre programme.

Tickets with early bird savings available on line.

Remembrance Service

*To remember those associated with the
Southend-on-Sea rough sleeping
community who recently died*

Saturday 7 May, 6:30pm

Salvation Army Church Hall

42 Clarence Street, Southend-on-Sea, SS11AN



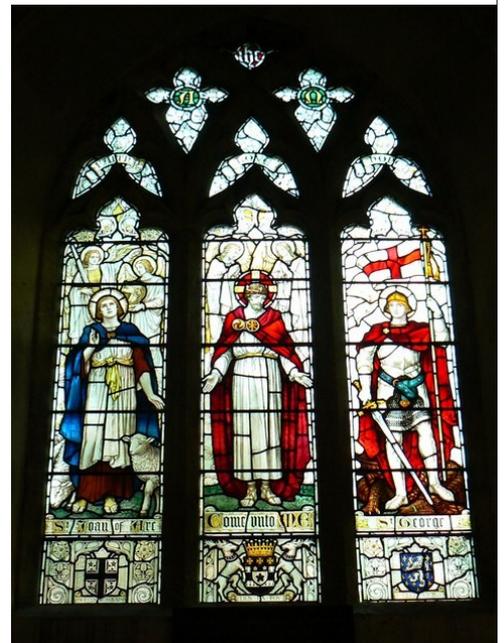
"LET THE LIGHT SHINE IN"

Wesley Methodist Church

Saturday 14th May at 3.00pm

Rev Julia and Sam invite us to view the original cartoon drawing for the *Last Supper* window and learn about stained glass within the Methodist Tradition. This will include a presentation from Alan Brooks who has an interest across the Connexion regarding this art form.

Afternoon tea will be served and donations towards the Wesley building redevelopment will be gratefully received.



Camino de Santiago

Andrew Hyde has arranged a meeting at Wesley Methodist Church on Tuesday 10th May at 7pm in the Vestry for interested parties.

The purpose of the meeting is to :-

- explain the costing. If you go to <https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/holidays-and-tours/camino-de-santiago/> you'll find the same holiday quoted at £1,050-£1,150 inc flights. Barring any sudden disasters, such as a huge hike in airport taxes or fuel costs, our cost will be significantly less.
- talk about the route, weather, dates and other arrangements. If some folk have individual preferences (such as staying on in Santiago a few days) we *might* be able to fix that.
- talk about fitness. If you're finding that at the moment a long walk leaves you a bit stiff the next day, we've got a whole year to work on that.
- explain about how we'll handle the money.
- ask you to make a commitment within the week that follows.

If you have any questions, please do email or telephone 01702 473111.

Andrew Hyde
andrewghyde@aol.com



COFFEE MORNING PLUS

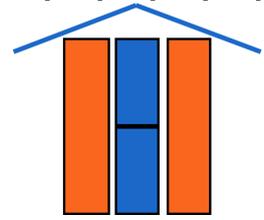
Our Annual Coffee Morning Plus takes place on Saturday 28th May from 10.00 am Thanks to Jackie Williams there will be the usual plant sale. Tea and coffee will be served and cakes will be on sale. Light refreshments will be available from 11.00 am. Hobbies and Crafts will be on sale as well as a book stall and "coins on the wall".

Sounds like an interesting morning ! Make sure the date is still in your diary !



Serving the Homeless

Patrons: The Rt. Revd. Alan Williams, Bishop of Brentwood;
The Rt. Revd. Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford;
The Revd. Anne Brown, Chair of the Methodist Beds, Essex & Herts. District



DIARY OF EVENTS FOR 2016

- 25th May Meal at East, Alexandra Street, at 7.30 pm.
- 23rd June Afternoon tea at the Park View Suite, Chalkwell Park, at 2 pm. Tickets £10 per person.
- July/August Summer Raffle: contact the number below for tickets.
- July/August Holiday activity for the children: follow the clues from the Cliffs Pavilion to the Conservation area. Prizes will be awarded for the correct answers.
- 22nd October Italian meal in the upper hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre.
- 16th December Carols and Poems for Christmas at Our Lady of Lourdes Church followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the parish centre.

For further details please contact
Linda Wall, Secretary on 01702 558217

or Frank Edmonds on 01702 525250

Serving the Homeless

Thank you for the support at the recent Quiz Night when we raised £610. Our next fundraising event is a Meal at the popular EAST Restaurant in Southend on Wednesday 25th May from 7.30pm. Tickets at £15 per head are available now from Frank Edmonds. The needs of the homeless continue throughout the year and your gifts at the back of the church, together with your prayers are always very much appreciated.

Serving the Community 7 Days a Week



Children and Young People

Toddlers Group, Monday	9.30-11.30a.m.	Margaret Wood	557512
		e-mail contact :-	
		highlandstoddlers@hotmail.co.uk	
Rainbows Wednesday	4.00-5.00 p.m.	Karen Packer	474151
Brownies Wednesday:	5.30-7.00 p.m.	Dilys Haddow	710207
Cub Scouts Thursday:	5.45-7.15 p.m.	Dan Raven	07982 840145
Scouts Thursday:	7.30 p.m.	Sally Monk	558857
Rangers Alternate Thursdays	7.30 p.m.	Jacqui Hendle	557147
Guides Friday:	7.00 p.m.	Jacqui Hendle	557147
<i>School Term-Time Only</i>			
Highlands Pre-School Mon - Fri:	9.15 - 12 noon	Clara Mintern	715880

Fellowship Groups

Housegroup meets on Tuesdays.

Services to the Community

Regular Sunday Worship

Midweek Communion :-

1st Wednesday	Wesley Methodist Church at 9.00 am
2nd Wednesday	Belfairs Methodist Church at 9.00 am
4th Wednesday	New Road Methodist Church at 9.15 am

Tuesday Morning Prayer Service at 9.00 a.m.

Coffee mornings: Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Church

Coffee is also available to visitors to the Craft Group on Tuesdays and Hobbies on Thursdays

Traidcraft : Catalogue available for orders. Various items on sale at rear of church.

Social and Recreational

Knit and Natter Group Tuesday	10.00 a.m.-12 noon (<i>Sept.-July</i>)	
Badminton Club Monday	8.00 p.m.	Sarah 01702 476009 or Sophia 07796 265676
Hobbies 1st & 3rd Thursday	10.00 a.m. - 12.00p.m.	Jean 01702 525250
Ladies Badminton Friday	10.00 a.m.	Dilys 01702 710207
MOTHs (<i>Meet on Tuesdays at Highlands</i>)	1st Tuesday 2.30 p.m.	
Adult Art Classes Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.	Susan 07875 079739
Children's Art Club Thursday	4 - 5 p.m.	or 01702 551025
Brush Strokes Art Group Saturday	9.15 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.	Beverley 01277 627043

The Badminton Players meet quarterly for play readings. Contact: David Gare (711013).