



***THE HIGHLANDER***

**September 2017**

**My Peace I leave with You !**

**Sunday Worship in September 2017**

<b>3rd</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Cafe Church - Kathy McCullough</b>
<b>10th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Morning Worship- Rev Brian Gameson</b>
<b>17th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Morning Worship - Pastor Stephen Mayo</b>
<b>24th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Holy Communion - Rev Julia Monaghan</b> <b>Dedication of Pastoral Visitors and</b> <b>Dedication of Youth Workers</b>

**“ Crafty Church ” meets at 10.30 am on Sundays  
For young people - meeting Jesus through art and craft**

**Come in and FaceTime with Jesus**

No. 829 Vol. LXVXIV



*The Highlander* is published by Highlands Methodist Church, Sutherland Blvd, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 3PT. Highlands Methodist Church is a member church of the *Southend and Leigh Circuit*, 34/10, which is part of the Beds., Essex and Herts. District.

## 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
	Donald Mayes	473787
Worship Leaders	Jennifer Courtenay	556140
	Frank Edmonds	525250
Church Treasurer	Janet Watson	555702
Property Co-ordinator	Anne Lane	<b>01268 755291</b>
	e-mail: annelane8@btinternet.com	
Crafty Church Leaders	Jean Edmonds	525250
	Ros Bryant	478631
Pastoral Co-ordinator	Maureen Kelly	556152
Church Flowers	Jean Edmonds	525250
Lettings/Use of Premises	Les Davis	558381
Mission Enabler for Older Persons	Julie Peek	479804
Website :	<a href="http://www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk">www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk</a>	

All items for the **October 2017** 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 17th September 2017**. Preferably, items may be emailed to [frank66thecroft@sky.com](mailto:frank66thecroft@sky.com)  
The *Highlander* will be ready for distribution on **Sunday 24th September 2017**.

## A Message from your Minister

### Harvest Home and Fidget Pie



Harvest celebrations are one of the worlds oldest festivals, predating Christianity and celebrated by the both the Ancient Greeks and the Romans. In Britain the first corn was cut at *Lammas Time*, on the 1<sup>st</sup> August. It was originally a pagan festival, but gradually it developed into a Christian one, something very similar to the Jewish *Shavuot*, the *Festival of the First Fruits*.

The cutting of the last sheaf at the end of the harvest was usually accompanied by the sacrifice of an animal, often a hare. Gradually this was replaced by making a model of the animal, *a corn dolly*, which was hung in the farmhouse until harvest the following year. Farm workers and their families were then given a celebratory meal, the *Harvest Home*, as a thank you for all their hard work.

The first church *Harvest Festival* was introduced by Rev'd Robert Hawker in 1843 in his parish of Morwenstow. He wanted to give thanks to God for providing such plenty, following a hard and difficult winter. After singing songs of praise and gratitude, the harvest loaf, made from the choicest grain, was used as communion bread.

In other places in the country, not so fortunate to have such well-fertilized soil, the bread eaten by the poor was called *maslin*, and was made from a mixture of wheat and rye flour. In colder and wetter places, bread flour was made from

## **A Message from your Minister - continued 1**

barley and oats and if the harvest was poor, weeds were often included in the grain. For those with very little, acorns and beans were were ground down as flour and the bread produced was called *horse bread*.

My grandma, when she was alive, used to be a good pastry chef. She had a light touch and her pies and tarts were “melt in the mouth” good. One of her favourites pies at this time of year, when the apples had been picked, was a harvest *Fidget Pie*, so called because it use to be ‘fidget,’ or five sided in shape. If times were a bit hard, it contained only apples and vegetables, but most of the time it contained gammon or bacon too.

Sadly, my grandma did not pass the cooking gene on to me, but to my daughter Beth. She is a good cook and she tells me that the well-known chefs called *The Hairy Bikers*, do a good Fidget Pie recipe. She says that you put the bacon, apple and onion in layers in a pie dish, seasoning with salt, pepper and nutmeg as you go. Add apple cider and cover with pastry, either short crust or flakey. Make a diagonal cut in the top and fold back the points of pastry. Paint on the glaze of egg mixed with a little water and bake at gas mark 5 (190oC) for 45 minutes. So give it a go, and remember to bring me a slice to church on a Sunday to taste after the service. It will make a good addition to the coffee and I look forward to eating it.

Our liturgy at this time of year of course reminds us that alongside our praise and thanksgiving, we are mindful of the systems of injustice of which we are a part, that result in the unfair distribution of food. Christian worship has never traditionally sought to offer thanksgiving, which omits any mention of human betrayal of the gift. After all, at the heart of Holy Communion, we remember that it was, “*on the night that he was betrayed,*” that Jesus, “*took bread, gave thanks and broke it.*”

So along with the Fidget Pie, I offer you this liturgy from *Brian Wren*, to feed your soul and turn your heart towards the grace of Christ.

**Amen            Rev Julia September 2017**

## **A Message from your Minister - continued 2**

**Litany: What do you bring?**

What do you bring to Christ's table?

**We bring bread,  
made by many people's work  
from an unjust world  
where some have plenty  
and most go hungry.**

At this table, all are fed  
and no one turned away.

**Thanks be to God**

What do you bring to Christ's table?

**We bring wine,  
made by many people's work  
from an unjust world  
where some have leisure  
and most struggle to survive**

At this table, all share the cup  
of pain and celebration  
And no one is denied.

**Thanks be to God**

These gifts shall be for us  
the body and blood of Christ,  
Our witness against hunger,  
our cry against injustice,  
And our hope for a world  
where God is fully known  
And every child is fed.

**Thanks be to God**

Brian Wren, from '*Bread of Tomorrow*', ed. Janet Morley

## **Circuit Welcome Service**

The Service to welcome Rev Stephen Watts, Rev Nana Banyin Thomford, Pastor Stephen Mayo and Mr. Matthew Cook a One Programme Participant, along with their families, as they move into our Circuit will be held at Rayleigh Methodist Church on Tuesday 5th September at 7.30 pm with our District Chair Rev David Chapman presiding.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole Circuit to worship together and extend a warm welcome and fellowship to our new ministers.

## **Rev Julia Monaghan - Sabbatical**

Please note that Rev Julia will be on her Sabbatical from 1st October until 11th November 2017. She will be back in action on Remembrance Sunday. We wish her a fulfilling, relaxing time with an opportunity to recharge her batteries.

In her absence Pastor Steve Mayo will be providing pastoral cover and his contact details are "pastorstevemayo@gmail.com" or telephone 01702 549977

## **The Circuit Invitation Committee**

The Committee has met to begin the Invitation and Stationing Process for appointments commencing September 2018. It's recommendation will go to the Circuit Meeting in September for approval. Further information can be found on the Methodist Church in Britain website under Stationing 2018.

## Prayer

We pray for our friends who are ill, housebound or bereaved and for those in residential care: *Pat Gare in Admirals Court, and Marie Moore at Archers Court in Hitchin*. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families at this time.

## Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Margaret Ross who passed away on Thursday 17th August aged 90. Margaret was a stalwart of Highlands, having led and played the piano in the Beginners Department of the Sunday School for many years and supported many of the weekday groups.

We also extend our sympathy to Rob Land and family on the recent death of his father on 9th August.

## A Message from Anne Lane

Some of you may have heard this already but just to say that by the time you read this I will have retired from being a Ministerial Co-worker (Lay Worker), My last day being 31st August.

It was 2005 when I started the role as a Lay Worker to work with the four Leigh Methodist Churches and here we are 12 years on!

Thank you, to all of you for your support during the years.

But don't worry, I shall still be seen around Highlands dealing with the property. You can't get rid of me that easily! In saying that if you do have any property issues, please note, that the telephone number to call me on from 1st September is 01268 755291. Thank you.

God bless.

*Anne*

*(On behalf of all at Highlands THANK YOU Anne for all you contribute and will continue so to do. Editor)*

# **Dates to Remember**

## **Matthew Bourne's "Cinderella @ Saddler's Wells**

2.30 pm Wednesday 24th January 2018

Rev Julia has 45 tickets at £36 each  
Please sign the sheet at church for a ticket.

Payment by 10th September 2017  
cash or cheques payable to "Highlands Methodist Church"

Please give money to  
Frank Edmonds at Highlands

Thank you Rev Julia

### **Knit and Natter Social Group**

Would you like to come and join us? We are a friendly group who enjoy each other's company. Some of us knit or crochet but we all natter and support and care for each other. Just come along on Tuesday at 10.00am to share a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit. You will be made most welcome. We meet in the Church Lounge.

### **Highlands Hobbies**

We meet from 10.00 am on 7th September in No. 1 Room for various crafts including card making and flower arranging. We also plan to start Christmas Crafts inspired by Marjorie and Pat, who will show us how. We follow with lunch for those who wish to stay. If you would just like to relax with us the latest craze is adult colouring, or just call in for coffee. We also meet on 21st September from 10.00 to 12.00.

All are welcome

Jean 525250 - Ros 478631

## **MOTHs**

We will welcome anyone who wishes to join us at 2.00pm on Tuesday 12th September. This month we will be sharing our Summer memories.

## **Pin Point - the new Venture**

Teresa and Glenis would welcome all ladies interested in needlecraft to join them on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 10.00 to 12.00 in No. 1 Room. They would be happy for you to bring your own work or share their talents such as "quilting". At present they are working on a wall hanging for the Coffee Lounge to depict all the activities associated with our church and would welcome help, especially from members of the organisations that meet at Highlands. Coffee and cake will be available through the morning from the HUB team. September dates are 13th and 27th.

## **Wednesday Coffee Morning at the HUB**

We are waiting to serve you a special coffee at our Wednesday Hub morning from 10,00 to 12.00 on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday Take a break from your busy life, look in for a chat or information about Highlands through the week.

## **Christian Aid**

We have received a receipt for £884.95 also Gift Aid forms totalling £225.41. Grateful thanks were expressed especially to those who did door to door collecting. A wonderful result.

## **Volunteer Required**

I have lost track of how long I have been compiling, editing and printing The Highlander, but at least 15 years I guess.

All good things come to an end and I shall be relinquishing my duties at the end of the year.

All volunteers to take on this worthy task please report to Rev Julia or myself. You will have free range to publish in whatever format and style that you prefer. Thank you for your long-suffering support. *Frank Edmonds - Editor*

### **Other Highlands dates**

Sunday 8th October - Harvest Festival  
Saturday 21st October - Anniversary Concert  
Sunday 22nd October - Church Anniversary  
Saturday 25th November - Christmas Fair

### **Circuit Events**

Further details in the Jubilee Room  
or the Circuit website at  
[www.southendandleigh.org](http://www.southendandleigh.org)

### **Alternative Worship**

Belfairs Methodist Church - "Thirsty For ???" - 2nd Thursday  
Next date — 14th September at 7.00 pm  
+ + + +  
Wesley Methodist Church - Informal Worship - 4th Tuesday  
Next date - 26th September at 8.00 pm  
+ + + +  
The Fishermen's Chapel - Gospel Choir Service - 2nd Sunday  
Next date - 10th September at 7.30 pm

### **Future Committee Meetings:**

Family - 11th September at 8.00 pm  
Property & Finance - **18th September** at 8.00 pm  
Church Council - 19th September at 8.00 pm  
Pastoral - 26th September at 10.00 am

## Monthly Movies @ Highlands

### A HIGHLANDS WEDNESDAY HUB EVENT

Wednesday 27th September **"SAVING MR BANKS"** at 1.30pm

Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson bring to life the untold true story about the origins of one of the most treasured Disney classics of all time. SAVING MR BANKS reveals the surprising back-story behind the making of Mary Poppins.

Determined to fulfil a promise to his daughters, Walt Disney tries for twenty years to obtain the right to author P L Travers beloved book. Armed with his iconic creative vision, Walt pulls out all the stops but the uncompromising Travers won't budge. Only when he reaches into his own complicated childhood does Walt discover the truth about the ghosts that haunt Travers and together they set Mary Poppins free!

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

Regards

**Julie Peek**

Mission Enabler for Older People

Wesley & Highlands Methodist Churches

## Holidaying at Home at Highlands 2017

We had a wonderful time on 16th August with marionettes and puppets, an illustrated talk on the history of Southend, fish and chips, dancing through the decades with the lovely "Lily" Lawrence, Punch and Judy and even ice cream from our own Rossi's freezer. A BIG thank you to Julie Peek for all the arrangements.

## **The Revolving Door – Remarkable Conversations on the Street. "Broccoli and Ketchup"**

It never ceases to surprise what conversations are provoked when we patrol Southend's High Street and Seafront – often through an enquiry of us about why we are out late into the morning offering help. When we explain it is because we are instructed by Jesus to help others through the 'Love thy Neighbour' principle, many are both intrigued and defensive – the latter out of fear that we will condemn or seek to preach. But when we explain we are simply offering assistance, those barriers are often dropped. So this month I thought I would share with you 3 examples of quite remarkable exchanges I have been engaged in:

1. When offering a sleeping bag to a cold rough sleeper, we became drawn into conversation with 21-year-old Robert who wanted to decry faith and belief in God seemingly from his stepmother's apparently extreme experience of Roman Catholicism in Eastern Europe. It seemed impossible to resolve his issues so we had to break the conversation to enable us to move on but, as we parted and in response to an accusatory comment that we must hate all Muslims, his resolve seemed to be broken by our assurance that Jesus's command to 'Love our Neighbours' is a main tenant of our faith. He then softened and wanted to know more. We could not dwell longer so we gave a copy of John's Gospel to him as a way to the truth of Jesus's life and teaching together with an invitation to visit one of the churches nearby where we can rely on him receiving a warm welcome.
2. The same night, we met a Dot and John sitting on a bench with Dot nursing sore feet from her high 'clumpy' platform shoes. As a result of us giving her a pair of flip-flops, she declared that we would all go to heaven as if in reward. When I began to outline how she could be welcomed into Heaven she discounted the idea and related her mother's 'food rule' during childhood that God would not welcome her if she put ketchup on her broccoli. A semi-amusing conversation then ensued in which we were able to convey and explain Jesus's offer of Eternal Life and give them each a copy of a Gospel suggesting that by reading it, they could confirm that neither broccoli nor ketchup are mentioned.

3. Juliet was standing with friends in the smoking enclosure outside one of the clubs who, without explanation but clearly aware of our Christian foundation, asked if we believed that Jesus was really born on 25<sup>th</sup> December. A simple question you might think, but as we probed her reasoning, it came to light that one of her parents is a Jehovah's Witness and she was confused by their disregard for our traditional festive celebration while all her friends want to make it a big party. On another occasion, group of drama students condemned us as Christians because, as one of them had "been deprived of his Christmas" by his Jehovah's Witnesses parents, clearly (from the students' perspective) we do not believe in Christ. Fortunately, I am aware of that as a common misinterpretation of their teaching and whilst we did not seek to defend the Jehovah's Witnesses belief system, we were able in both cases to share our natural wish to celebrate Jesus's birth as part of his life but with a focus more on what his life and death on the Cross means, rather than the commercialised materialism of expensive gifts around a Christmas tree. Again, we were able to give Juliet a copy of John's Gospel with an invitation to read about it for herself, form her own judgements and perhaps seek further understanding as part of a Christian fellowship.

Food for thought?

*Peter Courtenay* – Southend Street Pastor

### **Church Anniversary Saturday 21st October 2017**

We are delighted to invite you to an evening of songs in Elvis Presley style. Michael Glaysher, a local young man who is fast becoming known on the international stage will entertain us with two 40 minute sessions of songs, as a respectful tribute to the King of Rock n Roll.

Refreshments during the interval together with a raffle.  
Prizes to include a book entitled "The Gospel Side of Elvis"  
presented by Michael Glaysher.

Tickets at £12.50 for adults and £6.00 for children under 16  
will be available soon.

## **Coffee Mornings in September**

Saturday 2nd	Music at Highlands
Saturday 9th	Church
Saturday 16th	Missions
Saturday 23rd	Knit and Natter
Saturday 30th	t.b.a.

## **Flower Rota for September 2017**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donated by</u>	<u>In memory of</u>	<u>Arranged by</u>
3rd	Aileen & Alison Ross	Margaret Ross	Margaret Wood
10th	Les Davis	Margaret	Jean Edmonds
17th	Ros Bryant	Parents	Pauline Saville
24th	Teresa Thompson	Auntie Phyllis	Teresa Thompson

### **ODDS and ENDS**

Could anyone spare some time pulling up the weeds round the car park or down the other side of the building (near the service road) - most have been killed by weed killer. Hopefully they just need pulling up. Thank You *Anne*

### **Family Committee**

Highlands is still looking for a someone to chair the Family Committee. There are 3/4 meetings a year where we discuss what is going on at Highlands and hear about the Uniformed Organisations. We also look to plan the Christmas Fayre and the Coffee Morning Plus. Please see me for any additional information on [annelane8@btinternet.com](mailto:annelane8@btinternet.com) or 01268 755291.  
Thank you *Anne*

## **Serving the Homeless / HARP**

Our Summer Raffle draw will take place on 4th September. Good luck to all who have purchased tickets.

Further fund raising events include:-

**Indian Meal** at the *Shagor Restaurant* on 14th September. Tickets available now at £15 from Frank Edmonds

**Jazz Evening** on Saturday 7th October at *Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre*

An evening of **Songs from the Musicals** on Saturday 18th November again at *Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre*

**Christmas Wreath** making on Tuesday 12th December at *Highlands Methodist Church*. Your chance to make a decoration for your own front door.

At **HARP** the White Heather House is now in full swing.

Thank you for your continued prayers and items at the back of the church. There is still an urgent need for smaller sizes of clothing, including underwear, together with trainers, jeans, and toiletries.

Brrrr. Winter will soon be upon us and the Winter Night Shelter will swing into action once again. A report from HARP about last year's effort can be read in the Jubilee Room

### **The Really Big South Essex Sleep Out is back!**

Taking place around 7th October to mark World Homeless Day, families and community groups across South Essex can choose to brave the elements with just a sleeping bag, or get the tent out and camp in the garden with the whole family.

This is a great way for children and adults alike to have a fun evening learning about a local issue whilst raising money for HARP. More details and sign up at [www.essexsleepout.org](http://www.essexsleepout.org)

## **SERVING the COMMUNITY 7 Days a Week**

### **Children and Young People**

Toddlers Group, Monday	9.30-11.30a.m.	Margaret Wood	557512
		email contact :- highlandstoddlers@hotmail.co.uk	
Rainbows Wednesday	4.00-5.00 p.m.	Jacqui Hendle	557147
Brownies Wednesday:	5.30-7.00 p.m.	Dilys Haddow	710207
Cub Scouts Thursday:	5.45-7.15 p.m.	Lesley Hyde	473111
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

### **Fellowship Groups**

Housegroup meets on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

### **Services to the Community**

Regular Sunday Worship

Tuesday Morning Prayer Service at 9.00 a.m.

Midweek Communion :-

2nd Wednesday	Belfairs Methodist Church at 9.00 am
3rd Wednesday	Wesley Methodist Church at 9.00 am

Highlands Hub : Wednesday from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Coffee mornings: Wednesday and 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. Please contact Pamela and Patrick Smith - 557702.

### **Social and Recreational**

Knit and Natter Group	Tuesday	10.00 a.m.-12 noon	Sylvia	01702 556433
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> )	2nd Tuesday	<b>2.00 p.m.</b>		
Adult Art Classes	Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.	Susan	07875 079739
Children's Art Club	Thursday	4 - 5 p.m.	or 01702 551025	