

Belfairs Methodist Church

Where old friends meet and strangers feel at home

Newsletter

Issue 2019

February 2024

Minister:

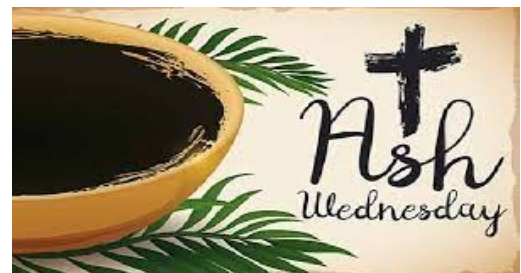
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Shrove Tuesday



Data Protection Privacy

By submitting an article for publication in the Belfairs Newsletter, you are **consenting** to your name being attributed to the article which is made **publicly available** via the Belfairs Methodist Church Website.

If you do **NOT** want your name to be published, please advise the Editor when submitting the article.

Please read our Privacy Policy for further information. This can be found on the church website or on our church noticeboards.

Thought for the month

L is for the life He gave
E is for eternal life in heaven with God His Father
N is for never losing faith
T is for trust that He will come again.

Our mission is to provide an open, welcoming and accepting, living place of Christian worship and service in our community, in which we seek to serve and follow Jesus Christ.

www.belfairsmethodistchurch.org.uk



I've always been one for a good voucher. After all, why pay more for something when you can get it cheaper!

Over the years I've used many different vouchers to save money on different things, from Groupon Vouchers to Tesco Club Card vouchers. But all these vouchers have something in common; they all have terms and conditions!

And with some of them, you just can't seem to win!

- A restaurant voucher; that can only be used on the 6th Sunday in Lent in a leap year!
- Parents go free holiday voucher, as long as both parents are over 100yrs old!
- Children eat free voucher; as long as your child is no taller than 2' 6", but older than 10yrs!

In February we probably think more about love than we do most other months because of Valentine's Day, and we take this opportunity to show our love for our husbands, wives or partners. But how conditional is that love? Is there something that we could do which would stop that person loving us? Probably!

But with God, love is different. His love for us, unlike a voucher or human love, is totally unconditional. Nothing we can do will make God love us any more, and nothing we can do will make God love us any less. Our actions may separate us from God, but not from His love for us.

Scripture tells us of this love. 1 John 3:1 says; *'See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!'* [NIV]
And Romans 5:8; *'But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'*

So, whether you receive a valentine's card or not this year, remember God's amazing love for you; His unconditional love!

Every blessing

Pastor Steve

Email: pastorstevemayo@gmail.com
Tel: 01702 483827

Sunday Services February 2024

4th	11.00 a.m.	Mrs. Sanya Strachan
11th	11.00a.m.	Rev Pete Moorhouse - including Holy Communion
18th	11.00 a.m.	Pastor Steve Mayo - Parade Service - including Girls Brigade Rededication
25th	11.00 a.m.	Local Arrangement - Mr. Phil Gladman

Other February dates for your diary

3rd	Coffee morning at 10.00 a.m. - Girls Brigade, cake stall and bring and buy
8th	Thirsty For?? at 7.00 p.m. - Café style worship - all are welcome.
13th	Shrove Tuesday
14th	Ash Wednesday/Valentines Day
22nd	A.C.T.I.O.N at 2.00 p.m. - All are welcome

Point of Contact

Below is shown details of the Sunday Stewards, Communion Stewards, Musician, Flower Rota and coffee/tea stewards relevant for this month.

Sunday 4th February

Sunday Steward a.m. - Pat Crabb

Musician a.m. - Sue & Mike Spaul

Coffee/tea stewards a.m. Sue Spaul & Ann Kendall

Sunday 11th February

Sunday Steward - Mike Spaul

Musician - Patrick Dromgoole

Communion Stewards - Dawn Howard & Neeltje Charles

Flowers -

Coffee/tea stewards Jan Pope & Jackie Heinrich

Sunday 18th February

Sunday Steward a.m. - Phil Gladman

Musician a.m. - MIDI Box

Coffee/tea stewards Mike Spaul & Phil Gladman

Sunday 25th February

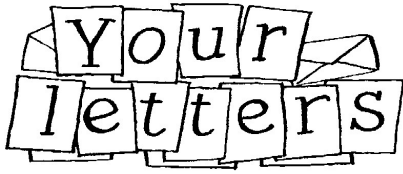
Sunday Steward - Jan ~Andrews

Musician - Patrick Dromgoole

Flowers -

Coffee/tea stewards Sue Spaul & Margaret Bailey

Letters Page/Church family news



Thank you to everyone who supported the mini Christmas Fayre on 2nd December. A whopping £727.25 was raised for church funds. Thank you to everyone who helped set up, ran stalls, donated stuff, baked goodies ran around, waited on people and bought almost everything on the stalls.

*Many Thanks
Tina*

Thank you to everyone who supported the collection for the Southend Children's Centres for Christmas. We raised £400 with Gift Aid and bought 40 £10 Tesco vouchers. This enables the family centre staff to give needy families vouchers and allows them to buy what they need i.e. school uniform, toys for Christmas or birthdays, food etc. The family centre don't just give these vouchers out at Christmas, but throughout the year as new families are referred to them.

We have supported the Southend Family Centres, on and off, since 2016 and have raised a total of over £2,500. This is in addition to toys, food and gifts that we have also collected.

*Many Thanks
Tina*

Thank you for all the text messages, calls and prayers we received following Mums Stroke. She was well cared for in hospital and subsequently the nursing home where she passed away peacefully. We received so many cards at this time, for which we are very grateful, many of them saying what a wonderful person she was. It was lovely to see a lot of people at her thanksgiving service and everyone we spoke to said what a lovely service, just what Mum would have wanted and enjoyed. Thank you to all the team for the the wonderful spread of refreshments after the service

She will be missed by many but not forgotten.

*Love
Sue, Mike Annetta and Steve*



Same sex marriage within the Methodist Church

As a part of our next Church Council meeting (24th February 2024), Belfairs will be taking a vote on whether we are going to allow same sex marriages on our church premises. This may be a contentious issue for some and needs to be surrounded in prayer.

For our congregation who are NOT members of the Church Council, if you have any issues you wish to be shared at the meeting, please talk with your minister, Church Council representatives (they are: Jan Andrews, Neeltje Charles, Dawn Howard and Pat Pace) or in fact any member of Belfairs who is a part of the Church Council. If you feel unable to discuss this comfortably, then please put your thoughts in writing and pass to one of the Church Council members.

When the vote is taken by the Church Council, this will be a 'blind vote', and as Methodist rules state: "only those in attendance are able to vote", we encourage all members of the Belfairs Church Council to make every effort to attend. If the decision is very close, then the Methodist Church has provided us with material to follow which will help us find a way forward and enable us to consider our outcome.

So, we encourage all to give this question serious thought and prayer and please, talk with the Church Council members to ensure that your thoughts are duly known and reflected at the meeting.

Blessings to all

Pastor Steve Mayo.

This is an invitation from Great Waking Methodist Church

(High Street, Great Waking, SS3 0HL)

Please contact Bob or Anne Briant (tel: 01702 297508)
if you would like to attend)



'Brew, Chew, Renew'

10.30am UMC GW

dates for Lent Course

Monday Feb 19th

Monday Feb 26th

Monday Mar 4th

Monday Mar 11th

Monday Mar 18th

Week 1: Judgement	Micah 1:1 - 2:11
Week 2 : ... and promise	Micah 2:12 - 4:5
Week 3: The Lord's plan and the promise of the Messiah	Micah 4:6 - 5:15
Week 4: What does God require of us?	Micah 6
Week 5: Confidence in God's future	Micah 7

*Please join us in the back hall, as we chew over Micah together,
being challenged in our own lives and in our church life.*

*May Holy Spirit guide our times together as we explore opportunities
to "act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God"*

THE DAISY BOWLERS



LIVE
1920s-1950s
MUSIC

The Daisy Bowlers in Concert at

Trinity Methodist Church

Friday 23rd February at 2pm

Tickets £10 including refreshments from

Email: louise@trinityfamilycentre.org or Deacon Sarah: 07368908749

All proceeds are going to the work of Trinity Family Centre, Westcliff

07879232231

WWW.THEDAISYBOWLERS.COM

Stress Diet

Breakfast: Half a grapefruit
 1 slice wholemeal toast
 8oz Milk

Lunch; 4oz lean broiled chicken breast
 1 cup steamed courgetti
 1 Oreo cookie
 Herb tea

Mid-afternoon Snack: Rest of the pack of Oreos
 1 family tub of Rocky Road Ice cream
 1 jar Hot Fudge

Dinner: 2 loaves garlic bread
 Large pepperoni and mushroom pizza
 Large bottle of Pepsi
 2 milky Way bars
 Entire frozen cheesecake eaten directly from the freezer

Ed.



Please remember you are free to put your prayer concerns on the board at the back of the church. If it is not for you, please make sure you have the named persons consent .
Please add your name and date to the request on the reverse of the white cards provided which are by the board. These will be removed after two months, but can be updated if necessary
(please make sure you re-date the update).

If you have any questions or queries, please speak to Sue.



Do for others, not because of what they can do in return,
But because of who you are!

One of the greatest gifts you can give someone is thanking them
for being part of your life.

Do not waste time thinking about what you could have done
differently. Keep your eyes on the road ahead and do it
differently now.

Learn to love without condition,
Talk without bad intention,
Give without any reason,
And most of all,
care for people without any expectation.

Someone said “20 years ago” and my mind went, “ahh yes! The 1980’s” but they
meant 2003, and now I need to lie down!

Whatever you decide to do, make sure it brings a smile to your face
and joy to your heart.

When life is difficult and when everything turns bad,
Always remember that “Even a turtle can finish a race as
long as he **Never gives up**”

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched -
they must be felt with the heart.

Always find a reason to laugh. It may not add years to your life
but will surely add life to your years.

Sometimes what looks like an obstacle in your path is actually a gift
meant to move you in a different direction.

BELFAIRS METHODIST CHURCH Eastwood Road North, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS :

SUNDAY SERVICES 11.00 a.m. (6.30 p.m. as announced)

10 O'clock Club 10.00 a.m. (except 3rd Sunday Parade Service)

MONDAY 6.00 p.m. Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
 6.00 p.m. Boys' Brigade Junior Section
 7.30 p.m. Boys' Brigade Company Section

TUESDAY 8.00 p.m. Badminton Club

WEDNESDAY 10.00 a.m. Parent & Toddlers
 5.30 p.m. Girls' Brigade Explorers & Juniors
 7.00 p.m. Girls' Brigade Seniors & Brigaders

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY 10.00 a.m. 'Open House' Coffee Morning - first Saturday of the month

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Thirsty For?? 7.00 p.m. 2nd Thursday
A.C.T.I.O.N 2.00 p.m. 4th Thursday

March Deadline:

Articles are welcomed at any time, but the deadline for last minute items is **18th February 2023.**

Articles can be e-mailed to sue.spauell@hotmail.co.uk or placed in the newsletter box in the front foyer. Thank you