

**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.

Weekly Notices 4th – 11th February 2024

This Week's Collect:

Loving God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you: help us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may truly serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister's Message

Dear Friends

Lent this year begins on Wednesday 14th February, following very quickly from the end of the Christmas/Epiphany Season on 2nd February.

This is a reminder to us that the life and ministry of Jesus were very short - about a three year period between his Baptism and Crucifixion. Within this period Jesus achieved amazing things: healing and transforming many lives teaching with authority in a way that cut through the twists and turns of the teachers of the law drawing together a group of followers who would change the world leaving us a celebration meal (Communion) that would forever remind us of the meaning of his death and resurrection.

Within the scope of history our lives are very short - even though several of our congregation are already in their 90's and some will reach that landmark this year!
Even the life of our Churches takes place in a short time span within two thousand years of Christian history. Who knows where the Methodist Church and United Reformed Churches will be in 10 years time?

As we think of all that Jesus achieved within three short years we are challenged to make the most of every day, every moment. Charles Wesley shared this though when he wrote:

"I would the precious time redeem,
And longer live for this alone:
To spend, and to be spent, for them
Who have not yet my Saviour known"

Lent is a good opportunity to re assess our priorities in the light of Jesus.

God Bless
Peter

This week's Worship:

Sunday 4th February 10.30am: Rev Stuart Radcliffe **coffee Irene & Pam*

This week's reading:

Luke 5. 1-11

Forthcoming services at St James': (February)

Sunday 11th February 10.30am: Rev Peter Hughes - all Age Worship **coffee Jonquil & Dave*

Sunday 18th February 10.30am: Mr Paul Holt

Sunday 25th February 10.30am: Rev John Lansley - Communion Service

Forthcoming events: (February)

Thursday 8th February 9.30am – 11.30am – Morning Coffee

Saturday 10th February 10.00am – 12.00pm – Farmer's market & coffee morning

Wednesday 14th February – Ash Wednesday

Thursday 15th February 9.30am – 11.30am – Morning Coffee

Wednesday 21st February 7.15pm – Wednesday Fellowship Group – weekly in Lent

Thursday 22nd & 29th February 9.30am – 11.30am – Morning Coffee

Wednesday 28th February 7.15pm – Wednesday Fellowship group - Lent

WORSHIPPING BY PHONE:

IF YOU CANNOT COME TO WORSHIP AT ST JAMES IN PERSON WHY NOT LISTEN IN

The dial in instructions are as follows:

Between 2.20pm for 2.30pm on Sunday:

1. From your normal "landline" telephone: Dial: 0333-016-0300
2. You will then be asked for your Room number:
Enter 86 10 75 55 followed by the # key

Then when asked, enter the PIN: 2544 followed by the # key

You will then be directly entered into the pre-service "worship chat".

Please say your name so people know you have joined.

This Sunday the host is Graham Martin, the speaker is Liz Hudson, prayers: Pam Alexander, reading: Chris Bolton Mark 1:29-39

Everyone is invited to, and very welcome at, this time of worship and fellowship.

Messages from Kieran Bohan

FEBRUARY is LGBT+ History Month, an annual celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans & non-binary history in the UK. The aim is to be an exciting, informative and celebratory month, to educate out prejudice and make LGBT+ people, in all their rich diversity, visible. This year's theme is #UnderTheScope to celebrate LGBT+ peoples' contribution to medicine and healthcare historically and today. **READ MORE:** lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk. The Methodist Church has published a prayer for LGBT+ History Month 2024, by Pam Gold, coordinator for the Methodist LGBT+ Solidarity Circle.

READ MORE:

methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/lgbtplus/lgbtplus-history-month-2024/a-prayer-for-lgbtplus-history-month-2024.

DISCERNING ORDAINED VOCATIONS: Last Sunday the Chair of Liverpool Methodist District told us that this month, THREE candidates from the District are being assessed for training to become Presbyters in the Methodist Church. This is the first time there has been so many applicants in more than ten years. **PLEASE PRAY** for Hayley from the Emmaus Circuit, Sue from North Liverpool and South Sefton Circuit, and Kieran from Liverpool South, a member of St James' Woolton. Hayley and Kieran have a weekend of interviews and assessments this weekend, Sue's are Monday to Wednesday. They will know the outcome on Friday 9th February. Thank you.

Prayers

We keep in our prayers all those who are poorly, their family and friends and those caring for others.

We also pray for everyone in our Church family and those known to us who are in need of our prayers this week.



Church Flowers

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 have a box at the back of church for any donations or small change. All donations are gratefully received. 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.

*You can download all notices **from our website**.
Anything you wish to be included in the weekly notices,
please email by Thursday evening: [**St.James.notices@gmail.com**](mailto:St.James.notices@gmail.com)*