

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

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

**MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes** [peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk)  
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Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

**Weekly Notices 1<sup>st</sup> October – 8<sup>th</sup> October  
2023  
&  
October 2023 Newsletter**

**This Week's Collect:**

Gracious God, you give the water of eternal life through Jesus Christ your Son. May we always turn to you, the spring of life and source of goodness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**This week's Worship:**

**Sunday 1st October 11.00am – Circuit Service – Liverpool Hope  
(NO SERVICE AT ST JAMES')**

**Minister's message**

Dear Friends,

As we begin October our thoughts turn to Harvest thanksgiving as we share in our Harvest Festival on Sunday 8th at St James. I have had the tune of "Harvest Samba" going around my head for the last few weeks as our eldest granddaughter has been practicing for her School Harvest Service in the local Church. It feels positive that our youngest children are reminded - in an age of computers, tablets and games consoles - that the gifts of creation are still the things that we really depend on and that there is so much to be thankful for.

It always strikes me that if you don't believe in God, there is no one to say thank you to. All of us have a need and a duty to say "thank you". The simple but profound words of this children's harvest song have stayed with me:

It's another opportunity,  
to be grateful for the food we eat,  
with a samba celebration to say  
'Thank you' to God the Father.

Thank you for the harvest,  
thank you for your goodness,  
for all of the fruit and vegetables  
and the wonderful things that grow.

I hope you are able to take a moment to thank God for whatever fruits of the harvest you are eating, have just eaten or about to eat as you read this.

God Bless  
Peter

## WORSHIPPING BY PHONE:

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

to the live afternoon telephone worship at 2.30 p.m. which lasts 15-20 minutes. Just dial 0333-006-7775 from your landline telephone between 2.20-2.30pm; then enter the "Pin" number: 08 39 09 01. The system no longer asks for – or announces – peoples' names. It tells the first person to join that they are first, but everyone else now joins silently. So please, when you are connected, please introduce yourself. You will be able to chat to everyone else who joins until the service starts. Worship includes an opening prayer, a Bible reading, the Lord's Prayer said together, a short reflection on the reading, prayers of intercession and a blessing before we share the words of The Grace.

**This Sunday the host is Graham Martin, speaker is Liz Hudson,  
prayers: Kate Cook, reading: Jamie Cook Matthew 21:23-32**

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

### **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.

### **Forthcoming services at St James':**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am** – Harvest - Andrew Gillespie

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am** – Geoff Felton

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 10.30am** – Peter Lyth

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am** – Revd. Peter Hughes – Pastoral Visitors Dedication & Holy Communion

### **Forthcoming events:**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 7.30pm** – Pastoral meeting

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am – 11.30am** – Coffee morning

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm** – Steward/Elders meeting

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm** – Church Council

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am – 11.30am** – Coffee morning

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am – 12 noon** – Farmers market and coffee morning

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm** – Worship consultation (in church)

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 7.45pm** – Wednesday Fellowship Group

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am – 11.30am** – Coffee morning

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am – 11.30am** – Coffee morning

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 7.00pm** – Mission Action Group

**In case of a medical emergency, St James' Church has a defibrillator situated in the church hall.**

## **St James Organ Playing Day Saturday 30th September 10am - 4pm**

A **'last call'** and reminder that our Church organ will be played for a whole day by: Melanie Phillips, Peter Bounds & Peter Hughes. Please pop in during the day to listen and support us as we make music and raise funds (donations requested) for St James Church projects. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Our programme will include: Music written for organ from Bach and his contemporaries to the present day. Music from other sources, e.g., Orchestral and choral works, popular songs. Hymn tunes, well known and less well known, including a 'name that tune' competition! Melodies of stage and screen.

We hope to include something for everyone and look forward to seeing you!

## **Harvest Service Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October.**

We will again be supporting; Action For Children. Centre 56. Women and Children's Aid at two local Refuge Centres and the YMCA centre in Aintree. We would be delighted to receive food items and the following are most acceptable: Cereal and UHT milk. Bottled water. Cordial. Coffee. Tea bags. Sugar. Tinned meals eg.: curry, chilli. Tinned tuna, ham, corned beef, vegetables. Microwave meals. Pot noodles. Noodles, rice and pulses. Cooking sauces. Biscuits. Honey. Jam. Tinned fruit. Gravy granules. Salt and pepper. All the units are constantly being asked for food items and run out on a daily basis. Monetary gifts will also be collected during the service or can be sent/given to our treasurer, Andrew McLaren, before or after the service. These gifts will be converted into food vouchers and given to families who find themselves in desperate need of food day by day, by the centre key workers.

Thank you.

## **Woolton Primary School Visit to St James**

We are hoping to welcome children from Woolton Primary School to St James for an Advent visit on Tuesday 5th December.

For this to happen we need plenty of volunteers who are able to help out in different ways on that day. If you are willing and able to help, please let Rev Peter know as soon as possible so that we can confirm our invitation to the school. Ideally, we need volunteers who are DBS checked and have attended a Safeguarding training course. Welcoming the children to our Church always been an exciting and rewarding experience so if you can help, please sign up!

## **Shoe box appeal**

This year's shoe box appeal that St. James is supporting is called 'Link to Hope'. It supports families and the Elderly in places like Romania, Moldova, Ukraine and Bulgaria.

As we are so close to their closing date for this year (5<sup>th</sup> November), we are only able to give monetary donations and I will buy items online on Amazon and have them sent direct or if you want to do this yourself, nearer the time I will provide the link to give donations or choose your own items to send. For any more details or questions please speak to me.

<https://linktohope.co.uk/>

Thanks, Jayne McLaren



### **Dot Woods**

Dot is recovering well from her recent stay in hospital and enjoying respite care. For details of the nursing home please contact Jayne McLaren

### **Benevolent Fund**

The collection on **24 September** for Little Hearts Matter raised £278.81 plus gift aid. Thank you to all who contributed.

### **Future Benevolent Fund Collections**

We are looking for charities to support with our Benevolent Fund collections for 2024. If you would like to nominate a charity, please let me know. To ensure we can pass the donations on, we will need full contact details for each charity. Many thanks. Pam Alexander.

### **Monday Fellowship**

The Monday Fellowship will meet on **Monday 9th October at 2.30pm**. We will meet at the home of Pam Draper.

All are welcome - especially if you would like to join us for the first time.

### **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.

### **Donations please**

The **YMCA** accommodation unit we support are looking for foot spas to start up a relaxing weekly time when residents can have some pampering!! If anyone has one put away in a cupboard and would like to donate, please ring Wendy on 07867795179. These will be PAT tested on site. Thank you.

The **Whitechapel Centre** are in need of socks for men and women. New packs please. These are the main items constantly asked for and keeping up with demand is not easy!! Please consider picking up a pack when next out shopping and popping in the box at back of church or ring Wendy on the above number, I can collect! Please support their **Socktober Campaign** if you can. Thank you.

### **Grassendale Flower Arranging Society**

You are warmly invited to attend our sessions at 7.30 pm at All Hallows Church Centre, 1 Greenhill Road, Allerton. A floral arrangement is made and then raffled off at the end of the evening. Visitors £7.00

**Thursday 12th October 'Pot Luck'**

### **A Request to anyone with a Garden:**

Do you have spare plants, cuttings or seedlings to help fill up a new open space in the church garden? **NB: this is not (necessarily) a request for your time or money!!**

You may have noticed that the trees in the church garden by the rear gate have been trimmed over the Summer, and the large Leylandii by the vestry door have been removed completely. This whole area is so much lighter now, but it also means that there is quite a lot of bare, empty space. Obviously, it will take time to establish the new areas, but the aim is to create low maintenance herbaceous borders. As we approach the end of summer (such as it has been) you may be sorting out your own gardens and have spare plants, cuttings or seedlings that you could contribute to a new Church Family Garden. Please let me know as soon as you can – or through the rest of the autumn - what you might have available, so I can begin to plan what might go where. Love and thanks, Margaret Dee (Tel 0151 428 3356)

### **OCTOBER is Black History Month**

Black History Month is a time of celebration, recognition and sombre reflection. Black people from African and Caribbean communities have been an integral part of British history and society for hundreds of years. Despite racism and unfairness, black people continue to break barriers and use creativity and innovation to influence lives today. This year's theme, 'Saluting our Sisters', pays homage to black women who had contributions ignored, ideas appropriated, and voices silenced. READ MORE: [blackhistorymonth.org.uk](http://blackhistorymonth.org.uk)

We give thanks for Revd Sonia Hicks, the first Black woman to be President of the Methodist Church in 2021, and Revd Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson, the current Moderator of the United Reformed Church, the first Black woman to be elected to this office.

A prayer for Black History Month 2023: [www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/racial-justice/black-history-month-2023/a-prayer-for-the-start-of-black-history-month-2023/](http://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/racial-justice/black-history-month-2023/a-prayer-for-the-start-of-black-history-month-2023/)

### **LAST CALL FOR RADICAL WELCOME COURSE!**

Radical Welcome is a programme from the educational charity Inclusive Church aimed at helping churches begin to look at what it might mean to go beyond being inclusive - to be radically welcoming.

We are running the course for members of St. James's congregation on two mornings in October:

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October & Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30 – 1 pm @ St James's.**

You're more than welcome to join us! Refreshments (including bacon/veggie sausage butties!) will be provided.

If you are interested, please email [stjameswoolton@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswoolton@gmail.com) giving your name, and anyone else coming with you. Please include any dietary requirements.

Thank you. We hope to see you there.

### **Notices next week:**

*You can download all weekly notices and newsletters [from our website](#).*

*Anything you wish to be included in the weekly notices, or the monthly newsletter, please email by Thursday evening:*

**[St.James.notices@gmail.com](mailto:St.James.notices@gmail.com)**