

**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 1st October – 8th October 2023

This Week's Collect:

Blessed are you, O Lord, and blessed are those who observe and keep your law. Help us to seek you with our whole heart, to delight in your commandments and to walk in the glorious liberty given us by your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we make our prayer. Amen.

This week's Worship:

Sunday 8th October 10.30am – Harvest - Andrew Gillespie (*Coffee Wendy Doig, Glenys Evans (in the Hall)*)

This week's readings:

Matthew 13: 1-9
Deuteronomy 26: 1-4 and 12

Forthcoming services at St James':

Sunday 15th October 10.30am – Geoff Felton
Sunday 22nd October 10.30am – Peter Lyth

Forthcoming events:

Monday 9th October 7.30pm – Steward/Elders meeting
Tuesday 10th October 7.30pm – Church Council
Thursday 12th October 9.30am – 11.30am – Coffee morning
Saturday 14th October 10.00am – 12 noon – Farmers market and coffee morning
Tuesday 17th October 7.30pm – Worship consultation (in church)
Wednesday 18th October 7.45pm – Wednesday Fellowship Group

WORSHIPPING BY PHONE:

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

The New 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 Pam Bellis, speaker is Steve Elliott,
prayers: Irene Elliott, reading: Norma Hanna**

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.

Harvest Service Sunday 8th 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.

St James Organ Playing Day Saturday 30th September:

A big 'thank you' to everyone involved in last Saturday's organ playing day. Either by being involved in the arrangements for making it possible, or by supporting it in any way at all, including, of course, coming along to listen.

Everyone attending seemed to enjoy a happy day. Musical items from Bach to the Wallace and Gromit theme tune were played, and just about everything in between!

Funds raised to date are £645.

For those who had an attempt at the 'Name the Hymn Tune' competition -these were the answers:

1. **'Behold the Servant of the Lord'**. Tune - Mozart - from Mozart's opera 'The Magic Flute' - A Charles Wesley hymn - no. 546 in Singing the Faith
2. **'Jerusalem the Golden'** Tune - Ewing - In older Methodist hymn books, and also Rejoice and Sing at no. 662 - though with some differences in the verses
3. **'All things praise thee, Lord most high'** - Tune - Te Laudant Omnia - In older Methodist Hymn books, no. 331 in Hymns and Psalms
4. **'Love's redeeming work is done'** - Tune Savannah - another Charles Wesley Easter hymn, from John Wesley's Foundery Collection. Not in Methodist hymn books for a while at least, or Rejoice and Sing, (although the tune can be found) but in hymn books of the Church of England
5. **'Sweet is the work my God, my King'** - Tune Deep Harmony - An Isaac Watts hymn based on psalm 92 - no. 90 in Singing the Faith
6. **'The Lord's my shepherd'** .Tune Brother James's Air - Psalm 23 - this tune was known by quite a number of people, though not in Methodist hymn books or Rejoice and Sing

The winner was Geraldine Bounds, with strictly no 'insider' information!

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 (5th 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

World Mental Health Day - 10th October.

The theme for 2023, set by the World Foundation of Mental Health, is 'Mental health is a universal human right'. World Mental Health Day is about raising awareness of mental health and driving positive change for everyone's mental health. It's also a chance to talk about mental health, how we need to look after it, and how important it is to get help if you are struggling. READ MORE: who.int/campaigns/world-mental-health-day

A Prayer for World Mental Health Day 2023

On World Mental Health Day, God grant
to those walking in darkness a light for their path.
To those riven with grief comfort.
To those damaged in relationships a healing love.
To those overwhelmed with busyness a quietened mind.
To those wracked with guilt an assurance of acceptance and peace.
To those anxious of the unknown a calmed spirit.
To those perplexed with a chaotic world a confidence in the future.
And to those thinking, 'I'm not worth it' - hope.

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.

Christmas Fair

Saturday 18th November. 10.00 until 1.00.

I hope this date is in your diaries!!!!

This day always creeps up on me very quickly once September is over and in no time at all we will be preparing the hall and looking forward to a visit from Santa.

Any help and support anyone can give will be very welcome. Cake and jam makers please consider helping us. Can I ask that absolutely no nuts are used. A list of ingredients would be most helpful. Thank you. We would like toiletries and gift items. Plants. Boxed gifts you may not have used but are lurking in your cupboards!! Please contact me on 07867795179 if you can help in any way. Wendy Doig.

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!

Help the Homeless

My son Drew is going to do an overnight sleep out to fundraise for local projects to help the homeless, please keep him in your prayers. I have added his comments about it below and if you would like to sponsor him, the details are below too.

<https://justgiving.com/page/drewbellis> I've nearly fallen asleep at Goodison Park numerous times, but on this occasion, I'm dropping off for a good cause. I'm going to spend a night under the stars in the Park End to partially experience what it's like for homeless folks living out in the elements. I'm raising money for Everton In The Community and its Home Is Where The Heart Is programme which offers young adults who are vulnerable to homelessness a roof over their heads. The money I raise will go towards providing them with access to health and wellbeing support, assistance with education and opportunities for training and employment.

Gwed, stick your hand in your pocket if you can. UTT ❤️

Thank you,
Pam Bellis

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

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/

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