

WINDOW ON WESLEY'S



DECEMBER 2018/
JANUARY 2019

STAFF

Minister: The Revd Canon Dr H Jennifer Smith BA PhD M.Phil
(Superintendent)

Associate Ministers: The Revd John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)
The Revd Brian Goss MA (Supernumerary)
The Revd Dr John Lampard BA M.Th
(Supernumerary)
The Revd Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)
The Revd Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

Authorised Presbyter: The Revd Dr Keith Riglin MA MTh ThD

Leysian Missioner: Mrs Judith Bell MA (Cantab)

Community Worker: Ms Sally Rush BA MA MLitt

Museum: Mr Christian Dettlaff MA (Curator)
Miss Gemma Smith (Learning & Community
Engagement Officer)

Administration: Mrs Ling Arzeian
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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the December edition of Window on Wesley's! We are again in Advent, these Sundays of repentance and preparation for Jesus' coming among us. Hang on to the waiting, do not rush too quickly towards Christmas: and do not rush too quickly past it.

Amidst so many large public questions about the departure of the United Kingdom from Europe, the nature of our common good, and our role in making this city a more humane and peaceful place, the Advent messages still resonate. 'A shoot shall come from the root of Jesse,' and 'the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.' Every year I hope for a different beginning for our God on earth. Every year I hope that this might be the year the wise men arrive early and find the family a room, when Herod decides not to slaughter the children, when the family does not have to flee to Egypt. Every year God remains resolutely resistant to leaving the marginalised, the poor, the forgotten for the easier life of people with health care and bank accounts.

God's faithfulness to the poorest remains the great witness to which we respond. It will not be enough to give a little more or do a little bit extra in a season of goodwill, God asks for our whole lives. But lest we feel this an impossible burden, God also blesses our whole lives – God restructures society and us in it, and ever so slowly, inexorably, we find we gravitate by a series of the smallest choices to the place where God is. This is the meaning of joy – a hard journey, undertaken step by step, arriving in the presence of absolutely exposed grace. God is vulnerable, and so are we.

We have had long awaited news of the stationing of a second minister for September 2019, and are delighted to be matched to the Revd Steven Cooper, married to Ruth and father of 2 year old Seraphina. Steven is a student of Methodist sacramental worship and the Wesleyan tradition, pastoral care, and strong experience

of the global Methodist community. He has led groups of teenagers to 3Generate, the Methodist Youth Conference (November 2018 saw over 1700 gather for a weekend on the theme: 'Be Courageous') and to the Taize community in France. We will pray for Steven, as he marks these next months with preparation and goodbyes in his present circuit in North Hertfordshire.

We are also pleased to announce that Beatrice Omane will be joining the staff team on December 10th as our new part-time administration assistant in the Chapel office. We look forward to welcoming her on board.

Stay warm, stay in touch with each other, stay in touch with this fellowship – and God bless us all as we move towards Christmas.

Every blessing, Jen

All Age worship for Christmas

Join us at 11.00am on Sunday 23rd December for an all age worship service which looks forward to Christmas.

After the service, in addition to the refreshments which are open to all, there will be an opportunity for children to share in a short time of fellowship together.



Faith Development Programme November: Diabetes Screening and Awareness

On the third Sunday of each month, we have introduced a 'Faith Development' programme after church: on November 18 we welcomed representatives from the Ghana Nurses Association to lead us. Over 35 people packed into the Kwanglim room for finger prick blood sugar tests, weight and girth measurement, and received advice. Too often, people trying to manage diabetes can be unsupported by community, and this was a chance to learn together and commit to healthy choices for nutrition, exercise, and lifestyle. And in the UK, people from black and ethnic minority populations are disproportionately at risk of developing Diabetes. This is not right! It is a part of our discipleship to care for our own health, and that of others, whether that is about individual choices or advocacy against food poverty. This is deeply Methodist, in the spirit of the early Wesleyans with their attention to health, 'physick,' and medical care. Thank you to all and we will have them back for screenings again.

Next Month, Faith Development after church on 23 December: Keith Riglin leads a light hearted, meaty session on seasonal topics. Laughter, and learning.

Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission, General Church **Meeting notes**

Sunday 21 October 2018

1. Opening Devotions

Led by JS

2. Membership of the meeting & apologies (numbers to be recorded)

About 45 people present at the beginning – rising to 70+ attendance book shows 61 in attendance, 6 non members and 55 members.

Apologies for absence – Brian and Zena Goss, Richard Morley, Lorraine Davies (giving tour), Ebenezer Jojo Annan, Ruby Annan, Peter Forward,

3. Minutes of the previous meeting (published in WoW October)

Accepted – no minute taker so Keith Riglin agreed to make notes, the meeting thanks Keith.

Josh Snape and Jojo Bautista proposed acceptance of minutes

4. Trustee membership: succession planning and nomination/elections

*to fulfil SO 511viii the Chair may call a Board of Trustees meeting to accomplish one election within the work of the General Church Meeting. This meeting has been notified correctly, should it be necessary.

Trustees elected annually, and can serve for up to 6 years. JS introduced those proposed (some returning, some new) as trustees and the committees upon which they will serve, if elected.

Proposed by the chair, seconded by Jojo Bautista – elected unopposed

Stephen Ludlow (elected by Board of Trustees, in the context of General Church Meeting to fulfil SO 511viii) introduced by JS – member of the Putney Circuit, fitting rep for Old Leysians. Nominated by JS seconded by Cheryl Gurnham.

5. Sanctuary Church: “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” Matthew 25.35

A response to the London District ‘Moving Stories’ initiative – a positive look at Migration. And simply getting to know one another a bit better.

Where were we born? Within 1 mile, 10 miles, 300 miles, further?

John 1.14: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth...

The word translated 'dwell' is rooted in the noun translated as 'tent', the dwelling of God on earth as described in scripture. Literally, God pitched a tent among us to live with us.

How did you come to London, and how did you come to 'pitch your tent' here?

Jen introduced this theme, flowing from the recent London District conference on Moving Stories. Maps showing cluster of and location of members of the Chapel.

Discussion followed, where members shared their experiences of coming to London from many parts of the world, or come because of times of transition (marriage, divorce, etc).

Being a sanctuary church means being willing to accept others, to open the tent flap.

What does it mean to you, to give sanctuary (tent space) to God at Wesley's Chapel?

What one word answers the question for you, 'Why is Wesley's Chapel here?' These to be collected and added to others for the annual report...

Discussed in couples. Collected the one word afterwards and to be published later in magazine.

6. Brief Report of God's Work & Mission

1. Invitations Committee

Cheryl introduced members of the committee and spoke to the desire of the chapel for a second minister – 460 members

ii. Property

Cheryl spoke of the changes in the chapel keeper's house, new offices, and the flats as part of the residential community here. Also spoke of purchasing or renting a second manse for any second minister. Also spoke of the Health & Safety Working Group – a training programme will be rolled out throughout the church in the months that follow..

iii. Mission

Meeting next week, and will be electing a convenor. Considering joining the London Citizens group. Also how to address the matter of knife crime in the city. Also responsible for GDPR – Jen spoke of the inconvenience registering as individuals has caused, but reminded the meeting that data cannot legally be published (including in the chapel directory) without consent.

Sally Rush spoke of Thursday 29 Nov gathering for London Citizen at Southwark Cathedral – offered sign-up sheet

iv. Finance – first report and plan for 'roadshows' to increase awareness of budget

Jen presented the Finance report and introduced further by Rachelle Tilley and Kofi Agolegbe. Answered questions from membership – KR asked for more detail re staff costs. Importance of Gift Aid for UK tax payer. Noted the generosity of membership, and that this was year 2 of having a budget for the Chapel and Leysian Mission, as part of 5 year plan. Noted finance trustees wanting to offer road shows to different parts of Chapel

life to explain and publicise budget. Noted the hope for congregational giving to rise as more is known in congregation of expenditure, and hope for a 13% rise.

7. Any Other Business

Sally Rush reminded of young adults lunch

Jen reminded folk to let her know of pastoral issues.

Choir to be relaunched soon – Sat 10 Nov is first rehearsal at 5pm

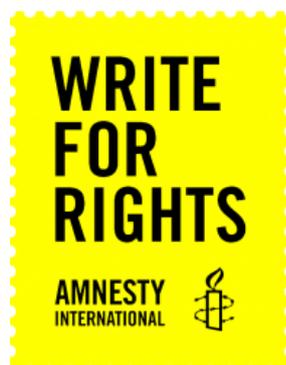
Further questions about support of university students – JS noted that the scheme by which university students had received some grant support had wrapped up, as the Leys Scholars programme has changed shape.

8. Date of next meeting – 2 June 2019

9. Closed with the grace

WRITE FOR RIGHTS 2018

I wonder if like me, you feel there's little you can do to alter the depressing news we see and hear day by day? Well here's one possibility proposed by the organisation Amnesty International.



Amnesty International is a movement for ordinary people from across the world standing up for humanity and human rights. Its purpose is to protect individuals wherever justice, fairness, freedom and truth are denied. Just this year Taner Kilic, the honorary chair of Amnesty's Turkish organisation, was released (after 432 days in jail) because of the efforts of over a million Amnesty members.

It only takes a few minutes to write a card or letter, but those minutes can make all the difference to someone whose rights are being abused. We simply need to express solidarity with the person concerned and make an appeal to the authorities to stop the abuse – a message from us could change someone's life.

All the information you need can be downloaded at:
www.amnesty.org.uk/wrtie or you can phone 01788 545553.

Thank you.

Zena Goss - member

Advent greetings of hope and promise

Are you somebody who has recently left school, college or university and is looking for work or to change career? Perhaps you know somebody in that category? Or perhaps you are a slightly older person in that position? Alternatively, it might be you know somebody who's looking to find work and thrive in it. Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission is putting on an event which you might find useful on February 9th 2019 and it would be great if you could start spreading the word. Our speakers will include industry experts, employment and training specialists, entrepreneurs and equality specialists from the church and beyond.

**Employing Mind, Body and Spirit:
A one-day conference taking a holistic approach to finding
work and thriving in it.**

Date: 9/2/19

Time 10am – 5pm

Venue: Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, 49 City Road,
London EC1Y 1AU

A conference to support those preparing for work or thinking about changing career to take a holistic approach to looking for work and entering the job market

The outline of the day is going to be as follows:

Key note talks:

- Why your whole self matters in searching for and finding employment
- Thriving personally and professionally – the importance of wellbeing

Panel discussions:

- **Who do you hire?** - A chaired panel discussion where various employers and HR staff talk through how they decide who to hire and what they are and aren't looking for?
- **Boundaries and branding:** why policies, ethics and professional behaviour matter for employers and employees - A chaired panel discussion where people talk about why policies, ethics and professional behaviour are important for organizations, those who work in them and their customers

Workshops: Choose from the Mind, Body or Spirit stream:

Mind:

- Initial training and continuing development - How to find out what is on offer and make good choices, looking at how we choose between apparently equally good opportunities and pathways
- Entrepreneurship - If you have an idea or dream about starting a business or charity how do you go about this, what are they key do's and don'ts.

Body:

- Personal presentation - How to present yourself in terms of communication (in applications and at interviews) dress, body language, speech (at interviews and when you start in a company)
- Core and professional skills - how you've gained them and how to talk about them – Looking at the STAR method and how you find evidence

Spirit:

- What are your values and why they matter to employers - What are your core beliefs and how do they match what employers are looking for - How do you evidence these beliefs
- Identity and the power of professional networks - Why being yourself is important and how to use networks to improve your career and change cultures so that service improves for customers, company and minority groups

An Eventbrite booking form will be available in the next few weeks but start spreading the word now. This is an exciting event which will be open to people aged 16+.

This is part of the wider programme of employability and learning that Wesley's is engaged in and which is an important part of my work as community worker with young adults outside of the church as well as within it.

If you'd like to know more or think you can help with this event in any way, including publicising the event and prayer support in the run up or want to know more please do chat or email me on cw@wesley'schapel.org.uk

Thanks

Sally Rush – Community Worker (Younger Adults)

The Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Community has a room available, and is looking for a new person to join the community.



The cost of the room available is £650 per month and as part of the community we will also require people to volunteer time and commit to coming to our monthly gathering. To find out more details and request an

application form please contact the office at Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission (tel: 020 7253 2262) or email Sally Rush our Community Worker (cw@wesleyschapel.org.uk)

The closing date for applications will be Thursday 20th December with interviews to take place in early January.

What can you do for Whitechapel Mission this Winter?

On 22nd November, a group from Wesley's Chapel went to



Whitechapel Mission to sort clothing donations. The basement storage facilities at Whitechapel Mission are well-ordered so that clothing can be easily found for guests to the Mission who use the shower facilities. In the basement you can also see all the harvest donations, stacked high, ready to

be cooked by the breakfast volunteers.

There are a number of ways you can help Whitechapel Mission this winter:

- Sign up for the next clothing challenge (8:45am-12 noon on 14 February 2019) – speak to Cheryl for more details
- Sign up for the breakfast challenge (5:45am-11am on 1 March 2019) – speak to Cheryl Gurnham for more details
- Collect donations by way of a reverse advent calendar during the week days in Advent and bring your donations into chapel on the Sunday. Donations as follows:
 - Monday 3rd December – baked beans
 - Tuesday 4th December - biscuits
 - Wednesday 5th December - honey



- Thursday 6th December - sugar
- Friday 7th December - coffee
- Monday 10th December - tea
- Tuesday 11th December – instant hot chocolate
- Wednesday 12th December – men’s socks
- Thursday 13th December - toothbrushes
- Friday 14th December - toothpaste
- Monday 17th December - blankets
- Tuesday 18th December - hats
- Wednesday 19th December - scarves
- Thursday 20th December - razors
- Friday 21st December – gloves

Please place the donations in ***a box in the Radnor Room***

If you want to know any more about the work of Whitechapel Mission or you are interested in the above, please speak to Cheryl Gurnham our Senior Circuit Steward.





John Wesley
The Museum of Methodism
& John Wesley's House

An Enchanted Christmas

Wednesday 12 December, 11-3



Step back in time and see the House being prepared for a Georgian Christmas. Meet Mr Wesley and enjoy traditional festive treats and family activities.

Free Entry



49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU

www.wesleysheritage.org.uk

SERENDIPITY TWENTY-EIGHT

Other Questions? Part Two: The Chapel Font

More about the Baptismal Font:

In the first part of this article it was explained that the unusual appearance of the baptismal font in Wesley's Chapel tends to make it an object of interest to visitors and to tempt them to ask questions. In order to satisfy their curiosity, it is necessary to explain why the font has its several components, and to provide the details of their origin. This concluding part of the article will seek to provide the story behind what appears to be perhaps the oddest feature of the font.

It will be observed that the "ancient" basin is blocked by a square shaped, slab composed of what appears to be a different type of stone to those used for the other parts of the font. Indeed, this is the case, for the slab comes from across the Atlantic and specifically, from Antigua; a small island in the Caribbean Sea. Once famous for being the site of English Harbour, the base for Admiral Nelson's fleet, Antigua was where in the 18th Century sugar cane was grown on plantations worked by black African slaves.

In the 1750's, one of these plantations, was owned by Nathaniel Gilbert, a descendent of the Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who was an eminent navigator and explorer like his more famous half-brother Sir Walter Raleigh. Nathaniel, was neither of these things, but besides being a plantation owner he was a lawyer, and as a politician held for some years the office of Speaker of the Antiguan House of Assembly. He enters our story because in 1756, while he was lying in bed, recovering from a brief illness, his daughter Mary, by chance it is said, brought him to read a religious tract written by John Wesley. This, John's famous work, "An Appeal to Men of Reason and Religion", (his passionate denunciation of slavery and its practice), had come into Nathaniel's library by way of his brother Francis, who while in England, whence he had fled to escape his creditors, had there

been influenced by the work of the Wesley brothers and become a Methodist. It is understood that Nathaniel, who most likely, had been expecting his daughter to bring him, lighter, somewhat less contentious reading matter, at first, only reluctantly glanced over the publication, but then became so engrossed by Wesley's words, that he vowed he too would hear Wesley preach.

In 1757, Nathaniel again became ill and this time he came to England for treatment bringing with him three of the 'house slaves' from his estate. Arriving in London, to stay with his brother Francis, at the latter's house in Wandsworth, Gilbert lost no time in arranging to meet John Wesley and under his preaching became converted to the evangelical Christianity which changed him and revolutionized his life. The following entries in Wesley's Journal records two of the meetings between Nathaniel and John:

"Tuesday 17th January 1758: I preached at Wandsworth. A gentleman, come from America, has again opened a door in this dissolute place.

In the morning I preached in Mr. Gilbert's house. Two Negro servants and a mulatto appear to be much awakened. Shall not His saving health be made known to all nations?"

"Wednesday 29th November 1758: I rode to Wandsworth and baptized two Negroes belonging to Mr. Gilbert, a gentleman lately come from Antigua. One of these is deeply convinced of sin, the other rejoices in God her Savior, and is the first African Christian I have known. But shall not our Lord in due time have these heathens also 'for His inheritance'."

Nathaniel returned to Antigua in 1759, where he first shared his new found joy with his wife and friends, then started to do something which amazed his fellow plantation owners and might even have been almost illegal at that time. He started to preach to his slaves the message of salvation that he had heard from John Wesley. Unable to liberate them, (British Law reigned throughout

its Caribbean colonies), he treated them as if they were in fact free and preached to them every Sunday.

By 1760, (as the Antiguan Methodist Church website says), the great work had begun. The stone steps descending to the courtyard of Gilbert's plantation house had become Methodism's first pulpit in the Caribbean, for it was from there that Nathaniel preached regularly to his workers, (by then regarded by him as only slaves in law), who gathered in the courtyard to hear the word of God.

Despite the criticism of his white colleagues, Gilbert, ably supported by women such as his wife, his children's governess Mary Ledbetter together with, Bessie, Sophia Campbell and Mary Alley, (the two black women and a women of mixed race, who along with Nathaniel, had been converted by John Wesley), continued the evangelistic work both to the workers on Nathaniel's own estate and those on the neighbouring properties; 1766 is believed to be the year that the first Methodist society was formed on Antigua.

Nathaniel later relinquished his post as Speaker of the House of Assembly in order to be able to devote more time to the evangelism which he continued until his death in 1774, leaving behind 200 Methodists on Antigua. Before then his brother Francis had returned to the island to help with, and then continue, the work assisted by Mary Ledbetter, (who he married in 1767), along with Bessie, Sophie and Mary. The latter three then remained in charge of the care and spiritual welfare of the flock and kept the work going when ill health forced the return of Francis and his wife to England. It is interesting to note, that on their arrival, Francis and Mary Gilbert joined one of the Methodist Societies formed by the Rev John Fletcher, the Vicar of Madeley, from where the basin of the baptismal font originated. This being fitting, since it brings us nicely back to the subject of the slab of stone that now fills the interior of the basin.

The survival of Methodism on Antigua owed much to the faithful witness of Mary, Sophia and Bessie augmented by the help of Francis's wife when she returned to Antigua after he died, but their work became supplemented by what can only be described as God's providence. This included the fortuitous arrival in 1778, of John Baxter a British Methodist local preacher who came to work at English Harbour as a shipwright, and in 1786, the accidental landing of the Rev Thomas Coke and three other missionaries who were blown off course while sailing to Nova Scotia.

As the years passed, and with the arrival of more missionaries, Methodism continued to grow and to spread throughout the island. It was probably because of this, that with slavery's abolition in 1834, the transition to emancipation was so peaceful in Antigua where it was one of the first places in the Caribbean to give full freedom to its slaves.

In the 20th Century, the Methodist Missionary Society purchased the house from Gilbert's plantation and presented it to the Methodists of Antigua who in turn gave the Missionary Society two of the granite slabs from the front doorstep. One of these, from Methodism's first pulpit in the Caribbean, ended up in Wesley's Chapel where suitably modified, it now both fills the basin of the baptismal font and holds the water every time baptism takes place. It can be seen that the top face of the slab still bears evidence of its former function in the line of fading white paint which once acted as an edge warning, while its current use is served by the circular depression carved into its surface.

When the stone basin was first used for infant baptism it had to be large in order to accommodate sufficient water to permit infants to be baptized by the normal practice of total immersion, or dipping. In modern times, baptism by being sprinkled with water is usual, hence, the small volume the hollow in slab will hold is now adequate. Apart from its useful purpose, it should be noted, that around this recess is carved the motif of a chain of slave fetters, symbolically broken by a cross. An evocative link with the slabs

past use for, it was in about the year 1828, that in Wesley's Chapel, the then secretary of the Methodist Missionary Society, the Rev Richard Watson whose monument now guards the main entrance to the Chapel, declared at an annual meeting of the Society, "Christianity will not snap the chains of the slave, but will melt them". Similarly, it serves as a reminder both of John Wesley's expressed abhorrence of Slavery which influenced Nathaniel Gilbert, and his last ever letter, which in February 1791, was written to William Wilberforce urging on the latter's efforts to secure the abolition of the practice.

The baptismal font is truly an amazing artefact for it unites two places separated by the Atlantic; Madeley a small town in Shropshire once in the heartland of the nascent Industrial Revolution, the parish of the Rev John Fletcher, the friend and supporter of John Wesley, and Antigua a small island in the Caribbean, where once slavery reigned, the home of Nathaniel Gilbert, who led by John Wesley, was instrumental in both introducing and spreading Methodism as well as weakening the hold of slavery in the West Indies.

It is no wonder then that the font of Wesley's Chapel attracts as it does so much interest and invites so many questions from our visitors.

Keith Dutton - Heritage Steward

Smile lines with Christmas in mind....

What did Adam say in the Garden of Eden on December 24?
"It's Christmas, Eve".

Which Christmas carol is most popular with new parents?
Silent Night!

What's impossible to overtake at Christmas? - The three wise men!



Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Spain A Journey with the Saints of Spain, Teresa & John of the Cross

Many of us from St Joseph's, Wesley's Chapel and St Giles' who gathered at Gatwick Airport on the 8 October had been on our previous ecumenical pilgrimages so came as friends in faith and fellowship.



Our journey this time was to Avila, the birth place of St Teresa, with a day each in Salamanca and Segovia. Avila, a walled city, dominates the Amblé's Valley and at more than 1,000 metres above sea level is the highest city in Spain. Towards the end of the 11th century the town was repopulated, and King Alphonso VI of Castile and Léon built the imposing walls we see today.

Teresa was a cloistered Carmelite nun who nevertheless travelled widely across Spain founding new centres of prayer. She is recognised as a saint in the Anglican Communion and as a Doctor of the Church by Catholics.



On Tuesday morning we had a guided walking tour of the city which helped us get our bearings and showed us the principle buildings that included a visit to the cathedral and the Convent of St Teresa, her birth place.



Our afternoon was free to do our own exploring. Some climbed the walls to see the magnificent views, others walked to the Incarnation Monastery outside the city walls where St Teresa lived for 27 years.

On Wednesday to Salamanca.

After a wake-up call at 6.15am and breakfast at 7.15am, we were out walking in the still dark city to our coach and on our way by 8am! The one plus to this rather rude awaking was to see the dawn slowly rising over the vast open plains that provide the cereal crops for much of Spain. The white fluffy clouds changing from yellow to gold and pink were a wonderful sight. We were comfortable in our coach, but we thought about St Teresa and St John of the Cross travelling across this terrain in covered wagons pulled by donkeys or mules in the great heat of summer or extreme cold of winter.

Our first view of the Salamanca Cathedral was as we arrived in the coach. We met our local guide for our walking tour of the city. First, we visited the chapel of the Carmelite Priory where St John stayed. We were welcomed by Fr Mateus



O.Carm. Prior, before our short service of midday prayer.

Salamanca has two cathedrals one, late Gothic and built against its wall, the newer Baroque one. It also has one of the oldest universities (where St John of the Cross studied) in Western Europe and received its royal charter from Alfonso IX of León in 1218 although formal teaching existed from at least 1130.



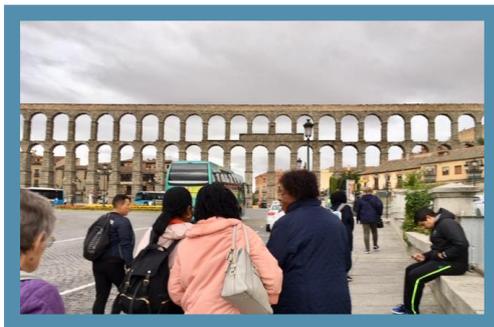
Our guided tour ended in the Baroque, La Plaza Mayor the most important of public spaces and the heart of the city.

Some of us visited the splendid

Casa Lis, an Art Nouveau Palace of 1905 with an iron and glass façade. It houses the Collections of Art Nouveau and Art Deco of Manuel Ramos Andrade.



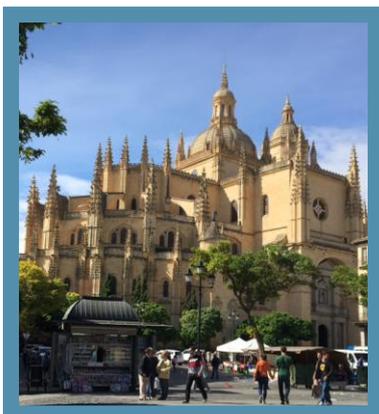
On Thursday to Segovia. As we drove into the city, we were



greeted by the sight of the amazing Roman Aqueduct built in the late first or early second century BC. It provided water to the town until 1929 and we were told it could be used again if the need arose! The structure dominates and towers above the city. It consists of about 25,000 granite

blocks held together without any mortar, spans 818 metres with more than 170 arches and the highest 29 metres high.

We met our local guide and began our tour of the city, climbing up from the main square past churches and other buildings and stopped at the old synagogue that is now a museum. This was the Jewish Quarter where Jews lived before being forced to convert to Christianity or be expelled by King Ferdinand and



Queen Isabella in 1492. The area is enclosed and peaceful now and our guide sang us a beautiful, haunting Sephardic melody as a reminder of former times.

Next to the Alcazar or Royal Palace, a fairy tale building with a moat and one of the favourite residences of the Kings of Castile.

After lunch and time for further exploration, we drove out of the city to the Convent of St John of the Cross where he is buried. Here we had an afternoon prayer service before re-joining our coach for the return to Avila.

On Friday morning after a late breakfast we said prayers together in the hotel and reflected on our journey and time together. We agreed that it had been an illuminating and spiritual time for us all. It had also given us a better understanding of the history of the Spanish Church and the part played by St Teresa and St John of the Cross in the renewal of the Carmelite Order in Spain.



Diana Morgan Gray

WESLEY'S CHAPEL
& LEYSIAN MISSION

FREE
ENTRY

Lunchtime Music Recitals

Tuesdays at 1.05 - 1.50pm

January 2019

8th	Frantisek Brikcius (Cello)
15th	Lysianne Chen (Piano)
22nd	Natalie Davies (Voice)
29th	Catherine Leonard (Piano)

wesleyschapel.org.uk

The Snow Queen

BY QUANTUM THEATRE

Quantum Theatre presents Michael Whitmore's delightful adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's magical tale.

SAT 15 DECEMBER
WESLEY'S CHAPEL
DOORS 2.45 FOR A 3.00 START

Tickets available from
www.quantumtheatre.co.uk/johnwesleyhouse.html

Children £6

Adult £10

Family ticket £25

Children's Page





John Wesley
The Museum of Methodism
& John Wesley's House

Georgian Tea Room

Saturday 15 December, 12-2.30



Enjoy tea, coffee and cake served by our Georgian re-enactors in the Radnor Hall, which will be dressed as a traditional tea room.

Entrance is free, and on a first come, first served basis.



Wesley's Chapel, Radnor Hall, 49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU

www.wesleysheritage.org.uk

Weekly programme of events

Sunday	9.45am	Holy Communion (except first Sunday in month)
	11.00am	Morning Service
	12.30pm	Methodist Women in Britain (MWIB) (first Sunday in the month)
	12.30pm	Wesley's Chapel Men's Fellowship (first Sunday in Month) (first Sunday in the month)
	12.30pm	Wesley's Chapel Ghana Fellowship (last Sunday in the month)
	7.00pm	Taizé Evening Service (last Sunday in the month)
Monday	2.00pm	Sisterhood Fellowship
Tuesday	10.30am	Teddy Bear Service (last Tuesday in the Month)
	1.05pm	Lunchtime Recital (except July, August & December – free entry)
	6.30pm 7.45pm	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association (11 & under) Boys' Brigade (over 11's)
Wednesday	10.00am	Stay and Play (pre-school)
	12.45pm	Service of Holy Communion
Thursday	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Friday	1.00pm	Book Club (Second Friday in the month)



If you would like to submit an article, poem, prayer or item of interest for this magazine please email it to:
manager@wesleyschapel.org.uk or alternatively
administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk

WESLEY'S CHAPEL & LEYSIAN
MISSION

Book Club

Join us for our book club every
second Friday of the month from
1pm - 2pm, all are welcome.

Our book in January is 'A
Thousand Splendid Suns' by
Khaled Hossein, first meeting on
Friday 11th January.

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month, 1pm - 2pm

FEEL FREE TO BRING LUNCH!



John Wesley
Wesley's Chapel
& Leysian Mission

WESLEY'S CHAPEL
& LEYSIAN MISSION

Shining Out

Thursdays at 12.45 - 1.15pm

December 2018

- 6th Let it Shine - Love
- 13th City Carol Service (12.30-1.30pm)
- 20th Lighting the Longest Night
(12.45 & 6pm)

wesleyschapel.org.uk