WINDOW ON WESLEY'S

November 2015

STAFF

Ministers: The Revd the Lord Leslie Griffiths MA (Superintendent)
Rev Jennifer Potter BTh MA MSc

Associate Ministers: Rev Pauline Barnett MA (Supernumerary)
Rev John Beebe (Supernumerary)
Rev John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)
Rev Brian Goss MA (Supernumerary)
Rev Robert Maginley (Supernumerary)
Rev Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)
Rev Ken Start (Supernumerary)
Rev Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

Student Presbyter: Mr Kido Baek BTh MA

Lay Members: Miss Judith Burton BA (Leysian Missioner)
Dr Joy Leitch BSc DipEd MA
Dr Peter Briggs OBE

Curator: Mr Christian Dettlaff MA

Administration: Mrs Tracey Smith

Caretakers: Mr Adrian Bevis
Mrs Tracey Flynn

Organist: Mr Elvis Pratt BEng (Hons)

Church Office: 49 City Road
London EC1Y 1AU
Tel. 020 7253 2262
Fax 020 7608 3825

Web Site: www.wesleyschapel.org.uk

Email: administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk

Dear Friend

I've just returned from the United States of America. I was visiting a Methodist university in the southern state of Tennessee. I gave a number of lectures, taught three or four classes, and preached two sermons. All in the space of five days. But it made me aware of the fund of good will that exists around the world for our beloved Wesley's Chapel. Wherever I go, I find groups of people who simply want to tell me of the pleasure they gained from the visits they've made over the years. And it reminded me of the privilege we have of welcoming the whole world into our fellowship. We do this physically, when people visit the Museum and John Wesley's House; and we also do it through the magic of cyberspace. A large (and growing) number of people follow our events as we put them onto our website. We knew all that of course already of course. But my visit to Nashville was a vivid reminder, in flesh and blood, of the way our visitors carry with them the fondest of memories and even the evidence of lives that have been changed.

Now that I'm back, I need to face the fact that the winter months are upon us. Our Church Anniversary takes place in November. Remembrance Sunday brings its own solemn message. And the shops will undoubtedly be displaying a range of Christmas merchandise. As I prepare this short message, I look out on a rain-swept front yard with the leaves ready to give up their struggle against the season's inclemency. Soon we'll be gathering the leaves by the bushel.

I can announce now that we've reached a very significant turning point in the shocking financial crisis that has been afflicting us. The auditors we brought in to conduct a forensic search of our finances have produced an accurate account of all the proceedings that occurred in the financial year 2013/14. They've also completed the bookkeeping for the year 2104/15. They've found evidence of systematic fraud that's been occurring over the last five years! A considerable amount of money has been embezzled from our accounts. But now we've turned a corner.

We are submitting our completed accounts to the Charity Commissioners. And we are putting measures in place that will address the risks we've uncovered and ensure that it doesn't happen again. An enormous amount of work has been put in by many people and I can only thank them for it. Mercifully, the income and expenditure accounts of the Chapel remain pretty much as they always were. Our overall activity remains buoyant. I'm confident that we are going to weather this storm and, I trust, be the stronger for it.

This is the season when aches and pains, colds and flu, general depression affect us all. So, if you're reading these lines feeling down in the dumps or afraid for the future, let me greet you warmly and assure you of my prayers. Wesley's Chapel is a truly extraordinary place, our people are brilliant and God certainly has a plan for us all. He needs our best energies and our deepest prayers.

The Lord bless you and bless you kindly,

Leslie Griffiths – November 2015

STOP PRESS

Notice is hereby given that The Church Council Meeting (new style) due to be held on Monday 9th November 2015 has been cancelled. A full Circuit Meeting (old style) will be held on Monday 7th December at 7.00pm

Church News

We congratulate *Gail and Michael Thompson* on their Golden wedding anniversary early in October. May they have many, many more happy years together and may God bless them richly.

On Wednesday 21st October we laid the mortal remains of *Rev Ron Gibbins* to rest in the Memorial Garden at the rear of the Church. Ron was the Superintendent Minister of Wesley's Chapel from just after it reopened in 1978 until 1988. He and his wife Olive lived for some time after that in active retirement in Surbiton and then, in recent years moved to be closer to their family in Tavistock. The photo shows Ron's widow, Olive with the Rev John Swarbrick and Jennifer after the burial of the ashes.

Joanna Freeman is currently not able to come to church as she has very painful problems with her back that are still being investigated. We hope and pray that she can get effective treatment.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jojo and Ruby Annan on the death of his uncle in Ghana. This is particularly stressful for Jojo at this time when he is in the midst of his process for candidating for the Methodist Ministry.

We also remember in our prayers Mavis Edwards as she undergoes treatment in hospital and those of our members whose health does not allow them to come and be with us in Church at the moment – Gina Cocks, Alex Sarsah and Apollos Gibson.

In last month's edition we reported the birth of Dillon Obi Daniels, son to Sarah and Sagan. Here he is.

Leysian Missioner's Letter

Christmas is coming! And in Sunday School we are already making plans for our contribution to the All Age Worship for Christmas on the 20th December.

Rehearsals will begin on Sunday 8th November in Junior Church, and shall continue over the subsequent weeks. Our Dress Rehearsal will be on Sunday the 13th of December; on this day we hope to have a run through in the main chapel after service, so children will need to stay a little later than normal. Please support us by ensuring your child attends as many rehearsals as possible, prioritising in particular dress rehearsal. Recently various children have brought with them into class mobile phones, or other small items such as bags or toys, which have proved to be distracting. Children need only bring themselves to Junior Church; everything else should be left with their parents or guardians.

On 20th December after service Junior Church will hold its Christmas Fellowship whilst refreshments are being served upstairs. We hope your child will be able to join us for this brief period of sharing together. Letters reminding parents of this will go out nearer the time.

December and the New Year period can be especially busy for us all. If you know of a member of our church community who

you think might particularly appreciate a visit at this time, or even if you would like a visit for yourself, please do let me know. Going to see people on behalf of the Chapel is a part of my job that I find a joy and a privilege. I would love to do more of it! Don't worry if you live a fair way from the Chapel, I'm happy to come and travel to you.

Prayers and best wishes,

Judith Burton

Christmas? Presents? What to buy?

This is where Christian Aid can help you – and help other people across the world. Choose a gift from their Present Aid catalogue for a friend or relative. Then you'll receive a gift card to give to the recipient letting them know what you've purchased on their behalf. The gifts you choose will help change the lives of some of the world's poorest people. Gifts can be ordered using the small Present Aid catalogue. Or you can do it on line – www.presentaid.org/2015 Great new! Every pound raised will be march by the UK government. Please ask me for a catalogue.

Zena Goss – Church Member

Lunchtime Recitals in November

3rd Romana Szczepaniak - Violin

10th Anthony McDonald – Classical Guitar

17th River City Saxes

24th Eleanor Janes – Soprano

The United Nations at 70!

Saturday October 24th marked the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations. It was the successor world body to the League of Nations which had been set up after the First World War but had failed to stop the carnage of the Second World War. After the end of World War Two there was a renewed attempt at setting up a body which would be a place where disputes could be taken and discussed and where the nations of the world would talk about the issues that divide them rather than starting hostilities against each other.

The first meeting of the UN General Assembly took place in Central Hall Westminster – there is a plaque commemorating this on the side of the building.

Over the last weekend of October, in celebration of the 70th Anniversary buildings connected with the United Nations 'turned blue' including the Central Hall. Central Hall Westminster was the only English landmark to join the global initiative by turning blue.

Wesley's Chapel also has a link with that very first UN General Assembly. We have a pencil drawing of the inside of the Central Hall done during the actual sitting of the Assembly. You can see this down in the museum.

UN Day, which celebrated the meeting, was marked on 24 October. Venues that participated by projecting the blue light included the Sydney Opera House and the Great Pyramids of Giza.

Paul Southern, MD at Central Hall Westminster, said: “We are extremely proud of the great heritage of our venue. The inaugural meeting of the UN is certainly a stand-out event in our history.”

Central Hall is also hosting the UNEARTH exhibition until 11 December, which was created by the UN Department of Public Information and the Gabarron Foundation and features photographs from the organisation’s archives.

Next time you visit Westminster Central Hall go and view the video of the history of the Hall which includes more information about the first meeting of the UN General Assembly.

Jennifer Potter

Church General Meeting – 18th October 2015

Thank you to everyone who came to the General Church Meeting – it was very well attended and that is a really positive sign that people in the congregation want to know more about their church and how they can participate more fully. There were three presentations. Firstly Leslie told us about some of the developments which are going on around us in this rapidly-changing part of London:

- To our south is Maple House. This has undergone complete modernisation, including the moving back of its frontage. The wider pavement has allowed better visibility and access to John Wesley’s House, so we are happy with the result.

- To our north is Oliver’s House. This building has been empty for more than 20 years and we have had various problems because of it. It has been recently condemned on Health and Safety grounds. Various developers/owners have produced plans for the building over the year but none of those have gone ahead. There is rumour that the building has been bought by the Church of the Latter Days Saints. We have had no confirmation of this, however any plans submitted to

the council would have to be shown to us for comment before permission is granted. (Since the Church Meeting squatters have moved back in and a ‘rave’ was held on the night of 25th/26th October.)

- The building behind us (Noble House) is on our land and we own the freehold. The lease on this (92 years left) gives income to the Chapel through ground rent, and a proportion of the rental income also comes to us. The developers who own the building intend to improve the facilities and thus achieve a higher rent – which would increase our revenue. Watch this space!

Jennifer then coordinated an overview of the music at Wesley’s Chapel; inviting Elvis Pratt (Organist), Kido Baek (Community Worker) and Francis Mintah (Choir Master) to give their input. As a church we try to embrace all styles of music, to reflect our diverse congregation – we call it a ‘musical mixed economy’. All those who feel they would like to share their musical talents with us are encouraged to do so. The feeling was expressed that music greatly enhances worship and prayer.

The choir is on the lookout for new members as it is struggling with numbers to give sufficient strength to part singing. There are no minimum requirements of musical literacy just a love of singing and music. Anyone interested in joining should speak to Francis or Kido. If anyone would like to contribute to our music in another way (both instrumental or with singing) please speak to Elvis and he will help try to see how this could be done. There is no age limit (upper or lower) to being part of the music at Wesley’s Chapel!

There was a request for a time of quiet during the postlude each Sunday so that people can sit and appreciate the music. The Pastoral Staff indicated that they will wait for longer before processing out. (We are happy to report that this worked well on the 25th October with a lot more people sitting to listen to the music or, if they were in a hurry, walking out quietly.)

Finally, there was an update on our financial situation. In June it was announced to the congregation that we had discovered our Finance Director had been embezzling money from the Chapel. Since then much has happened. We have informed the church authorities, the Charity Commissioners, our insurers, HMRC and the police. Forensic auditors have been brought in, who have managed to finalise the delayed 2013/2014 accounts ready for our Trustees to approve. The forensic auditors will help us to ensure our systems are more robust to minimise the possibility of anything similar happening again. We will get some of our embezzled of this back from our insurers, but not the full amount. Through the advice of the forensic auditors, and those with relevant expertise from within the church, we have been able to maintain a good cash flow so the day to day running of the church has not been adversely affected. Leslie thanked the Trustees, particularly Ken Pippin, for the extraordinary work that they had done during recent months.

We hold the General Church Meeting twice a year. These meetings are open to anyone who worships at Wesley's Chapel. However if you have suggestions or questions you do not have to wait until a General Church Meeting comes along – speak to one of the Pastoral Staff.

Harvest Festival 18th October 2015

This year we had an extremely good collection of gifts on our Harvest Festival Sunday – both food and toiletries as indicated in the 'desperately needed' list from the Whitechapel Mission.

It was wonderful to have the Wesley Girls' High School (Cape Coast Ghana) – OGA with us again and contributing to the service by reading and singing their school song. This year our neighbouring Welsh-language Church, Jewin, also

brought their harvest gifts for us to take to the Whitechapel Mission.

It was also wonderful that our new intern from Kwanglim Methodist Church, Seoul, South Korea, Saewoo Oh was able to take part in the service – reading in English in public for the first time in his life.

If you want to know more about the work of the Whitechapel Mission, please go to their website – www.whitechapel.org.uk

There you can find out details of how to volunteer to help and also about the items that are most needed at any particular time – towels are a particular need at the moment. A service of worship is held there every quarter at Whitechapel Mission with the Annual Service always held in November. This year it will be on Sunday November 15th at 3.00pm when the speaker will be the President Steve Wild

Other services will be held on: January 31st 3.00pm Covenant Service, April 17th at 3.00pm, July 17th at 3.00pm and we are looking at the 2016 Annual Service on either 6th or 20th November with Rachel Lampard

Chapel Anniversary Saturday 7th November 2015

On the first Saturday in November each year we remember the opening of this Chapel by John Wesley on the 1st November 1738 – 237 years ago.

We also remember with gratitude to God that the Chapel has been ‘saved’

at least twice. During the Second World War when there was devastation all around, a fire bomb landed on the roof of the Chapel. It could easily have been the end for the building but prompt action by the fire wardens put the small blaze out.

In the 1970s the Chapel was seriously affected by subsidence and by dry and wet rot. A coping stone fell, narrowly missing a visitor. The whole place had to be closed. Most of us know the story from then on. The congregation was small in those days; this part of London was not the busy area it is now so there were questions about whether the Chapel could or should be saved at all. Eventually the Methodist Church, after much deliberation, decided to launch a drive to solicit money from all around World Methodism and the work to save the Chapel began. The congregation was 'in exile' worshipping at St Martins-in-Ludgate, just down from St Paul's Cathedral, for five years. Only John Wesley's House remained open for visitors.

The Chapel's foundations were shored up, buttresses put on the walls, new wood put into the Chapel and even Mr Wesley had to be taken away for storage and cleaning while his Chapel was a building site and then carefully returned to his position in the centre of the forecourt. .

The job took almost five years until the great day November 1st 1978, exactly two hundred years from the original opening, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh came to re-open

the Chapel. You can see the commemorative plaques just inside the Chapel in the foyer.

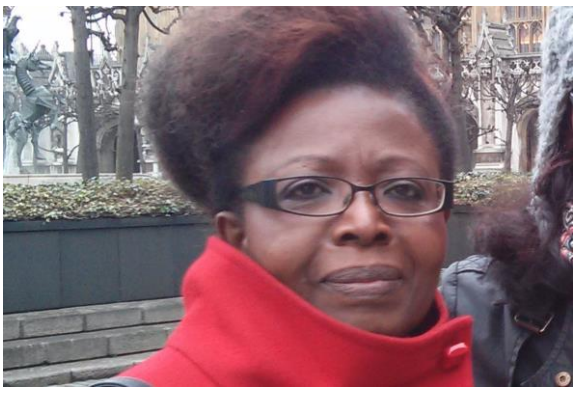
In the early 1970s it was by no means certain that Wesley's Chapel, opened in 1738, would still be around as a worshipping community in 2015. In 1978 when the Church was reopened it had a membership of only 25 members. Who could possibly have imagined that with hard work and the changing nature of our neighbourhood that the Chapel would be the thriving place it is today?

We have a lot to give God thanks for and that is what we do on the first Saturday of November each year. So come on Saturday 7th November when there will be a short service, a video presentation about the Chapel and its context, some music and the display of some of the Museum's artefacts.

Jennifer Potter.

Memorial Service for Ghanaian Pioneer in St Margaret's Westminster November 26th 12.00pm

Last year, in October we held a Funeral Service here at Wesley's Chapel for Efua Dorkenoo OBE. She was a former student of Wesley Girls' High School and a Methodist from birth.



Here is an edited extract of her obituary which appeared in the Guardian at that time.

Efua Dorkenoo, who has died aged 65 after undergoing treatment for cancer, was a tireless campaigner against female genital mutilation. She was widely regarded as the mother of the worldwide movement to end FGM. Efua fought for more than 30 years to ensure the protection of girls and women from a practice that violates their human rights.

She was born in Cape Coast, Ghana, daughter of John and Marian Elliot-Yorke. One of 11 children, she grew up on the campus of Adisadel college, Cape Coast, where her father was the school nurse, and went on to attend Wesley Girls' high school, where she eventually became a house prefect. At the age of 17, Efua moved to London to train and where she became a staff nurse at various hospitals including the Royal Free.

She was first exposed to FGM in the 1970s when she witnessed the agonies of a woman who had undergone infibulation, as she struggled to give birth. To Efua, FGM was the most inhumane practice she had ever seen, and the failure of doctors to help women who had undergone it, or even to acknowledge it, made them complicit in the suffering.

She set up the Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development (Forward), in 1983. Within two years of the organisation's arrival, and with Efua's work acting as a catalyst, FGM was made illegal in Britain, with the passing of the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Act in 1985.

Her struggle was not without personal consequences. By taking on an age-old custom, she often provoked the wrath of traditionalists. Efua's determination to end FGM, however, did not allow her to slow down. She often remarked that "there is no time to rest while children are being abused." For her work with

Forward, Efua was appointed OBE in 1994.

In 2013, the British Government announced in Africa and beyond within a generation. Efua became the programme director of what would become The Girl Generation: Together to End FGM, linking up the various organisations working to end the practice. The programme was launched a week before her death.

In 2012 Efua was made honorary senior research fellow in the School of Health Sciences at City University, London. In 2013, she was named one of BBC's 100 Women.

Efua Dorkenoo, campaigner, born 6 September 1949; died 18 October 2014. Jennifer will be taking part in the Memorial Service in Westminster Abbey.

Wesley's Chapel Heritage Steward hits the headlines

Esther Ackah, one of Wesley's Chapel's Heritage Stewards and a Local Preacher in the Ealing Circuit has recently launched a book about her great grandmother, Mame Nwia-Amah, in the context of Black History Month. The photograph shows her at the launch inEaling Library with the Mayor and Mayoress of the Borough.

Mame Nwia-Amah lived in Atuabo, the coastal Western region of Ghana from 1887 until 1952. She was a divine healer and a powerful influence in her community and beyond. Although not educated she acquired the skills to read the Bible and was a powerful exponent of the Gospel message. She died in a boat accident while returning from the Ivory Coast in 1952.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of Esther's boo please leave a note for her in the Museum.

A new hymn for Remembrance Sunday - November 8th 2015

Lord, we recall your words that speak
of love as the great rule of life;
this your command: that we should love
each other as you have loved us.
No one has greater love than this:
to lay down life to help their friends.

Lord, we recall all who have loved,
responding to your new command;
given of their lives to help a friend,
a stranger, anyone in need.
Refrain

Lord, we recall all, who in war,
have given their lives for nationhood:
those who believed, eager to serve;
those who, with doubt, took up the call.
Refrain

Lord, we recall those who were told
and trusted good would come from death;
trust that has often been betrayed
when sacrifice has led nowhere..

Lord, we recall your sacrifice;
nailed to a cross to show God's love.
This love will never be surpassed:
love for us all, as God's own friends..

Based on John 13: 34 and John 15: 12-14

This hymn can be sung to the following tunes – St Catherine (Hemy) 747 in Hymns and Psalms or Credo 600 in StF or Dura 512 in StF. Words by Andrew Brown © August 2014

Andrew seeks to draw out the implications of Jesus' declarations in the Gospel of John about the extent and demand of Christian love. There are times, Jesus says, in which we are challenged to put the needs of others before even our own lives – not because we are God's unquestioning followers but because we are Jesus' friends.

Andrew Brown has been a Methodist Local Preacher for almost forty years and is currently based in Hertfordshire. He notes that: "I became interested in writing hymn poems in 2003 and am keen

to provide words that question and challenge, while remaining true to the good news of God's love for each individual."

Methodist Women in Britain – Cake Sale

Wesley's Chapel's Methodist Women in Britain Group (MWiB) would like to thank all those who supported their Cake Sale on the 4th October in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care (especially the care of people with Breast Cancer). The amount raised was a wonderful £507.92. Thank you to everyone for this wonderful effort.

Hymns and Older People

The connection between hymns and older people runs deep, both spiritually and physically, according to Revd. Dr. Margaret Goodall.

For Methodist ministers and preachers it is often the case that choosing the right hymns can take as long as thinking through the sermon.

Hymns are an important part of worship and often stay with the worshipper as long – if not longer – than the sermon. So their choice should be made carefully as they are an important part of worship. This is especially true so it seems, for older people.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the death of Anton Boisen, an American who founded the clinical pastoral training movement over 75 years ago. He wrote about the "forces of healing and power" which lie within religion and as a result put together a book of hymns for those who were suffering. He called his book Hymns of Hope and Courage.

A little while ago, Dr. Janet Eldred and Dr. Mike Lowis of Christians on Ageing (CCOA) conducted some research that asked whether hymns can lift the spirits, and if so, how. In their research, Boisen's belief that worship (including hymns) elicits

‘‘tender memories’’ was borne out. They discovered that ‘peak experience’ responses were obtained from two contrasting selections of hymns: the up-beat and the gentle. They also noted the effect of hymns in 3/4 time, which reduced the effect of stress-induced hormones and encouraged feelings of spirituality, and in 4/4 time, with its link to breathing and the heartbeat.

Hymns are usually sung with others, so the very act of people coming together can often promote the ‘‘tingle factor’’ of pleasure from sharing. But hymns also connect people with memories of loved ones and associations with happy times (or even sad times, such as funerals) from the past. Hymns also link those who responded to people, times and places and so summon up a wealth of memories: of lessons learned, of people loved, and of experiences shared.

Words which older people used to describe their experience of singing hymns were: “uplifting”, “praise”, “spiritual”, “memories”, “soothing”, “bonding” and “a good sing”.

Methodist Homes (MHA), the housing and care charity, has started a research project looking at the importance (or otherwise) of hymns and to see how far Boisen’s choice of hymns is echoed in hymns MHA chaplains choose today. Many of our churches have a similar age profile to MHA projects and we hope to discover more about the effect of hymns on older people and offer this as a resource to others leading worship.

The Revd. Dr. Margaret Goodall trained as a music teacher and then became a Methodist minister. She now works for MHA as Chaplaincy Development manager.

Jennifer Potter

SERENDIPITY TWENTY – Part 4
George Whitefield –The Forgotten Methodist?

In the previous part of this article, it was described how George Whitefield persuaded John Wesley of the advantages to be gained by evangelising in the open air wherever a crowd could be gathered and then left him in charge of the work George had commenced in the Bristol area.

Now that Whitefield had someone to take over from him, he left the Wesley brothers to enter on their own great memorable itinerary, and then set out to return to London by a circuitous route preaching at every opportunity and collecting donations for his Orphan House project as he did so.

In London, the pulpits of most churches being barred to him, this did not stop him from bringing the Gospel message to the notice of all who would listen, for just like John and Charles Wesley after him, he preached to vast crowds in open spaces, such as Moorfields, (just South of where Wesley's now stands), as well as in Islington and Kennington, still raising money for his project. Then after visits to places elsewhere in England he set off on his next Atlantic voyage, arriving back in America in October 1739. Whitefield's intended destination was Savannah in Georgia, but in those days of crude navigation it was not always easy to arrive precisely at the place where you wished to go and in this case Whitefield's ship actually ended up at the port of Lewis Town some 150 miles from Philadelphia and a long way north of Savannah although they were at least on the North American continent and at a place where Whitefield's name was known and where his reputation had preceded him. The navigation error was thus to prove advantageous since he was invited to preach in Philadelphia and New York, then in the populated places all down the Eastern Seaboard of North America as he made his way south to Georgia. Needless to say, he took collections for his Orphan House project wherever he went so that by the time he arrived in Savannah he had gathered, in mostly small value copper coins, a total of some £1000, (equivalent to around

£100,000 in today's money and a lot more in spending power), with which to finance the building on the plot of land granted to him by the trustees of Georgia, which was at Bethesda, some 10 miles north of Savannah.

Now, having dealt in some depth with the early part of Whitefield's life and the commencement of his ministry, in previous episodes, it is not proposed to do more than just summarise the main points of the rest of his life story. His influence in "kick starting" the itinerant ministries of both John and Charles Wesley, has been described, not to mention the important part he played in the 18thC Revival. However, for Whitfield from the laying of the first brick of his Orphan House, to his death in 1770, his life was now to be one continual and heroic struggle to spread the Gospel of Christ and incidentally to support his project which became, as it is today, the oldest children's charity in America. It was his inherent intention to spread the revival but it was to ensure the success of his Bethesda charity, that he made his repeated crossings of the North Atlantic for Britain was then far more populous and wealthy than colonial America; that he covered the length and breadth of England repeatedly; that he regularly travelled and spoke throughout Wales; that he visited Ireland twice; that he went 14 times to Scotland; that he preached in virtually every major population centre on the Eastern Seaboard of North America.

Journeying in this way, before the age of mechanical transport, his life was one of continual discomfort, perpetual travel and almost daily preaching such that in the course of his life he covered many hundreds of thousands of miles and delivered at least 18000 sermons as well as 12000 talks and exhortations. In America alone, it is estimated that some 80% of the then population of the American colonies heard Whitefield speak at least once and his influence was such, it is said, *"that virtually every American loved, and saw him, as their champion"*. This was the wonderful and providential side effect of the efforts that he felt was his duty to raise funds first for the building of his Orphan House and then to provide an income for its support.

Unfortunately, also it was the need to support the enterprise that perhaps led to a serious blemish on Whitefield's record and no account of George's career ought to omit this element of his character which so differentiated him from John Wesley.
When the colony of Georgia was first founded, slavery was prohibited and Georgia's first governor General Oglethorpe said that, *"Slavery is against the Gospel as well as against the fundamental law of England".* But several of the important citizens of Savannah thought otherwise and successfully petitioned the Georgia Trustees to allow the use of black slaves as workers; in this they were supported by Whitefield who considered that the use of such labour was the most practical way of working the land.

His attitude is best expressed in a letter, from which the following quotation is taken:

"As for the lawfulness of keeping slaves, I have no doubt, since I read of some who were bought with Abraham's money and some that were born in his house. ----- And I cannot help thinking that some of those servants mentioned by the Apostles, in their epistles, were or had been slaves. However this might have been, it is plain to a demonstration that hot countries cannot be cultivated without black slaves. What a flourishing country might Georgia have been, had their use been permitted years ago?"
Indeed once the use of slavery was allowed, Whitefield himself purchased slaves which he used to work the plantation attached to the Orphan House which was supported by the income so produced. It is true, however, that he ensured that the Orphan House slaves were well treated and indeed angered other slave owners because he attacked, and condemned, any who ill-treated the slaves they owned.

Whitfield's last Atlantic crossing was made from Britain to America in 1770, when he arrived back in Georgia on November 30th. He then, almost immediately set off on a tour of the Eastern Seaboard of North America, preaching by popular demand as he went, wherever he stopped on his journey, until, worn out from his

exertions he died in his sleep at Newbury Port, Massachusetts, on September 30th 1770. He was buried on October 2nd, beneath the pulpit in the First Presbyterian Church at Newbury Port, just over 30 years after making his first visit to that place.

Whitefield's death would seem to be a suitable point to terminate this part of the article; therefore, its final conclusion will be left to a future edition of Window on Wesley's.

Keith Dutton - Heritage Steward

NOVEMBER CRADLE ROLL BIRTHDAYS

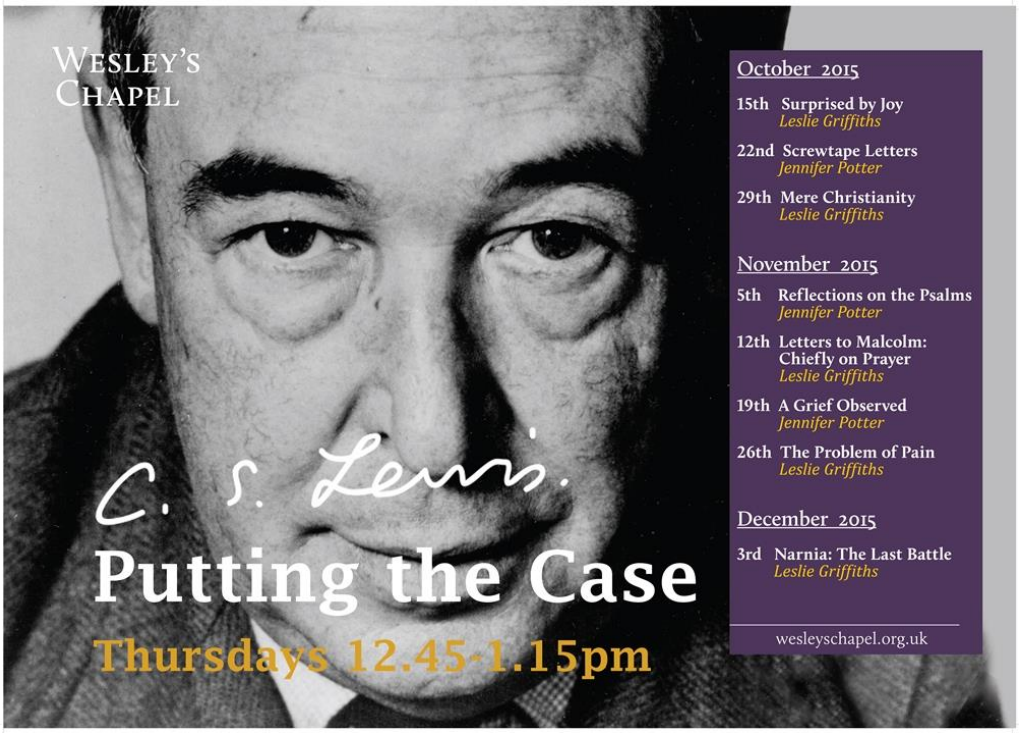
5th	Alima Stevens	5 years
9th	Jethro Pratt	2 years
16th	Aaliyah Crawford	2 years
22nd	Giovani Olaitan Ogunlana	4 years

May God bless these children and their families.

SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

1st	11.00am	Morning Service & Holy Communion Preacher: Leslie Griffiths Officiant: Leslie Griffiths
8th	Remembrance Sunday	
	9.45am	Holy Communion – Jennifer Potter
	10.50am	Morning Service – Leslie Griffiths
15th	9.45am	Holy Communion – Leslie Griffiths
	11.00am	Morning Service – James Tebbutt
22nd	9.45am	Holy Communion – Brian Goss
	11.00am	Morning Service – Jennifer Potter
29th	9.45am	Holy Communion – Leslie Griffiths
	11.00am	Morning Service – Leslie Griffiths
	7.00pm	Taizé Evening Service

CHILDRENS PAGE



Weekly programme of events

Sunday	9.45am	Holy Communion (except first Sunday in the month)
	11.00am	Morning Service
	12.30pm	Methodist Women in Britain (MWIB) (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	7.00am	Prayer Meeting
	2.00pm	Sisterhood Fellowship
Tuesday	1.05 pm	Lunchtime Recitals
	7.45 pm	Boys' Brigade 5th London Co Company/Senior Section
Wednesday	10.00am	Parents/Minders & Toddlers
	12.45pm	Service of Holy Communion
Thursday	12.45 pm	Lunchtime Service
Friday	7.00pm	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association

If you would like to submit an article, poem, prayer or item of interest for this magazine please email it to:
pa@wesleyschapel.org.uk
or leave it at the Church Office marked FAO Tracey Smith