

WINDOW ON WESLEY'S



JUNE 2019

STAFF

Minister: The Revd Canon Dr Jennifer H 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) BA (Hons) MA

Administration: Mrs Ling Arzeian
Miss Beatrice Omane
Mrs Tracey Smith

Caretaking: Mr Adrian Beviss

Organist: Mr Elvis Pratt BEng (Hons)

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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the June edition of Window on Wesley's! This June marks a transition, as we begin to prepare in earnest for the arrival of the Revd Steven Cooper as our second minister. Steven will be welcomed in a special service at **2.30 pm on Sunday, 1 September** after our International Lunch. Please consider bringing a plate of food to share, ideally (not essentially) from your home culture. Every little helps – if we all bring a couple of portions of food each we'll be well on our way! This is of course the same day that President of the Methodist Conference the Revd Barbara Glasson, and Vice President Dr Clive Marsh will launch their Connexional year in our 11 am service.

Steven comes to us from Knebworth where he serves presently, and is married to Ruth. They have a 3-year-old daughter, Seraphina: we look forward to getting to know Steven and his whole family, and we look forward to all he will bring to the pastoral life of the Chapel and Leysian Mission, in the years to come. Watch this space!

On Pentecost, 9 June, we will receive another 5 new members (8 were received at Easter) by Confirmation and transfer. We will consider the work of the Holy Spirit for prophecy, in response to the story of the valley of the dry bones. This comes at a time when old alliances and securities are under threat all around our world. The local service, and global welcome this church offers is part of the work God is doing for peace making, challenging us all to build bridges and make peace wherever we are.

This June too, much in that spirit, we will officially open the **Wesley 'Physic trail' on Saturday 8 June**, a guided walk through the gardens on site. We will follow a trail of herbs and flowers used by John Wesley in his much re-published book of home remedies, 'Primitive Physic.' It is interesting as a novelty in its own right, but this is a sign of our understanding that the largest acts of peace-making begin at home with the most basic elements of well-being. Walk the trail, and consider what God is doing in our world. This will

like to a series of Thursday 12.45 services reflecting on specific herbs and flowers over the next few weeks. We hope the garden will continue to be a source of food, fresh air, and much needed respite amidst the concrete. (If you would like to work in the garden, please contact the office: volunteers always welcome.)

In that same spirit, we will together collect for the Hackney foodbank between 1 and 3 pm on 16 June after the service, at the Barbican Waitrose: come along and have fun doing good work!

As summer days lengthen, enjoy the warmth and light. And stay in touch, let the office know what is happening in your life, and what opportunities you see among us.

With every blessing,

Jen

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 £589 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 Wednesday 12th June with interviews to take place on 19th June.

Dear Friends

We are currently in the process of compiling the 2019/2020 Church Directory. If you would like your contact details to appear in the new Directory, please complete a GDPR consent form and return it to the Chapel Office no later than 30th June 2019. **Kindly note that if you have previously completed a form it is not necessary to complete another one at this time.** Please remember that if we do not have a completed consent form we will be unable to publish your details in the Directory. Copies of the consent form can be obtained from the Chapel Office or the table at the back of the Chapel next to the green post box.

For those of you whose details appeared in last year's Directory kindly check that the published details remain the same and advise us of any changes/amendments no later than 30th June 2019.

Kind regards

Tracey Smith – Administration Manager

Lunchtime Music Recitals in June (1.05pm) @ Wesley's Chapel

4th David Elwin - Piano

11th John Rayson - Piano

18th Antonio Oyarzabal - Piano

25th Ross Montgomery/Antonio Oyarzabal –Clarinet/Piano



**Tuesdays @ 1.05pm
Entry Free of Charge**

New ways to support our Ministry and Mission through weekly/monthly giving

In future you will have more choice in the ways which you can support the Ministry and Mission of Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission. You can now:

- **Give cash in collection plate;**
- **Give by text (up to £2);**
- **Give online (any amount)**
- **Give contactless in the Vestibule**
- **Give monthly**

With cash becoming less popular, we've looked into offering other ways for you to support our Ministry and Mission at Wesley's Chapel. We will continue to hand the collection plate around at the Sunday Service, as we have done for many years, and cash can still be given.

However, in addition

You can now give by Text

Just text the word 'WESLEY' plus the amount you wish to give (e.g. Wesley3 for a £3 donation, Wesley5 for a £5 donation, Wesley10 for a £10 donation up to a maximum of £20) to 70085.



It's easy, and can be done at any time, i.e. as you arrive before the service, during the collection, during the week, or at any other convenient time.

What will happen?

Your mobile phone service provider will add the donation to your monthly bill, and as with all charity fund raising, is likely to add a

charge of one standard text, in line with your agreed tariff. You will receive an acknowledgement text of the donation from Donr Limited, the operators of the scheme, which will provide a link to allow you to Gift Aid.

(If you are an EE customer you may receive two acknowledgement texts for any donations over £10. Don't worry, you'll only be charged once, but it's the way their system works).

Please Gift Aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer

We encourage everyone to do this, as it means the UK Government will add 25% to the value of your donation, which is really valuable to the Chapel. (However, we must stress that you have to be a UK tax payer to be eligible to claim gift aid)

You can now give Online

If you want to make a one-off donation of any amount, you can do so online at donr.com/wesley. Again, please remember to Gift Aid your donation if you are eligible.

Contactless Giving

Shortly we will be installing a static contactless giving terminal which will be sited in the Chapel's vestibule.

This is to encourage the many Museum visitors during the week to donate towards the Chapel and Museum's upkeep, but will also be available for use by members of the congregation, if they wish to give in this way.



You can now give monthly

The most convenient way to give regularly is to set up a monthly online instruction at donr.com/wesley. Select the "Other Amount" tab, enter the amount you wish to donate

and click the “per month” button. The amount you identify will be debited automatically to your chosen credit/debit card. Why not decide how much you want to give annually and divide it by 12 to identify the monthly amount? Again, don’t forget to Gift Aid if you are eligible.

If you decide to donate other than in cash, you will be able to collect a token of giving on arriving at the Chapel. This can be placed in the collection plate during the Service to acknowledge your contribution to the Ministry and Mission of the Chapel.

The Envelope Scheme

With the introduction of online/text giving, we are taking the opportunity to streamline our operations and in particular the Gift Aid recovery process. **As a result, with effect from 1st September the white envelopes will no longer be used, and we will not be recording donations made in these envelopes.**

If you currently make your donations via the white envelope scheme, we would ask that you either:

- Move to giving weekly or monthly online
- Move to giving weekly by text
- Place your cash donation in the collection plate
- Place your cash donation in a yellow gift aid envelope and complete your personal details on the front. **If you are not a UK taxpayer the front of the envelope should be left blank.**

Any questions?

If you’re unsure about the Scheme and how it affects you, please ask at the Chapel Office or send an email to our Treasurer at finance@wesleyschapel.org.uk



Summer is upon us and we have lots of exciting opportunities coming up to celebrate and share, with each other and with the wider community.

Building on last year's success we are working with our ecumenical partners to have a stall and host a spoken word stage at White Cross Street Party on July 13th and 14th this year. If you would be interested in taking part in the team who are going to be hosting the stall and supporting the spoken word stage please contact me, Sally (cw@wesleyschapel.org.uk).

Hearing people of different generations share their stories with each other is something we love to happen. As part of developing this we are planning a trip to Margate on 17th August. The cost would be £2.50 per person or £5 a family. If you would be interested in joining us please put your name down on the list which will be at the back of the church during June or contact me, (cw@wesleyschapel.org).

You might also see me sitting at our new "Listening Post" in the courtyard. This is just a table that Judith and I will be taking out and sitting at, inviting people to come and talk to us about whatever they like and pray about it too.



There will also be a group of us from the church attending the Greenbelt Festival over the August bank holiday, 23rd – 26th August this year. Some will be volunteering, others won't. If you are 18 or over and would like to join us or to volunteer, again contact me on the email address above. For more information on the festival visit <https://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>

Looking ahead we are going to be organising a series of Rugby Breakfasts in the autumn, where we'll be showing World Cup Rugby games, in the Radnor Room, prior to some of the 11am services in September and October. If you'd like to be part of the planning and delivery team supporting this, please let me know.

“Christ The Lord Is Risen Today”

The following is a tongue in cheek parody of the well-known Charles Wesley hymn “Christ The Lord Is Risen Today” by one of congregation members, John Oludotun Showemimo.

Christ The Lord Is back today; Hallelujah!
From a week of fun-filled play; Hallelujah!
Christ flew back from Tenerife; Hallelujah!
With his mate, it’s John O’Keefe; Hallelujah!

Seven days of endless fun; Hallelujah!
Tanning with the midday sun; Hallelujah!
From His work to heal and preach; Hallelujah!
Lying on a deckchair on the beach; Hallelujah!

The whole week is now complete; Hallelujah!
To the airport quick and sweet; Hallelujah!
Check in Christ, don’t miss your flight; Hallelujah!
Plane takes off at twelve midnight; Hallelujah!

Christ returned on Heathrow soil; Hallelujah!
From six hours from aircraft toil; Hallelujah!
Go home Christ, it’s time to rest; Hallelujah!
Work tomorrow, thou art blest; Hallelujah!

SERENDIPITY THIRTY

Part One: Susanna Wesley – Her Life and Times.

Near the front John of Wesley’s House, in the forecourt of Wesley’s Chapel, there is a monument. This not unusual, since there are many such to be found in and around the campus. Normally, they mark the site of a burial vault containing the bones of some eminent Methodists; often some early nineteenth century ministers. But this particular monument, in the form of an obelisk, is unusual since it is not marking a grave although it was intended

for that purpose. Further, the inscription it carries is now rather hidden and has to be searched for, although when the obelisk was first installed it was intended to be seen and read by passers-by on the road. Unfortunately, the passage of time and the growth of vegetation has rather defeated that objective. The monument concerned is that to Susanna Wesley, the mother of John and Charles Wesley the cofounders of the Methodist Church, and while because of its placement it is often rather neglected, it always receives attention on at least one day of the year.

For a few months at the beginning of 2019, the Museum of Methodism housed a small exhibition devoted to Susanna Wesley and in the May of this year a new book of her spiritual writings was published. These two events being particularly appropriate as she was born 300 years ago this year. Sunday January 20th 1669 being her birth date and Sunday January 20th this year, being the day on which a special service was held at Wesley's to commemorate and celebrate Susanna.

Although she is usually most often remembered in her role as the mother of the famous Wesley brothers, there is far more to her than just that. Susanna is worth celebrating in her own right, for she was an amazing woman. Unfortunately, because of the way history is most often recorded we tend to know more about the men in her life than we do about Susanna herself. Thus, this latest exercise in serendipity attempts to reveal something about her, by looking at what history has recorded concerning the men who helped to shape Susanna's life path, and so, gain some measure of Susanna's own place in time.

This said, let us start in the beginning, that is, the 20th January 1669, when she was born in Bishops Gate in the house which still stands in Spital Yard where it has been since the 17th Century, although the changes wrought by the passage of time means that it has ended up close to Liverpool Street Station and within ten minutes' walk of Wesley's Chapel.

Susanna's mother was Mary White, the second wife of Rev. Samuel Annesley. Susanna being his last daughter, and probably his seventh child, as in all Annesley appears to have had eight children and not the 25, or so, with which he is often erroneously credited. Susanna's father was a clergyman who had, during the Commonwealth period, been a member of the Puritan faction of the Church of England.

The Puritans being those men and women who considered that the measures which brought about the separation of the Church in England from the authority of the Pope had not gone far enough in completing its reformation. That is, they considered that it had not purged itself completely of those practices of the Church of Rome of which they disapproved and thought incompatible with the Bible.

During the Commonwealth period and the rule of Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector, when the Puritans had been able to make some of the changes to church government, they thought desirable, Samuel Annesley had become the vicar of St Giles Cripplegate. Being appointed in this role by Richard Cromwell, the Lord Protector's son, to lead one of the largest congregations in the City of London.

At the restoration of the monarchy, with Charles II on the throne, Samuel had been confirmed in his St Giles living which provided him with an annual income of some £700 and was thus a rich man; by 17th Century standards that is, as 300 plus years of inflation has now greatly reduced the value and spending power of money. But Annesley's status was not to last, since the restoration of the monarchy also resulted in the loss of influence of the Puritan faction and the introduction in 1662 of the Act of Uniformity.

This amongst other things, imposed the Book of Common Prayer on the Church of England and prescribed compulsory forms of worship and of the sacraments. The swearing of an oath of conformance to these, being required in order to hold any office in

the Church of England. Susanna's father was among the 2000 or so clergymen who, for conscience sake, refused to take the oath and thus, as a "Dissenter" was ejected from the Church of England, from his office as vicar and from his rich living of St Giles. Having like the other Dissenters been thrown out of church and home.

Thus it came about that Susanna was born at the house to which the Annesley family had fled seven years before and which her father's wealth had purchased. The dwelling in Spital Yard, which is just outside the boundary of the City of London and close to the meeting house in Spitalfields where her father ministered to a Dissenter congregation.

Susanna was thus brought up in a household where religious opinion could be challenged and indeed was encouraged by the excellent education that her father imparted to all his children; daughters and sons alike. Susanna herself must have been an open minded child listening engrossed to the discussions of her father's friends who gathered at the home of the man who had become a leading Divine of the time. This may be conjecture, but we do know that Susanna had, as a young woman, so weighed up in her mind the various ideas and opinions, she had heard expressed in conversations overheard in her home, or read for herself in her father's books, that at the age of thirteen, she renounced the views of her father and his Dissenter friends.

Instead she adopted the creed and the forms of the Church of England. Although what we know of Annesley suggests that while secretly, he might have admired the keen thought processes that enabled his daughter to make her decision, we know that he appears to have been upset by her adoption of the church which rejected him. Nevertheless, Susanna stayed living under her father's roof where she continued to reside even after her marriage. Indeed, it was most probably there that the thirteen-year-old Susanna met her husband to be. This being at the wedding of her older sister Elizabeth who married John Dunton, a London publisher and bookseller. He had brought out a volume of

poetry written by his best man, Samuel Wesley, a young theological student and accomplished poet who had composed a love poem for Elizabeth and John. Susanna is said to have been impressed by the poem but whether it was this or Samuel's other qualities which brought about what proved to be a love match, the pair had things in common. For example, the maiden name of Samuel's mother had also been White. Similarly, his father, Rev John Wesley, (or Westley, his spelling of his surname being somewhat variable), had too, for conscience sake, forfeited his living as the vicar of Winterbourne – Whitchurch in Dorset, as a consequence of the 1662 Act of Uniformity.

Susanna was, nevertheless of a very different temperament to Samuel, since she had a very independent spirit and was methodical and disciplined in all she undertook, whereas he was quick tempered, emotional and affectionate. On the other hand though, she shared his religious views.

For, Samuel although studying at a Dissenter theological academy to become a presbyter, was coming to the conclusion that he, like Susanna, should renounce the opinions of his father. In fact, he was beginning to consider that Dissent was erroneous and that his future lay in becoming a priest in the Church of England.

Here the story of Susanna is paused for this month; having learnt of her meeting with her husband to be and of the things they had in common. If you want to know what happened later, then make sure of getting hold of the next edition of Window on Wesley's.

Keith Dutton - Heritage Steward





'AN EXTRAORDINARY CALL'

CONFERENCE ON METHODIST WOMEN PREACHERS IN BRITAIN C.1740 TO THE PRESENT

FRIDAY 8 – SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER, 2019

OXFORD CENTRE FOR METHODISM & CHURCH HISTORY,
HARCOURT HILL CAMPUS, OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY, OX2 9AT

This conference takes place in the year of the 350th anniversary of the birth of Susanna Wesley and will focus on the whole sweep of Methodist women preachers in Britain, from Elizabeth Thomas and Sarah Perrin in 1741 exhorting or speaking in society meetings, to the 21st century, where women ordained ministers have numerical equality in Methodism, and look like supplying three Presidents of Conference in succession by the time the conference is held.

'An Extraordinary Call' refers to John Wesley's defence of lay preachers' ministry as well as that of women preachers. Featured speakers include the current Conference President, Michaela Youngson; Janice Holmes, Margaret Jones, Tim Macquiban, and Eryn White. This conference will complement the commemorative events at the University of Lincoln in July this year, and we hope that publication of most of the papers might follow, in 2020.

Registration for the conference is by contacting admin.ocmch@brookes.ac.uk.

To offer a paper, please contact Dr John Lenton john@jnandcslenton.plus.com or Dr Clive Norris cjpr_norris@hotmail.com.



Susanna
Wesley
Foundation



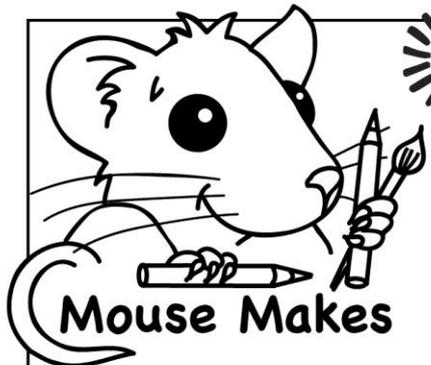
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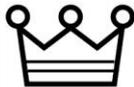
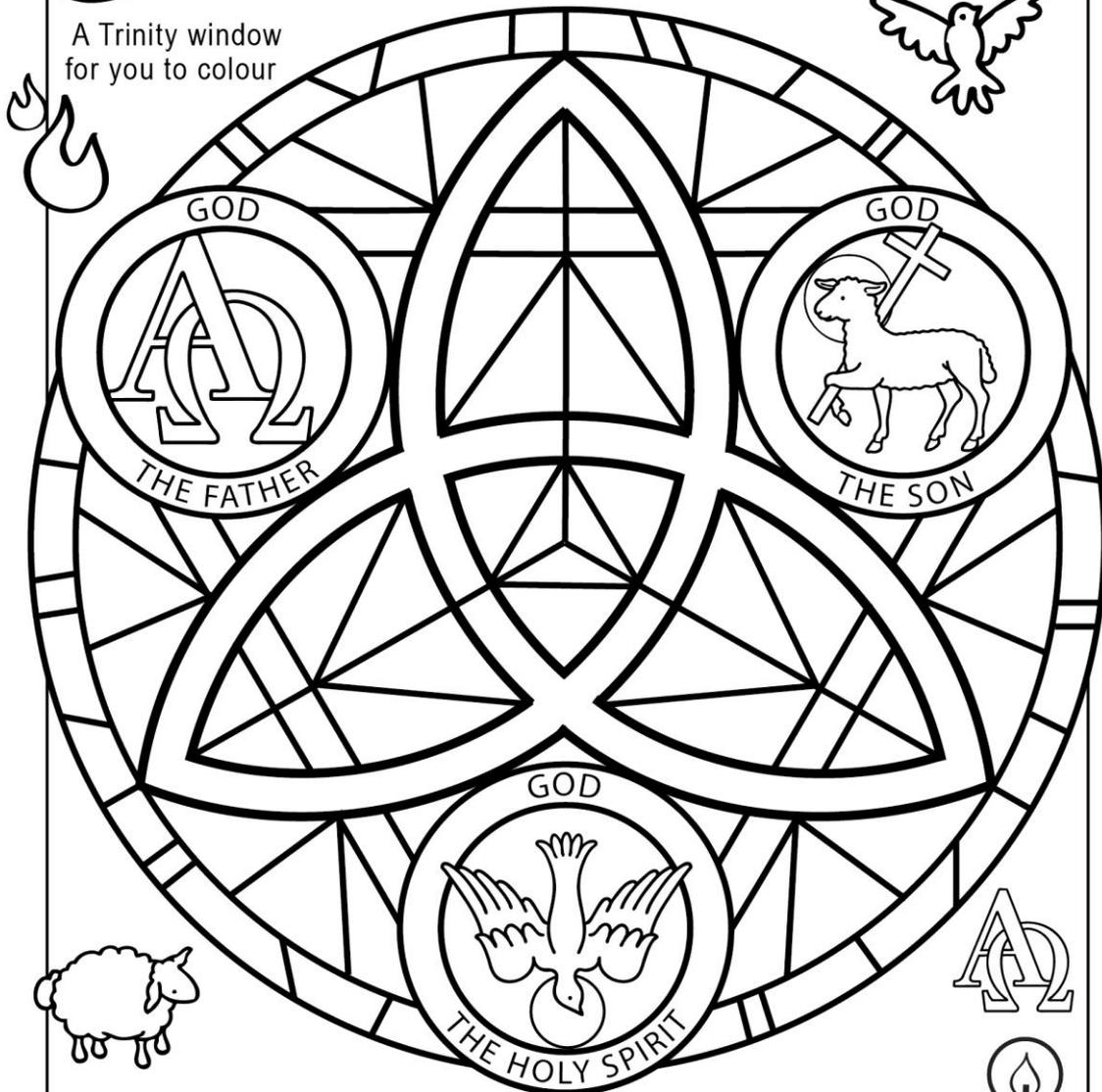
CHILDRENS PAGE



"May the *grace* of
the Lord **JESUS CHRIST**
and the *love* of **GOD**
and the fellowship of the
HOLY SPIRIT be with you."

2 Corinthians 13:13

A Trinity window
for you to colour



The Bible teaches us that God is three persons in one:
GOD = FATHER and SON and HOLY SPIRIT



WESLEY'S CHAPEL
& LEYSIAN MISSION

Teddy Bear Service

Last Tuesday of the month, 10.30 - 11.00

Interactive church service for babies, toddlers, and their parents, guardians or carers
www.wesleyshapel.org.uk

Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission Weekly Programme

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 Methodist Men's Fellowship (first Sunday in month)
	12.30pm	Young Adults lunch & Bible Study (third 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	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
Wednesday	10.00am	Stay and Play (pre-school – term time only)
	12.45pm	Service of Holy Communion (30 minutes)
Thursday	12.45pm	Service of the Word (30 minutes) <i>(followed by lunch & fellowship)</i>
Saturday		Young Adults Social (first Saturday in the month) <i>(times may vary according to activity)</i>

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

Evening
Taizé

*Wesley's Chapel
& Leysian Mission*



A Service of prayer, Song and Contemplation

**Last Sunday of every month
at 7.00pm**

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission 49 City Road London EC1Y 1AU · 0207 2532262 www.wesleyschapel.org.uk