



WINDOW ON WESLEY'S



JULY/AUGUST 2022

STAFF

Ministers: The Revd Canon Dr Jennifer H Smith BA PhD
M.Phil (Superintendent)
The Revd Steven Cooper BTh MA(Cantab)
MA(Winton)

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

Lay workers: Mr Thomas Smith (Leysian Missioner)
Mr Erick Hunter (Global Mission Fellow)

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

Administration: Mrs Ling Arzeian
Miss Beatrice Omane
Mrs Tracey Smith

Choir: Mrs Mikyung Kim

Caretaking: Mr Carlos Pereira

Church Office: 49 City Road
London EC1Y 1AU
020 7253 2262
administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk

Our Minister, the Revd Steven Cooper, writes:

As I write, for this double July-August issue of *Window on Wesley's*, it is a time of unprecedented upheaval in the United Kingdom government: there are at this moment over 30 ministerial posts vacant following an avalanche of resignations, and right now news is coming through that Boris Johnson is to resign as Prime Minister. It is fair to say, therefore, that this will be an important and fascinating couple of months in the life of this nation as we watch how the process for restoring some sort of stable and effective government unfolds. Of course this is taking place at a time of significant strain for the people of this nation, with the cost-of-living crisis, and the role of government at this time is as important as ever. I encourage you all to pray, as I shall be, for all in government; for those who are appointed anew to government roles; and for the whole nation—it's welfare and the common good, and especially the welfare of the most vulnerable—in these challenging times.

For many of us, these summer months may provide the opportunity for some rest or holiday from our regular responsibilities. I pray that all of you who are looking forward to holiday in the coming weeks may find it a time of real joy and refreshment. For some of us, there will be less respite, and we should not forget that while some are able to enjoy holiday or some down time from usual pressures, others will be in positions where they need to plough on, or cannot afford to take a break. Keep Ukraine in your prayers: at the time of writing, there is no let-up for our sisters and brothers there; especially those in the east of the country.

Still others will be burdened or have their plans disrupted by illness—not least by the continued presence of coronavirus among us, lest we forget. As I write, our superintendent minister Jennifer Smith—having evaded the virus hitherto—is herself bedridden with Covid, and I wish her a speedy recovery. Whatever this couple of months holds for you, remember that each day Jesus is alongside you; he shares in your joys and in

your sorrows; he is your strength, your encouragement; and by the power of God's Holy Spirit, in the fullest sense of the word, your friend. He prays with us, for our world. He empowers us to manifest God's love in our lives; and to bear witness to hope, wherever there is brokenness.

There are a number of special moments in the life of the Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission community in these couple of months. We look forward to the **baptism of Imanie Cenac** during worship on Sunday 17th July. In the final week of July, young adults from our community will journey with me to spend a week with the **Taizé Community** in eastern-central France, which promises to be a time of immense joy and spiritual enrichment for all those who are coming. Jennifer Smith, at the end of July and for the first week of August, will accompany her husband, Keith Riglin—Episcopalian (Anglican) Bishop of Argyll & the Isles—to the global once-a-decade **Lambeth Conference** of the bishops and their spouses of the worldwide Anglican Communion, meeting in Canterbury. At the end of August, Jennifer (in her own right) will be representing the British Methodist Church at the general assembly of the **World Council of Churches**, meeting at Karlsruhe in Germany. Please pray for all these.

And I look forward greatly to our Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission **trip to the seaside!** We head, in a phalanx of coaches, to Southend-on-Sea for the day on **Saturday 27th August**. I hope you can join us—this is absolutely for the whole family, and it will be a delight to have you join us that day. The cost is extremely affordable at £5 for the trip—and we are more than happy to help if that presents any obstacle: please do let our office, or our Leysian Missioner Thomas Smith, know if you are able to come.

It is also a pleasure to welcome from among our congregation two **new Local Preachers On Note**: that is, individuals exploring a call to be a Local Preacher in the Methodist Church: Lorraine Davis and Sarah Murray. Congratulations to them on being bold to pursue this call! Do consider—and perhaps these summer

months may provide some space for this—**what God is calling you to**, in the life of this church, or in the wider world.

Lastly, please remember that my colleagues and I are always here to talk and to do what we can to support you in whatever life may be facing you with, or with whatever questions with which you may be grappling. You can reach me at the Chapel or on 07483 160593: please don't hesitate to be in touch, if there's anything you would like to discuss.

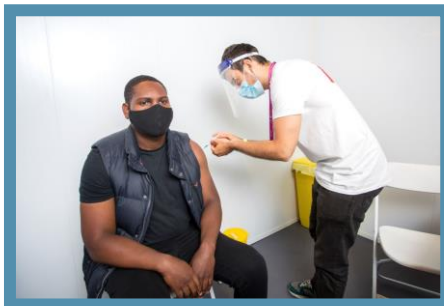
Have a blessed summer. I pray for you all, whatever these days may bring.

Every blessing,

Steven

Grab a jab - more than 6,500 Islington residents get first Covid-19 vaccine in 2022

More than 6,500 Islington residents have had their first Covid-19 vaccine since January this year - as people are



reminded “it’s never too late” to get your first vaccine.

The newly-released figures, published by UK Health Security Agency, mean that 68% of the borough's adult population is now vaccinated.

Pharmacies and walk-in centers are offering free jabs now across Islington, and also some events like next month's Cally Festival.

You can find out more about Covid-19 and where to grab a jab in Islington at www.islington.gov.uk/covid-vaccinations, and book appointments through the NHS.

Cllr Nurullah Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care, said: "It's great to see a significant increase in the number of residents coming forward for their vaccines since January. We're working alongside our health, voluntary and community partners to ensure our residents are getting the correct data-backed information and continue to have opportunities to get the vaccine at whichever dose they are at.

"We can all help keep our communities safe, and protect ourselves and people most at risk, by getting vaccinated to reduce the impact of this still very prevalent and deadly virus on us all."

With widespread concerns over how long Covid can leave even fit, younger patients with ongoing ill health, the council's Public Health lead is keen to remind residents that the Covid vaccine not only reduces the spread of Covid but it also reduces the risk of long Covid by around 50%.

This means that vaccinated residents are less likely to experience reported symptoms such as brain fog, extreme tiredness, anxiety and depression.

Jonathan O'Sullivan, Acting Director for Public Health at Islington Council, said: "It's never too late to get your first vaccine - it offers the best protection against getting Covid-19, and reduces the chance of you experiencing long Covid by around 50%.

"Residents can book through our national booking system, but there are also walk-in opportunities for getting the vaccine, at pharmacies across the borough and vaccine pop-up events in the community throughout the summer. No one attending a walk-in site or event has to give their NHS number or their immigration status to get a jab."

Summer Days

The joy of long summer days is upon us. The Chapel grounds are Highly “Instagrammable” and we regularly have people coming in to pose amidst the blooms.

It is a real pleasure to come to work here. Mid-week the Chapel exudes a quiet holiness that is not just the product of past ages, but is filled daily with prayers both public and private. We are blessed to have the spaces we do, our forebears did much to provide for us both in terms of space and splendours.

We have joys to come. The outing on the 27th August 2022 has already sold enough tickets at time of press to “justify” itself. If you want to come, and I’m not about to ask, the office can issue tickets in my absence. Once we hit 98 places we will have to stop selling tickets...and there are still some places available for those who can’t afford the cost, you are very welcome to ask for them. Sunday School will run until the end of July, for August there will be activity bags every Sunday and things to do during the week too. We know that School Holiday Boredom can set in if there is “nothing to do”. But with God, there’s always prayer and praise available.

Thomas Smith – Leysian Missioner

Spain

At the end of June, I was fortunate enough to spend a week in



Spain walking the Camino del Santiago. A pilgrimage for almost a thousand years, the Camino is one of the most famous and revered pilgrimages in Europe. Every year hundreds of thousands of people walk to the Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela as an act of worship

and discipline, meeting and learning from others all along the way.

I walked the Camino Ingles route, a 113 kilometer hike from the ancient port of Ferrol down to Santiago. It's a long walk in the Spanish sun (and I forgot sunscreen), but there's always another Spanish cafe or bar tucked into the hedge or around the corner to ease your sore legs and cool off. And the kindness of the locals is incredible, always happy to give directions, hand you a water bottle, or just wish you a "Buen Camino" from the porch as you walk past. I was once even picked up and driven back to the trail after I missed a turn and walked several kilometers off the trail one day. (Honestly, it's a miracle I made it back to London intact).

Above all, spiritual heritage is woven into almost every step of the walk. Every day you pass churches, chapels, shrines, and stone crosses. By the second day of the walk I had to adopt a shorter prayer because I was running out of time stopping at each church! From the sounds of church bells rolling across the green valleys, to the ubiquitous Galician Horreo perched in every yard and garden, the Camino remains a beautiful, peaceful way to spend time in reflection with God. Listening to the meditative rhythm of your feet plodding along, each step drawing you closer to the distant cathedral. Just don't let "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" get stuck in your head...

Erick Hunter – Global Mission Fellow

Holy Club trip to Lindisfarne

The Holy Club is once again looking to spend some time outside of London. From October 7-9, the young adults will be going on a retreat to Lindisfarne, the Holy Island. A pilgrimage site for hundreds of years, the island has long been a scenic place for Christians to study, reflect, and escape.

This year, the young adults will be reading C.S. Lewis' *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*, and then reflecting on it as an allegory for the gospels, and what we can learn from the life and

death of Christ. As all Holy Club activities, the retreat is open to anyone ages 18-35, but there are only 10 slots available so be sure to sign up soon if you're interested. The cost will be around £100 to help cover travel, and attendees will be given a free copy of *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* to read before the retreat. Please email Erick Hunter at GMF@wesleyschapel.org.uk if you're interested in registering, or would just like to know more.

St Swithun's Day

St Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will then rain for 40 days after that. It all began when Swithun was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

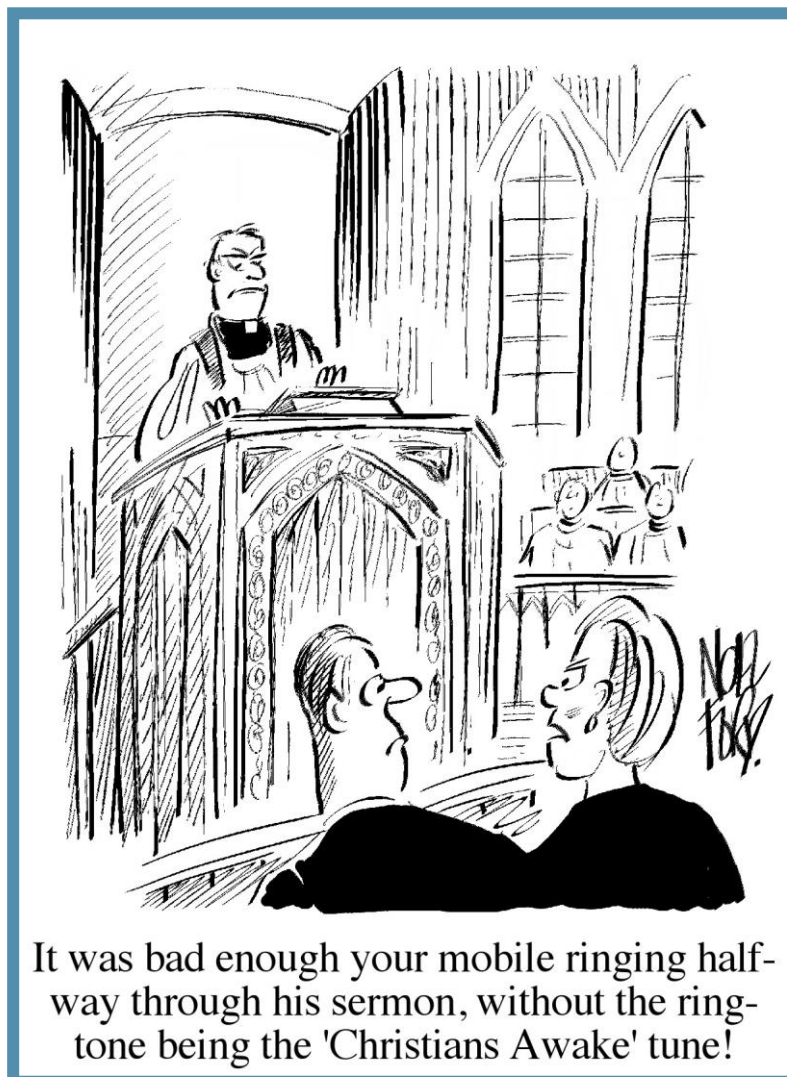
That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again

in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.

St Swithun's Day, if thou dost rain

*St Swithun's day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain;
St Swithun's day, if thou be fair,
For forty days 'twill rain na mair.*

Ancient rhyme



It was bad enough your mobile ringing half-way through his sermon, without the ring-tone being the 'Christians Awake' tune!

In Berlin

So I took my biggest solo-adventure to date, and went to Berlin. Having wanted to see the city since my schooldays (in the best traditions of British Schooling much of my GCSEs and A-levels was German history 1900-45!)

I went by aeroplane, carbon offset which was a nice thing to see on my ticket.

I went with just enough German to say please, thank you, and “the bill please”. Surprisingly this largely “sufficed”. At the first attempt to speak German most cheerfully switched to English and gave me the “at least you tried” smile.

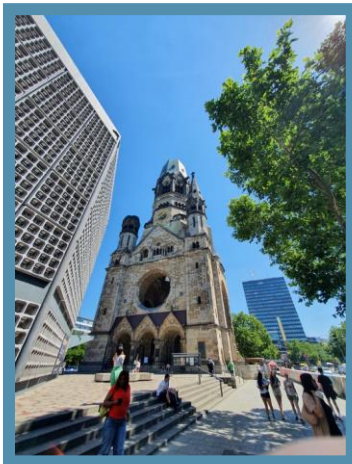
I will admit to that great wickedness, I skipped Church on the Sunday. It was 35°C, and that’s nearly as hot as blood! So I went to the Wannsee, saw the villa where the Holocaust was planned (the contrast of a beautiful genteel house and the horror that was organised there is particularly striking). Then I went to a beach, bathing in the lake waters which were rather full of weeds. It was the first time in a long time I’d gone swimming and I more splashed about, but it was lovely.



Nonetheless I did get a good “dose” of Christianity whilst there. I will admit to a little feeling of “glad I’m one of them” when I was learning in the DDR (East Germany) museum of how the churches helped resist the regime, supporting justice, environmentalism, and taking great risks for what was right.

I did also visit some of the historic churches. Including the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church (the first not the second who is probably better known to us), which is the equivalent of Coventry

Cathedral, a striking ruin in the city which serves as a reminder of the importance of peace. It also has links to the Volgograd Cathedral (formerly Stalingrad), a reminder of the ties which have been built up since the war to encourage peace.



There was also a statue of Martin Luther in the main square of East Berlin, Alexanderplatz, and there were many churches, including still a French and an American Church. The former dates back to the 18th century. The church is a thread that has always connected Europe since Roman times. Despite the best efforts of all manner of wickedness, God is still worshipped across the continent. We give thanks for it, and rejoice this summer as some of them will come join us in worship here at Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission

Thomas Smith – Leysian Missioner

FREE SWIMMING LESSONS FOR PEOPLE AGED 60+

Ironmonger Row Baths and Highbury Leisure Centre are offering free swimming lessons for people aged 60 and over. Sessions will start the first week of July and run as a 10 week block. Lessons are run in partnership with Islington Council.



TIMETABLE

LEVEL	LOCATION	DAY	TIME
Beginner	Ironmonger Row Baths	Fridays	10.30am - 11am
Intermediate	Ironmonger Row Baths	Fridays	11am - 11.30am
Beginner	Highbury Leisure Centre	Mondays	9.30am - 10am
Beginner	Highbury Leisure Centre	Mondays	10am - 10.30am
Intermediate	Highbury Leisure Centre	Mondays	10.30am - 11am

To book please scan QR code or visit website at better.org.uk/free-swimming-lessons
You can email for more information at summer.lessons@gll.org



Global Relationships Partner Church Pre-Conference Consultation

The Global Relationships Partner Church Pre-Conference Consultation took place on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd June 2022 at Methodist Church House, London. The consultation is a forum for the sharing of information to develop and sustain global partner relationships, listening to the concerns of partner Churches and preparing them for the Methodist Conference.

Partners are asked the issues they wish to discuss in advance and these are included in the consultation agenda. This year topics included the changing nature of global relationships, cross-cultural mission, food security, migration and refugee work.

The Pre-Conference Consultation helps the British Church hear the concerns of partners, with the partners who are present able to hear and reflect on the concerns of others and understand the context of the British Church, especially around the requirements of the charity commission in regard of governance of financial and safeguarding concerns.

Rachel Lampard shared with the group about the Walking with Micah project that was to be discussed at the Conference. Tim Carter, Director of Safeguarding, spoke in detail about the work of the safeguarding team, especially in relation to the international work of the Methodist Church and the context of safeguarding incidents and British aid.

This year's Pre-Conference Consultation also included visits to Westminster Abbey, Westminster Methodist Central Hall and Wesley's Chapel and museum. This final visit to Wesley's Chapel, John Wesley's resting place and the rooms in which he spent many hours in prayer, was especially poignant for some of the partner Church representatives.

Andy Dye, Programme Team Leader, Global Relationships said, 'It was a privilege to listen and learn from the concerns of the gathered leaders and heads of churches, to identify the points of

mutual concern between partners and to further develop the discussions on the evolving nature of our international partnerships.'

News from the 2022 Methodist Conference

Methodist Conference agrees new ways of Oversight and Trusteeship:

The Methodist Conference has approved new processes of oversight and trusteeship. A wide-ranging set of proposals were put before the Conference in order to reflect more accurately the size of the church and to reduce the burden of administration on districts and circuits. In introducing the resolutions, the Secretary of the Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler told representatives that this had been a lot of work and there was still much to do.

The Conference voted to reduce the size and duration of the Conference and also to establish a new trustee body, the Connexional Council, which will replace the Methodist Council and the Strategy and Resources committee.

The Connexional Council will be the charity trustee body. It will have general control and management of the Connexional administration of the Methodist Church and will report annually to the Charity Commission. It will consist of around twenty people, with the Secretary of the Conference describing it as small enough to be nimble and flexible and large enough to have different views and balance.

Resolutions to reduce the number of Conference representatives were approved after being amended and the size of the Conference will drop from 306 to 225. The Methodist Council will be asked to do work on the distribution of seats in the Conference. The Conference agreed to new ways of working which will result in shortening the length of the Conference by a day from 2024.

The Conference voted not to receive proposals which aimed to reduce the number of districts and subsequent resolutions were withdrawn. The Secretary of the Conference told representatives that a number of districts have already started work on boundary changes and these will be considered by the Methodist Council. Dr Hustler said that discussions with representatives will take place over the summer and its hoped these will enable new and imaginative ideas to be explored as the Connexion discerns the way ahead.

Methodist Conference votes to simplify process for those considering ministry:

The Methodist Conference has voted in favour of a new plan to make the process for those seeking leadership and ordained ministry more accessible.

The new 10-month Connexional Exploration programme will be open for registration in May 2023 and will open to anyone who is baptised and has been in active membership of the Methodist Church for at least one year.

There will be 3 stages to the process in order to enable people to explore vocation and church leadership in the widest possible sense. Phase 1 will enable the participant to *Explore* – asking which of a number of paths God might be calling them to follow. They will do this alongside an accompanist who will be there for support throughout the process. Accompanists will be recruited from a wide range of experienced people and will be there to advise, support, guide and reflect.

For those who then feel called to test a call to ordained ministry, Phase 2 *Discover* will include a period of reflection at a retreat; finally in Phase 3, the candidate will submit a portfolio and attend a selection conference.

The new system will work to make the candidating process culturally sensitive and affirming, ensuring fairness to all candidates. The system will have built into it sensitivity and

awareness in relation to issues of race, gender, disability and sexuality, as well as learning styles and medical issues.

The new system is designed to ensure careful and sensitive decision-making. There will be more time with each candidate at the selection conference which will allow for deeper engagement with a person's journey and heritage enabling better discernment.

The Ministerial Co-ordinator for Oversight of Ordained Ministries, the Revd Dr Claire Potter says: "The Methodist Conference has taken a significant step in adopting this new process by which people will discern God's vocation. It allows each individual to navigate that journey with an accompanist and means the focus and feel of the process will be on hearing God's call and responding to it, rather than regarding candidating as a series of boxes to be ticked or barriers to overcome. We anticipate that this will enable many more people and a wider diversity of people to respond to God's call into a wide range of ministries, some of which will be ordained."

The system for candidates to explore their sense of call to ordained ministry in the Methodist Church and for the church to test that call has been in place since Union in 1932.

Currently, to candidate for Presbyteral ministry a person must be baptised, a member in good standing for three years and a local preacher. To candidate for diaconal ministry a person must be baptised, a member in good standing for three years and a Worship Leader. Evidence suggests that changing these conditions may enable more to explore their sense of call to ordained ministry.

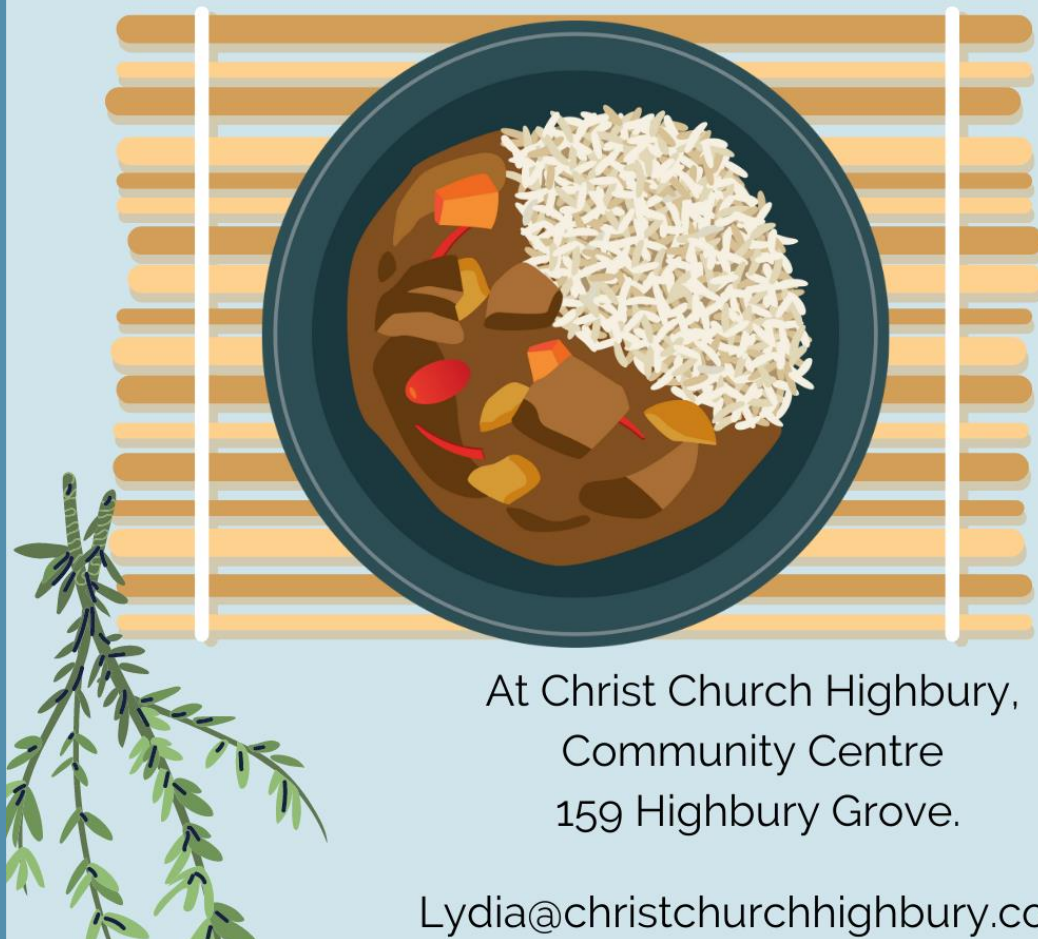


Can we help you?

Holiday Lunches

Whatever your need may be we would like to help relieve the pressure by offering free lunches during the summer holidays.

Wednesdays at 1pm for families starting on the 27th July through till August 31st.



At Christ Church Highbury,
Community Centre
159 Highbury Grove.

Lydia@christchurchhighbury.com .



HOLY CLUB

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Inspired by John Wesley's original Holy Club at Oxford in 1729, gather with fellow young believers to, eat explore Faith, and practice discipleship.

Wednesdays 6-7:30 PM

Philadelphia Room

**Contact: Erick Hunter,
GMF@Wesleyschapel.org.uk**

**Weekly Book
Discussion: "The
Screwtape Letters"
by C.S. Lewis.
Wednesdays 6-7:30**

**Lindisfarne Retreat:
The Gospel in the
Lion the Witch and
the Wardrobe.
October 7-9, cost
£100.**

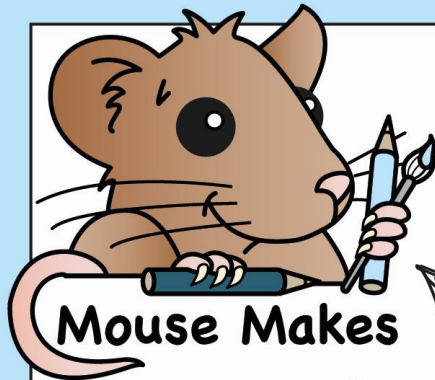
**Bring & Share Picnic
in Regent's Park: July
13th, 6-7:30 PM.**

**WESLEY'S CHAPEL AND
LEYSIAN MISSION**

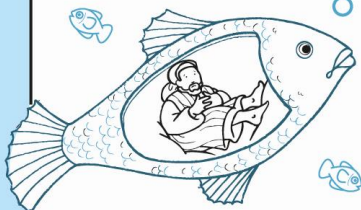
49 City Road, EC1Y 1AU

<https://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/holy-club/>

CHILDRENS PAGE



READ the full story
in the book of Jonah



What swallowed Jonah?
A big _____

How long was he there?
three _____ and
three _____
Jonah 1:17

JONAH'S JOURNEY

Which city did **God**
tell **Jonah** to go to?

_____ and why?
Jonah 1:12



Where did Jonah
try to go instead?

_____ What did he travel in?

_____ Jonah 1:3



What did God send to stop him?

A great _____

What did Jonah tell the **sailors**
to do to make the sea **calm**?

_____ him into the **sea**
Jonah 1:4-16



What did Jonah do?

_____ then what did the fish do?
Jonah 2:1-10

DID YOU KNOW?

In Bible
times wearing itchy
sackcloth made from
goat's hair was a sign of
grief and repentance



S W A L L O W E D H F
A D E M E S S A G E A
C R E L E N T E D S S
K D B V J G H B O A T
C A L M O O R N F I N
L Y W I N D O I I L G
O S P R A Y W G S O S
T A R S H I S H H R E
H T B N F O R T Y S A
N I N E V E H S H I P



Find the missing words. Look up the Bible references then
look for them and the words on this page in **bold** in the word search



When Jonah reached Nineveh
he proclaimed God's **message**...
the city would be overthrown in

_____ days
Jonah 2:1-10

What did the people do?

F _____
What did they put on?

_____ Jonah 3:1-9

What did God do?

R _____
Jonah 3:10

Worship at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission

Monday – Saturday

10.00am Morning Prayer from the Methodist Worship Book

Wednesday

12.45pm Service of Holy Communion

Sunday

9.45am Service of Holy Communion (except first Sunday of the month)

11.00am Morning Worship

7.00pm Service in the style of Taize (first Sunday of the month)

All services except the Wednesday Lunchtime Communion

Service are also live streamed

(www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming) and remain viewable afterwards at: www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/previous-services

We also have a dedicated email address for prayer requests which will be received directly by our ministers Jen and Steven, and will be prayed during the course of the Daily morning prayer service. Please send all prayer requests to:

prayer@wesleyschapel.org.uk

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