



# WINDOW ON WESLEY'S



**MARCH 2023**

## **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 (Finance Officer)  
Miss Beatrice Omane (Administration Assistant)  
Mrs Tracey Smith (Administration Manager)

**Choir:** Mrs Mikyung Kim

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***Our Minister, the Revd Steven Cooper writes:***

We are well underway with Lent here at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission, and I'm finding it really fulfilling to be able to share in our rich Lenten programme of worship and reflection: this is the first time since I joined you at Wesley's that this season has felt properly unencumbered by the effects of the Covid pandemic, and I praise God for the way we have weathered that storm together. It is a special joy to see, every week, more of you returning to the Chapel after sometimes two or three years of separation from the full experience of community here. We are a community in good heart!

There is much on offer here this month: our regular schedule of Sunday and daily worship is supplemented by our **Lenten series of holy communion services reflecting on the seven Heavenly Virtues**, every Wednesday at 6pm, for around 40 minutes. Also, our Saturday morning **ecumenical Lent gatherings** (running until 18<sup>th</sup> March) are off to a flying start: they are a great opportunity to meet our friends from our neighbour churches (St Joseph's, St Giles' Cripplegate, and Jewin churches) and to discover each other's special heritage and traditions—Saturdays, 10.30am to 11.30am, with refreshments from 10am. See the details later in this newsletter.

And don't forget our **church coach trip to Bristol**, and John Wesley's 'New Room'—the first Methodist chapel—on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March. I am hugely looking forward to this, and it's great to see so many of you signed up!

Our service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March will include a **Ghanaian cultural celebration**, marking Ghanaians independence day. Plus, please read on in this *Window on Wesley's* for news of the many other things going on here this month.

Looking ahead, a heads-up that on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, **Palm Sunday**, our worship will begin with a grand street procession setting out at 10.45am from the back of the Chapel.

On Easter Day, 9<sup>th</sup> April, we will be welcoming **new members** into the church here: some have joined in fellowship with this congregation just recently, others have been with us for many years but never received into membership before. Don't hesitate to be in touch with me if you too would like to explore baptism, confirmation or becoming a church member: it is always a huge pleasure and privilege to welcome you!

Get ready too for **Holy Week**, including our **ecumenical 'tenebrae'** service of darkness and light on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April (8.30pm at St Giles' Cripplegate); **Maundy Thursday** service of holy communion with the washing of feet here at Wesley's (6pm, 6<sup>th</sup> April); **Good Friday** service of reflection (10am to noon, 7<sup>th</sup> April); and our magnificent **Easter Vigil**, Holy Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> April from 8.30pm—not to be missed!

Looking further ahead still, read on for full details of our young adults' fantastic **pilgrimage to Taizé** in the first week of August this year. Do save the date if you are 18 to 30. This was a highlight of my year last year, and I'm delighted that we already have several of you indicating to join us for this this summer. Be in touch if you'd like to join!

Finally, please join me in extending our prayers and good wishes for Jennifer, our Superintendent, as she embarks on her three-month period of sabbatical this month. It will be a time of growth and refreshment from which we will all reap the benefits, as she journeys with God, travelling to Nigeria, Scotland, and elsewhere. Our prayers go with her, and we look forward to her return in June.

As always, please don't hesitate to be in touch with me if there is anything you would like to talk about. It is a joy to journey with you, my sisters and brothers. May God bless you this month, and may you have a fulfilling and enriching Lent, whatever the month may bring.

**Steven**

# LENT AT WESLEY'S CHAPEL & LEYSIAN MISSION



Reflections on the 7 heavenly virtues:

22 February Prudence (*Ash Wednesday*)

1 March Justice

18 March Temperance

15 March Fortitude

22 March Faith

29 March Hope

6 April Charity (*Maundy  
Thursday with foot  
washing*)

WITH COMMUNION  
WEDNESDAYS  
6PM - 7PM

## Our Superintendent on Sabbatical

Every seven years' Methodist ministers are asked to take a sabbatical of three months for study, rest, reflection, and renewal: my last in 2016 after ten years in ministry allowed me library time in the USA to transcribe a manuscript I had been working with for over a decade, written by Roger Williams in 1665. He was an early advocate for liberty of conscience and founder of Providence Rhode Island but was also a local boy to City Road, studying at Charterhouse exactly a century before John Wesley. Alongside the task, I was asking God whether I should remain in week by week ministry or go into teaching or some other church role: I left the sabbatical with a clear call to continue in churches.

Here I am now, embarking on a second sabbatical: this time I will be studying and reflecting on the sermon as a literary and spoken word form: what kind of sermon serves us now, and how should we preach in conversation with the Gen Z innovations in the English language, and new patterns of communication?

At the end of the first month I will also accompany our Secretary of Conference Jonathan Hustler to confer with the Bishops of the Methodist Church Nigeria. Many are old friends from the 11 teaching trips I've made in the past, so I am looking forward to the heat and the light, and restoring of relationships. I continue to chair the Global Relationships Committee for the national church, so that fits nicely.

And I am looking forward to rest, exercise, health, and swimming in the sea at Ganavan Sands, the beach on my husband Keith's doorstep in Oban. I will miss City Road, and I will be looking forward to returning! Please look after Steven and all our staff while I am away, and pray for our wonderful chapel.

***Jen***



## CHURCHES IN EC1/EC2 - LENT & HOLY WEEK 2023



***Jewin Welsh Church***



***St. Giles Cripplegate***



***St. Joseph's Church***



***Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission***

### **"A Journey of Grace" - Discovering our local Sacred Spaces"**

*Finding out more about our histories, our buildings, our stories, our dreams for the future.*

**Saturdays in Lent - 10.00 (refreshments) for 10.30-11.30**

25 February, Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission, 49 City Road, EC1Y 1AU

4 March, St. Joseph's Church, Lamb's Buildings, off Lamb's Passage  
EC1Y 8LD

11 March, St. Giles Cripplegate, Fore Street, Barbican EC2Y 8DA

18 March, Jewin Welsh Church, 70 Fann Street EC1Y 0SA

**WEDNESDAY, 5 APRIL 2023, 20.30,  
ST. GILES CRIPPLEGATE  
ECUMENICAL TENEBRAE  
ALL ARE WELCOME !**





## John Wesley's House Primitive Physic Garden

Work first started on the Physic Garden, in its current guise, back in 2018. Volunteers from CMS Law came to re-plant several different areas of the site to create a Physic Garden Trail. Despite the pandemic, most of those plants are still in place today and we have maintained our partnership with CMS Law and volunteers attend each month to help with the garden, apart from in the winter months.

The latest stage in the project, is the installation of signage to tell



people about John Wesley's interest in medicine, and why it was important to him. Three oak posts have also been installed with brass plaques engraved with selected plants. The main sign has a QR code so the Physic Garden trail can be downloaded onto people's phones and hard copies will also be available in the Museum.

We are now looking forward to next month, as the CMS volunteers will be back to plant up the vegetable patch at the back of the Chapel

with new onions, garlic and French beans!

The Physic Garden takes its name from John Wesley's 'Primitive Physic or An Easy and Natural Method of Curing Most Diseases'. First published in 1747, it is a compilation of over 800 suggested cures for various ailments ranging from plague to ear aches! Many of the suggested cures are very strange, however, some of the plants listed are used in modern day homeopathy such as lavender, sage and rosemary. The reason John Wesley was so interested in medicine wasn't just because he wanted to stay healthy, he thought it was part of his religious duty to help those in need stay healthy both physically and spiritually. 18<sup>th</sup> century healthcare, including access to doctors and apothecaries, was



not free, and many doctors were in the business for profit rather than to help people. John Wesley and other early Methodists stepped into the void to assist those in need by setting up dispensaries in Bristol at the New Room and in London at the Foundry Chapel. The Primitive Physic was an extension of this, with the aim of helping people try to make their own remedies from easily available ingredients. Wesley, however, did not claim to be a doctor and made the point that if things didn't improve they should seek out a trusted doctor!

As March arrives, spring is certainly in the air and we're looking forward to the plants re-awakening and celebrating the next chapter for the Physic Garden. At our Spring Open House event on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April, our family activity will be based on using watercolours to create artwork inspired by anything around the site such as the garden, House or Chapel. The event is free and will run from 11am – 3pm. We hope to see you there!

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Want a fun and creative Lent activity? Spice up your prayer and scripture life!

Try this one off online evening workshop, led by connexional learning team members:

[Reflecting on our God stories | Tuesday 14 March | 7pm - 8:30pm](#)

At this event led by the Methodist Church's Disciple Officers, attendees will have a chance to discuss and share ideas of how to reflect on journeys with God, including journaling, discussion groups and creativity. [More here](#).



## E1 House Group

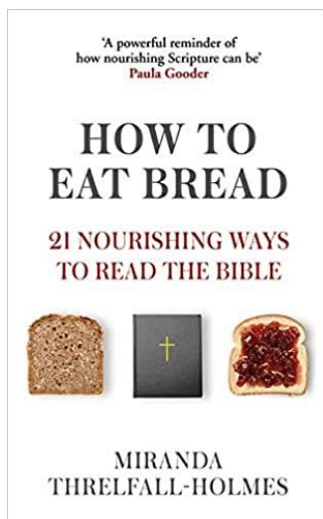
The House Group that meets monthly at Cheryl Gurnham's flat has just finished reading the Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. We are taking a break throughout March and starting again in April. If you are interested in joining a house group for study and fellowship, then please contact Cheryl ([Cheryl.gurnham@cms-cmno.com](mailto:Cheryl.gurnham@cms-cmno.com)).

We meet at Cheryl's flat (near Aldgate East station) monthly on Saturday evenings, 6:30pm for a 7pm start. We eat a simple supper (usually vegetarian) and then move on to our book discussion at 8pm-9pm. We finish with prayers for the Church and for each other.

Our next few meeting dates are:

- Saturday 29 April
- Saturday 20 May
- Saturday 17 June

Our next book will be "How to Eat Bread: 21 Nourishing Ways to Read the Bible" by Miranda Threlfall-Holmes.



This looks at different methods of reading the Bible and offers an opportunity for us to discuss what we find useful and try out different methods in our own Bible reading disciplines. We are going to also read selected sermons from John Wesley's 44 Sermons – we thought trying to tackle all of these in a year may be a little too much, even for the most dedicated Methodist! Our format is that everyone will have read the relevant chapters of the book before the session

(this requires some preparation, but not too much). Then one member of the House Group leads the others in a discussion, based on parts of the chapters that people find most interesting. We always have a lively debate and often share insights or things we find difficult.

Personally, I've found the House Group a great way to support each other at Church. We often have members of the House Group who

are just passing through Wesley's Chapel for a while (e.g. students or people on work placements). I hope to think that we are welcoming and the door is always open for new people. If you are not sure whether this is for you, why not come along on 29<sup>th</sup> April. We just need to know numbers for catering purposes. We meet in person (and this is the preference), but we can offer Teams dial in details if someone is unable to make a meeting in person on a particular occasion.

***Cheryl Gurnham***

**Young Adults' Pilgrimage to TAIZÉ  
30<sup>th</sup> July–6<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

*Our minister, Revd Steven Cooper writes...*

Building on the success of last year's visit, in August 2023, we're inviting young adults aged from 18 to 30 from Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission to join me on a journey to Taizé, an international Christian community in France. Founded out of the conflict of WWII, Taizé is an extraordinary place. Each week it offers several thousand young people from around the world time and space to breathe, to listen, to think and to live for a while to the beat of heaven. People that go to Taizé often say it's an experience that's changed their lives. We hope you'd like to join me and others as we travel there in August.

Please read on for lots of information about what Taizé's like, what goes on, how we'll be getting there and staying there and what it all costs. We hope you'd like to come and see, experience, enjoy Taizé for yourself.

**What is the week in Taizé about?**

The week-long meetings at Taizé are about searching, listening and thinking about what it means to be a human being, and how we can do something to bring justice, peace and hope to our world.

We camp, or sleep in simple dormitories, eat out of plastic bowls, stay up late and spend amazing amounts of time singing and talking and sharing. No one who has been to Taizé comes back unchanged. So why not journey with us and see what there is to discover?

The meetings provide a space where young adults can meet people their age from other countries and talk about important things. But at the same time it is also possible at Taizé to discover how to be on your own.



Three times a day everyone gathers with the community in the church for prayer with songs, a scripture reading and silence.

Each day, the brothers of the community introduce a biblical reflection organized by language, followed by a time of discussion in small groups.



In the afternoon there are workshops which explore themes of faith and life touching on work, society, art and culture, social justice, world peace...



Between the meals and times of prayer there is plenty of free time. In the evening there is a great time of socializing at 'Oyak' where over refreshments, there is singing, dancing and all kinds of spontaneous entertainment in the midst of the crowd. And the church is always open for those looking for quiet.

Nothing is compulsory about Taizé. The wonderful sense of freedom there makes the





times of prayer and meeting tremendously compelling. You just want to take part in everything because there is so much to be learned and experienced there. Our trip is to experience life as part of a faith community. As such, it can be a powerful experience, and we will also be expected to join in and volunteer, for example by serving the meals, washing-up and keeping the site tidy.

## **A typical day at Taizé**

### **Monday to Friday**

**8.15 am** Morning Prayer, then breakfast

**10 am** Introduction to the day with a brother of the community followed by small group discussion

**12.20pm** Midday Prayer, then lunch

**2pm** Optional song-practice during the afternoon, international small groups or practical work

**5.15pm** Tea

**5.45pm** Themed workshops

**7pm** Supper

**8.30pm** Evening prayer, then vigil with songs in the church, or free time. On Fridays, evening prayer is followed by a vigil around the cross.

**9.30pm** Free socializing time at 'Oyak'

**11.30pm** Night silence across the camp.

### **Saturday**

**3.15pm** Themed workshops

**8.30pm** Evening Prayer: Service of Light with candles to celebrate the Easter mystery

### **Sunday**

**8.45am** Breakfast

**10am** Sunday Holy Communion



## Trip details and costs

We plan to travel by minibus (via Eurotunnel), departing London early on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July and returning late on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August.

For young adults from Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission, the cost is subsidized: the total inclusive of travel, accommodation and food will be £240—but we will have a fund to provide additional subsidy as required, in order that cost need for no-one be prohibitive. You will need a valid passport and appropriate visa for visiting France, and arrange travel insurance (help can be provided with these arrangements if needed).

Bring a sleeping-bag and camping mat. There are shower and washing facilities on site. It can be hot in France at that time of year, but it can also rain. Come prepared!

## Interested?

For more information and to book your place, or if you have questions regarding Taizé or the trip, please contact Revd Steven Cooper on 07483 160593 or at [minister@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:minister@wesleyschapel.org.uk), or call via the office on 020 7253 2262.



Read up on Taizé at: [www.taize.fr](http://www.taize.fr)

[Supporting young people's mental and emotional health |  
Wednesday 15 March | 6pm - 7pm](#)

The Diocese of London is partnering with Youthscape to provide an introduction to Headstrong, their new online Mental Health Resource Hub. Find out how you can access information and resources to support young people's mental and emotional health. This session is open to all. Click [here](#) for more information.





Wesley's Chapel  
& Leysian Mission

# LUNCHTIME MUSIC RECITALS

## IN MARCH

**7th Jonathan Willett  
Clarinet**  
**Jasmin Allpress  
Piano**

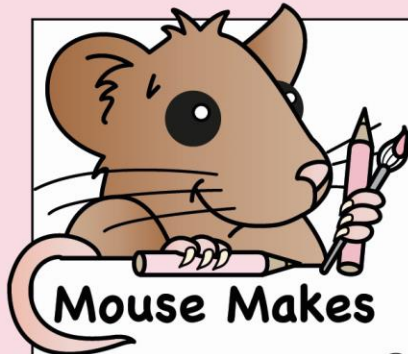
14th Yoon Seok (John) Shin Piano

# 21st Christina Stuart Violin

**28th Felicity Vincent &  
Catherine Dubois**

# Free entry

# CHILDRENS PAGE



## WHO IS MY MOTHER?

CAIN	ELIZABETH
ISAAC	HANNAH
JESUS	RACHEL
JACOB	REBEKAH
TIMOTHY	EVE
JOSEPH	MARY
SAMUEL	SARAH
JOHN	EUNICE

Look up the Bible verses then find the answers and the names below in the word search



REBEKAH  
ELIZABETH  
EUNICE  
RUTH  
MARY  
RACHEL  
LEAH  
ZIPLAH  
MOTHER  
MUM

## BIBLE MOTHERS

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?

Genesis 4:1-2

Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?

Genesis 17:19

Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?

1 Samuel 1:20

Who was Ruth's Mother-in-Law?

Ruth 1:1-5

Eunice was Timothy's mother, but who was her mother?

2 Timothy 1:5

Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 6:20

Look up the Bible verses and find out who the Bible mothers are.



M \_\_\_\_\_ Matt 1:16

O \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Tim 1:5

T \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Kings 1:11

H \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Sam 1:20

E \_\_\_\_\_ Gen 34:1

R \_\_\_\_\_ Gen 30:22

How many other words can you make from:

**MOTHERING SUNDAY**



E E L O I S Z I L A M J H  
U V N Z M A R Y Z U O Z R  
N E A D U R U T H L T I A  
I J O C H A B E D E H L C  
C I M B J H M U M A E P H  
E L I Z A B E T H H R A E  
R E B E K A H A N N A H L

## **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](http://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming)) and remain viewable afterwards at: [www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/previous-services](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:manager@wesleyschapel.org.uk)**