

**WEYBAY NEWS**

A monthly what’s on

** **May 2024**

Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,

Gentle as is the dove.

Teach us the truth and help us believe,

Show us the Saviour’s love.

Weymouth Bay is part of the Dorset South and West Circuit

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Dear Friends

It is such a privilege as a minister, to lead people on the journey through Lent and Holy Week to the joyful celebration of Easter Sunday.

At Wey Bay we gathered on Maundy Thursday evening to remember Jesus’ last meal with his disciples. We read scripture, washed each other’s feet and shared Holy Communion together. Seated around a long table, the story John’s gospel tells, came alive and Jesus’ command to love each other was real.

Christian festivals are busy times for church leaders, so I was glad of some rest and relaxation after Easter. This included a visit to Cambridge to see our daughter Rachel and her husband Matt. Amongst other things, we all enjoyed a trip to nearby Anglesey Abbey; the gardens there are wonderful, especially the magnificent trees.

After Cambridge, our next adventure was to Butlins, Minehead, which was the venue for Spring Harvest, an all-age Christian gathering. Each day there was a packed programme of events to choose from. The whole event is very family orientated with age appropriate worship, children’s, youth and adult sessions, sports events, teaching and bible study, prayer spaces and a huge splash pool complete with waves and a ‘lazy river’. The theme of the five days was ‘Up and Alive’, based on Paul’s letter to the Ephesians in which he encourages his readers to grow into the people we are called to be in Christ. The whole event is quite intense and very active, especially so when we were joined by two grandchildren!

The final adventure of my holidays was a retreat to Launde Abbey in Leicestershire, where I met up with minister friends who I trained with at Queens Foundation. We talk and pray, laugh and cry and share our stories so far in ministry and home life. They are a group of people to whom I’m deeply committed and I always come away from Launde feeling refreshed and renewed.

As we continue in this Easter season, I pray that you too will know the renewing power of Jesus’ resurrection life.

Blessings

Ruth

**PREACHERS AT WEYMOUTH BAY in MAY:**

5th May Tony Boyden

12th May 10.30 am Rev Ruth Lownsbrough (HC)

 6.30 pm Rev John Yarrien

19th May (Pentecost) Peter Jenner

26th May Jacqui Trent

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY GIFT DAY**

The Church Anniversary Gift Day raised £2292.32. Many thanks to everyone for their valued contributions towards the running of our church.

Morning Worship on Sunday 14th April included our annual **General Church Meeting**. As well as the re-election of stewards and representatives to the Church Council there was the opportunity for all in the congregation to share their feelings of how our church is going forward and opportunities for the future. Thanks to everyone who shared their thoughts.

Our visit from the Salvation Army last Sunday 21st April was a joyful afternoon of music and worship. It was well attended and the retiring collection raised £174 for their funds.

**COMING UP AT WEYMOUTH BAY**

The current season of concerts has now finished but will start again on 28th September with “The Last Night of the Proms” with Weymouth Concert Brass. Moonlight Swing Band will be back on 25th October. Hope to see you there.

**Christian Aid Week 2024**

The Big Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, 15th May from 10am-12 noon.  We will be serving our now "famous" bacon rolls, cakes and hot drinks.  All profit will go to Christian Aid.  Everyone welcome - tell your friends and bring them along.

The Christian Aid Quiz will be held at Weybay this year on Friday, 17th May from 6.30pm.  Price is £6.50 pp to include a ploughman's supper.  To book your place (or a team of up to 6) please let Jackie know. Phone number 07772595576.

**REGULAR EVENTS**

**Coffee morning** – every Wednesday, coffee and cake served from 10.00 until noon. We also have books and jigsaw puzzles that may be borrowed.

**A short time of prayer in the chapel** every Wednesday before the coffee morning. This is a time for you to bring your own anxieties before the Lord and also to pray for the life of our church here at WeyBay and how we can go forward with God. This is a very simple time of prayer beginning at 9.50am for about 15 – 20 minutes only. Please join us. **If you have a prayer request please fill in one of the cards on the tables in the coffee area and put it in the box on the table by the chapel.**

**Grace Notes** singing groupmeets every Wednesday at 10.30am. New members welcome. Come and sing and have some fun.

**Cameo** a fortnightly group for women meeting at WeyBay at 2pm alternate Wednesdays. You are very welcome to come along to all meetings or just when you are able.

Coming up::

1st May – A mystery session – an activity chosen by majority vote at the previous meeting

15th May – Alan Chambers, the site manager from “Tumbledown Farm” who will tell us about this exciting community project in Radipole Lane.

29th May – AGM and cream tea. All ideas and suggestions of speakers gratefully received, come and tell us what you want from our new Cameo.

12th June – Flower arranging with Myra Henville

During the summer months Cameo will meet once a month at the church for tea and chat. Open to both men and women, the dates are July 10th and August 7th*.*

**Miscellany,** themusic group which meets in the church every Wednesday from 5-6 pm. This is for anyone who plays a musical instrument, however brilliant or rusty you may be. Why not give it a go? If you are interested speak to Rosemary or Ailsa for further information.

**Bible Study**

Meets onThursday at 2pm. This is a very informal group with plenty of opportunity for discussion and we welcome anyone who would like to join us.

**Dementia Cafe:** Friday 3d May from 2pm – 4pm.

An afternoon providing a welcome to visitors and carers for a joyful afternoon of activities and music.

More details from Esme on 01305 812637

**Foodbank News**

Last year we helped 57% more people than in 2022. This follows an increase of 68% from 2021.

In February we moved into a larger, newer warehouse provided by commercial property developer DJ Property, free of charge.

The Household Support Fund will come to an end in September. In 2023 we received about 25% of our income from this fund. Our experience at Foodbank over many years has been that the Lord provides. Please pray that other organisations, charities and government bodies will step up to fill the gap. **This is becoming more urgent and the amount of food that is given out has been reduced..**

If you wish to donate money to Foodbank you can do this by bank transfer using the following details:

Account name: Weymouth Foodbank

Sort Code: 40 52 40

Account no: 00033831

Or on the website [www.weymouthfoodbank.co.uk](http://www.weymouthfoodbank.co.uk) if you are able to giftaid.

The foodbank is extremely grateful for all the donations of food from members of the church. In addition a substantial sum has been given to the foodbank, raised in various ways including concert raffles and teas, Norma’s Christmas sale and coffee mornings during December, which is wonderful. Thank you.

**The Nest Weymouth**

The Nest shop in Westham needs new volunteers to replace those who have recently moved on. The shifts are 2 hours from either 9am - 11am or 11am - 1pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays. If you would like to serve the local community in this way and make a difference to people's lives, then please contact Neil on 07816 962836 or neilhardisty@hotmail.com. You can be a real blessing to many people

**Weekly News Sheet** – during a recent eco service it was suggested that to save paper the weekly news sheet given out at the Sunday service should be make available by e-mail. If you would like to receive your church news by email please let Jacqui Trent know and she will add you to our growing list.

**Blister Packs** – A reminder that, although we have had to stop the collection of blister packs in church, you can take your empty blister packs to Boots in Weymouth town centre where a blister pack collection box is available at the foot of the stairs. As an added bonus, you can collect additional Boots points by using the app and QR code as displayed on the collection box.