

The **Methodist** Church 
WEYBAY NEWS

A monthly what's on

August 2021

Psalm 24



¹ The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;
² for he founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.

Weymouth Bay is part of the Dorset South and West circuit

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Minister's Message

Dear Friends

Yesterday, as I began writing this month's message for the newsletter, I was sitting on the beach enjoying the hot, sunny weather at Smallmouth Cove. Lots of families, individuals and couples were there too, spending time together, picnicking, cooling off in the water, swimming, splashing, playing, watching everything that was going on. It was a glorious day!!

Richard and I had several dips in the sea and spent some time honing our skills on a paddleboard. The water was absolutely flat calm and there wasn't much of a breeze, so this time neither of us fell off!!

The whole day was slow and relaxing, a time of rest and re-creation, just what holidays are all about. Of course, the beach may not be your preferred way of taking time out but I hope that you do get time over the summer in the nice weather, or at another time in the year, to do something that enables you to feel refreshed and renewed, for we all need those times of re-creation.

The pattern of work and rest is laid out before us in the book of Genesis as God creates the world and everything in it and then takes time to rest; God's rhythm of life in God's good world is embedded from the beginning, a balance between toil and rest, between being and doing.

How is it that generally, human lives have become so out of balance with that rhythm that God initially set out? How have we grown to be so busy doing all the time? Have we forgotten how to just 'be'?

Whilst on the beach yesterday, I began to read a book by Margaret Silf called 'Wayfaring' and in it she asks the same kind of questions, 'Why am I always so busy?' 'Why do I always say "yes" when asked to do something?' In conversation with a friend, the response came, 'I can't imagine that there is anything of intrinsic value within me just as I am. I only feel I have any value when I can count my takings in the currency of "jobs well done", "people more or less well pleased" and "affirmation earned"'.

How many of us measure ourselves like this, thinking our only value lies in what can be achieved?

This isn't God's way of seeing us! In God's eyes, we are each a precious individual who is unconditionally loved to the uttermost. Our

value does not lie in what we have or haven't achieved but who we are in Christ. Of course, there are times for work, doing all kinds of things but let's not forget that there are times to simply 'be', times for that which leads us to re-creation and renewal.

Happy holidays!

Blessings

Ruth

The funeral service for Gillian Brookes took place at Weymouth Crematorium on 15th July. The service was taken by Rev Ruth Lownsborough and attended by family and members of all the organisations and churches she used to visit. Gillian had been a member of Westham church and then Weybay for many years. She will be fondly remembered by all, especially for all the time she dedicated to visiting others who could not attend church and keeping them up to date with what was happening.

Update for services at Weybay

It will no longer be necessary for you to book your seat before the Sunday service. We still ask you to wear your mask during the service and to leave at least one empty chair between you, or your family/support group, and others. You will also be able to SING – you maybe a bit muffled behind your mask but a good step forward.

The Bridge Fair Trade Shop

A reminder that our shop is open with plenty of new stock. We sell cards, gifts, food, jewellery and wooden toys produced by fair trade artisans in the developing world, all much in need of support in these difficult times. Our seating area remains closed out of consideration for our volunteers but you can always get a takeaway tea or coffee from us to enjoy on the harbourside. With the money we raise we continue to support local and overseas charities working for the relief of poverty. Our most recent donations include £1,000 each to Christian Aid and the local CAP to support the Life Skills Course they are planning for this autumn.

You can find us on Weymouth harbourside, next to the Chapelhay Steps, Tuesday – Saturday 10 – 4

Arts & Crafts Week at Weymouth Bay

Monday 16th -Sat 21st August daily 10am -4pm.

Displays and Sales. Over 30 stalls, Snack Bar.

And it's FREE admission!



Young Church members were kept busy on Climate Sunday making bird tables from scrap wood and string. This one is hanging in the Weybay back carpark.

Recently they also made bug houses for the garden.

Well done everyone.

Christian Aid Walk Update

A total of £241,000 was raised for Christian Aid via the online giving pages. This recent press release gives details of the difference this funding can make:

£5 could buy a shovel build an earth dam

£27 could buy a wheelbarrow to help a community build the earth dam

£545 could pay for a skilled labourer to work on the construction of an earth or sand dam.

“You only need to look to Florence, who lives in a Kenyan community, to see the lasting impact your gifts can have. With her dam, Florence has been able to grow her farm and harvest honey, meaning more nutritious food and income for her family. ‘We can now easily access water and the earth dam has never run dry,’ Florence said. ‘My life has changed. I am very happy. You can see it in my face: my face is shining. I have strength and power.’”

Westham Foodbank

We are short of all laundry products and also men's deodorant and all shower gels. Many thanks for all your donations.