

**WEYBAY NEWS**

A monthly what’s on

 **MARCH 2023**

You can cut all the flowers,

but you cannot stop Spring from coming.

Spring is the season of hope.

 Pabla Neruda

Weymouth Bay is part of the Dorset South and West circuit

**Minister**

Revd Ruth Lownsbrough ruthlownsbrough59@hotmail.co.uk

**Circuit Administrators**

Maria Jacobson 07570 036288

Jacqui Trent 07709601567

Wey Bay Booking Secretary  weybay@yahoo.com 01305457510

Web Circuit address: www.dsw.church

Facebook: Facebook@weybaychurch

Weymouth Bay Methodist Church, 32 Melcombe Avenue, DT4 7TH

Contact the newsletter production team for entries in future newsletters.

Ailsa Binnie binnie148@btinternet.com

Jean Capp jean@thecapps.co.uk

Jackie Chevis jackietweymouth@yahoo.com

**Minister’s Message**

Dear Friends

As the period of Lent fast approaches, I find myself contemplating how, this year, I might endeavour to travel through these weeks in which we are encouraged to focus on Jesus and his journey to the cross and in our focussing, be enabled to follow Jesus more closely in our own lives.

There are many traditions which we may join in with which lead into Lent and help us on our way. Shrove Tuesday reminds us of the food that we enjoy, followed by Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent when denial of some of those foods or other things, is part of our Lenten practice. Such contrast perhaps helps us to appreciate the plight of those who cannot afford to adequately provide for their families at this time.

Lent prompts other people to take up a just cause or personal activity which brings them closer to God.

As we progress through Lent, our focus on the cross becomes sharper, particularly as Holy Week approaches when the events of that week and the horror of the crucifixion is recalled in word, music and art. It is a tough part of the Lent journey but an essential one because without it, we cannot enter fully into the joy of Jesus’ resurrection on Easter morning.

However you journey through Lent, I want to encourage you to come more intentionally, more faithfully into God’s presence, to listen to Jesus, to be moved by the Holy Spirit Of course, there are many different ways in which we can sense God’s presence with us. For some it is being involved in actions of social justice, for others it is through stillness and quiet that God’s presence is known, for others it will be different again. I’m quite sure that God doesn’t mind in what way we seek his presence, only that we do.

During Lent, the Wey Bay study group, which meets on Thursdays at 2pm at the church, will be exploring ‘The Prayers of Jesus’, the prayers that the Bible records Jesus actually praying. We will meet in hopeful expectation that God will meet with us as we read scripture, discuss and pray together. You are most welcome to come and join us, just let me know so that I can have sufficient books available.

However you journey through Lent this year, I pray that you will know more fully, God’s presence and direction in your life.

Every blessing Ruth

**PREACHERS AT WEYMOUTH BAY for the coming weeks:**

5 Mar CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

 Rev John Walker

12th Mar Rev Lownsborough ( Communion )

 6 30pm Rev G Owen

19th Mar R Phillips

26th Mar Rev J Yarrien

2nd Apr PALM SUNDAY

Rev Lownsborough

TURKEY AND SYRIA Following the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria the church has donated £1000 to the disaster appeal from the money allocated in our budget for purposes such as this. We have also held retiring collections, the total of which is not known yet. We cannot image the suffering in these countries at the moment, and we pray that this money will be used to bring comfort and help to those in need.

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY**

We will be starting our anniversary celebrations on Saturday Mar 4th when the church will be open from 10 00am to 3 00pm to view the photographic exhibition, receive your gift day gifts. and provide coffee and cakes – and our famous Bacon Butties. On Sunday the morning service will be led by Rev John Walker and will be followed by a soup lunch.

**WEYBAY FAMILY NEWS**

 We held a very uplifting thanksgiving service for Anita last month. We could almost hear her joining in our lustrous singing. I’m sure she would have approved. We have another thanksgiving service on Mar 18th for Hazel Fellows. Hazel died a little while ago but her thanksgiving service has been delayed waiting for relatives from afar.

It’s good to see Janis and Derek back in Weymouth, and good that they can still join in Weybay events.

 Although not a member of Wey Bay we were sorry to hear of the death of Jeff Green. Jeff was a member of our Chickerell Church and was well known in the circuit. His funeral service will be here on Mar 6th at 11 00am as Chickerell could not accommodate the numbers expected who want to pay their respects.

Ralph Allgood would like to send his best wishes to everyone at WeyBay church. He has been living at Legh House for some time now. He misses being able to get to church to meet everyone but is always very happy to receive news and hear about his friends at WeyBay.

Other than that, I think we are all looking forward to the warmer weather and to enjoy Gods riches of Springtime.

**REGULAR EVENTS FOR MARCH**

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

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

**Cameo** meets alternate Wednesdays in the church at 2 p.m. All ladies will find a warm welcome. Come along and for only £1 enjoy a cup of tea, good fellowship and a speaker most weeks. The meetings for March

1st March Rev Ruth will tell us of her travels while on sabbatical leave.

15th March Quiz .

29th March Back by popular demand

Silk painting with Pam Woodland

**The Music group** meets every Wednesday from 5-6 pm in the church. This group is for anyone who wants to sing and anyone who plays a musical instrument, however brilliant or rusty you may be. Why not give it a go?

**Dementia Cafe:**  Friday Mar 3rd 2pm – 4pm. This is held at Wey Bay on the first Friday of every month and provides a little respite for those who come and their carers.

More details from Esme on 01305 812637

**Warm Space** Warm space will no long take place as we hope that we have seen the end to the cold weather for this year.

**Forthcoming events**

**Concerts**

Mar 4th   Memphis Jazz at 7.30pm

Apr 15th Bridport Big Band

All concerts at 7.30pm Tickets in advance £10, on the door £12

Ask Pete – 01305 812637

At these concerts there is always a raffle. Money from the raffle and money taken for refreshments are given to the Ukraine appeal. The last concert netted £220 to which the government will add £55.

The concerts are very popular and profits from the ticket money are shared between the Bands and the Church. Thank you Pete for all your hard work in organising this.

**DIG A WELL** It seems strange not collecting money for the Dig a Well project,- but the job is done! If you look on the church notice board there is a picture of the Well in operation complete with a solar panel on the roof. In this country we are fortunate to just expect water to come out our taps, but I am sure the people who live near this one will see a big difference in their lives. Thankyou to everyone who contributed over the years and thank you again to Pete.