

**WEYBAY NEWS**

A monthly what’s on

** **MARCH 2024**

May I never lose the wonder

The wonder of the cross

May I see it like the first time, as a sinner lost

Undone by mercy and left speechless.

watching wide eyed at the cost

May I never lose the wonder

The wonder of the cross

 Vicky Beeching S/F279

 Weymouth Bay is part of the Dorset South and West Circuit

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A message from the minister

This year two significant days fell on the same date: St Valentine’s Day and Ash Wednesday, were both on 14th February.

Ash Wednesday and St Valentine’s Day are two festivals which mark the gift of love in different ways. St Valentine has become associated with the celebration of romantic love, although he is also the patron saint of people with epilepsy and beekeepers. (Britannica.com) However, in the year 269 AD, he was actually martyred for proclaiming his faith in Jesus and in God’s Kingdom, to the Roman Emperor Claudius.

Ash Wednesday, of course, marks the beginning of Lent, a period of preparation of our hearts and minds which leads us to, and helps us focus on Jesus’ death and resurrection at Easter, events which the Bible tells us happened because God loved the world so much (John 3: 16)

To help people mark the passage of Lent in 2024, the Methodist Church has produced some resources entitled ‘Unbounded Love’ which are based on Charles Wesley’s hymn, ‘Love divine’ (StF 503). Included in the resources is a poster showing a heart shape drawing with colour and shading that has escaped from the confines of the outline, rather like a young child might colour in. This poster portrays very simply, the exciting reality that God’s love is not hemmed in by human ideas of love; who merits love and what that love should look like. God’s love is limitless, unbounded and showered upon each person in an abundance that never runs out.

Each verse of ‘Love divine’ makes a request to God to bring a person closer to God:

Verse 1 – ‘visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart’

Verse 2 – ‘let us all thy life receive’.

Verse 3 – ‘finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be’.

As we journey through Lent, however you travel, I pray that we will all become closer to God, sensing God’s love in the pain and suffering of Holy Week, and knowing God’s love in the glorious resurrection life of Easter morning and beyond.

Every blessing

Ruth

**PREACHERS AT WEYMOUTH BAY in MARCH:**

 3rd Mar Angela Gardner

10th March Rev Gwyneth Owen HC

10th March 6.30pm Rev Ruth Lownsbrough

17th March Rev Ruth Lownsbrough

24th Mar Tim Wells

31st March Easter Sunday Peter Jenner HC

 7th Apr Roger Phillips

**LOCAL NEWS** No special news of the church family this month. Guess we are all looking forward to some warmer weather and lighter nights.

**CHRISMAS FAYRE** This seems a long time ago now. Money raised on the day went to the Food Bank. Items left over on our Christmas stall were taken to the Joseph Weld Charity shop and we have just heard that those items raised £233 for their charity. Nothing wasted – all profited good causes. Well done Norma for all your hard work.

**COMING UP AT WEYMOUTH BAY**

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND GIFT DAY** is on the weekend of Mar 16/17th On Saturday join us for an Arty Crafty Fun Day

when you will have the opportunity to try your hand at various Arts. The relaxing art of colouring – drawing or painting and maybe more. Unleash those forgotten skills, and of course throughout the day there will also be the usual coffee, cakes and bacon butties. This will be from 10 00am - 3 00pm

On Sunday our anniversary service will be led by Rev Ruth

**EASTER On** Maundy Thursday there will be a service here at Wey Bay conducted by Rev Ruth at 6 00pm. Good Friday will see the churches of Weymouth processing to town for a short service (times and info later) and then on Easter Day our service will be conducted by Peter Jenner and will include with Holy Communion.

**CONCERTS**

9th March: “Elite Syncopations” with Mike Denham (piano)

Trevor Whiting (reeds) and Steve Graham (trumpet),

13TH Apr Unfortunately the planned Dorchester Big Band have had to cancel. Instead, The Moonlight Swing Band will play Glenn Miller melodies and more.

Tickets £10 in advance from Pete 01305 812637 or £12 on door.

All concerts begin at 7.30pm

**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.

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

**Cameo** a fortnightly group for ladies, meeting at WeyBay at 2pm every other Wednesday. You are very welcome to come along to all meetings or just when you are able.

Coming up this month:

Mar 6th: Tea and a quiz

Mar 20th Back by popular demand – Sharing Mobile Phone info with Jackie and Gill

**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.

**Dementia Cafe:** Friday 1st March 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

**Bible Study** meets on Thursday at 2pm. until 3 30pm Through Lent the Study will be working through a course Healing and Hope. This is a very informal group with everyone welcome.

**EDI**

You have may never heard of EDI. It stands for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and refers to the different types of discrimination that are unlawful under equality law and so are also not permitted within the Methodist Church.

In recent months anyone who holds any office within our Circuit, local preachers, administrators, stewards etc. were obliged to receive training in this. The most recent session was held at WeyBay in January led by Rev Ruth Lownsbrough and Rev Jane Wilson. We heard many true stories of people who have felt discriminated against within the Methodist church by status, gender, age, race, ability and disability, and other reasons and we realised just how easy it is to form opinions and therefore discriminate in some way without even realising it.

But our church here at Wey Bay is not only made up of people who hold office. It is made up of everyone who comes to worship here. We all have the same calling, and we are all asked to think about these things too.

Do we make our church a friendly place where all will feel welcome.? On a Sunday? – and on a coffee morning or other activities? – not easy to talk to people we don’t know so well.

Are we prepared to accept things that might need to change in our changing world?

This is the challenge from the Methodist church- may we all do our part to fulfil this commitment in Wey Bay.