

**WEYBAY NEWS**

**A monthly what’s on

 **Aprll 2025**

 All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord;

Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord?

For ever he will be the Lamb upon the throne;

I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone.

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

**Our thanks to Jayne Newton from the Westham Centre who has kindly written this month’s message while Rev Ruth Lownsbrough has been on bereavement leave.**

Dear friends,

As I write this in early March I am increasingly aware that things are gradually coming back to life after the winter months. There are signs in my garden of budding plants (and weeds!) and occasionally there are days of sunshine. It’s so lovely to feel the warmth of the sun after periods of rainy cold weather. Instead of hunkering down in the duvet it makes me want to plan, to look forward, to come back to life.

Sometimes life can feel a little bleak or perhaps frozen waiting for the shoots of new things. In my work I come across people who may be struggling to stay positive in difficult circumstances. I admire the perseverance of those who just keep putting one foot in front of the other when they have so many challenges. In a way the services offered at The Westham Centre, where I am based as Community Worker, are a sign to them that someone cares and that there is hope. It’s heartening to see people who once came to the centre feeling so low, but are now heard laughing or are simply sharing life with others, challenges and all. The relief on faces is obvious when someone finds new clothes to wear, or can get their washing done or can use the showers. For some, becoming part of the centre community has felt like finding family.

We all need hope. As Christians we have the most amazing story of hope to share, the greatest reason to be hopeful. Looking ahead to the coming celebration of Easter I am reminded of how Jesus didn’t gloss over the difficult things. He spoke to the disciples about the hard things ahead. He knew they would struggle. I think of Easter Saturday with all its despair. I don’t think we are meant to minimise difficulties. God is with us in hard times. We sang a song at Thrive Café Church this month that says “Even when I don’t see it, you’re working….you never stop working.” We see this in the winter months where on the surface of things it seems the trees never had leaves and the grass will not grow. But bulbs do come to life at the right time. And Saturday eventually becomes Resurrection Day. What a hope we have. God is with us, is for us and brings new life.

Every blessing

Jayne Newton

The funeral of Rev Ruth’s father was held at Weymouth Crematorium on Friday 21st March followed by a service at Bridport Methodist church led by Rev Jane Wilson. Our thoughts, prayers and sympathy have been with Ruth, Richard and the family throughout this sad time.

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

6th April **3pm** Visit from the Salvation Army

13th April 10.30am Chris Smith 6.30pm Neil Riches

17th April **Maundy Thursday** Rev Lownsbrough

20th April **Easter Sunday** Rev Lownsbrough **HC**

27th April Rev Jane Wilson

4th May Tim Wells

Please note that there wil be **no morning service on 6th April** due to the Salvation Army service at 3pm. This is always a joyful afternoon of music and worship and we look forward to welcoming them once more.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES IN THE CIRCUIT:**

The **Maundy Thursday** service at WeyBay**,** which will include foot washing, is at **6pm**.

**Good Friday:**

 10 am at Radipole URC with Rev Neil Riches

10.30 am at Lanehouse led by Rev Lownsbrough

12 noon Passion Play in Easton Gardens with Christians Working Together on Portland

2.30 pm Chickerell, short service followed by tea and hot cross buns

7pm Tenebrae Service, Easton

**Church Anniversary and Gift Day**

Our anniversary service on Sunday 16th March was led by Rev Ruth Farrant from Yeovil, a truly joyful occasion. Those who came to the Gift Day on the previous day had the opportunity to take part in various craft activities and the refreshments, including of course our famous bacon butties, were enjoyed by all. The total raised through Gift Day is £2167.14 which includes the profit from refreshments. This money will provide vital support for the maintenance of our church building. Thank you all.

**CONCERTS**

The current series of concerts has now finished but will start again on Saturday 27th September with Last Night of the Proms with Weymouth Concert Brass.

**Concerts at WeyBay**

Bridport Big Band recently gave us a superb evening of entertainment and people have started asking what happens to the money taken on the door... well, I’m going on holiday in two weeks time!!! Seriously though, we are permitted to put on six concerts per year with our Performing Rights agreement and we do this with great success so far. The Bridport Band was the last of the 6 in our year and the total sum raised for the Church from the 6 concerts amounts to £2,660. In addition £507.95 went to the foodbank from raffles and refreshments and £124 to the Disasters Emergency Fund. I hope this clarifies what we are doing.

Pete

This is a wonderful result and we are so grateful to Pete for all his hard work in planning and arranging these concerts which are looked forward to and enjoyed by so many people.

 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.

**Prayer group -** A short time of prayer in the chapel every Wednesday beforethe 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.

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

**Cameo *-*** our regular fortnightly meeting for women

2nd April: Liz Jackson ‘Explore life on a Victorian farm through a collection of original needlework’

16th April: Lasting Power of Attorney – Elaine Ewing from ‘Diverse Abilities’ a Bournemouth charity used by Age UK, will explain these, how to get yours filled in and registered. OPEN TO ALL.’

30th April: Cream Tea and AGM

**Miscellany,** themusic group 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. You would be very welcome. If you are interested speak to Rosemary or Ailsa for further information

**Bible Study -** This is a very informal group with plenty of opportunity for discussion and we welcome anyone who would like to join us.

**Dementia Cafe:**

The next drop in cafe for people with dementia and their carers is on Friday 4th April; an afternoon of fun with activities, music and of course cake.

More details from Esme on 01305 812637

**Board games afternoon**. These will continue on the 4th Saturday of the month. This month 26th Aprll 3 00pm -5.00pm,

£2 including light refreshments. Everyone invited to join in – why not ask your friends? If you can bring the correct change this would be greatly appreciated.Future dates are 24th May, 28th June and 26th July.

**Garden Gang**

The next gardening session will be on Saturday 26th April from 9am to noon. If you would like to help maintain our grounds please feel free to come and join in – there will of course be refreshments on offer.

**Street Pastors**

We were delighted to welcome visitors from Weymouth Street Pastors to our service on 23rd February who spoke to us about their work. It was inspirational hearing about the work they do in our town, out on the streets every Friday and Saturday night until the small hours helping and showing God’s love to those in need in a practical but not preachy way. We may or may not feel able to go out onto the streets with the Street Pastors but we can all remember them in our prayers especially on those weekend nights between 10pm and 2,3 or 4am. You can read more about what they do on their Facebook page.At the end of their time with us we prayed this prayer of St Teresa of Avila:

Lord Jesus, teach us that you have no body now on earth but ours;

No hands but ours;

No feet but ours;

Ours are the eyes through which your compassion must look out upon the world;

Ours are the feet with which you must go about doing good;

Ours are the hands with which you must bless men and women now;

For Your Name’s sake.   AMEN

**Donations to Ukraine Appeal**

Heather would like to thank everyone for their generous donations over the past weeks. Further deliveries to Ukraine are planned and Heather will continue to collect donations. Walking aids and over the counter meds are particularly needed. Why not pick up a couple of packets of painkillers next time you are shopping?



**He is Risen**

**Alleluia**