**WEYBAY NEWS**

A monthly what’s on

 **November 2023**

O God our help in ages past

Our hope for years to come,

Be thou our guard while life shall last

And our eternal home.

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

Dear Friends

What springs to mind when you hear the word ‘prayer’?

A simple explanation might be prayer is communing with God. Of course there is a huge variety in ways of communing with God. I have heard it said that there are as many different ways of praying as there are numbers of people who pray! All I want to do is to encourage you to pray in a way that most helps you in your relationship with God.

However we like to pray, the act of praying can be likened to a conversation; a time to speak and a time to listen. Such conversation some people describe is as vital to our relationship with God as breathing is to our physical life.

Jesus often went up a mountain to pray; a quiet place free from distractions, to spend time with his Father. These times were essential and life-giving for Jesus, sustaining and strengthening him for the task to which he was called. The disciples noticed how important prayer was to Jesus, so they asked him to teach them to pray too. Jesus taught them what we call The Lord’s Prayer.

Prayer is a powerful activity. The Christian artist, Mary Fleeson, who lives and works on Lindisfarne, Northumberland, found her life changed by the following binding and loosing prayer:

I bind my mind to the mind of the Creator God

And I loose from my mind all that offends my God, that I may worship completely.

I bind my body to the will of the Saviour Christ

And I loose from my body all dis-ease that I may serve freely.

I bind my spirit to the Holy Spirit my helper

And I loose from my spirit all that is not of my God, that I may love joyfully.

If you would like to find out more about Mary Fleeson’s beautiful work, look to her website:

[www.lindisfarne-scriptorium.co.uk](http://www.lindisfarne-scriptorium.co.uk)

The method of our praying doesn’t matter at all. What matters is that we do it, for engaging in prayer strengthens our relationship with God, drawing us into a closer intimacy.

The power of prayer is profound indeed. Our Superintendent Rev John Yarrien has expressed deep gratitude for the prayers that have been prayed for him and his wife,Cora, during his recent illness and recovery. He describes being held by the prayers of others in his darkest moments as a profound experience. I’m sure that there are others amongst us who have known the power of prayer in that way.

Prayer can and does change lives, changes situations, so it is extremely important that we continue to pray for people in all kinds of places, both local and global.

There is a prayer group which meets in the prayer chapel at Wey Bay on Wednesdays at 9.45am, just before the coffee morning. Everyone is welcome to join in whenever they can and experience the power of communing with God.

Every blessing Ruth

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

5th November Tim Wells

12th November 10.30am Richard Lownsbrough

12th November 6.30pm Chris Smith

19th November Rev John Walker HC

26th November Angela Gardner

WEYBAY NEWS – We congratulate Mary Millward who this month has celebrated her 90th birthday. Well done Mary.

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE NOVEMBER 4th**

10 00am to 2 00pm It’s nevertoo early to begin buying your Christmas presents. Our Christmas Fayre was very popular last year and many of the stall holders from the Arts and Craft want to come again and display their gifts suitable for Christmas. There will be chutneys and jams for sale and hopefully crab apple jelly from our very own trees in the garden. And of course we cannot hold a fayre without the usual bacon butties and cakes. Money from this will be given to the food bank.

**REGULAR EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER**

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

**We have begun 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 women meeting at WeyBay at 2pm on Wednesday. You are very welcome to come along to all meetings or just when you are able.

**Nov 1st**: tea and a natter

**Nov 15th**: Sharing mobile phone tips with Gill (iphone) and Jackie (android) or just come along for have tea and a chat.

You can pick up a copy of our programme at the coffee bar.

You are asked for a £1 contribution towards refreshments and speakers.

**Miscellany** is the new name for the music group which meets from 5-6 pm in the church every Wednesday This is for anyone who wants to sing and anyone who plays a musical instrument, however brilliant or rusty you may be. Currently preparing for Christmas, we would particularly like to welcome new singers. Why not give it a go?

**Dementia Cafe*:*** Friday 3rd November 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**The Bible study group– led by Ruthmeets every Thursday afternoon at 2 00pm till 3 00pm. On 30th November we shall be starting a four week Advent course when we shall be sharing the same material as URC Radipole. We hope that some of their members will be able to join us for this at WeyBay.

***COMING UP AT WEYMOUTH BAY***

25th November 7.30pm: Ambassadors Big Band

Tickets £10 in advance from Pete 01305 812637

£12 on door.

**Looking forward to Christmas**

**On Saturday 9th December at 3.30pm** there will be Christmas music and entertainment in the church followed by a Christmasdinnerupstairs. There is a notice on the board for you to sign up for the meal. Cost £7

**Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm** candlelit Carol service led by the Stewards

There will be a tea before this service to which everyone is welcome. Full details next month.

**Refugees on the Barge:** Following the return of refugees to the Bibby Stockholm barge the Westham Methodist Centre is planning to offer them support. It is planned to run a project at Westham giving them a warm welcome, and maybe a space to do some gardening.  They wonder if there are any church members willing to come and talk to the refugees, maybe play some board games or chess and perhaps help in the garden.  If you would be interested please get in touch with Jayne Newton. email - westhamcommunityworker@yahoo.com

At this time of dreadful conflict in Israel and the terrible scenes we see on the television news, the words of this hymn from Singing the Faith Plus seem particularly appropriate.

“I have a dream”, a man once said,
“where all is perfect peace;
where men and women, black and white,
stand hand in hand, and all unite
in freedom and in love.”

But in this world of bitter strife
the dream can often fade;
reality seems dark as night,
we catch but glimpses of the light
Christ sheds on humankind.

Fierce persecution, war, and hate
are raging everywhere;
God calls us now to pay the price
through struggles and through sacrifice
of standing for the right.

So dream the dreams and sing the songs,
but never be content:
for thoughts and words don’t ease the pain:
unless there’s action, all is vain;
faith proves itself in deeds.

Lord, give us vision, make us strong,
help us to do your will;
don’t let us rest until we see
your love throughout humanity
uniting us in peace.

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