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**THE
MESSENGER**

Edition number 108



SEPTEMBER 2018

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For this quarter, we will be reflecting on how to be obedient to God. The bible, from Genesis to Revelation, tells of many people whose lives were directly affected by their obedience or disobedience to God. Abraham is known for his obedience and God blessed him. Adam and Eve are remembered because of their disobedience which has affected the whole of the human race.

HOW TO BE OBEDIENT

1. Know God's commandments. [Psalm 119:105,130]. It is difficult to be obedient if one does not know what he is supposed to obey. Encourage new believers to read the bible.
2. Seek the help of the Holy Spirit. By ourselves we will fail. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can be obedient
3. Develop right attitudes:
 - A] Delight to do God's will. [Psalm 40:8]
 - B] Do God's will carefully. [Deuteronomy 26:16]
 - C] Be sincere in your obedience. [Luke 8:15]
 - D] Keep clean. [Acts 24:16]
 - E] Love God. [John 14:15]
4. Do not keep sin in your heart. [Psalm 66:18].

Stay blessed

Thanks

Rev. William Davis

FOR PRAYER



We remember the house-bound - Iris Thorne, Patsy Crooks and Jeff Gaskin, with the people who care for them.

We pray for Jeremy Newell, Anna Clutton, Rachael Winter, Barry Showell, Neil Harris, Jodie Simner, Vera Stuchfield, Sheila Tucker, Dorothy Roberts, Alan Barker and Ruth Briscoe that they may know of God's care for them. For Jane Reynolds, Rob and Sue Fownes, Dave Latham, Margaret Whitehouse, Mick Cripps and Jack Clemson we pray for God's continued care in their on-going treatment.

We ask for God's care of Janet Podmore, Margaret Crowe and Graham Bridges, who are all unwell at the moment.

In the summer we celebrated with Rachael Meese and Simon Winter on their wedding day at Lanesfield and we pray God's blessing on their future together.

Through baptism we welcomed Alfie Thomas Daniel Butler. May God bless him as he grows.

The funerals have been held for Muriel Briscoe - a long life lived for her Lord - and Alan John Pountney. We pray the Lord will surround their families with his love and care.

Pat Arnold
Pastoral Secretary

As some of you may be aware, Julie and Jodine were leading Sunday School along with Glynis.

Unfortunately, due to family commitments, Julie and Jodine are no longer able to attend on a Sunday morning. Safeguarding requires two adults to be with the children at all times so we are appealing for helpers who would be willing to lead Sunday school on a rota basis – maybe once a month. All resources would be provided and a theme for each week would be prepared in advance.

If you would like to be a part of our youth team or would like more information could you please speak to one of the stewards.

The youth in our church are our future. We need to nurture them, encourage them, show them God's love and lead by example. If we can do this, God will do the rest.

Please consider our request carefully and together we can bring new life into our church.

God Bless

The Leadership team

CHURCH NEWS

As we enter a new Church year, firstly I would like to record our thanks to Mark and Hazel Sherman for their ministry over the past two years, for the new initiatives at services and the two Maundy Service and suppers, asking the church to look at what our purpose and mission should be. We wish them well in their new circuit at Louth.

We give a warm welcome to Rev William Davis and his wife Vashti as they join us. We pray that together we may advance Christ's Kingdom here at Lanesfield.

This year is the centenary of the end of the First World War on 11th November. We will be joining Holy Trinity Church and The Royal British Legion to commemorate this event, which is a national event called Battles Over. We will publish the details in the very near future.

As we move forward I am reminded of Charles Wesley's hymn which is sung at the start of the Methodist Conference

1. And are we yet alive,
to full salvation here,
again in Jesus' praise we join,
and in his sight appear.
2. Preserved by power divine
to full salvation here,
again in Jesus' praise we join,
and in his sight appear.
3. What troubles have we seen,
what mighty conflicts past,
fightings without, and fears within,
since we assembled last!
4. Yet out of all the Lord
hath brought us by his love;
and still he doth his help afford,
and hides our life above.
5. Then let us make our boast
of his redeeming power,
which saves us to the uttermost,
till we can sin no more.
6. Let us take up the cross
till we the crown obtain,
and gladly reckon all things loss
so we may Jesus gain.

May God Bless you. Anthony Davis.

Do you have news to share with others?
Please give any items for the December edition of
The Messenger

no later than Sunday 11th November 2018

to Ann Latham
(annlatham@lanesfieldmethodist.co.uk)
(01785 710866)

CHURCH EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 16th

10.30am Harvest Festival with music by the choir

Monday 17th

7.00pm Harvest Supper and Beetle Drive

Friday 21st

10.30 - 12.30 MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 28th

12.00 onwards Community Café lunch

Sunday 30th

10.30am Café style worship in top schoolroom

OCTOBER

Thursday 10th

7.00pm BB Awards Night

Saturday 13th Just Fayre Day at Codsall Methodist Church

Sunday 21st

10.30am BB/GB/Sunday School Enrolment service (Parade)

NOVEMBER

Sunday 11th

6.00pm Remembrance service

Sunday 25th

10.30am Café style worship in top schoolroom and distribution of mince pies

Friday 30th

12.30pm Community Café Christmas lunch

DECEMBER

Sunday 9th

10.30am Chapel Anniversary with music by the choir

Sunday 16th

6.00pm Carol service

Wednesday 19th

7.30pm Carols and Mince Pies

Sunday 30th

10.30am Parade in top schoolroom

THE WOLVERHAMPTON CIRCUIT



All are invited to Upper Ettingshall
on Wednesday 3rd October at 2.15pm.
Speakers : Phil and Brenda Shuttleworth.

Note for your diary:
Wednesday 5th December
Advent service at Darlington Street
Coffee and mince pies at 10.30am prior to the service

Holiday memories

While on holiday in the Lake District this year we visited Cartmel, well known for sticky toffee pudding and its racecourse. Cartmel is a beautiful village and it has a tiny Methodist Church built in 1872 in the Grange over Sands circuit.

The notice on the door said all are welcome so we opened the door and looked around. There was seating for about fifty people arranged around five low tables so we assumed they were set out for café style worship.

There were many publications on display for visitors giving the history of the church and we both felt a great deal of work had been done to welcome us although we were completely alone.

One of the leaflets on display was a Chapel Prayer Trail which guided us to various objects around the building. It made the point that God speaks to us through objects and places as well as through the Bible.

Our own church at Lanesfield may not be in such a lovely location but we have our own prayer trail.

Church Door

As you enter the church is there anything you would like to give thanks for?

Cross

The heart of the Christian faith is Jesus dying on the cross and his rising to life again. The empty cross is a reminder that God's love is even more powerful than death and that Jesus is alive and present in the world today.

Prayer tree

We have a prayer tree in the foyer. Do you have concern for anyone, and if so write their name on a leaf of the tree to be blessed with our offering.

Table

Christians share bread and wine to remember that Jesus died for us on the cross. All are invited to this feast where we find forgiveness, healing and wholeness.

Font

Baptism is a celebration of the new life offered to us in Christ. For every one of us our experience of God begins not with our own effort or decision, but with God's love for us.

Organ

Music has always been an important part of celebrating our faith and encouraging one another. Today we enjoy a rich variety of hymns and worship songs old and new. What gives you joy? How might this joy draw you closer to God?

We spent quite a while in that beautiful church and felt the warmth of their welcome. Our thanks to the congregation of Cartmel Methodist Church for making our visit possible.

Sue and Rob Fownes

CHURCH CHOIR

Our annual Songs of Praise service took place on 8th July, with the choir singing five additional pieces, which I hope everyone enjoyed. The choir sang very well and it was good to hear the congregation have a good sing with the seven chosen hymns, many of which we no longer sing, although I did include one out of Singing the Faith, no. 331 'King of Kings, Majesty', one of the better modern songs written by Jarrod Cooper. It was good to have Rev. Jean Spragg with us again, who did an excellent job linking the service together. She enjoyed our pieces and I understand (from a friend) that she especially liked 'The rivers of Babylon'.

We are currently rehearsing for the Harvest, which takes place on 16th September, when there will only be a 10.30am service, which will be the first service that our new minister, Rev. William Davis, takes. The choir will be singing three items.

On Remembrance Sunday on 11th November at 6.00pm the choir will be singing two new pieces, 'Lift your banners high', and I have set to music a well known poem written by John McCrae 'In Flanders Fields'.

At the moment I am preparing the music for the Church Anniversary, which is on 9th December, with a morning service only.

As I mentioned in the June Messenger, we are now able to publish the Hymn Survey for the last twelve months. Once again, thanks go to Kathryn who has kindly collated the information for us.

FROM MAY 2017 TO APRIL 2018

As our main hymn book is Hymns and Psalms, the survey shows the hymns against this book, even though they may also be in Singing the Faith, along with Power Praise and our own Song Book.

From Hymns and Psalms we sang 98
out of a total of 823

From Power Praise we sang 12
out of a total of 200

From the Song Book we sang 11
out of a total of 33

From Singing the Faith we sang 54
out of a total of 748

We also sang:
How deep the Father's Love
Let it be
Mary's Boy Child
MHB 453, 858, 857
Sankey 529, 823
O Valiant hearts
The King is among us
Walk with me O my Lord
We have a King who rides a donkey
What peace is there for tarnished lives

In total we sang 274 hymns plus introits and vespers
145 (H&P), 24 PP, 17 SB, 73 STF and 15 others

To summarise, the hymn sung the most times was

H&P 707

O Jesus I have promised

Sung 6 times

STF 481

The Lord's my Shepherd (Stuart Townsend version)

5 times

STF 175

Light of the world you stepped down into darkness

4 times

H&P 215

Amazing Grace

4 times

STF 351 In Christ alone

4 times

H&P 635

Morning has broken 4 times

15 hymns were sung 3 times and the others once or twice over the year.

As you can see, we sing a small number of hymns
out of a total of 2,788 in the books we have available
(including the MHB)

Barrie Shinton

Hymn survey - May 2017- April 2018

Hymn no	Times sung	Hymn no	Times sung	Hymn no	Times sung	Hymn no	Times sung
1	2	295	3	108	1	15	1
7	1	301	1	109	1	16	3
13	3	315	2	119	1	25	2
14	1	329	1	175	4	30	1
16	2	330	3	298	1	107	3
25	2	342	1	206	2	114	3
63	1	352	1	239	1	115	1
64	3	355	1	263	2	125	3
68	3	402	1	270	1	155	2
94	1	412	1	274	1	200	2
97	3	437	2	293	1	Song Book	
98	1	455	2	331	1	108	1
106	1	457	1	349	1	110	3
107	1	463	1	351	4	112	1
110	1	465	1	397	1	114	2
112	1	482	1	409	1	115	1
113	2	500	1	424	1	117	2
118	2	501	1	446	1	120	1
120	1	505	1	469	1	124	1
132	1	515	1	471	3	128	1
137	2	536	1	477	1	129	2
138	1	548	1	481	5	136	2
139	1	566	1	483	1	Other	
141	2	575	1	489	2	How deep the fathers love	1
180	1	583	1	513	1	Let it be	1
188	1	595	2	514	1	Marys Boy child	3
190	3	597	1	532	1	MHB 453	1
193	2	610	1	558	1	MHB 858	1
196	1	614	1	575	1	MHB 857	1
204	1	635	4	576	1	O Valiant Hearts	1
207	1	653	1	586	2	Sankey 529	1
209	1	668	2	589	1	Sankey 823	1
210	1	685	1	614	1	The Kings among us	1
212	1	691	2	615	1	Walk with me oh My Lord	1
214	1	704	6	619	2		
215	4	705	3	625	1		
216	2	722	1	628	1		
220	1	739	1	629	1		
221	1	746	3	660	1		
223	1	753	2	662	2		
224	1	769	1	693	2	We have a King who rides on a donkey	1
229	1	774	1	706	1		
231	1	776	3	710	1		
238	1	792	1	719	1		
239	1	804	1	723	1		
242	1	813	1	725	1	What peace is there for tarnished lives	1
244	1	STF		727	1		
250	1	28	1	734	1		
260	1	40	1	768	1		
267	1	61	1	Power Praise			
276	1	63	1	1	1		
278	1	65	1	13	2		

Our father, who art in
Moscow, Southgate be
thy name.

The cup will come,
Kane's work will be
done, in Moscow as it is
in Tottenham.

Take this day our daily
penalty.

And forgive Vardy's
offside trespasses, as
we forgive those who
bet against us.

And lead us not into
under-achievement.

But deliver us the title.
For footballs coming
home.

This history and the
glory.

Forever and ever.

'Our'-men



An inventive take on the Lord's Prayer

Saturday July 2nd

A Golden Flower Festival

Today I went to Lanesfield Chapel
mainly to look at the Flowers.
The Sun was shining all the time
we were not troubled by showers.
The displays were really wonderful
Brilliant, colourful and bright!
Reflected by the windows stained glass a truly beautiful sight.
It would have been a hard job to judge them,
because they were all so good,
each of them with a different theme
placed on the polished wood.
I'm so glad I managed to get there
it gave me so much pleasure.
I took lots of photos so I have those to treasure;
the theme of the festival was all gold.
All of the entries there told a story, a place, a special event.
I really am so glad I went.
Then I went into the hall
where the Ladies had been working hard for hours.
Lots of lovely food to eat
salads, sandwiches, trifles, and cakes decorated with flowers.
I bought quite a few to take home;
and a picnic lunch on a plate,
which I later enjoyed in my garden out of doors in the sun.
It was great.
By Josie Hicken

This has been submitted by a friend of Audrey Millard.
Unfortunately we do not know the year.

DISTRICT CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY – BIDEFORD 2018

It's been two years since I went on my first children's holiday to Bideford. Last year my eldest son, Michael, got married – so inconvenient to choose that week! But I came back again and I wasn't disappointed.

Thankfully it cooled down a bit and apart from some rain on the Monday we had good weather. Paul and Angie went ahead to prepare as usual and the rest of the leaders (15) and the children (32) went down on the coach on Sunday.

These children / young people are brought together for a variety of reasons. Some come with a friend or acquaintance from their school, some come knowing no one. Imagine yourself at that age (10 – 12yrs) going on holiday without your friends or family – it's not easy. The children come from a variety of different backgrounds and quite a wide geographic area too.

The schedule for the week is full on and exciting, including visits to the beach, an indoor play area – all to ourselves, an adventure park with a bird of prey centre, an activity centre where they can do kayaking, the climbing wall and the high beams and lots of other sporting and creative activities.

Getting to know the children over the week is a real experience. Some will chat easily to you whilst others are extremely shy and less willing. On the Friday prior to the holiday one of the girls lost everything due to a severe fire at her family home! She was a little unsure at the beginning of the week but by the end of the week she was challenging herself to try new things and really enjoying the holiday. We were all very proud of her. Her family are now staying in a Travel Lodge until they can be rehoused.

Some of the children are young carers, caring for parents or siblings with either physical or mental health issues. They are such lovely children, taking everything in their stride, never really seeking attention for themselves. They are a credit to their families and it's a real privilege to be able to spend time with them. I could have brought a couple home with me!

Lanesfield almost has a team of its own on the holiday – myself, Paul and Angie, Josh and Oliver Woodberry and Liam Evans from BB. They all did a great job along with all the other leaders, both well established and new.

It's a really rewarding week although very tiring and quite challenging at times. The children were all great individuals but sadly they didn't all get on with each other on occasions. As leaders, it is our responsibility to diffuse situations and try to understand what causes them and how to avoid them happening again.

Some of these children come from difficult backgrounds and have lots of 'baggage'. The holiday provides an opportunity for them to just be themselves and enjoy being children again. We're there to look after them and make sure they have the best experience they can, learning new skills and building confidence and self-esteem. There's a lot we, as adults, can learn from these children, mainly not to take the simple things in life for granted. The theme for the holiday this year was 'Freedom'. For most of these children that was what this week was all about – freedom from living in a chaotic home, freedom from having to constantly think and care for someone else, freedom to be yourself – without the baggage.

We were supported spiritually this year by Revs Graham and Meg Slingo. They were very supportive of the children offering a listening ear and advice whenever needed and sharing life experience stories that really engaged the children.

I think we all came away from the holiday knowing and understanding just a little bit more about the lives of these children and the strategies they use to help them cope on a daily basis. Some cope better than others. Having a loving family around you makes a huge difference but sometimes more support is needed. I also know most of us leaders were quite exhausted - mentally and physically, but it doesn't put us off going again!

Between now and the holiday next year we are hoping to do a presentation all about the holiday - photos included. So watch this space!

We have already had some very generous donations towards the next holiday for which we are extremely grateful. This year we managed to raise sufficient funds but we struggled with volunteers due to illness and family commitments. It was touch and go at one point whether the holiday would go ahead. This year is also the last year that Trish and Charmian are organising and doing all the work in the background before the holiday can go ahead. So, if you feel you would like to know more about the holiday – either to go along for the week or to help with the organisation beforehand then please come and talk to us. This holiday is so important to these children – it would be such a shame to lose it.

*God Bless
Sally Parker*

HARVEST SUPPER AND BEETLE DRIVE

Monday 17th September at 7.00pm
Tickets £5.00 adult, £2.50 child
available from Pat or any steward

Room Lettings

If anyone is interested in booking a room
within the church for an event
please can they see Sally Parker at church
or email her on
sallyparker@lanesfieldmethodist.co.uk

Details of costs per room per hour are displayed
on the noticeboard in the porch.

If you have any questions
please contact Sally as above.

As I am sure a lot of you are aware,
we are a very busy church
and we have a lot of regular bookings
with organisations most evenings and on a Saturday.

It is important that all bookings come through Sally
so an entry can be made in the diary
and all dates and costs can be confirmed.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.
The Leadership Team

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