

**THE  
MESSENGER**

Edition number 112



**SEPTEMBER 2019**



**[www.lanesfieldmethodist.co.uk](http://www.lanesfieldmethodist.co.uk)**

## **REFLECTION**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the theme for our reflection is ‘God has given you everything you need (Psalm 18:28).

God not only redeemed you and called you to serve Him, He also equipped you. Everything you need to fulfil your assignment is in your life right now, just waiting for you to recognise it. Anything that’s unrecognised becomes unappreciated; and anything that’s unappreciated becomes unrewarded; and anything that’s unrewarded eventually leaves your life. During the days of the California gold rush a young couple became obsessed with the quest for gold. They sold their farm and everything they owned and went out West to search for it. Failure after failure, they eventually ended up bankrupt and moved to Europe. Many years later they returned to America and decided to visit their old farm. But when they arrived, they found it surrounded by security guards and a high wire fence. When they inquired, they discovered that under their old farm was the second largest gold reserve in America – and it was now owned by the government.

God has placed resources and people all around you that you are not seeing. Some of the biggest gifts in your life have yet to be recognised because they are in seed form. And your failure to recognise them is costing you dearly. Paul wrote to the Ephesian believers saying, ‘I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened’ (Ephesians 1:18). And David prayed, ‘Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law’ (Psalm 119:18). Sometimes you can’t see the forest for the trees. There’s treasure in you and around you that you will never see until God reveals it to you. And He will, if you seek Him.

God bless you.  
William

## FOR PRAYER



We remember the house-bound - Iris Thorne, Patsy Crooks, June Hodgetts and Dorothy Roberts, with the people who care for them.

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

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

We welcome into the church family here at Lanesfield through baptism River Pauline Mary McDonnell. May she grow in the love of Jesus.

Funerals have been held recently for the late Iris Potts and Brian Shaw. The church family at Lanesfield extends deepest sympathy and pray God's love will uphold their families in days ahead.

Congratulations to Kathryn Lewis and Karl Smart married here in August. The whole church sends love and best wishes in their married life together, and we pray God will be at the centre of their future lives.

*Pat Arnold*  
*Pastoral Secretary*

## **REGULAR GIVING**

If you would like to give regularly through the envelope scheme or directly through the direct debit scheme, please see Catherine.

You do not have to pay tax to have a box of envelopes or to give through direct debit. If you do pay tax the Church can claim back 25%.

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Do you have news to share with others?

Please give any items for the December edition of  
The Messenger  
to Ann Latham  
([annlatham@lanesfieldmethodist.co.uk](mailto:annlatham@lanesfieldmethodist.co.uk))  
(01785 710866)  
no later than Sunday 10th November 2019

## CONFERENCE 2019

The Conference is the governing body of the Methodist Church and meets annually to discuss matters affecting the life of the Church, the nation and the world.

Conference 2019 met in Birmingham, 27 June - 4 July.

The Rev Dr Barbara Glasson and Professor Clive Marsh were inducted as President and Vice-President as the first item of business at the Methodist Conference, on Saturday 29 June 2019. The induction of the Rev Dr Barbara Glasson as President of the Conference for 2019-2020 has meant that for the first time in the history of British Methodism three consecutive Presidents of Conference have been women – the Rev Loraine Mellor (President 2017-2018), the Rev Michaela Youngson (President 2018-2019) and the Rev Dr Barbara Glasson (President 2019-2020). It will not be four-in-a-row, however, as the President-Designate for the 2020 Conference, to be held in Telford, is the Rev Richard Teal.

The Rev Glasson said: "It is a privilege to be elected to serve as President. My interest is in enabling and honouring Connexional communities that are courageous and rooted in prayer. God is transforming the old and calling us into new things that are a joyful outcome of our Methodist inheritance. I believe that if the Church is authentic and inclusive it will also grow numerically and spiritually." Is Lanesfield courageous and rooted in prayer? Is Lanesfield allowing God to transform the old and call us into new things?

The theme for Rev Glasson's Presidential year is 'So what's the story...?' She said: "We are called to tell stories, to listen to stories and to wrestle with stories, to search for truth not fake news, to challenge the malicious stories we tell about each other and to go on believing that as people of creation, exodus, crucifixion, wilderness wandering and even in exile we can still claim the hope of resurrection and the gracious promise of life in all its fullness." She arrived at the Conference on foot having walked 133 miles from Huddersfield, stopping frequently en route to share and listen to the stories of communities along the way. The sermon on the BBC radio 4 Sunday Service during Conference was delivered by Rev. Glasson. She said that the fellowship of the church is more important than being right or wrong. What story does Lanesfield have to tell? Is part of our story about fellowship?

The ordination of new presbyteral and diaconal ministers has become a highlight of the Conference week. Having been received into full Connexion at the service of Sunday Worship in the morning, presbyters, deacons, family and friends travelled to local places of worship to be ordained.

Ordination Services took place on the afternoon of Sunday 30 June, at the following places:

Shirley Methodist Church	4 deacons
Darlington Street	7 presbyters
Coventry Central Hall	9 presbyters
St. Martin's in the Bullring	6 presbyters

Conference permitted 71 presbyters to become supernumerary, 8 presbyters to become supernumerary during the year and 3 deacons to become supernumerary.

So, what does this mean? 22 new ministers ordained, 4 deacons ordained. By the end of this connexional year 79 ministers retired and 3 deacons retired. We are fortunate in the Wolverhampton circuit to have our full allocation of ministers, and also to have 11 supernumerary ministers. We pray for the many circuits who are not so blessed.

*Ann Latham*

## EASTER OFFERING 2019

Many, many thanks to all who contributed, as ever you were all very generous. £286.00 was received, of which £179.00 was gift aided, making our total £330.75. So, you can see how important it is to Gift Aid on your donations if you pay tax (at no cost to you, and the church can claim the tax back through the government). The total so far for the 22 churches in the circuit is £2,691.90, but it is expected to rise a little more. Well done everyone, and it all helps to further God's work.

*Pat Arnold*

## Summer Fayre

What a success this year's Fayre was! Despite the grey overcast day and rain showers, we managed to raise over £1,000 for church funds. It really was great to see all of our church groups working together to make this possible. Although the survival of our church depends upon finance to pay for all of our Methodist costs and domestic needs, much more importantly it depends upon us working together as one body.

Communication is often missing within our church and this can lead to us not being aware of certain events or changes that are happening. The communication for this event was great and it resulted in a fantastic day. We need to try to keep on working together within the church, organising the Fayres to help fulfil our outreach to the community and to show how welcoming we are at Lanesfield. This may in turn encourage those people to worship with us or to attend our BB and GB groups. Can I thank everyone who donated or attended or helped in any way.

Our Christmas Fayre is planned for 16<sup>th</sup> November and I hope I can rely on your support once again.

*Working with you in Christ's service  
Sue Bate*

# THE WOLVERHAMPTON CIRCUIT



## **Monday 16th September**

District Day - 10.30am - 3.15pm  
at Walsall Central Hall

Re-dedication service with Rev. Rachel Parkinson  
and Margaret Gardner - 'Gambia Revisited'

## **Tuesday 1st October**

Circuit meeting at 2.15pm  
at Rakegate Methodist Church

Rev Sam Hagerman, with a bring a buy table

## **Tuesday 12th November**

District Day 10.15am - 3.15pm

at Lake Street Methodist Church, Lower Gornal

Deacon Georgina Brooks

"Life in all its Fullness"

## **Friday 6th December**

Circuit Advent service

in the Epworth Room at Beckminster Methodist Church

10.30am Coffee and Mince Pies

11.00am Margaret Brownlow

*All are invited*

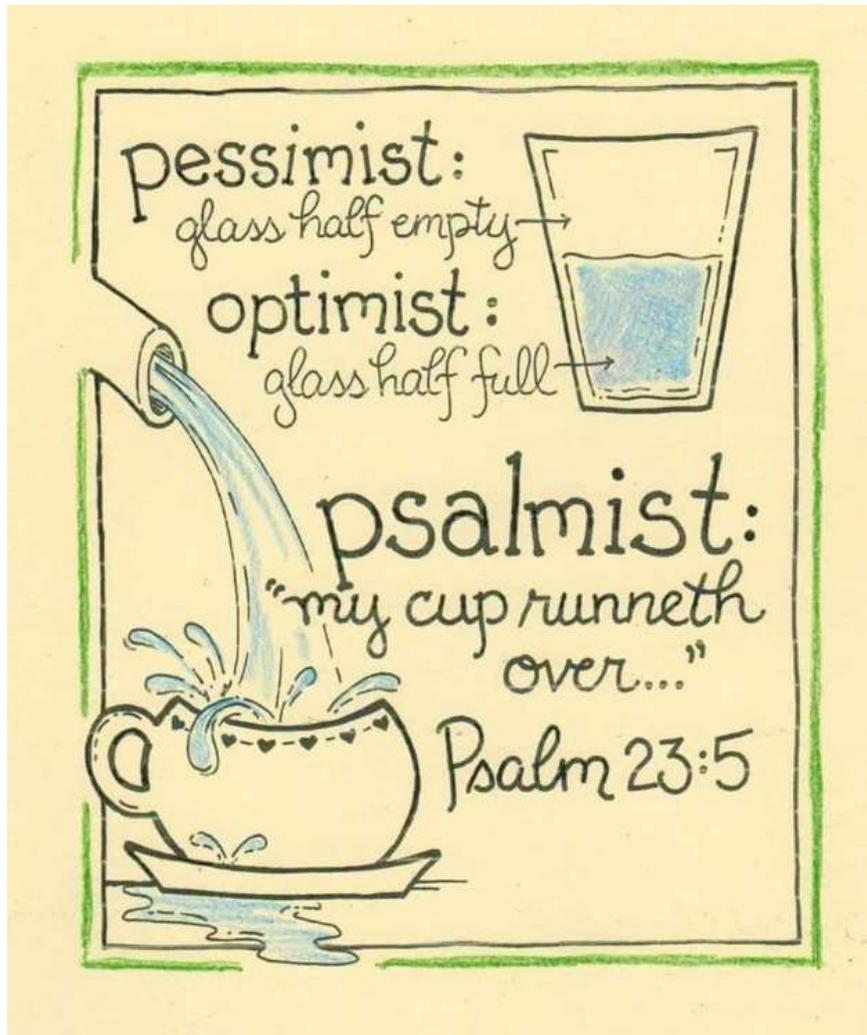
# Wolverhampton Fair Traid

Pop Up Shop @Lanesfield  
15<sup>th</sup> September  
20<sup>th</sup> October  
17<sup>th</sup> November

**Bible Study at  
Lanesfield:**  
Wednesday 2pm 25<sup>th</sup> September  
Wednesday 2pm 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Wednesday 2pm 20<sup>th</sup> November

*Come and join us*

*All are welcome*



*Submitted by Edward Bridgewood*

## **METHODIST PRAYER HANDBOOK**

The new book for 2019/2010 - Prayers for every day of the year - will be available soon at £3.95, entitled 'Responding to the Gospel'. Please see Pat Arnold.

## **METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED**

A consultation day is being held at Bantock House, Wolverhampton, on Thursday 3rd October 2019 11.00am - 1.30pm. Want to know more about M.H.A. in Wolverhampton? See church notice board or Pat Arnold.

## **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](mailto: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.

## Matthew Ch 19 v.14

*But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven"*

We have had a fully packed year at Lanesfield, main themes being the 10 Commandments, Pentecost and, over the summer, the Lords Prayer. We have considered different ways that we can speak to our God through prayer, be it spoken, building images with Lego or through our craft and colouring, On a following page is a picture for you all to colour in and also use this different way to pray to our Lord.

As we start the new academic year we will begin with the Creation story and the impact of climate change, all are welcome (including the young at heart!). Over the last few weeks we have talked about the changes in September, whether it be starting with a new teacher, a new school, or progressing to the next section within their Brigade. This is often a stressful period in a child's life, which can lead to loneliness, but God will always be there to support them. For parents and guardians, Sunday School can help and give them space and Christian mindfulness as they start these new adventures. Let us help!

It is not just our children who start something new, but also teachers and other school staff. As we reflect about what lies ahead, we say the following prayer:

**Gracious God,  
As the summer begins to fade,  
    new possibilities lie on the horizon.  
Bless all of those who are  
    beginning or returning  
    to their roles as teachers,  
    as well as those who lead and support them in their efforts.  
May this school year be a time of  
    grace and potential  
    as they teach, share and  
    challenge others to grow in faith,  
    knowledge and wisdom.  
Bless children and youth,  
    along with their parents,  
    as they begin a new school year.  
May their minds be open to learning  
    and to the wonder of discovery and insight.  
Amen**

Sunday School  
Sundays 10:30-11:30  
#seeyouthere

*Edward Bridgewood*



# The opening of the 'old' chapel in 1834

submitted by Neil Woodberry

**The Staffordshire Advertiser.**  
STAFFORD, SATURDAY, SEPT. 13, 1831.

MECHANICS' LIBRARY, WOLVERHAMPTON.—The subscribers to this institution were highly gratified on Monday evening with a lecture on galvanism, delivered by Mr. E. H. Coleman, surgeon of that town. The lecturer, after an introductory address, commenced his experiments on a dead frog, a dead rabbit, a cock, a cow's head, and lastly a dead sheep; on all of which were produced sensations similar to life itself. We need scarcely add, the lecturer was most enthusiastically cheered throughout by a most numerous and respectable audience, far surpassing any thing of the kind, the school-room being in every part crowded to an overflow.

A handsome Wesleyan chapel was opened for public worship on Sunday last, at Lanesfield, near Ettingshall, when three excellent sermons were preached by the following gentlemen: that in the morning by the Rev. Samuel Sewell, Wesleyan minister; that in the afternoon by the Rev. John Roaf, of Queen-street chapel, Wolverhampton; and that in the evening by Rev. Thomas Moss, Wesleyan minister, late of Macclesfield, now of Bilston. The congregations were overflowing. The collections amounted to 30*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* There has been a society of Wesleyan Methodists at Lanesfield (which is in the Wolverhampton circuit,) upwards of 25 years; but they have hitherto assembled for divine worship in a private house.

A great sensation has been created in London by the

A concert by Coseley Male Voice Choir on  
Saturday 7th September 2019 at 7.00pm  
in memory of Cecil Baines, Jeff Gaskin  
and Mick Cripps,  
all valued members of Lanesfield Methodist Church  
and Coseley Male Voice Choir.

Ticket price, which will include supper, is £6.00.  
Tickets available from Janet Massey.

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The Macmillan coffee morning will be held  
one week early on  
Friday 20th Sept 10.00 am to 12.30 pm  
as the next Community Cafe is on the  
official coffee morning day.

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### **CAR WINDOW SPOTTER**

In the May edition of The Messenger we asked  
‘Have you noticed something special  
in the front window of a car parked in the car park most Sunday  
mornings?’

Did you spot it?  
A palm cross in the front window of  
Madeline and Pat Cunneen’s car.

When passing an English speaking church in Spain, the following item was on their notice board:

*When you were baptised,  
your parents brought you here.  
When you were married,  
your partner brought you here.  
When you die,  
your friends will bring you here.  
Why not try coming in on your own sometime!*

*Dennis Winning*

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### **SMILING IS INFECTIOUS**

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu  
When someone smiled at me today I started smiling too.  
I walked around the corner and someone saw me grin  
When he smiled I realised I had passed it on to him.  
I thought about the smile, and then realised its worth  
A single smile like mine could travel round the world.  
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected  
Start an EPIDEMIC and get the world infected.

*A poem by the late Spike Milligan*

*Submitted by Madeline Cunneen*

# CHURCH CHOIR

Our annual Songs of Praise service took place on 14th July, with the choir singing five additional pieces, which I hope everyone enjoyed (I did get some good feedback, which is encouraging for the choir's efforts). They sang very well and it was good to hear the congregation have a good sing with the seven chosen hymn, many of which we no longer sing. It was good to welcome back Rev. Jean Spragg again, who did an excellent job linking the service together.

We are currently rehearsing for the Harvest, which takes place on 15th September at 10.30am. This year, as we have no preacher allocated, the service will be a 'first' for Lanesfield, 'A Harvest Songs of Praise', when YOU will be able to have a good sing of some of the Harvest hymns that we don't get to sing of recent years. The choir will be singing three items.

On Remembrance Sunday, 10th November, at 6.00pm the choir will be singing as usual, a new piece that I have adapted and arranged called 'Light the candles' and 'Lest we forget'.

At the moment I am preparing the music for the Church Anniversary, which is on Sunday 15th 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 2018 TO APRIL 2019**

As our main hymn book is Hymns and Psalms, the survey shows 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 125  
out of a total of 823  
From Power Praise we sang 7  
out of a total of 200  
From the Song Book we sang 8  
out of a total of 33  
From the Methodist Hymn Book we sang 2  
out of a total of 984  
From Singing the Faith we sang 47  
out of a total of 984.

We also sang

Be bold, be strong  
Bless the Lord O my soul  
I'll go in the strength of the Lord  
Jerusalem  
Let is be  
2 Martyn Ryder's own words  
Mary's Boy Child (twice)  
Put your hand in the hand  
We are the body of Christ  
O Valiant Hearts

In total we sang 284 hymns plus introits and vespers  
177 (H&P), 13 (PP), 21 (SB), 2(MHB), 59(STF)  
and 12 others

**Summary of Hymns sung over the period of May 2018 to April 2019**

Hymn number	Number of times sung	Hymn number	Number of times sung	Hymn number	Number of times sung	Hymn number	Number of times sung
<b>Hymns and Psalms</b>							
1	1	155	1	375	2	745	1
3	1	159	1	379	1	775	1
4	1	160	2	402	1	785	4
7	1	163	1	406	1	806	1
13	4	166	1	413	1	814	1
16	2	180	2	437	1	<b>STF</b>	
19	1	180	1	439	1	8	1
22	1	193	1	442	1	15	2
24	1	202	1	445	1	40	1
25	1	209	1	263	2	41	1
38	1	212	1	445	1	63	1
42	1	213	1	449	1	101	1
43	1	216	1	474	1	100	1
47	1	225	1	482	1	112	1
63	4	231	1	484	1	158	1
65	1	232	2	492	2	163	1
66	1	237	1	499	1	175	4
67	1	239	1	515	1	206	2
68	4	243	1	535	2	207	1
76	1	244	1	536	2	222	1
77	2	246	2	559	1	237	1
89	1	251	1	366	2	242	2
86	1	255	1	375	1	251	1
92	1	256	2	388	1	260	1
94	2	258	1	397	1	286	1
95	1	264	2	402	3	307	1
97	3	267	4	454	1	319	1
98	1	281	1	435	1	330	1
106	2	295	1	434	1	331	2
107	1	300	2	444	2	351	2
108	2	305	1	475	1	356	1
116	2	312	1	691	2	363	1
112	2	313	3	704	1	385	1
113	2	328	1	705	4	400	1
114	2	328	1	724	1	427	1
118	3	327	1	726	1	499	1
120	1	338	1	736	1	471	3
132	1	330	1	744	2	477	1
134	1	363	1	745	2	481	1

499	1	114	2	I'll go in the strength of the Lord	1	The top hymn sung this year was from the Song Book number 114 (the Lord of sea and sky)
513	1	290	1			
514	1	Song Book				
524	1	112	1	Arise	1	
525	1	114	7			
538	1	111	4	Let a be	1	
616	2	117	3			
672	1	119	3	Maria Byler own words	2	
675	1	120	1			
679	1	111	1			
684	1	138	1	May's boy child	2	
693	1	MHB				
704	1	317	1			
713	1	800	1	The year long in the land	1	
<b>Power Praise</b>		<b>Other</b>				
18	2	He hold be strong	1			
25	2			We are the body of Christ	1	
32	1	When the Lord oh	1			
89	1	my and		O Valiant hearts	1	
107	4					

**Top ten hymns sung during the period of May 2018 to April 2019**

1. SBU 114 I the Lord of sea and sky (sung 7 times)
2. H&P 13 Praise my soul the King of heaven (sung 4 times)
3. H&P 63 All my hope on God is founded (sung 4 times)
4. H&P 68 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us (sung 4 times)
5. H&P 267 Love divine, all loves exceeding (sung 4 times)
6. H&P 705 Take my life and let it be (sung 4 times)
7. H&P 785 A change to keep I have (sung 4 times)
8. Power Praise 107 Lord the light of your love is shining (sung 4 times)
9. Songbook 115 My Jesus my saviour, Lord there is none like you (sung 4 times)
10. STF 175 Light of the world you stepped down into darkness (sung 4 times)

To summarise:

The top hymn sung was from the Song Book, number 114, 'I the Lord of Sea and Sky', which was sung 7 times.

H&P no 13	Praise my soul the King of Heaven	(4 times)
H&P no 63	All my hope on God is Founded	(4 times)
H&P no 68	Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us	(4 times)
H&P no 267	Love divine, all loves excelling	(4 times)
H&P no 705	Take my life and let it be	(4 times)
H&P no 785	A charge to keep I have	(4 times)
P.P no 107	Lord, the light of your love	(4 times)
S.B. no 115	My Jesus, my Saviour	(4 times)
STF no 175	Light of the world	(4 times)

8 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*

## *A Prayer for Inner Strength*

*Dear God,*

Please give me the strength  
to endure this situation,  
and to find the blessings  
and lessons that it contains.

Please give me the endurance  
to continue ahead.

Please guide my thoughts,  
words and actions,  
so that I walk your  
path of peace and love.

*Amen*



Apologies from the editor ...  
... I cannot remember who gave this to me!

## **WOLVERHAMPTON FAIR TRADE**



**Shop: The Methodist Centre,  
24 School Street, Wolverhampton WV1 4LF**

Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
10.00am - 4.00pm (Wednesday late night until 5.45pm)

Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Phone: 01902 471475

Email: [shop@wolvesfairtrades.org.uk](mailto:shop@wolvesfairtrades.org.uk)

Web: [wolvesfairtrade.org.uk](http://wolvesfairtrade.org.uk)

Fair Trade is looking for volunteers to support work in the shop. If you are over sixteen years old you would be most welcome, it is not too onerous but a good opportunity to get to know more about fair trade.

Shifts are :

Tuesday to Friday

10.00am - 1.00pm or 1.00pm - 4.00pm;

Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm

If you are interested, please contact:

Brenda Shuttleworth, 01902 330002,

[brendaks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brendaks@hotmail.co.uk)

or

Katharine Green, 07779 135296

[katharine.green74@gmail.com](mailto:katharine.green74@gmail.com)

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