



St John's Methodist Church
Baker Street
Potters Bar
Herts EN6 2DZ
Registered Charity No 1130633

St John's News

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May 2024

(Services on next page)

From our minister – Revd David Jebb

METHODISM IS A MOVEMENT!

Observing Revd John Wesley's Aldersgate experience on 24th May 1738

John Wesley's journey towards his Aldersgate experience was one marked by deep spiritual reflection and a quest for assurance in his faith. As a prominent figure in the Holy Club at Oxford, Wesley was immersed in practices of methodical devotion and rigorous asceticism, driven by a sincere desire for holiness and salvation. Yet, despite his dedication to these pursuits, Wesley found himself grappling with a growing sense of dissatisfaction and spiritual unrest.



It was during his time in Georgia, engaged in missionary work, that Wesley's spiritual turmoil reached a critical point. Faced with the prospect of mortality amidst a storm at sea, Wesley observed the unwavering faith of the Moravians onboard. Their serene confidence in the face of danger starkly contrasted with Wesley's own inner turmoil and uncertainty. This encounter served as a catalyst for Wesley's realisation of his own spiritual inadequacy and his yearning for the kind of assurance and certainty that the Moravians possessed.

Wesley's pivotal moment came at Aldersgate Street in London, where he attended a Moravian service on 24th May 1738. As he listened to the reading of Martin Luther's commentary on the Epistle to the Romans, something profound occurred within him. In a moment of divine revelation, Wesley experienced a profound awakening of faith. He described feeling his heart "strangely warmed" as he came to a deep realisation of his trust in Christ for salvation and the

assurance that his sins were forgiven through faith alone.

This transformative experience, known as Wesley's Aldersgate conversion, marked a significant turning point in his spiritual journey. It propelled him towards a newfound understanding of salvation and ignited within him a fervent commitment to preach the message of the new birth and justification by faith alone. From that moment onward, Wesley's ministry was imbued with a sense of passion and conviction as he sought to share the liberating truth he had discovered with others.

Wesley's Aldersgate experience not only shaped his own spiritual trajectory but also left an indelible mark on the course of religious history. It laid the foundation for the Methodist movement, inspiring countless individuals to seek a personal encounter with God and to embrace a faith characterised by genuine conviction and transformative power. In the annals of Christian history, Wesley's Aldersgate conversion stands as a testament to the profound impact of divine grace and the enduring significance of spiritual awakening.

David Jebb

Revd David Jebb, Minister of St John's Methodist Church

You can also see David's monthly blog on our website at www.stjohnspb.org.uk/ministers-blog.

Copy deadline for next issue is Sunday 19th May 2024

Articles in 'St John's News' contain personal opinions of contributors and may not reflect the opinions of the Editors, Minister or Members

Sunday Services

Date	Time	Service	Preacher
Sunday 5 th May	10.30am	Morning Worship	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 12 th May	10.30am	Morning Worship followed by AGM	Revd Daniel Yovan
Sunday 12 th May	7.00pm	Informal Café Worship	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 19 th May	10.30am	Creative Church and Celebration	Pastor David Chuck
Sunday 26 th May	10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd John Churcher

All ages are welcome to our 10.30am services. Under 3s are welcome in church and in the adjoining crèche area at the back of the church. Other children are invited to Junior Johns in the Garden Room. More information from a Steward or Jackie Hart 07825 211657.

Family News

We are delighted to be able to send birthday greetings to Marion Weaver who will be celebrating her 95th birthday on 30th April, to Pat Griffith who will be 80 years' young on 27th May and to June Beales who will be 90 on 1st June. Congratulations to you all.

Belinda Havercroft and June Beales are both settling well into their care homes.

Pam Taylor and Beth Wickens have been discharged from Barnet and are now back at home. Unfortunately, Anne Croughton and Colin Smale have fallen. Anne has sadly broken her wrist and Colin has fractured his fibula.

Maurice Beales is being treated at Barnet hospital and is expected to be discharged soon. June will then move home too.

Sue Finch is moving from Hammersmith hospital to a care home where she will receive palliative care. Our thoughts and prayers go to Sue, Sarah and Holly at this sad time.

Janet Hamilton and others in the St John's family are undergoing tests and awaiting results. This can be a very worrying time. Please pray for peacefulness, positive outcomes and a clear way forward for all those known to us.

On 18th May at 2.30pm Doreen Woodman and Leigh Cheiza will be married here at St John's. Doreen and Leigh have been attending St John's recently. We wish them every blessing in their life together.

Helen Barlow Email: foodtech16@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01707 662254

Praying Together

Let's join together in prayer! Whether you are in need of prayer or you simply want to join in praying and interceding for others, these are times when the prayers of God's people are essential. Join us on Zoom or in Person – or both!

In Person - Friday 10th May

The prayer meeting will be in the vestibule (you can go through the Clifton Room) at 10.00am and end at 10.30am so we can join the Friday Coffee Morning.

On Zoom - Saturday Morning

Prayers, Blessings and Biblical Affirmations

We invite you to join us on Saturday mornings from 9.00 to 9:45am, accessible via ZOOM. Prayer requests can be submitted via email at djebb2003@gmail.com.

Use the Zoom link

<https://zoom.us/j/99737525318?pwd=R1hHNTE2Z2l0RndvaU1idWpVYktndz09>

Meeting ID: 997 3752 5318 Passcode: 251590



Prayer Leaders:

4th May – Deacon Nigel Perrott

11th May – Revd Daniel Yovan

18th May – Dr George Woods

25th May – Mrs Jean Owen

General Church Meeting Sunday 12th May

The annual General Church Meeting will take place on 12th May after the morning service (approx. 12.15pm). This is a very important meeting in the life of the church. Please do come if you can.

The meeting is "held for fellowship, for mutual counsel respecting the condition of the Local Church, including its financial affairs, for the



election of church stewards and representatives and for any other purpose which the Conference may direct." (from "The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church")

At the meeting, we first elect stewards and representatives to Church Council, and then have a discussion about the church.

Stewards

The church stewards are corporately responsible with the Minister exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. As well as helping in general with all activities, the stewards have a particular responsibility for organising the practical side of all services, working with the preacher. Stewards are required to have an enhanced DBS check and to attend safeguarding training.

If you are interested in becoming a steward, or in finding out more, please speak to Revd David Jebb or any of the leadership team. There are also training courses coming up to which all are welcome (see separate article). The current stewards are Robin Burns (stepping down this year), Helen Jeckells, David Carter, Sally Gunning and David Rhodes. Any members of the church can nominate another member to become a steward – but get their agreement first!

Representatives to Church Council

The Church Council has the legal responsibility for the church and are the managing trustees. They normally meet three times a year, with occasional extra meetings for urgent decisions or if instructed by the Conference or District or Circuit. Some people (including the stewards) are members of Church Council by reason of their role in the church. Others are elected by the General Church Meeting to represent the views of the wider family. Representatives are required to have an enhanced DBS check and to attend safeguarding training.

If you are interested in becoming a representative, or in finding out more, please speak to Revd David Jebb or any of the current representatives. The current ones are David Bowler, Roger Croughton (stepping down this year), Pat Griffith, Maggie Day and Stephen Krause. Any members of the church can nominate another member to become a representative – but get their agreement first!

Nominations

Any nomination should reach the minister not less than seven days before the meeting, i.e. by Sunday 5th May. (The Chair of the meeting may, however, nominate without previous notice.) All nominations should be made in writing to Revd David Jebb. The person being nominated and the person making the nomination must both be members of St John's Church.

General Discussion

Following the nominations there is a general discussion on the ministry and witness of the church. Everyone is welcome to share their views.

The Potters Bar Carnival Sunday 9th June

The Potters Bar Carnival will be held at Elm Court and once again St John's Church will be present. The Mission Outreach Group are developing the final details. We have the same two space plot as last year. Our presence will let Potters Bar know who we are and what we do. Outreach is the key objective; potential initiatives are as below:

- Who we at St John's are
- Updates on our Alpha Course activities which will take place in the autumn
- A colourful stand with lots of interest
- Cakes and goodies plus a handout for children
- The story of our welcome space initiative



We really need LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS to help at the carnival this year so if you are able to spare an hour or two PLEASE CALL Sally Gunning 07941 223102 or David Carter 07709 284852. Help is needed all day either with setting up at Elm Court from 10.00am onwards or running the stall in the afternoon from 12.30pm onwards. Donations of cakes on the day would also be appreciated which you can either bring to church or deliver to a pre-arranged place the day before or even better deliver your cake to our stall! St John's has booked the same double pitch as last year. We are looking for two classic cars this year with photo opportunities as before.

David Carter

Care Homes Services

We lead services at both Cuffley Manor and Cooperscroft Care Homes. All are welcome to come and join the small team as we worship with and talk to the residents. The service lasts about half an hour with time to talk over tea and coffee afterwards.

Cooperscroft

1st Wednesday in each month at 3.00pm:

Next service – 1st May

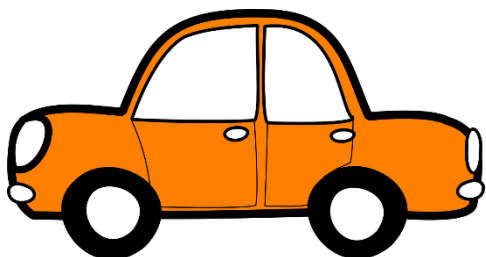
Cuffley Manor

3rd Wednesday in each month at 3.00pm:

Next service – 15th May



Drivers



More volunteer drivers are needed to escort a few people to Church - with varying mobility issues. Preferably you would have an available front passenger seat and be able to place a wheeler / walking frame in the boot. Ideally, two or three drivers could share this service for each passenger on a rota.

For more information or fuller details of transport needs please see Neil Wilson, or a steward.

Palm Sunday Creative Special

The weekend before Easter provided us with another great opportunity to combine creative style crafts with the morning service. It started with everyone being invited into the main hall to make, help or just watch others make Palm Sunday crafts which were Palm Leaves to wave, Shakers to make a noise, Praise-a-Phones to shout praises, Happy Hats to wear plus cut-out donkeys to colour and decorate. This was followed by a drama sketch on the stage reenacting what it would have been like going to see Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, and comparing it to perhaps going to watch an event in London today. We all then joined the 'procession' ourselves by waving, shaking, singing and wearing our crafts as we walked into church, followed by Jesus and the Donkey. We continued this theme in church by singing and hearing the significance of the event for Jesus from the donkey's point of view. This was a lovely service with everyone meeting together on a Sunday morning. With special thanks to our 5 actors - Gary, Helen, Sarah, Giles and Sally.

Margaret Rhodes

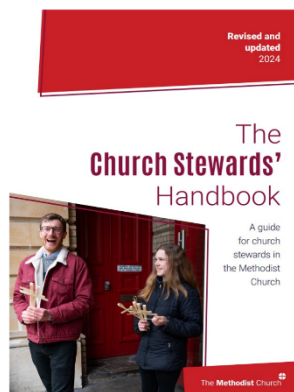


Church Stewards Training Days

Monday 20th May at 7.00pm
at Hatfield Road Methodist
Church, St Albans, and
Saturday 6th July at 10.00am
at St John's.

These days are open to all. They are not only for existing stewards but for anyone considering becoming a steward in the future – or anyone who just wants to know what stewards do!

Contact Revd David Jebb to book your place on or before 15th May.



CHURCH STEWARDS TRAINING DAYS:
Mon, 20th May at 7 pm at Hatfield
Road Methodist Church, St Albans.
and
Sat, 6th July at 10 am at St John's
Methodist Church, Potters Bar.

Led by Stuart Watkin
 Learning & Development Officer | The Connexional Team.

Book your place via email: djebb2003@gmail.com or admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk
 on or before 15th May 2024.

“Come As You Are” Membership Course

A course exploring Christian discipleship in the Methodist Church.

We are on a journey into faith – none of us has yet arrived!

Sharing the journey with others can be a great joy and privilege.

Are you interested in becoming a member of St John's, or in finding out more about what that means? It is not too late to join the “Come As You Are” membership course.

Led by the Reverend David Jebb, this six-session course explores the details of membership and discipleship within the Methodist Church.

Whether you're considering membership or seeking to refresh your understanding, this course offers valuable insights. Drawing from resources such as the "Come as You Are" and "Explore the Big Story" materials, participants will engage in meaningful discussions and reflections.

For further details please contact Revd David Jebb.



Regular activities

Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	10.00 – 11.45am	Jumping Johns Toddlers	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
Mondays	10.00am – 12.00pm	Can We Fix It Group	Roger Croughton 01707 650438
Mondays	10.30 – 11.30am	Vestry Hour	Revd David Jebb 01707 652978
Mondays	2.30 – 4.00pm	Women's Guild	Jo Hutton 01707 658436
Mondays	8.00 – 10.00pm	Badminton	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
Tuesdays	11.00am – 3.00pm	Welcome Space	Barbara Thompson 01707 665621
Wednesdays	6.30 – 8.00pm	Cubs	www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk
Wednesdays	2.30 – 4.30pm	Strafford Gate House Group (usually 3 rd Wednesday in the month)	David Carter 07709 284852
Wednesdays	7.45 – 9.00pm	Bible Study in Clifton Room (Fortnightly)	Lesley Humphreys 07961 347152
Thursdays	7.00 – 8.30pm	Scouts	www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk
Fridays	10.00 – 10.30am	Meet to Pray (usually 2 nd Friday in the month)	Robin Burns 07956 879451
Fridays	10.30am – 12.00pm	Morning Coffee in Clifton Room	
Fridays	10.30am	Byng Drive House Group (Fortnightly)	Dawn Fenner 07969 924346
Fridays	6.15 – 7.15pm	Beavers	www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk
Saturdays	9.00 – 9.45am	Let's Pray Together (by Zoom)	Revd David Jebb 01707 652978

4th Potters Bar Scout Group

Spring Market - Saturday 1st June

10.30am to 1.00pm at St John's

with a variety of stalls, games, tombola, raffle and refreshments, including hot food.

Please come and support our fundraising!


Donations of plants, good quality bric-a-brac, toys and games, costume jewellery and toiletries for the stalls, and items suitable for the raffle, would be very welcome. Please contact Liz Bekooy on 01707 659597.



Circuit

St John's Methodist Church is part of the St Albans and Welwyn Circuit. See www.stalbansandwelwyncircuit.org.uk for more details. Our superintendent is Revd David Jebb. The circuit office can be contacted at admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk or on 01727 854211.

Pentecost Praise & BBQ

St Albans & Welwyn **Methodist** Circuit 
invite you to join them for a

Pentecost Praise & BBQ

on Saturday 18th May 3pm - 4.30pm
at Oxlease Methodist Church, 36 Woods Avenue, Hatfield AL10 8NA

sharing good news from around the Circuit
with Hymns & Songs of Praise followed by refreshments & BBQ

To help with catering, please RSVP by 10th May
to Rev David Jebb on 07786 907634 or email circuitastaandw@gmail.com

Thinking Lunches at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans

12.30 to 1.30pm. Please bring your own sandwiches and drinks. Half an hour talk, and then discussion.

Thursday 2nd May - The Dean of St Albans, The Very Revd. Jo Kelly-Moore, will speak on Saints in Colour.



Churches Together in Potters Bar

For more information see www.ctpb.org.uk.



Prayer Meetings

Join us at 8.30am on the first Saturday of each month as we pray for the Churches and Community of Potters Bar. Meetings last about 45 mins followed by breakfast.

Saturday 4th May

St John's Methodist, Baker Street, EN6 2DZ

Saturday 1st June

St Giles Church, Blanche Ln, South Mymms, EN6 3PE

Churches Together Holiday Club – Urgent Appeal

Further to our recent appeal, we urgently need volunteers to sign-up for this year's Churches Together Holiday Club which we hope to run from Wednesday 24th – Friday 26th July inclusive at Pope Paul Primary School. At present we only have half the number of required volunteers in order to plan and run the Holiday Club. We need volunteers for arts and crafts, games, music and drama, registering children, catering and supporting the Teen Team with their group. Registration for volunteers can be done at <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/volunteer>. If this is your first time volunteering and you are not sure what to do, please contact Nicola Thrussell at Our Lady & St Vincent at pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk or Nikki Edwards at King Charles the Martyr at families@kcm-church.org.uk and they can arrange a time to meet with you and complete the registration process with you. Please can volunteers register no later than Friday 3rd May.

All volunteers will be required to complete a full DBS check and some safeguarding training.

Scripture Union

Deep Sea Divers

POTTERS BAR CHURCHES' HOLIDAY CLUB 2024

24th – 26th July, 9.30am – 1.00pm
Pope Paul School, Baker Street,
Potters Bar

Children (School Years 1-6) £15
Teen Team (School Years 7-11) Free

Book now using the QR code or at
<https://www.pottersbarchurchesholidayclub.co.uk>