

# Belfairs Methodist Church

Where old friends meet and strangers feel at home

## Newsletter

Issue 2022

May 2024

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## Thought for the month

### A prayer for Christian Aid Week

We are united by hope.....

In a world of drought, may seeds of hope be drenched by waters of justice.

In a world in inequality, may our hunger for justice bring an end to the scandal of poverty.

In a world of danger, where peace is in pieces, may justice hold hands with love and create an unbreakable bond.

We are united by hope and we hold each other in this prayer.

### Data Protection Privacy

By submitting an article for publication in the Belfairs Newsletter, you are **consenting** to your name being attributed to the article which is made **publicly available** via the Belfairs Methodist Church Website.

If you do **NOT** want your name to be published, please advise the Editor when submitting the article.

Please read our Privacy Policy for further information. This can be found on the church website or on our church noticeboards.

**Our mission is to provide an open, welcoming and accepting, living place of Christian worship and service in our community, in which we seek to serve and follow Jesus Christ.**

[www.belfairsmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.belfairsmethodistchurch.org.uk)



I regularly meet people who don't feel that they have anything to offer the church in way of gifts and talents; disheartened people who have very little hope and positivity about their role within God's family. I think its probably human nature to look at others and wish we had their gifts or talents. But God's has made us all as individuals, all different, all for a purpose and necessary for the smooth working of the church. We are all important cogs in the workings of the church.

1 Corinthians 12:14-22 tells us; <sup>14</sup> *Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. <sup>15</sup> If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. <sup>19</sup> How strange a body would be if it had only one part! <sup>20</sup> Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." <sup>22</sup> In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary.' [NLT]*

So, if you're feeling that you don't have a role or don't seem to fit in anywhere in church life, then think again. YOU are important to God and to the smooth working of His church. You are a cog! Vital and important.

Take strength and encouragement from the reading above from 1 Corinthians, and find where you fit into your church.

Every blessing,

Pastor Steve

Email: [pastorstemayo@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstemayo@gmail.com)  
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## Sunday Services May 2024

5th	11.00 a.m.	Pastor Steve Mayo
12th	11.00a.m.	Rev Pete Moorhouse - including Holy Communion
19th	11.00 a.m.	Mr. Archie McDowell - Parade Service
26th	11.00 a.m.	Mrs. Jane Fulford

## Other May dates for your diary

4th	Coffee morning at 10.00 a.m. - Plant Sale and Cake Stall
5th	Annual Church Meeting 12.30 p.m. - all are welcome to attend.
6th	Early May Bank Holiday
9th	Thirsty For?? at 7.00 p.m. - Café style worship - all are welcome.
18th	Coffee Morning at 10.00 a.m. -Christian Aid Brunch (see poster in newsletter for more information)
23rd	A.C.T.I.O.N at 2.00 p.m. - All are welcome
27th	Spring Bank Holiday

## Point of Contact

Below is shown details of the Sunday Stewards, Communion Stewards, Musician, Flower Rota and coffee/tea stewards relevant for this month.

### **Sunday 5th May**

Sunday Steward a.m. - Jan Andrews

Musician a.m. - Sue & Mike Spaul

Coffee/tea stewards a.m. Sue Spaul & Ann Kendall

### **Sunday 12th May**

Sunday Steward - Mike Spaul

Musician - MIDI Box

Communion Stewards Neeltje Charles & Geoff Box

Flowers - Pat Crabb for Mum and Dad's Anniversary and birthday - arranged by Jan

Coffee/tea stewards Jan Pope & Jackie Heinrich

### **Sunday 19th May**

Sunday Steward a.m. - Phil Gladman

Musician a.m. - Mike/MIDI Box

Coffee/tea stewards Mike Spaul & Phil Gladman

### **Sunday 26th May**

Sunday Steward - Phil Gladman

Musician - Patrick Dromgoole

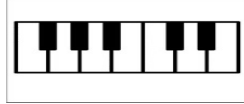
Flowers - Tina Gowers in memory of loved ones - arranged by Anthea

Coffee/tea stewards Margaret Bailey & Sue Spaul

# Letters Page/Church family news

## Your letters

WOW Thank you so much!



I cannot tell you how amazed I was to be called out to the front on Easter Sunday to receive a thank you gift from the Church.

I am really disappointed to have had to give up playing for Services, but the vagaries of old age [arthritic fingers and dicky heart!] have meant I became unreliable, so it was best to stop. But I feel so guilty at leaving all the work to Sue and Patrick.

As Jan said in her very kind article, Belfairs is a family to which we all belong and to which we all contribute our varying talents. My grandmother and mother worshipped here, and now my daughter and 2 of my grandchildren do too. A never ending cycle, and witnesses to all manner of change.....quite what my grandmother would have thought of some of them I can't imagine!!

Perhaps lurking in the wings is another Patrick or Sue to add to the rota.....you never know. God answers prayers, so you know what to do!!

With my thanks.

Anthea.

### The Power of the Flower

For many years now, **Fay of The Flower Stores** in Eastwood Old Road has supported the flower arrangement system at Belfairs, and I wanted to acknowledge this publicly. She has been fantastic in finding the specific colours people have asked for, [blue is really hard!!], supplying the bulk purchases of daffodils for Mothering Sunday, and providing the small potted plants we regularly deliver to the housebound at Christmas and Easter. She kindly gives us a 10% discount every time.

Sybil once called this "The Ministry of Flowers" and we at Belfairs pride ourselves on keeping this tradition going when many churches do not. Flowers have become very much more expensive recently, but she does her best to keep the costs down for us and we are very grateful.



Thanks Fay! have a bunch of flowers!!!

**Belfairs Methodist Church  
Eastwood Road North  
SS9 4NG**



# **CHRISTIAN AID BRUNCH**

**Sat 18th May  
10 - 12 noon**

I learnt a poem when I was at school,  
It said to stand and stare as I recall,  
To notice around about,  
The trees the flowers and animals no doubt.  
Not rush and miss so much when we are out.

Today I look wherever I go and see  
People who stand and stare I must agree,  
Yet not at nature's wonders free  
But at screens held in their hands.  
Walking the street in Zombie like fashion  
Talking loudly rarely with discretion.

The underground trains are a revelation  
Most heads bowed as if in contemplation  
Their eyes are fixed not on their destination  
But the mobiles in their hand.

On trains and buses, in waiting rooms  
Their constant companion always looms  
Ready to capture their immediate attention.  
A call, a message a WhatsApp mention.  
Their thumbs leap into athletic action,  
They dance across the screen,  
Flicking, tapping at lightning speed.  
Feeding a never ending greed  
Of their mobiles in their hand.

In idle moments the phones are sought  
To glance at photos, games and sport  
A Facebook page, a TikTok craze  
Or even an influencer's thought.

A buggy goes by its occupant unheeded,  
The young child's questions ignored I fear  
The parent on their phone unprepared to hear  
A simple answer was all that was needed.

A wonderful invention has ruined our social interaction.

Written by Pat Crabb



## GIRLS' NAMES

1. She launched 1000 ships. \_\_\_\_\_ Helen \_\_\_\_\_
2. Make a legal claim. \_\_\_\_\_ Sue \_\_\_\_\_
3. Jewel: degree. \_\_\_\_\_ Gemma \_\_\_\_\_
4. Aunt at the fair. \_\_\_\_\_ Sally \_\_\_\_\_
5. She went to Wonderland. \_\_\_\_\_ Alice \_\_\_\_\_
6. Batter Chinese food. \_\_\_\_\_ Beatrice \_\_\_\_\_
7. A colour in the spectrum. \_\_\_\_\_ Violet \_\_\_\_\_
8. Be quiet! sounds very prompt. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirley \_\_\_\_\_
9. Part of a watering can. \_\_\_\_\_ Rose \_\_\_\_\_
10. Amble around. \_\_\_\_\_ Wanda \_\_\_\_\_
11. Punch's long suffering wife. \_\_\_\_\_ Judy \_\_\_\_\_
12. One of 7 virtues. \_\_\_\_\_ Patience \_\_\_\_\_
13. Goddess of hunting. \_\_\_\_\_ Diana \_\_\_\_\_
14. Green or black fruit. \_\_\_\_\_ Olive \_\_\_\_\_
15. Learner: inside: American lawyer. \_\_\_\_\_ Linda \_\_\_\_\_
16. Part of the eye. \_\_\_\_\_ Iris \_\_\_\_\_
17. Spinning machine. \_\_\_\_\_ Jenny \_\_\_\_\_
18. Mr Robert's daughter. \_\_\_\_\_ Hilda \_\_\_\_\_
19. Vehicle : O: \_\_\_\_\_ Caroline \_\_\_\_\_
20. A twisted road. \_\_\_\_\_ Maisie \_\_\_\_\_

The answers from last months quiz of Girls names  
Supplied by Anthea Meek





**BEATING HEART DISEASE TOGETHER**

**ANTHEA and ALIX'S ANNUAL  
CAKE SALE AND COFFEE MORNING**

**in aid of**

**THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION**

**is on**

**SATURDAY JUNE 1st**

**FROM**

**10.00-12.00**

There will be.....

A STORE CUPBOARD TOMBOLA ....from basics to luxuries.  
A PRE-LOVED CHILDREN'S CLOTHES STALL...good as new!  
A CAKE STALL..... always delicious  
A BOOK STALL ....anything from Ladybirds to War and Peace  
A PLANT STALL.....last chance to stock up for summer  
SOME GAMES AND PUZZLES ?????

**AND**



**some fabulous cakes will be raffled at 12.00 pm!!**

**Many of us have reason to be grateful for the research  
carried out by the BHF, and our donations keep this work  
going.**





Southend & Leigh Methodist Circuit

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# Reflections on Sri Lanka

You are invited to our Circuit  
Service to hear Pastor Steve Mayo  
reflect on his visit to Sri Lanka

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Sunday 23rd June

6:30pm

Belfairs Methodist Church

[www.southendandleighcircuit.org](http://www.southendandleighcircuit.org)



Lord,  
When I feel weak, please be my strength  
When I am weary, be my rest  
When I am anxious, be my peace  
When I am sad, be my joy  
When I am lonely, be my companion  
When I am gripped by doubt, give me faith  
When I miss my family, sit with me  
When I am in pain, be my healer  
When I am impatient, be my patience  
When I am confused, still me  
When I am angry, soothe me  
When I feel broken, hold me  
When the future feels uncertain, keep my eyes on you  
When the waves crash in, lift me up  
When the storms rage, calm the waves  
When my heart is broken, mend me  
In everything be my all in all  
I need you more than I say  
But thank you that you love me more  
than I could ever understand.

You are my enough  
Let me rest in your rest  
And stand in your strength.

Amen

Seen on Facebook and definitely worth sharing.  
Ed.



## May birthdays

For all of you who celebrate birthday/anniversaries, or remember loved ones during this month, the following is for you, although of course everyone can read it!

**M**ay the Lord be with you

**A**nd do great things for you

**Y**esterday, today and forever.

Ed.



Please remember you are free to put your prayer concerns on the board at the back of the church. If it is not for you, please make sure you have the named persons consent .

Please add your name and date to the request on the reverse of the white cards provided which are by the board. These will be removed after two months, but can be updated if necessary  
(please make sure you re-date the update).

If you have any questions or queries, please speak to Sue.



You may not always see the results of your kindness  
But every bit of positive energy you contribute to the world  
Makes it a better place for us all.

Sometimes the scars on the inside take longer to heal than the ones on the outside.

The truth of the matter is that nobody should talk about anyone, we all have a past, we have all made mistakes, We all need prayers.

I wish I could change some things that happened in the past, but there's a reason the rear view mirror is so small and the windscreen is so big, where you're headed is much more important than what you've left behind.

Don't get all weird about getting older! Our age is merely the number of years the world has been enjoying us!

In life, be good to people. Being good to people is a wonderful legacy to leave behind.

Wife: I love you!  
Husband: I love you too  
Wife: Prove it, scream it to the world  
Husband: (whispers in her ear) "I love you"  
Wife: Why did you whisper it?  
Husband: Because you are my world!

Family - a circle of strength and love, founded on faith; joined in love!

Kindness is more than deeds.  
It is an attitude, an expression, a look, a touch.  
It is anything that lifts another person.

There are friends, there is family and then there are friends that become family.

