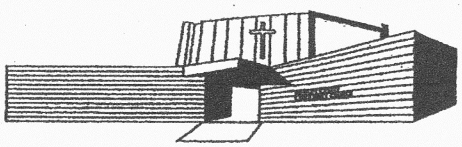
Weoley Castle Community Church Newsletter



117 Quarry Road, Weoley Castle
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Tel. 0121 475 3841

NOVEMBER 2014

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

LET'S GET MESSY

Friday 7th November is the date to note for our next Messy Church event. There will be craft, games, stories, songs and food, with plenty of mess for all the family to enjoy, all around the theme of Jesus' Friends. Everybody is welcome to this informal gathering of people from all backgrounds. To find out more call Mark on 07505521302. Otherwise, see you there !

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Well, it's time to start preparing for the Christmas Season at WCCC. Our annual Christmas Fayre will take place this year on **Saturday 29th November, from 1—4pm,** here at the church. There will be a range of things on offer, from gifts and toys to books and bric-a-brac. There will also be craft and refreshments available, tombola and plenty of other things to excite or inspire. If you would like to help in any way, contact the church on 475 3841 or speak to Chris Hopkins or Mark Tubby.

See over the page for ways to support this event. Also this month there will be an opportunity to explore the Christmas story with other as an Advent Bible Study takes place at 25 Davena Drive, Keith & Diane's home, Tuesdays at 10am, starting this week.

Share your story

Hi all, at a recent church meeting I suggested that we share our faith / church stories as a way of encouraging us. I have had some stories given to me and it would be great if others could add to this. It doesn't have to be a literary masterpiece, or even very long, just a few sentences is fine. If you could send them to me via email or any other media you find easy then I'll collate them so we can share with one another as we look to the future and what it may hold. Thanks very much, Mark

Share your talent

The Christmas Fayre is taking place later this month and we need your help. If you are a talented or willing baker then cakes are always a welcome edition to any event. We also need donations of things for the raffle and tombola as well as any gifts for a stall. As well as this of course we would need help on the day, in setting up and in manning various stalls and activities. Please speak to Mark or an elder if you can help in any way, thanks.

"Gift Aid" can add 25% to your donations to Charities

Gordon Brown, way back when he first was chancellor, introduced "Gift Aid". This means that gifts to the Church, and to "Commitment for Life" from taxpayers who have signed a simple form, get 25% added to them by the taxman. Now the present Government has extended this extra 25% to "small gifts" from ***anyone***. There are two conditions on these small gifts (but ***no conditions*** on Gift Aid):

- no cheques
- nothing above £20 on any one day from any particular person.

[So, if you don't pay tax, or you haven't signed a Gift Aid form, but you want to make a donation of £30 to a charity, do it in ***two*** goes – and in notes or coins!].

Our work in Weoley Castle Community Church costs a lot to keep going, and we rely on many voluntary donations to support this. Gift Aid and the new "small gifts" scheme make your support much more valuable. Our treasurer has received Gift Aid cheques from the taxman for more than £3,700 this autumn. This ***doesn't*** mean that the Church is rich, but it is an essential part of maintaining the building and all the activities that happen around it. Thanks for your support!

Ted Forgan

CONTACTS

CHURCH NUMBER : ……0121 475 3841…...weoleycastlecommunitychurch50@gmail.com
CHURCH COMMUNITY WORKER : Mark Tubby..07505521302...crcw4wccc@talktalk.net
HALL BOOKINGS : Mark Tubby……..……475 3841…….crcw4wccc@talktalk.net

AGE UK OFFICE : Tues—Thurs 9.00 am—2.00 pm……..……...437 0479 (24 hours)

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	**11.00am**	**Family Worship—everyone welcome** **Holy Communion - 2nd Sunday each month**
MONDAY	**10.00am** **12.00 noon** **1.30pm** **6.00pm**	**Day Centre** **Lunch Club** **Over 60's Keep Fit** **Karate**
TUESDAY	**6.00pm**	**Children's Club (TFC) 7-11yrs (Term time)**
WEDNESDAY	**9.15am** **6.00pm**	**Parent & Toddler Group (Term time)** **Karate**
THURSDAY	**Mornings** **6.00pm**	**Foot Health Practitioner (Monthly)** **Karate**
FRIDAY	**9.15am** **10.00am** **12.00 noon** **1.30pm** **3.30pm**	**Parent & Toddler Group (Term time)** **Day Centre** **Lunch Club** **Cardiact Club** **Messy Church (once each half term)**
SATURDAY	OCCASIONAL COFFEE MORNINGS	

Marriages and Baptisms by Arrangement

OTHER EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

KNITIVITY

Calling all knitters! During advent this year the local churches would like to do a Nativity Trail. This would involve local shopkeepers and businesses, as a knitted sheep or other knitted character would appear around the community during the advent period, maybe in shop windows for instance. So, those of you who enjoy knitting, if you'd like to be part of this fun activity speak to Debbie, who has a pattern for sheep, or come to St. Gabriel's on a Thursday morning from 10.30am.

POSADA

No, not sieved tomatoes, originating in Mexico, a Posada is a tradition of dressing as Nativity characters and visiting homes in a local community. A modern version sends round a set of Nativity characters to visit homes during Advent, ours will be locally knitted, share a prayer and pass on to another family a few days later. Would you like to be involved in a Weoley Castle version? Together with St. Gabriel's we'd like to offer this to folk in the local area. Speak to Mark or Debbie, or Kate from St. Gabriel's about getting involved.

Cards for all occasions

Frances, one of the members of Weoley Castle Community Church, enjoys designing and making greetings cards. Many folk in the church will have benefitted from this passion. So, if you know of an upcoming occasion that you would like to buy a card for, one that is unique, then let Frances know, through another church member or finding her on Sunday, and she will produce a selection of homemade designs for you.

The church halls are available to hire for parties and events - contact Mark on 0121 475 3841 for more details

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 2nd November	**11.00am**	**Rev Bob Ash**
Sunday 9th November (Remembrance Sunday with Communion)	**11.00am**	**Rev John Marsh**
Sunday 16th November	**11.00am**	**Rev Graham Ball**
Sunday 23rd November	**11.00am**	**Ian Carnell**
Sunday 30th November (Toy & Gift Service)	**11.00am**	**Ian Thomson**

Morning Prayers take place on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.15—9.45am All welcome
On Wednesday morning at 10am we are welcome to join our friends at St Gabriel's for Communion and Prayers

Elders Meeting	**7.45pm**	**Wed 19th November**

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Margaret Basterfield is recovering well after her operation and we wish her a full and speedy recuperation.

Following an operation to replace a hip, Eddie Hands has been in and out of hospital, and is currently in the QE. Please pray for him and his family at this difficult time.

Anne Izzard is undergoing a second course of chemotherapy so please pray for her recovery.

Birthdays this month include Matthew Tubby on 2nd November, when he is 17, and Debbie on 21st November and Ollie Smith on 1st November. If I have missed yours please let me know when it is and I can remember next time, Mark

ALSO IN THE NEWS

We've celebrated Min Elson's birthday recently, which was very nearly a surprise party. Ask James for more details on that one! It was a good occasion with family and friends as well as the church coming together for a special event. Congratulations Min.

Our recent Church Meeting raised some interesting discussion points and ideas to follow up, which we will do in the New Year. Meanwhile if you have anything to add regarding Weoley Castle Community Church, it's mission, and direction for the future please speak to one of the Elders.

FORGAN'S FUNNIES—By a guest in Ted's absence

How is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start your Guy Fawkes bonfire?

How many civil servants does it take to set fire to Guy Fawkes?

23. One to strike the match and twenty two to fill in the paper work.

LATE SCIENCE ADDITIONS BY TED

"I'm reading a wonderful book about anti-gravity: I just can't put it down"

"Don't believe anything an atom tells you: they make up everything"

Find out more about Weoley Castle and its people:

www.weoleycastle.net
weoleycastlechurch.co.uk
www.stonehousegang.co.uk
www.shenleyacademy.org.uk
weoleycastlecommunitychurch.urc.org.uk

Messy Church takes place once each half term—It is a family friendly opportunity to explore your creative side using bible themes and stories, and to make lots of mess in a safe environment, and to then enjoy a shared meal.
All families are welcome with or without children— just come prepared to join in and have fun.

They generally take place on a Friday at 3.30pm and the next event is **Friday 7th November**.
For more details on what happens or to get involved contact
Mark on 07505521302
or 475 3841

FROM WEOLEY HILL CHURCH

Our sister church Weoley Hill also has events and activities to join in:

There is a monthly Lunch Club, if you wish to join then please give your name to Nancy Nicholls. Next event takes place on Wednesday 5th Nov. at 1pm.

Friendship Group—2.15pm on Wednesday 12th November

Book group welcomes new members and next meets on Tues 18th Nov. at 7.30pm

There is also a Christmas Fair on Sat 29th Nov. at 10am.

Contact Cheryl Thornett on email **cherylthornett@hotmail.com**

THE WORLD OF CRCW

Hi all, following a hectic September, last month seemed to be more subdued in many ways. Still, it's good to have a moment to reflect occasionally.

Tuesday Friends Club seems to be as busy as ever though. With the numbers of children at capacity and a growing waiting list, it seems that this is an invaluable activity for the community that we are offering. It's all made possible by a number of committed volunteers who offer their time and talents to ensure the children have a safe and creative environment where they can explore, question and feel valued by each helper there. We are blessed to have this group of leaders working with us, so thanks to them. We recently had a visit from the local police, helping us to keep safe and helping to build better relationships. We were also due to be visited by the Fire Service but I guess emergencies prevented this. it was however a chance for our teenage helpers to shine as they organised an ad hoc games session which the children really enjoyed, so well done to them.

I have also been up to things on a wider level, organising a workshop for the URC Youth Assembly, which I will deliver in the New Year, plus I will, together with Adella from Bishop Latimer Church, run a weekend on CRCW Ministry for any interested churches in the Synod. Speaking of Synod, the recent event at Carrs Lane Church brought up some interesting discussions, and introduced us to Kevin Snyman, the Mission Enabler, and we are looking to organising a chance to meet him, along with Weoley Hill church.

I've also been involved in a CRCW Roadshow and schools work plus planning the next Messy Church and getting going on planning this year's Christmas activities. Not exactly been boring with nothing to do despite my first comment.

Our next CRCW Steering Group Meeting will take place on Mon 24th November at 2pm here.

Mark Tubby

Church Related Community Work

Creating Change in Communities and the Church