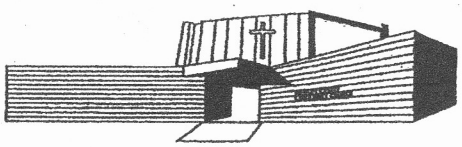
Weoley Castle Community Church



117 Quarry Road, Weoley Castle
Birmingham B29 5LE
Tel. 0121 475 3841

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2016

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

This month sees no less activity, with our next Messy Church event coming toward the end, on Friday 26th February. For those who have never been, Messy Church is a family friendly environment where we explore who God is, using creative crafts, games, songs, stories and more. We finish the evening with a shared meal. Everyone is welcome and for more information call Mark on 07505521302.

Before that we will be busy with the various activities, such as Toddler Group, Tuesday Friends Club for 7—11 yr olds, Day Centre for our older generations, Lunch Club, and lots more.

We are always happy to see new members at our activities, or if you would like to come along and help with something, feel free to speak to us. We can offer various opportunities to use your talents, and training is provided.

Of course, there are other activities for you to join in too, please see inside for more details on what happens throughout the week here!

Contact Mark for more details, 07505521302.

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

WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgy, means 'work of the people'. That's how it was on Iona most of the time. We all did services, cooks, shop staff, maintenance team.. People had different gifts. Some were good at writing prayers, some good at music, some good at leading, others could see how it all hung together. A bit like that bit in Corinthians. In church, it's not usually like that. No wonder they're empty. Who wants someone talking down to them from a box?

When I left Iona it was disappointing going back to church, really depressing. Someone told me that if I stayed long enough I might get to read out a bible passage. I wanted to say, "I did sermons on Iona".

I'm not conceited, it's just that on Iona I felt valued, my life and experience had worth. I didn't have to be a lawyer or doctor or pillar of the community to get up and tell a story. It was a place where, most of the time, people were welcomed, included, challenged, held. I remember once, ten of us did a service together; it took a week to plan. We took our time because we cared about what we said. Leaders had faith in us, encouraged us. We got together in the evenings after work to plan. It was so exciting, the way we listened to each other. We were dedicated and passionate. Walking down the road after meeting the stars seemed close. Some nights I couldn't sleep. Not all we did was great, but it was sincere. People were moved, touched, because it was human.

So, when will the church change? If liturgy was really the work of the people, churches would be full. What are they afraid of? Iona is just a model. But change is too slow. Church, to me, is a much wider word. There are a lot of people who feel like I do. It's sad really, because there are so many who are hungry for the spiritual; for more than is being offered in the shopping malls. To act effectively in the world you need to connect.

Many churches don't know how to attract people. To me it seems obvious.
A volunteer with the Iona Community, 2000

Taken from *Gathered and Scattered, Neil Paynter*
Wild Goose Publications, 2007

Iona Abbey

CONTACTS

CHURCH NUMBER : ……0121 475 3841…....weoleycastlecommunitychurch50@gmail.com

COMMUNITY MINISTER : Mark Tubby……...07505521302...crcw4wccc@talktalk.net

HALL BOOKINGS : Mark Tubby……..……475 3841…….crcw4wccc@talktalk.net

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

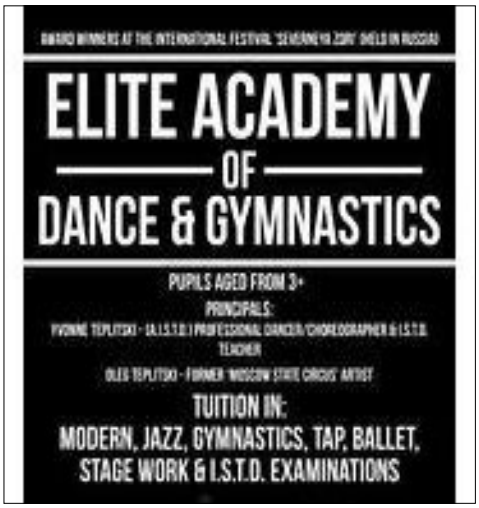
SUNDAY	**11.00am**	**Family Worship—everyone welcome** **Holy Communion - 2nd Sunday each month**
MONDAY	**10.00am** **12.00 noon** **1.30pm** **6.00pm**	**Day Centre** **Lunch Club** **Over 60's Keep Fit** **Karate**
TUESDAY	**6.00pm**	**Children's Club (TFC) 7-11yrs (Term time)**
WEDNESDAY	**9.15am** **5.00pm**	**Parent & Toddler Group (Term time)** **Elite Dance**
THURSDAY	**Mornings** **6.00pm**	**Foot Health Practitioner (Monthly)** **Karate**
FRIDAY	**9.15am** **10.00am** **12.00 noon** **1.30pm** **3.30pm** **5.00pm**	**Parent & Toddler Group (Term time)** **Day Centre** **Lunch Club** **Cardiact Club** **Messy Church (once each half term)** **Elite Dance**
SATURDAY	**9.00am**	**Elite Dance**

Marriages and Baptisms by Arrangement

OTHER EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

Free Hearing Aid Battery Replacement—This service will still be available here on Mon, Wed & Friday between 9.30am and 2pm. Ask for Christine Hopkins.

TIM GALE, THE FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER WILL NEXT BE HERE ON (MORNING ONLY):
THURSDAY 17th MARCH
ONLY £15
TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CONTACT CHRISTINE HOPKINS ON TEL : 0121 426 1227 OR ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST IN CHURCH



Run by Yvonne and Oleg Teplitski, who have both performed with the Moscow State Circus, students range in age from 3—19 years. They are taught many aspects of dance, from ballet to modern, and there are also gymnastic and kick-boxing classes. If you would like to know more, contact **Yvonne on 07787062248.**

Messy Church is a family friendly space to explore creativity, ask questions about God, hear stories and share a meal together. It takes place roughly every six weeks so watch out for the date of the next one, as everyone is welcome. Call Mark on 07505521302 for more information.

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 7th February	**11.00am**	**Rev John Marsh**
Sunday 14th February (Communion)	**11.00am**	**Joe Blackburn**
Sunday 21st February	**11.00am**	**Ian Carnell**
Sunday 28th February	**11.00am**	**Frank Challenor**
Sunday 6th March (Mothering Sunday)	**11.00am**	**Worship Group**

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	**7.30pm**	**Wed 10th February**
Church Annual General Meeting	**12.30pm**	**Sun 28th February**

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Margaret Wetherall is still recovering from her fall, and recently had another fall. It was not as bad as before, but please remember her in your prayers.

Peter Cruchley-Jones, who many will remember from his time here, will be leaving Beulah URC in Cardiff at the end of March and is moving to Singapore, where he will be working with the Council for World Mission. We wish him all the best in his new venture.

ALSO IN THE NEWS

Facebook!

The Church now has a facebook page: we welcome any suitable posts on this page on anything to do with the Church building and all the activities that happen in it. You can get to the page by visiting: https://www.facebook.com/WeoleyCastleCommunityChurch

You can also find a link at the top of the Church website or use this link below with your mobile phone:

So, like us on facebook !

THIS MONTH'S FUNNIES

From Ted F

Why did the orange go to the doctor?

It wasn't peeling well

What kind of key do you need to open a banana?

A monkey

If you can make shoes from crocodile skins, what can you make from banana skins?

Slippers

What's purple and shouts for help?

A damson in distress

Why don't melons run away to get married?

Because they cantaloupe

Why did the raisin ask the prune to go see a film?

Because he couldn't get a date

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. The next one takes place on **Wednesday 3rd February at 1.00pm.**

The Friendship group are meeting on **Wednesday 10th at 2.15pm.**

The Community Choir meets weekly on **Fridays at 6.30pm** and all are welcome.

There is also a Community Garden group meeting monthly and having had a break for winter will next meet on **Saturday 5th March at 10.30am.**

The book group next meets on **Tuesday 9th February at 7.30pm**

For details of these and more events contact Cheryl Thornett on email **cherylthornett@hotmail.com**

AND FROM BEAUMONT ROAD

Beaumont Road, in Bournville, also part of the pastorate has events too:

Thursday February 4th there is a Thursday afternoon group, for retired folk, from **2—3pm**.

On **Fri 5th and 19th** there will be an evening meditation from **7—8pm**.

Contact Jim Garrow if you would like more details on **jgarrow7@btinternet.com**

THE WORLD OF CRCW

.Here we are into 2016 now, and things are happening all around. Our friends at St. Gabriel's have now inducted their new vicar, Rev Fiona, and we look forward to linking up wherever we can. We also wish her the best in her ministry here in Weoley Castle.

Meanwhile, both Elim, Weoley Castle and ourselves await news on what lies ahead, and who God may call to this community.

The Birmingham Youth Service, following the closure of the Square Club, and having to deal with cuts, are looking for partners to help provide a service for young people locally. We are in conversation at the moment and I will keep you posted on further developments. One thing is certain, we need something for the youth of Weoley Castle to put their time, energy and talents into,

Our own children's club is proving as popular as ever, with about 40 children on our books at present. What we do need is more willing volunteers, so if you know someone with time and experience to give, please let Mark know. We offer training for any helpers that come along.

We are planning our next Messy Church at the moment, but anyone else wishing to get involved in this fun family activity, are welcome to join us, we are due to meet at 123 Quarry Rd on Thursday 11th Feb at 7.30pm.

Also, having completed part 2 of the Child Protection Training during January, for working with young people, our volunteers are better equipped to deal with any issues that arise, and know better how to prevent them in the first place. Thanks to you all for giving up your evenings and participating so fully in the sessions, we really appreciate your input and commitment.

Having led a few funerals recently I have been reflecting upon my own role here, and how it has adapted to varying circumstances and influences. It seems to me that the work of a church in its community is very similar. Some things come and go, population changes, culture shifts. Does the church adapt to the community needs? I'll let you think about it. Meanwhile, I would just say that it has been a privilege to come alongside folk in the community, sometimes in the toughest of times, and to journey with them through it. Should we, as church, be doing the same? And what would that mean for us here in Weoley Castle?

There will be challenges ahead for the church and community here in Weoley Castle over the year, so, shall we journey together and see where it takes us.

Mark Tubby CRCWM