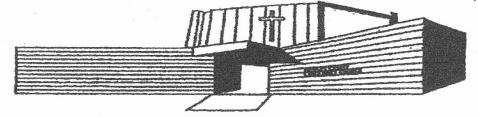


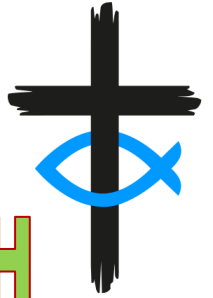
Weoley Castle Community Church



117 Quarry Road, Weoley Castle
Birmingham B29 5LE

Newsletter

OCT 2019



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

On Sunday the 6th October we will be having our Harvest Festival which will be followed by a soup lunch and the fresh produce auction

Also if anybody would like to help decorate the Sanctuary for Sunday we will be doing it on the Saturday from about 4 pm

All donations welcome. All money raised from the Auction will be going to St. Basils as will all the tins and packets of food.



Commitment for Life



In October we celebrate our Harvest Festival, but also we try to help others have a good "harvest" from their work or their agriculture - and have a better quality of life. Commitment for Life envelopes will be handed out at the beginning of the month; if you can afford it, please put in 1% of your take-home pay or pension for the year, and return the envelope in the collection during October. The Church can also claim Gift Aid from the Government, and increase your giving by 25%

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Friends, it is that time of year again! On the first Sunday of October we will celebrate Harvest and give thanks to God for the abundance of God's good creation and the fruits of the earth that we enjoy. We will remember and give thanks for the people who plant and harvest to supply us with the food that we enjoy in such abundance, the food that we are called, again and again, to share fairly and generously.

Certainly, some of the Psalms that express joyful thanksgiving for the goodness and generosity that we find in God's creation will come to our mind. For instance, The earth is the Lord's and everything that is in it! we read in Psalm 24. The whole of creation is God's possession and God's

gift. We are merely living on God's property and of God's charity. That is a biblical understanding that helps us to be grateful and express our gratitude in our Harvest service.

Yes, harvest time is a time of thanksgiving. Not only are we thankful for the wonderful goodness and beauty of creation that we may enjoy, but also we remember in our thanksgiving the wonder of creation. Having moved from the summer into autumn, with the leaves on the trees changing colour and falling down, and nature getting ready for winter, we are amazed again at the rhythm of nature that engages our senses and the force of nature that escapes our control. The earth gives us life, over and over, yet this gift is one that we may easily take for granted. Especially in our part of the world, where we enjoy the fruits of the earth in such abundance, we may not give it much thought or be even slightly surprised. So all the more reason to pause and reflect, and acknowledge our gratitude

for the gift of life and the sustenance provided in God's good creation to live life to the full.

In our harvest celebration we also recognize and thank God that we have been entrusted with the care of the earth. We thank God that we may plough the fields and gather the harvest, while at the same time we confess that we are desperately failing to do so in an equitable and sustainable way.

For how is it that God is a God of abundance, yet so many people do not have the basic necessities of life? How is it that God is "creator and sustainer" yet "creation is groaning?" (Romans 8) "How long will the land mourn?" the prophet Jeremiah laments (Jeremiah 12) We, God's people, are too careless, too wasteful and disrespectful of the earth, God's good creation to be enjoyed by all.

So let our harvest celebration include a commitment to change our ways in recognition that "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." Let us remember that it is our calling to pray and act for a world in which everyone can "eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord!" (Joel 2:26) And not only in our generation, but also for future generations!

So let me end with a story from a Jewish Midrash. A Rabbi was walking along a road when he saw a man planting a tree. The Rabbi asked: "How many years will it take before the tree will bear fruit?" The man answered: "Seventy years." Then the Rabbi asked: "You feel you are so strong and healthy that you expect to live so long to be able to eat its fruits?" The man answered: "I have found a world rich of fruits because my forefathers planted trees for me. I will do the same for my children."

Do come and join in the Harvest celebration which will be followed by a soup lunch and the usual

(and enjoyable) auction of the fresh produce that has been brought in!

With all best wishes, Leonora

CONTACTS

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MIINISTER : Rev Leonora Jagessar01214720730...dsleonora@yahoo.co.uk

Church Newsletter: James Elson weoleycastlenewsletter@gmail.com

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	11.00am	Family Worship—everyone welcome Holy Communion - 2nd Sunday each month
MONDAY	10.00am 12.00 noon 1.30pm 5.30pm	Day Centre Lunch Club Over 60's Keep Fit (Gentle Exercise) Karate
TUESDAY	6.00pm 7.00pm	Children's Club (TFC) 7-11yrs (Term Time) The Feast Youth Club 11+ (Term Time)
WEDNESDAY	9.15am 5.00pm	Parent & Toddler Group (Term Time) Elite Dance Academy
THURSDAY	5.30pm	Karate
FRIDAY	9.15am 10.00am 12.00 noon 3.45pm 3.30pm 5.00pm	Parent & Toddler Group (Term Time) Day Centre Lunch Club Sign Language Club (Term Time) Messy Church (once each half term) Elite Dance Academy
SATURDAY	9.00am	Elite Dance Academy

Marriages, Funerals and Baptisms by Arrangement

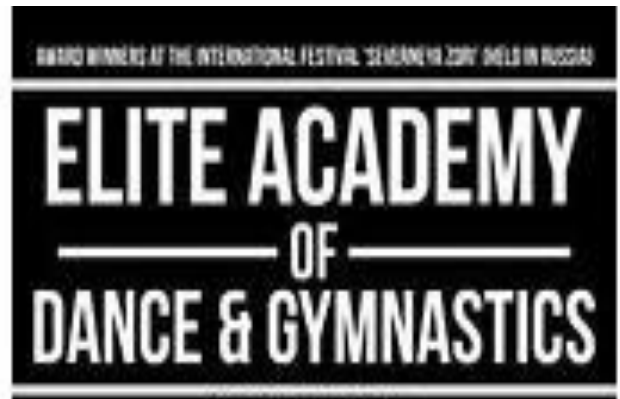
OTHER EVENTS / ACTIVITIES



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

Elite Academy of Dance & Gymnastics

For children **3—18 yrs** old, a chance to learn many different dance styles such as ballet, tap, modern, and much more. If you are interested contact Yvonne on **07787062248** for more details, or drop in and see her. (Times on pg 3)



THIS MONTH'S FUNNIES

Jokes for October

Got a Chinese take away, got in the car, heard the bag rustle , looked over and saw a pair of eyes looking over the top of the bag at me then disappear back inside, I was so scared I nearly crashed. I looked again and saw the eyes looking back at me then disappear again, I ran back in the shop with the bag, terrified I asked the Chinese guy "what is going on here?" he said "you no worry, it Peking duck "



What did the corn farmer say after he had a particularly good harvest?
There's polenta more where that came from!!

Did you know that when leaves fall off of trees in the Autumn, it's because of nostalgia?
They're trying to get back to their roots.

What does the tree says in autumn ?
Leaf me alone.

How does an elephant get down from a tree?
It sits on a leaf and waits until autumn

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY WORSHIP

6th October Harvest Festival Ann Evans 11.00
Followed by Soup Lunch and Auction

13th October Israel Okunwaye 11.00

20th October Communion Rev John Marsh 11.00

27th October Leonora 12.30 Learn new hymns 11.00

Free Half Term Fun Day Tuesday 29th 10 am till 3 pm
Including Lunch. Donations welcomed

Find out more about Weoley Castle and its people:

www.stonehousegang.co.uk www.shenleyacademy.org.uk
www.encounterchurch.uk weoleycastlecommunitychurch.urc.org.uk

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Let me know your news and I will add it here, including birthdays, it's good to celebrate together.

On the 12th we Celebrate Min's 70th Birthday

Pastorate Notices

On Saturday 7th September several people from Weoley Castle travelled all the way to Harwich for Mark's official induction as the Church-Related Community Worker at Dovercourt Church (he had already started work). The pictures show the modern pink house that Mark, Debbie & Hannah are occupying, the whole family in the kitchen and Mark being welcomed by the moderator, Paul Whittle. Mark read out his "formal statement" about his "call"



during the service, and a copy is included in this Newsletter.



FROM WEOLEY HILL CHURCH

Weoley Hill has events and activities to join in:



There is a monthly Lunch Club, ask for Nancy Nicholls.
The next one takes place on **Wednesday 2nd October at 1pm.**

The Friendship Group are next meeting on
Wednesday 9th October at 2.15pm.

The Community Choir is on Friday evenings at **6.30pm.**

Services are each **Sunday at 10.30am** and anyone is welcome to join us.

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 activities to join:



Thursdays 2nd and 4th 3pm - 4pm Meditations

Sunday Services begin at **10.30am** and all are welcome.

Except the 1st Sunday which is at 3pm

Contact Jim Garrow for more information **jgarrow24@outlook.com**

Morning at the Manse

We continue to meet every 4th Wednesday for discussion on topical issues at the Weoley Hill Manse. The next discussion meeting will be on the 23rd of October at 10.30am.

All are welcome

Called to Dovercourt Central Church

Sifting back, for well over a year
I'll tell you a tale, so lend me your ear
We searched through profiles of projects around
And needed a decision that was spiritually sound
We came across this one at Dovercourt CC
It seemed to be, much more naturally me
Whilst others had a managerial bent
Here it seemed chilled, and heavenly sent
I prefer coming alongside folk to work
Not be directive and shout when they shirk
It was called the Lighthouse Project, back then
An image I relate to, following light to haven
I met the Mod, who thought this was for me
An ecumenical place, where I could be free
To love and discover, challenge and explore
To grow and to pray and bring stuff from before
To add to all this, it was right by the sea
A place that's always been special to me
Somewhere I can feel much closer to God
Despite the vastness and power, it's odd
So we swapped over papers and prayed a bit more
Looking for signs that would make us feel sure
As we read on deeper into what I might do
There were familiar things and some that were new
So, we met up, October 12 th , was the day
The anniversary of our baptism, coincidence you say!
But there were girls of our daughter's age at the church
And we wouldn't want to leave her in the lurch
The church folk here were ever so friendly
And a place where you can feel, real unity
Journeying home saw a brilliant rainbow, man
God said: now ignore that, if you can
Whilst all this was happening for us
Weoley Castle were exploring a call, and thus
Leonora came, and through talking to her
She said she knew Trevor, and, I should go there
To add yet more fuel, to this fire that was burning
Being closer to family became quite a yearning
So we met up again, but would I succeed?
We also explored houses, a manse we would need
And all the time in the back of my head
God said don't worry, my son, you'll be led
Harwich appeared in the news all the time
Was it just me? Or could that be a sign?
Well, a call was issued on Nov 24 th
I accepted it immediately, of course
So, here we are, all exploring God's vision
Bringing love and transformation, our mission
I'm excited to be here and see what God's doing
Along with the others, in the project that's brewing
So let's discover together, what God has in store
And may Jesus love touch you all, forever more

Mark Tubby CRCW