

Methodist Centenary Church

Wesley House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6

Superintendent Minister: Rev Andrew Kingston, Tel. 01-668 0833; 083-152 0171



Announcements on 1st May 2024

***Our Mission is to receive God's love and to share it with others
through our Welcome, our Worship, our Community and our Service.***

Sunday 5th May

Service of Holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston

New Shared Ireland Day

New Shared Ireland Day with the Upper Erne Circuit, Saturday 25th May, Boyne Centre followed by discussion facilitated by Geoffrey Corry in Drogheda Presbyterian. Names to Rev Andrew Kingston a.s.a.p.

10.15 am: Meet at the front door of Oldbridge house and collect €10 per person. Car parking at the centre is free. The €10 will cover the tour of the Visitor's Centre, the audio visual presentation and a contribution to Drogheda Presbyterian Church for the hire of a room and the use of their kitchen for refreshments.

10.30-11.30am: Guided tour of the Visitors Centre and audio-visual of the Battle of the Boyne.

11.30am-12.30pm: A short walk through the Walled Garden, along the estate canal to the River Boyne, and back through the main entrance which runs through what was the village of Oldbridge, the site of the fiercest hand to hand combat. A heritage tree known as the Battle Oak has grown here since before 1690.

12.30-1.30pm: Light lunch in the Brambles Restaurant on site, (alternatively bring a packed lunch)

2.15-4.30pm: Facilitated discussion by Geoffrey Corry in Drogheda Presbyterian Church. Geoffrey is a member of our congregation and is also a member of the Methodist Council on Responsibility and the Glencree Centre of Reconciliation. He has recently co-written a book, 'Track III Actions, Transforming protracted political conflicts from the bottom up.'

The Sky's the Limit

Sky's the Limit – 7.30pm on Wednesday 8th May 2024

Room 1, Wesley House

Why become a City or County Councillor?

Janet Horner, Green Party representative for the North-Inner City on Dublin City Council, will lead a conversation the role of locally elected representatives and the challenges they face.

There will also be an opportunity discuss the document developed by the MCI Council on Social Responsibility, Southern Executive, to support us in being alert to our social responsibility in debate with canvassers in the weeks ahead, (see below).

Governance Meetings

Wesley House Student residence Committee, Thursday 9th May 11am

Church Council, Monday 13th May, 7pm

Circuit Executive, Monday 20th May, 7.30pm, Tallaght

Circuit Celebration Day, Sunday 12th May, 11am-3pm.



Something for all the family including tea/coffee, barbecue (Irish & Korean), Bouncy Castle, Ice Cream van, Jack Flash, Balloon Mounding, Face Painting and Mikey Music. We are grateful to Dublin City Council is funding some of these activities. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend and/or invite a neighbour either to the whole day, or for the activities from 1-3pm. Your help on the day would be appreciated in the setting up, serving, supervision of the bouncy castle and tidying up afterwards. Please endeavour to put items for recycling in the correct bins. We want to reduce – reuse – recycle.

This will also be our Christian Aid Sunday. Michael Briggs of Christian Aid will share in the service and have a display stand at the event. The collection will be for Christian Aid and all donations through the tap machine on the day will be for Christian Aid.

Thought for the Week

I was struck by our President's article on spiritual practices in the latest Methodist Newsletter. He suggested that enjoying the presence of God is really important, because God is, 'the most joyful being in the universe.' Other religions may speak of the world being born out of cosmic conflict but scripture reveals a God who took great pleasure in the act of creation. 'When something lifts our heart and brings us joy, we participate in some small measure in the joy God has embedded in creation'.

Every gathering for worship is a joyful occasion but Sunday 12th of May at 11am is a Circuit Celebration. It is an opportunity for us to get to know members from the Rathgar, Tallaght and the Dublin Korean Churches. Each will bring something to the party. Tallaght are supplying soft drinks for the children, Rathgar have organised the ice cream van and the bouncy castle, the Dublin Korean Church will be cooking us some of their food, and Dublin City Council are even getting in on the celebration by organising magician Jack Flash, balloon moulders and face painting and some great background live music. All our senses will be engaged.

Rev. Turtle went on to say, 'The joyfulness of God naturally leads to celebration. Acts of celebration were built into the rhythm of life for the people of Israel and through the history of the Christian Church. St Augustine writes, "The Christian should be an alleluia from head to foot!"'.

I was amused by the conclusion to the article. David wrote, 'As a Connexion we are encouraging opportunities to build community with activities with a focus on celebration during May'. We were ahead of the posse when we organised this last year!



Prayer

Loving Lord, in a world that is filled with reasons to be downcast, we thank you for all the good and beautiful things from which we drink tiny droplets of soul exhilarating joy, Amen.

Fr Donal Dorr

Fr Donal Dorr has been a blessing to Methodist Centenary for many years. He has written a number of books including 'Mission in Today's World', 'Option for the poor and the earth', the prize winning 'Spirituality and Justice', and one that is of particular interest to us, 'Conversion and Holiness - the teaching of John Wesley'. In his research for that book he read widely and well, and has donated these books on Methodism, including his own, to our Church. These are now on the shelves in Room One, and are available for borrowing. I have stamped each book as a reminder as to whom it belongs - Methodist Centenary Leeson Park!

Book Club

The Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 12.15-1.45pm in Room 1 Wesley House. Each month we choose a book from a wide range of genres including biography, crime fiction, historical novels, humour and children's novels. We always have a lively discussion, with very varied opinions. Our April book choice was *The Raptures* by Jan Carson, which led to an interesting discussion with the group. Our choice for May is *Snowflake* by Louise Nealon. We currently have 10 members and would be delighted to increase our numbers. If you would be interested in joining us, please contact Sylvia on sylviahroddie@gmail.com

Connect through English

The Connect group meets on Thursday mornings between 10.30am and 12 noon in Room 1 in Wesley House. If you know anyone who would like to join our morning chat and coffee, which we share with people who have come to Ireland from many countries, please let them know. Fliers are available in stands around Wesley House. Please take one. We have plenty, and if you can help with spreading them we would be very grateful. Contact: english@methodistcentenary.ie.

Summer Music at Sandford Parish Church

Sandford Parish are delighted to announce their summer music schedule starting on Friday 10th May and continuing every Friday until the end of July. Concerts are at 1.10pm and will last for about 40 mins. Admission is free although donations will be gratefully accepted. There will be a variety of performances throughout the summer. A poster with the schedule of performances is attached.

Church of sanctuary invitation

On Saturday, May 25th, Sanctuary in Faith, in conjunction with the Interfaith Working Group of the Church of Ireland will be holding a day seminar in Wesley House: Dialogue of Friendship: Countering Voices of Enmity.

Details of the programme are in the attached and all are welcome, but please register in advance.



DIALOGUE OF FRIENDSHIP: COUNTERING VOICES OF ENMITY

Saturday, 25 May 2024
Wesley House, Leeson Park, Ranelagh, Dublin

Book online at:
bit.ly/3HEKZ20

Free of charge but places are limited!



Keynote Speaker

The Revd Bonnie Evans-Hills

Bonnie Evans-Hills is a priest in the Scottish Episcopal Church and has considerable experience in inter-religious dialogue, working with organisations such as the EU Commission on Foreign Affairs & Security, the World Council of Churches, Churches Together in Britain & Ireland, the Anglican Communion, and the Anglican Mission organisation USPG (United Society for Partners in the Gospel). She was recently awarded the Hubert Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation by the Archbishop of Canterbury.



Church of Ireland
Interfaith Working Group



Co-sponsored by:
Sanctuary in Faith
Places of Sanctuary Ireland

Local Council & European Elections

Friday 7th June 2024

The purpose of this document is to help Methodists, and any Christian, to be alert to their social responsibility while candidates seek votes in the upcoming elections. Our faith in Christ is not a private affair but affects our whole lives and the society that we are a part of.

We are not attempting to be prescriptive in this document. Each follower of Jesus seeks to consider what it means to be Christ-like in today's world. And it is impossible for us to cover every topic or every aspect of each issue here, so we're not attempting to do that. Also, many of the political considerations about our social concerns are dealt with by members of the Houses of the Oireachtas, which is not the focus of these elections.

God calls us to 'look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.' (Phil. 2:4) We will have our own particular concerns to highlight, but we need to actively consider others. In particular as decisions are made at local council and European level, the needs of those who are most vulnerable are most important.

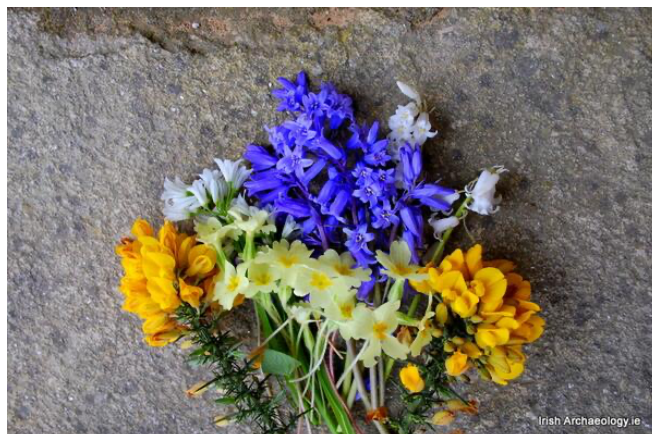
Here are some things that you might potentially say to a candidate or those canvassing for them (In the text below, 'you' might also mean 'your candidate'). These may also be helpful in our praying and how we talk about the election with others.

Please note any prayer requests or what you learn and share them with your minister/preachers so that they can be included in your church prayer meeting or intercessory prayers in services.

Eco Congregation Notes

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May Day



May Day corresponds with the traditional Irish festival of Lá Bealtaine, possibly dating back to pre-Roman times. In Celtic mythology Bealtaine was the most important celebration of the year after Samhain (Halloween). The Celtic calendar had only two seasons. May 1st was the first day of summer, the 'season of brightness' that would run until Samhain (November 1st), the first day of the 'season of darkness'.

May was traditionally a time to study the weather and forecast what was expected to follow:.

'A wet May and a dry June makes the farmer whistle a tune.'

'A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay.'

'A wet and windy May fills the barns with corn and hay.'

Predicting the weather in the era of climate change is a more challenging process, even for burgeoning AI weather models. AI systems rely on historical weather data to teach them how to produce accurate forecasts. But certain kinds of weather events, such as heat waves and hurricanes, are growing more intense as the planet warms — and in some cases, they're becoming so extreme that there are few examples at all in the historical record. That could make it difficult for AI weather models to accurately simulate unprecedented, record-breaking events.

In the face of such uncertainty, we need to act practically as well as turn to God in prayer.

Heavenly Father, we ask you to stir our hearts into action. As global temperatures increase, inspire us with ways we can make a difference in our homes, church congregations, communities, and the world around us. We pray for your prompting where we can do more to love our neighbour. Amen.

Prayer shared by Compassion in Jesus' Name, an international children's charity,

Monthly Morning Holy Communion

There is a monthly morning Holy Communion Service on the second Wednesday of each month from 10.00–10.30am in Room 1 followed by the Friendly Room.

Friendly Room

The Friendly Room meets at 10.30am on Wednesdays in Room 1, Wesley House. All are welcome for a relaxed chat and coffee.

God's Storehouse in Tallaght

Please put donations of non-perishable foods in the basket in Wesley House.

Giving to the church

Cheque

Those who cannot come to church are asked to please post your donations by cheque, quoting your envelope number, to Billy Given. You can contact him at billygiven115@gmail.com

Standing order or bank transfer

If you wish to give to the Church by standing order or bank transfer, these are the details:

Bank Name: AIB Bank plc, 7/12 Dame Street, Dublin 2

Account Name: Methodist Centenary Church Council No. 3 Account

BIC: AIBKIE2D; IBAN: IE89AIBK93122526909346

So that the church can avail of tax relief on our donations please include, with your donation, the number on your offering envelopes. Contact Alan Perry with any questions.

Debit or credit card

A card reader is placed in the Coffee Bar each Sunday through which donations can be made using a debit or credit card.

Forthcoming Services at 10.30am

May 5 Holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston

May 12 Circuit Celebration with Brian Hickey **at 11.00am**

May 19 Pentecost Service with rev Andrew Kingston

May 26 Service of Worship with Mrs Gillie Hinds

Text for inclusion in the Announcements should be sent to news@methodistcentenary.ie. The deadline is 10.00am on Wednesday morning. news@methodistcentenary.ie. Wednesday morning.

Summer Music at Sandford 2024

Lunchtime Concerts at Sandford Parish Church
Every Friday during May June and July from 1.10pm to 1.50pm

10th May Chien Buggle (Classical Guitar)

17th May Luke Lally Maguire (Piano)

24th May Ischico Velzel (Piano)

31st May David O'Shea (Organ)



7th June Catrina Scullion (Soprano) and Catriona Grimes (Piano)

14th June Hilary Dungan and Daire O'Shea (Piano Duo)

21st June Geoffrey Webber (Organ), in association with Pipeworks Festival

28th June Didzis Kalnins (Piano)

5th July Marion Creely (Soprano) and Hannaville String Quartet

12th July Cathal Kileen (Clarinet) and Órán Halligan (Piano)

19th July Aodh Quigley (Soprano) and Em Ormonde (Piano)

26th July Francesca Maria Villani (Piano)

Further details available on social media sites.

Admission free Donations Welcome