

Methodist Centenary Church

Wesley House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6

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



Announcements on 26th March 2025

Our Mission Statement

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 Worship 30th March 10.30 am Summer Time (see Time Change note below)
Service of worship with Mrs Lesley Rankin

Time Change

Summer time begins on Sunday next, when the clocks go forward one hour at 1.00am to be 2.00am. We lose one hour of sleep which we get back in October!

Sky's the Limit

Sky's the Limit continues on the first Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm in Room 1, Wesley House.

| Leader | Date | Topic |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Andrew Kingston | Tuesday 1st April | The place of modern Israel in Biblical prophecy |
| Lesley Rankin | Tuesday 6 th May | A plain conversation evening where people talk about what is uppermost on their minds |

Thought for the Week

This week the students of UCD came back from their two week 'reading week' break. I can't confirm how much reading was actually done during their time off but I am sure most of the students enjoyed the break and the chance to take a collective breath.

The return of the students to the campus has been a welcome one. If you ever frequent UCD, especially when there are no lectures, the place is like a ghost town with only staff being on site...and the actual students doing their reading! But their return also prompts something else in the back of my mind. We're in the endgame now, assignments and exams are looming for our students. This can be a very anxious time for many. It got me thinking about times in my own life where it was 'crunch time' and I really had to get my head down and do the work (I didn't most of the time, but hey, I'm still here!). During these moments for myself though it really comes to the fore my reliance on God. Christmas was three months ago yesterday. It certainly seems like a lifetime ago, but the truth we spoke and sang about during Advent and during Christmas remains true now. Immanuel – God with us.

In the calm times I have in my life it is easy to forget that God is with me. I probably only notice it more when my back is up against the wall and there he comes into my full focus and I have to rely on that simple but profound truth, God is with us, God is with me.

Maybe you have been in a season of lament, pain or even suffering. Maybe you have a desk full of coursework that needs completing or exams on the horizon that you really need to get down and study for. Maybe, you are actually enjoying a new season where the waters of life aren't as choppy.

The truth remains the same, yesterday, today and forever. God is with us.

Prayer



Dear Lord,

Thank you for that foundational truth we find in the gospel. Emmanuel – God with us. Or as Eugene Peterson put it – God moved into the neighbourhood. We give thanks that it is you that makes the move towards us on our journeys and you walk alongside us in the good and the bad moments.

We pray Lord that you might give us eyes and ears to see and hear your presence in us and in others. And by your Spirit we will learn to recognise your promptings in our lives.

Amen.

Reflections of Pope Francis from hospital

While he was in hospital recently Pope Francis shared his reflections as follows:

The walls of hospitals have heard more honest prayers than churches...

They have witnessed far more sincere kisses than those in airports...

It is in hospitals that you see a homophobe being saved by a gay doctor.

A privileged doctor saving the life of a beggar...

In intensive care, you see a Jew taking care of a racist...

A police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care...

A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor...

It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing.

The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss.

A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence.

This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people.

Do not criticize your body too much.

Do not complain excessively.

Do not lose sleep over bills.

Make sure to hug your loved ones.

Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless.

Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance.

.You are waiting for too much: Christmas, Friday, next year, when you have money, when love arrives, when everything is perfect...

Listen, perfection does not exist.

A human being cannot attain it because we are simply not made to be fulfilled here.

Here, we are given an opportunity to learn.

So, make the most of this trial of life—and do it now.

Respect yourself, respect others. Walk your own path, and let go of the path others have chosen for you.

Respect: do not comment, do not judge, do not interfere.

Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely!

And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator.

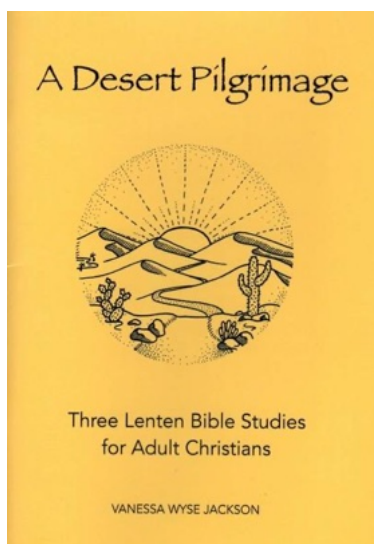
—Pope Francis 🙏

Congratulations



Congratulations to Daniel Lydon, to the Wesley College senior hockey team and to the coaching staff (pictured above), who have done the double by winning both league and cup. They clinched the league with a 6-0 win over St Andrew's (Daniel scored), and beat High School 1-0 in the cup final.

Wednesdays during Lent



8pm in An Solas, Tallaght Methodist Church, Fortunestown Road (between the Mary Mercer Centre and An Cosán). There is good parking behind the Church. We will be following material by the late Rev Vanessa Wyse Jackson, ***'Different kinds of struggle'***

26th March – The interpersonal struggle (Moba)

2nd April – The struggle for justice (Andrew)

9th April – The struggle against prejudice (Brian)

Centenary Entertains 17th May

We are planning our next concert for Saturday 17th May at 7pm in the church. Our performers will be our church musicians with friends and supporters. More information will be provided nearer the date. In the meantime please put a note in your diary to reserve the date!. It will be a 'free admission' concert with voluntary donations mainly towards church funds

Two peaks and two Estates walk, Saturday 29th March, 10.30am

This walk will introduce Marius and Danielle to their new surroundings in Bray. Meet at Wesley House at 9.30am, or in the main Kilruddery Car Park by Squirrel's Scramble at 10.30am. This fabulous walk includes Bray Head and Little Sugarloaf. We will walk down the drive past the pigsties before crossing the road into Manweiler's Wood and Bray Head. We then make our way along the summit with its spectacular views over Greystones before walking a stretch of quiet country road into Belmont Estate, Little Sugarloaf and back to the car park through terrain made familiar by Ireland's Fittest Family. The walk is approximately 8k with substantial elevations and we will be maintaining a moderate pace.

Leeson Park Players 10-12th April

The Leeson Park Players present an Evening of One Act Comedies on Thursday 10th, Friday 11th and Saturday 12th April at 7 30 pm. The One Acts are : *Last Tango in Donnybrook*, *Survivors and Hamlet* and *Zombies*. *Survivors* is written and directed by Charles Richards. The evening will also mark a welcome return to the boards for Roy Willoughby after his accident while preparing for the last play. Tickets are 15 Euro and 10 Euro concession and can be reserved with Lynn Pasley or with Charles Richards on 087 6620 374 with proceeds to Christian Aid

Autumn Soul Worship Night 12th April 6.00pm - 8:30pm

On Saturday, April 12th, from 6.00pm - 8:30pm at Dundrum Methodist in Dublin there will be an Autumn Soul Worship Night! This special evening will bring the heart of Autumn Soul to Dublin, featuring worship, prayer, and learning. Expect a guest teacher opening the Bible, a worship band leading us in song, interactive and creative prayer, discussions, and plenty of fun! The event is open to secondary school-aged young people (12+), and each group should have a leader or adult present. We're thrilled to welcome groups from across the country and would love for you to join us! If travel or logistics are a concern, please reach out—we're happy to help. Stay tuned for more details, including information on the Youth Forum happening earlier that day for older teens.

Spread the word, gather your group, and get ready for a night of faith and fellowship in Dublin!

Book Club

Our book choice for March was *Murder in Steeple Martin* by Lesley Cookman and it received a mixed response. Our choice for April is *Packinko* by Min-jin Lee.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM 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. We currently have 14 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

On Thursday mornings, 10.30 - 12 noon, a group meets for coffee and chat. A rotating group of four Dublin South City Circuit members meets with people who are making Ireland their home, either long or short term. We never know who will come - and over the years we have met people from near and far.

If you would like to know more, please speak to one of the current team of Charles, Lesley, Liz, Margaret, Maureen, Roy or Sayjin.

And - please spread the word.

Climate Justice in Rathgar.

'Reconciliation' is the theme for the 100th anniversary of the extension to the church in Rathgar.

In the run up to Easter we are considering **how we reconcile with this beautiful planet on which we live** and in which we have caused so much damage. We have arranged several events to dig deeper into this topic with some **thirty-minute talks** followed by the opportunity for discussion.

During March and April we will also host the **Climate Justice Candle** which is touring churches in Ireland as a visible reminder of the task we face in relation to our stewardship of God's Earth.

All talks are on Fridays at 10.30am with coffee available.

We welcome all members of the community to join us in these events.

March 28th: Talk by Rev. Andrew Kingston on the Bible, Eco-theology and the Biblical garden.

April 4th: Service for the children of Rathgar National School around the idea of Climate Justice. Parents and other adults are invited both to the service and to stay for coffee and discussion afterwards.

11th April: Talk by Maureen Rowan on Methodist Church policy on the Environment.

18th April: A short service of prayer and reflection with regard to reconciling with our environment.

Castlewellan Holiday Week

Sat. 2nd - Fri. 8th August

Start a tradition! This is a wonderful week of worship, activities and fellowship. If there is sufficient interest, we may be in the position to offer discounts from the McCracken Fund.

Conference fees early bird rate, Adult: £105 Youth & Children (3-18) £85, Children under 3: £55 plus accommodation (Caravan & camping), tents £14-£24 per night, plus food. More information, see <https://www.castlewellanholidayweek.org/>

Interested? Speak to Andrew who is willing to lead a group and arrange accommodation, catering etc.


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. This is a good place for men and women to meet, catch up, and have some good banter.

God's Storehouse in Tallaght

 Please put donations of non-perishable food in the basket in the Coffee Bar at Wesley House.

Giving to the church

Standing Order or Bank Transfer:

- **Bank:** AIB Bank plc, 7/12 Dame Street, Dublin 2
 - **Account Name:** Methodist Centenary Church Council No. 3 Account
 - **BIC:** AIBKIE2D
 - **IBAN:** IE89AIBK93122526909346
- 👉 Please include your **offering envelope number** so that the church can avail of tax relief on our donations.

📧 Questions? Please contact Alan Perry.

Tax Back Tax Relief Scheme

A taxpayer who contributes €250 to the church in a year enables the church to recover €112.82 from the Revenue Commissioners thereby increasing the donation to €362.82, and pro rata for donations of over €250. This scheme brought in over €17,000 last year. To register, you need an envelope number and a CHY3 form from Lynne Pasley. This latter is valid for 5 years and doesn't commit you to make any future donations.

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.

Cheque

If you can not come to church and you contribute by cheque we ask you to post your cheque, quoting your envelope number, to Billy Given. You can contact him at billygiven115@gmail.com

Forthcoming Services at 10.30am

Apr 6 Service of Holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston

Apr 13 Service of worship with Mrs Lesley Rankin

Apr 20 **Easter Sunday** United Celebration **at 11,00am**

Apr 27 Service of worship with Rev John Parkin

May 4 Service of Holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston

Local preachers

Our local preachers take services regularly on the circuit and sometimes outside it. The current preaching plan includes:

| | | | |
|--------|-------|----------|------------------------|
| Mar 30 | 14.00 | Korean | Mr DongGyu (David) Kim |
| Apr 27 | 10.30 | Tallaght | Mr Moba Mwanzele |
| | 11.30 | Rathgar | Mrs Gillie Hinds |

Text for Announcements

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

Stay Connected

 Email: news@methodistcentenary.ie

 Website: www.methodistcentenary.ie

Blessings,

Methodist Centenary Church Newsletter Team