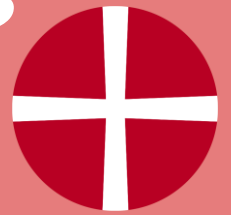


Southend & Leigh CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER



Spring Edition 2025

Second Quarter

Contents

- Celebrations
- Circuit Calendar
- Church Activities
- Prayer Diary
- Circuit News
- Upcoming Events

Welcome to our Circuit

We are a group of 15 Methodist Church fellowships, including a Zimbabwean fellowship, on 16 sites in the southeast corner of Essex. Our Circuit also incorporates 'Westerley', a Christian care home.

Our churches provide traditional services alongside an increasing number of contemporary and family-friendly expressions of worship.

We have a growing sense of service and mission to our communities, with a desire to love our Lord, and our neighbours.



FOLLOW / CONTACT US



[Southend and Leigh Circuit Facebook Page](#)

[Southend and Leigh Circuit Website](#)



Music Chaplaincy

Dear Circuit friends,

When I candidated for ministry in the Methodist Church, one of the roles I felt a strong call to was pastorally and spiritually caring for musicians as a community. Many of you will know I have been a professional musician for over 20 years making my living solely from singing jazz, playing double bass, being a vocal coach and helping to run two choirs. I have sung all over this country and abroad but now I tend to sing closer to home in Southend and London.

I am a part-time locally-deployed presbyter minister with pastoral care of Highlands Methodist Church, The Fishermen's Chapel and Music Chaplaincy. I entered ministry as part-time because I still felt being a musician was part of my calling while I am able.

I know the musician community very well; they are a community without walls. They are people with constant financial struggles with no permanent income and they often have family struggles working away from home and travelling. Their work stopped over night during the pandemic. They are generally spiritual people with a longing for connection and truth in their work and they are wonderful evangelists of God's gifts - sharing them with so many. They too, like other communities, have births, deaths, marriages, divorces, mental health and physical health problems.

Much like hospital, school, army chaplains, musicians too need someone to walk with them. I felt God calling me to care for this group of people.

The Methodist Church is growing in new ways as we consider what church might look like in the future. They were excited to hear about my calling and agreed to support me.



These are the kinds of things I get involved in:

- I have visited many concerts in our city in my clerical collar, handing out leaflets about Chaplaincy and my personal cards. I have spoken with musicians about the support I am there for. Chaplaincy is for all faiths and none, so conversations can simply be about how life is going or I can get into conversations about faith.
- I have also written an article for the Musicians Union magazine and blog which goes out world-wide. I have received emails and phone calls from musicians all over the country and America. ([Music Chaplaincy: Getting Support for Musicians Through a Faith Organisation | The MU](#))
- I have taken two funerals of musicians in the city.
- Spoken regularly with a very well-known musician in the jazz field who after struggling with drugs and having no faith, they have turned their life around and they are now promoting their belief in God.
- I have walked with musicians in need of support and done hospital visits and supported families.

My probation period for Ministry has had lots of extra demands so there is much more work I could be involved in that I presently don't have time for in my chaplaincy role. These are some of the areas I would like to develop:

- Engaging with other chaplains and growing Music Chaplaincy across the country.
- I have been involved with a company who have choirs sing at The Tower of London, they are working with lots of musicians to have choirs in other big London Venues. I am interested in providing Methodist Chaplaincy for their events.
- I could offer more as a chaplain and music advisor in the Circuit.
- I would like to go to more events and have time to follow up with the musicians I have given cards out to.
- I would like to offer services for musicians with Holy Communion that is focussed on their needs. Like the service in New York which was set up by Dizzy Gillespie. It involved the service being in the afternoon midweek, jazz hymns, healing, raising money for health care of other musicians and faith healing.
- I would like to contact venues/churches speaking of the justice issues of paying musicians the Musicians Union rate for their work and changing the culture of assuming musicians will play for free or little money because they enjoy it! They have mortgages to pay like everyone else and you wouldn't expect a plumber to come out for free, so why a highly trained musician.

As a result of reading this if you would like to know more about my role or you have an interest in chaplaincy please get in touch.

God bless you all,

Rev Hev x

Reverend Heather Simmons
Probationer Presbyter





Circuit Calendar 2025

APRIL

- Wed 2nd – Worship Academy, 7pm, Benfleet Methodist Church
- Sat 5th – Circuit Prayer Meeting, 8.30am, Zoom (details available from Circuit Office)
- Wed 9th – Minister's Staff Meeting, 2pm
- Sun 13th – Gospel Vespers 7pm for 7.30pm, The Fisherman's Chapel
- Sun 13th – Palm Sunday
- Thu 17th – Maundy Thursday
- Fri 18th – Good Friday
- Sun 20th – Easter Sunday
- Sun 20th – Easter Prayer and Praise, 6.30pm, Belfairs Methodist Church
- Wed 23rd – Wholeness & Wellbeing Service, 7.45pm, Benfleet Methodist Church
- Sat 26th – Waterside Choir and The Music Man Project - joint concert at Highlands Methodist Church, 7.30pm-10pm, £10 on the door

MAY

- Sat 3rd – Circuit Prayer Meeting, 8.30am, Zoom (details available from Circuit Office)
- Wed 7th – Worship Academy, 7pm, Benfleet Methodist Church
- Sun 11th – Gospel Vespers 7pm for 7.30pm, The Fisherman's Chapel
- Wed 14th – Minister's Staff Meeting, 2pm
- Wed 14th – CLT, 7.30pm, Highlands Methodist Church
- Sun 18th – Testimony Service of Rev Agnes Sam & Rev Heather Simmons, 7.30pm, Rayleigh Methodist Church

JUNE

- Tue 3rd – Circuit Meeting, 7.30pm, Thorpe Bay Methodist Church
- Wed 4th – Worship Academy, 7pm, Benfleet Methodist Church
- Sat 7th – Circuit Prayer Meeting, 8.30am, Zoom (details available from Circuit Office)
- Sun 8th – Pentecost
- Sun 8th – Gospel Vespers 7pm for 7.30pm, The Fisherman's Chapel
- Wed 11th – Minister's Staff Meeting, 2pm
- Thu 12th – Local Preacher's Meeting, venue tbc
- Sat 21st – Circuit Quiet Day, 10am-2pm, Hadleigh Methodist Church
- Wed 25th – Wholeness & Wellbeing Service, 7.45pm, Benfleet Methodist Church
- Sun 29th – Methodist Conference in Telford,
Ordinations of Rev Agnes Sam & Rev Heather Simmons

JULY

- Wed 2nd – Worship Academy, 7pm, Benfleet Methodist Church
- Sat 5th – Circuit Prayer Meeting, 8.30am, Zoom (details available from Circuit Office)
- Wed 9th – Minister's Staff Meeting, 2pm
- Sun 13th – Gospel Vespers 7pm for 7.30pm, The Fisherman's Chapel

Churches Mid-Week Activities / Events

BELFAIRS METHODIST CHURCH

Boys Brigade - Mondays, Anchor 5:30pm, Junior 6:30pm, Company 7:30pm
Badminton - Tuesdays, 8pm
Parent & Toddlers - Wednesdays, 10am
Girls Brigade - Wednesdays, Explorers & Juniors 5:30pm, Seniors & Brigaders 7pm
Thirsty For? (Café Worship) - second Thursday of the month, 7pm
A.C.T.I.O.N. (Fellowship) - fourth Thursday of the month, 2pm



BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH

Bible Study - Thursdays, 3.30pm
Wesley Art Group - Mondays, 7.30pm in Wesley Hall
Light Worship - third Tuesday of the month, 12noon
Sunday Lunch - second Sunday of the month, 12.30pm (book in advance with John Stokes at johnstokes660@yahoo.com)
Coffee Mornings - Monday-Saturday, 10am to 12 noon (with a Beading Craft session on Wednesdays)
Ladies' Thursday Club - first Thursday of the month, 7.45pm
Women's Fellowship - first and third Wednesdays of the month, 2.30pm
Wives' Club - Tuesdays, 1.45pm
Benfleet Hope Group - Mondays, 10am-2pm
Messy Church - third Saturday of the month, 3.30pm-5.30pm
Little Bunnies (Mother & Toddler group) - Mondays, 9.30am-11.30am
Fusion Children Groups - Fridays, ages 5-11 yrs 5.30pm-7pm & 11+ yrs 7pm-8.30pm



CANVEY ISLAND METHODIST CHURCH

Bible Study - Tuesdays, 8pm
Wives Club - Thursdays, 2pm
Coffee Morning - Wednesdays, 10.30am-12noon
Coffee Morning - Saturdays, 10.30am-12noon
Wednesday Fellowship - first two Wednesdays of the month, 2.30pm
Midweek Communion - third Wednesday of the month, 10am



CHALKWELL PARK METHODIST CHURCH

Ladies Monday Club - 2nd & 4th Mondays (except BH & August), 2-4pm
Caterpillars Baby & Toddler group - Wednesdays, sch. term only, 9.30am-11.30am
Coffee Morning - 1st Friday of the month, 10am-12noon
Crafty Friday (for adults) - 2nd & 4th Fridays, sch. term only, 10am-12noon



Churches Mid-Week Activities / Events

HIGHLANDS METHODIST CHURCH

Coffee Morning - Saturdays, 10.00am-12noon

Lunch Club - second Tuesday of the month, 12noon (registration essential)

Chatter (Fellowship Group) - Tuesdays, 10am-12noon

Hobbies - first and third Thursdays of the month, 10am-12noon

Prayer Meeting on Zoom - Tuesdays, 9am-10am (4th Tuesday of the month 9.15am in church)

Toddlers - Mondays, 9.30am-11.30am (term time only)

Bible Study - 3rd Wednesday of the month, 2pm in the Snug

House Group - 2nd Monday of the month, 7.30pm in the Snug



ROCHFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Cake and Kindness (Tea and homemade cakes) - Mondays, 2pm-3.30pm

Prayer time on Zoom - Mondays, 7pm

Bible Studies on Zoom - Tuesdays, 7.30pm

Housegroup - third Wednesday of the month, 8pm

'Happy Cup' Breakfast Club for children under 5 and carers - Fridays (term-time), 9.30am



THORPE BAY METHODIST CHURCH

Mid-week communion - third Wednesday of the month, 12pm

(lunch afterward – booking required with office@tbmchurch.org)

Bible Study & Soup - 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month

(booking required with office@tbmchurch.org)

Community Cafe - Wednesday, 10am-12pm



THUNDERSLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Coffee Morning - Wednesdays (term-time), 9am-12noon

Coffee Morning - second Saturday of the month, 10am-12noon

Afternoon Club - Tuesday fortnightly, 2.30pm



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (Great Wakering)

'Brew, Chew, Renew' (Bible Study with refreshments) - Fortnightly on Monday, 10.30am

Funtime Toddlers - Wednesdays & Thursdays (except 3rd Thurs of the month) 9.30-11.30am (term time)

Home Group - Tuesdays, 7.30pm (contact office@umcsouthend.org.uk)



Churches Mid-Week Activities / Events

THE FISHERMEN'S CHAPEL

Coffee Morning - Wednesdays, 10.30-12.30pm

Gospel Choir Rehearsals (contact Rev Heather 07879 232231)

Regular Music and Arts Events - please visit website: www.fishermenschapel.org.uk



RAYLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group - Mondays (term time), 1.15pm to 2.45pm (under 5 £2+50p parents/carers)

Townswomen Guild (Speaker, tea & cake) - Last Monday of the month, 10am to 12pm

Memory Worship (30mins service followed by Coffee & Craft) - First Tuesday of the month, 2pm

Free Drama Group Years 2 to 5 - Tuesdays (term time), 4pm to 5pm

Ladies Club (informal and fun All age tea, biscuit, speakers, outings, meals) - Wednesdays, 1.45pm to 3.15pm

Wesley Guild (Everyone welcome any age Women and Men varied program of Devotional, Christian Service, Cultural and Musical, Social events) - Thursdays, 2pm

Toys & Toast (Baby & Toddler) - Fridays (term time), 9.30am to 11am (£3 last 30 minutes is singing)

Trefoil Guild - Third Friday of the month (exc. Bank Hols), 1.30pm to 3.30pm (all 18+)

Coffee Morning - Third Sat of the month, 10am to 12pm (each month in aid of community / church projects)

Messy Church - Last Sunday of the month except August and December, 4pm to 6pm



Hello Friend,

We are so excited to tell you about all the community activities taking place at Wesley and to invite you to join us for fun activities, fellowship, friendship and community! We look forward to welcoming you.

Leigh Wesley Methodist Church

Wesley **Methodist** Church 

THE SANCTUARY CAFÉ

FRIDAYS 10AM-12PM

SATURDAYS 10AM-1PM

Join us for hot drinks, cake and a good chat in a safe space. A play area, buggy park and quiet space for prayer/reflection are available.

FUSION YOUTH & KIDS

2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

(TERM TIME ONLY)

6PM-7.30PM

Youth Club for children in school years 1 to 6. £1.50 entrance. Xbox's, craft, sports, circus skills, music, food and so much more!

HOUSE GROUPS

A RANGE OF MIDWEEK MEETINGS

DAYTIME AND EVENING

Explore faith and Christianity in these informal groups.

TODDLER GROUP

WEDNESDAYS

10AM-12PM

Playgroup for ages 0-4 and their parents/carers (older siblings welcome in school holidays). Playtime, storytime, parachute, crafts. £2 entry and free tea/coffee and homemade cake.

WESLEY THEATRE GROUP

MONDAYS

8PM

Welcoming all who love acting and/or working backstage.

MUSIC GROUP

SUNDAYS

DURING WORSHIP

Singers and musicians of all abilities welcome!

TALKING POETRY

WEDNESDAYS (FORTNIGHTLY)

2.30PM

Choose, read & discuss a different poet or subject each session.

Please get in touch or see our website for further details (including some restart dates) & details of activities run by our hirers.

LEIGH WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH IS AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH
AND DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY



Circuit Prayer Diary April-June

*On the following Sundays and during the week
we ask you to pray for:*

APRIL

Mid-Week Prayer of Week 14 – Rev Steve Mayo and family
Prayer for Sunday 6th – Prayer Groups and Chains
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 15 – Hadleigh Methodist Church
Prayer for Sunday 13th – Church Stewards
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 16 – LWP Homes
Prayer for Sunday 20th – Mencap Showstoppers & The Music Man Project
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 17 – Wellbeing and Wholeness Services
Prayer for Sunday 27th – Memory Worship



MAY

Mid-Week Prayer of Week 18 – Leigh Section
Prayer for Sunday 4th – Highlands Methodist Church
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 19 – City Centre Chaplaincy
Prayer for Sunday 11th – Mid-week Communions
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 20 – Rev Norman Hooks and family
Prayer for Sunday 18th – Children's and Youth Workers
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 21 – Rochford District Council, Councillors and Leaders
Prayer for Sunday 25th – Church Cleaners and Caretakers
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 22 – Methodist Church Zimbabwe Fellowship



JUNE

Prayer for Sunday 1st – Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 23 – Music Mentors
Prayer for Sunday 8th – Pastoral Leaders, Carers and Class Leaders
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 24 – Chelmsford Circuit
Prayer for Sunday 15th – Church Flower Arrangers
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 25 – Circuit Prayer Meeting
Prayer for Sunday 22nd – Bar'N'Bus Trust
Mid-Week Prayer of Week 26 – Methodist Women in Britain
Prayer for Sunday 29th – Rayleigh Methodist Church



Westerley Care Home – Baptism Service

We are delighted to share wonderful news from Westerley Christian Care Home. Monday 20th January there was a deep and meaningful day for staff and residents. One of the residents, Gordon Pinner, baptised our Assistant Manager Lee Holmes into the Christian faith, within a Communion Service.

Gordon has been heavily involved with the church throughout his life. He was a lay preacher, Sunday School Superintendent, organist / pianist for several churches, a Deacon for various churches, as well as a Lay Pastor of Codicote Baptist Church.

The Southend and Leigh Circuit extend their prayers and blessings to Lee and Gordon, and are greatly encouraged in God's witness among the community and the sharing of testimony.



Getting Contemplative and Hushing the Noise at Highlands Methodist Church

Among new offerings to complement our mainstay services and activities at Highlands in recent months, we've been keen to explore a variety of contemplative practices as a way of deepening our relationship with God. These include several practices that stem from medieval times and earlier which have become popular during recent years, such as *lectio divina*, labyrinth walking and lovingkindness meditation.

Our wanderings into such activities have so far been limited to odd offerings, such as a series of weekly *lectio* contemplations during advent, which we offered both within the church and online using the lectionary readings the church was following on the theme *Hush the Noise*. We also enjoyed welcoming a canvas labyrinth into the church on a couple of occasions, and engaged in a 'Highlands Pilgrimage' – a mindful walk of discovery around our neighbourhood last year, in which we sought to be open to being present, praying for our community, and noticing the beauty and wonder that's right under our noses.

For those who may not be familiar with the idea, contemplative practice aims to be focused on being in the here and now, or fully present. It recognises that God really is everywhere, in everything and in every moment, not distant from us. As the ecumenical teacher Richard Rohr puts it, contemplation is about entering into a deeper silence and letting go of our habitual thoughts, sensations, and feelings in order to connect to God. The emphasis is on having a direct, personal experience of God, and in silence, hearing the deep and sometimes hidden meaning of His Word. Being fully present and open to God's presence, inspiration and guidance, and being able to really tune into the heart, are key to this. Unsurprisingly, such practices were very popular with monks, nuns and mystics of old.



Left: The beautiful labyrinth table at The Fishermen's Chapel, pictured last Christmas

Right: A Labyrinth held at The Fishermen's Chapel in the past



Among practices that might help cultivate contemplation are *centered prayer* (it has the American spelling, as that's where the practice was popularised), various forms of meditation, *lectio divina*, silent communion (an entire service conducted in silence), labyrinth walking, and walking meditation. Closely aligned are practices such as body prayer, dance and chanting (e.g. Taizé), which help embody our connection with God and each other – in the case of chanting, quite literally, resonating with a common heart.

Centered prayer involves silent, very attentive, heart-felt prayer, that involves first becoming anchored in the heart through meditation, usually by focusing on a repeated saying or characteristic of Jesus (e.g. "peace"). We've yet to explore this, but likely have a good opportunity to do so in our house group.

Lectio divina originated in the early centuries of the Christian Church and became especially popular during the Middle Ages. It has enjoyed a resurgence in many denominations in recent years. There are a number of variations on the practice, but it essentially involves hearing a reading from scripture several times, allowing silence in between each reading for contemplation. To hear scripture several times was especially important for the many monks in medieval times who were illiterate. But we found how powerful it is to not only have time to tune in with the full context of a passage, but to be drawn to a particular teaching, words or an image that speaks to us in the moment. Given last year's advent theme of *Hush the Noise*, the opportunity to enjoy shared silence as we contemplated the various scripture passages guided by the lectionary was especially meaningful. Our online offering even attracted folks from outside our local community from various places across North America.

JOIN US FOR
A HIGHLANDS
PILGRIMAGE!

A SLOW WALK OF WONDER, REFLECTION & DISCOVERY!

MORE INFO:
CALL REV. HEATHER ON
07879 232231 OR SCAN:

FREE: JUST TURN UP AT THE CHURCH!

17/09/2024 12.15-1.30PM

Hush the Noise
Join the Love Song
this Christmas

ADVENT
LECTIO DIVINA

Starting 26 November

For info, call Rev Heather
on 07879 232231 or
SCAN

Meditative walking and lectio divina were among offerings at Highlands last year.

Labyrinths – each having a single, curving path that leads to a centre – have existed in many cultures throughout recorded history. Walking one simply involves following the path while holding open a question, point for reflection, or prayer. Most who do so describe the experience as feeling surprisingly beautiful, inspiring and pointed. Being non-denominational, labyrinths are very inclusive, often appealing to people who do not claim a faith, as well as being much loved by believers. Many churches and cathedrals have labyrinths built into their sanctuaries or outside. Chislehurst Methodist Church is one such church in the UK that has a permanent indoor labyrinth – not to mention the beautiful labyrinth table that rests by the altar in The Fishermen’s Chapel!

However, portable labyrinths, usually painted on a canvas that can be folded and packed away for easy storing or transportation, are also popular. It’s one such labyrinth, based on the design of a famous labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral in France, that we’ve been able to occasionally borrow to lay out at Highlands. This we did last ‘World Labyrinth Day,’ when people from all faith traditions and none around the world are invited to ‘walk as one at one’ (walk a labyrinth at 1pm in their time zone) while offering prayers for peace. We are hoping to offer another walk before long.

Many who’ve enjoyed the activities hosted at Highlands said how uplifting and inspired they felt by them, and we’re looking forward to further offerings in the same vein very soon. We’ll let you know, and of course, would love anyone who wishes to join us to be a part of these!

With great thanks to Clive Johnson for the article and photographs



Folks at Highlands enjoyed a labyrinth walk last World Labyrinth Day, as thousands around the world came together to “walk as one at one.”

LECTIO Divina

Every Wednesday starting
16 April (7.30-8.30pm)
on ZOOM

Zoom meeting ID: 953 4743 3390
Passcode: 498912

Every lectio stands alone,
so come to one or many!

The Spoken Words of Jesus

On **Saturday 19th April** (Easter Saturday), 1-3pm at **Highlands Methodist Church**. A 2-hour informal workshop, including a break for coffee. At this sacred time of year, we will hear some of the words of Jesus as those who study Aramaic – the spoken language of Jesus – believe they were likely heard. As we anticipate the day of our Lord's glorious resurrection, the words we will hear include His promises of reassurance and comfort. Come to hear a beautiful selection of well-known sayings of Jesus as you may never have heard them before, owing to the way that were first interpreted in Greek and later translated into English. Hosted by Clive Johnson, who has long been inspired by and studied the Aramaic words of Jesus.

Boulevard in Bloom

On Sunday 25th May there will be a "Boulevard in Bloom" – front gardens in Sutherland Boulevard will be on display in a competition to raise money for Fair Havens. A service at **Highlands Methodist** will begin the day at 10.30am and then will be open for refreshments during this community day until 4pm, when the winner will be announced.

WALK THE LABYRINTH!



**COME WALK A BEAUTIFUL CANVAS
LABYRINTH AS PEOPLE AROUND THE
WORLD WALK AS ONE AT ONE!**

**SATURDAY 3 MAY 1-145PM
HIGHLANDS METHODIST CHURCH**

Activities, News & Events

Southend-on-Sea Faith and Belief Network

Several members of our circuit regularly take part in activities organised by the **Southend-on-Sea Faith and Belief Network**. The Network brings together representatives of local faiths from different traditions, community groups and projects, Southend City Council staff, and representatives from partner organisations such as the NHS, SAVS, Havens Hospices and Essex Police. Information is shared, initiatives that may be of interest are promoted, and Council updates on things like grant opportunities are also highlighted. Quarterly meetings are also held with the City Council Leader, giving an opportunity to discuss how people of faith and the Council can work together for the good of our wider community. The Network has a long history, but really came into its own form when the city community came together to work against faith-based intolerance following the tragic death of Sir David Amess in 2021. Members of any congregation or whose community work is faith inspired are all welcome to join. You can find out more, subscribe to their newsletter and or join their monthly Zoom calls on the Council website, <https://yoursay.southend.gov.uk/faith-and-belief-network>.

Rayleigh Methodist Lent and Easter Courses

Lent Course at RMC Mon 7th and 14th April week 5 & 6 *Hope in a Hard Place*
Creative Prayer Stations Leading Up to Lent [Various Times] - Mon 14th April
(please check website for details www.rayleighmethodistchurch.org.uk) ALL ARE WELCOME

Online Lent Course

7.30pm to 8.30pm Online Zoom [Lent 2025: Soul Food - The Methodist Church](#)
Tue 1st, 8th and 15th April Weeks 4, 5 & 6

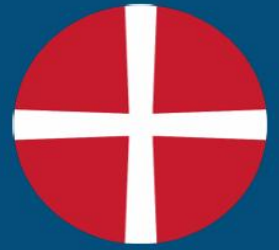
Alpha Course

Starting Tue 22nd April, Week 1 RMC 1.30pm to 3.30pm including lunch
(sign up via RMC so we can know numbers for catering)
Week 2 29th April
Weeks 3, 4 & 7 11.30am to 1.30pm due to Memory Worship

Maundy Thursday 6.30pm Reflective Service

Father's Day Parade Service Sunday 15th June 10.30am including testimony from the Christian Bikers Association - ALL ARE WELCOME

TESTIMONY SERVICE



REVD
**AGNES
SAM**



REVD
**HEATHER
SIMMONS**



**SUNDAY 18TH MAY
7.30PM**

**RAYLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH
78A EASTWOOD RD, SS6 7JP**



The Experience Project

Activities and Events



Highlights from our Christmas Celebration 2024,
and Christmas donations and gifts to the
amazing staff at Southend Hospital



In January 2025 the Experience Project received another generous donation of nutritious ready meals. These were distributed through our partners and at our community pop up foodbank on Thursday. Thank you once again Prep Kitchen for your support and generosity.

On 23rd December the Experience Project (EP) distributed 4000 Prep Kitchen meals with the help of Southend's local charities. These freshly prepared nutritious meals were given out to those in need in our local community. A huge team came together on the day, including Will from Prep Kitchen, SAVS, Atlantic Pacific and Port Express, as well as EP staff and volunteers. It was a huge operation supported by the above various charities and organisations; it all went smoothly and benefited so many in the local community.



**Southend & Leigh Circuit invites you
to our**



**Wholeness &
Wellbeing
Services**

Wednesday 23rd April

Wednesday 25th June

7:45pm at Benfleet Methodist
Church

**CIRCUIT EASTER
“PRAYER & PRAISE”
CELEBRATION.**

**EASTER SUNDAY
EVENING**

20th April 2025.

@ 6.30 P.M.

BELFAIRS METHODIST CHURCH

(Eastwood Road North,
Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 4NG)

**Led by the ‘Worship Band’
and others from the circuit.**

**Come and share with us in the joy
of Christ’s Resurrection.**

We look forward to seeing you there.

Southend & Leigh Methodist Circuit
Quiet Day 10am - 2pm
Saturday 21st June 2025
Hadleigh Methodist Church

Theme: "In the Stillness"

Book the date

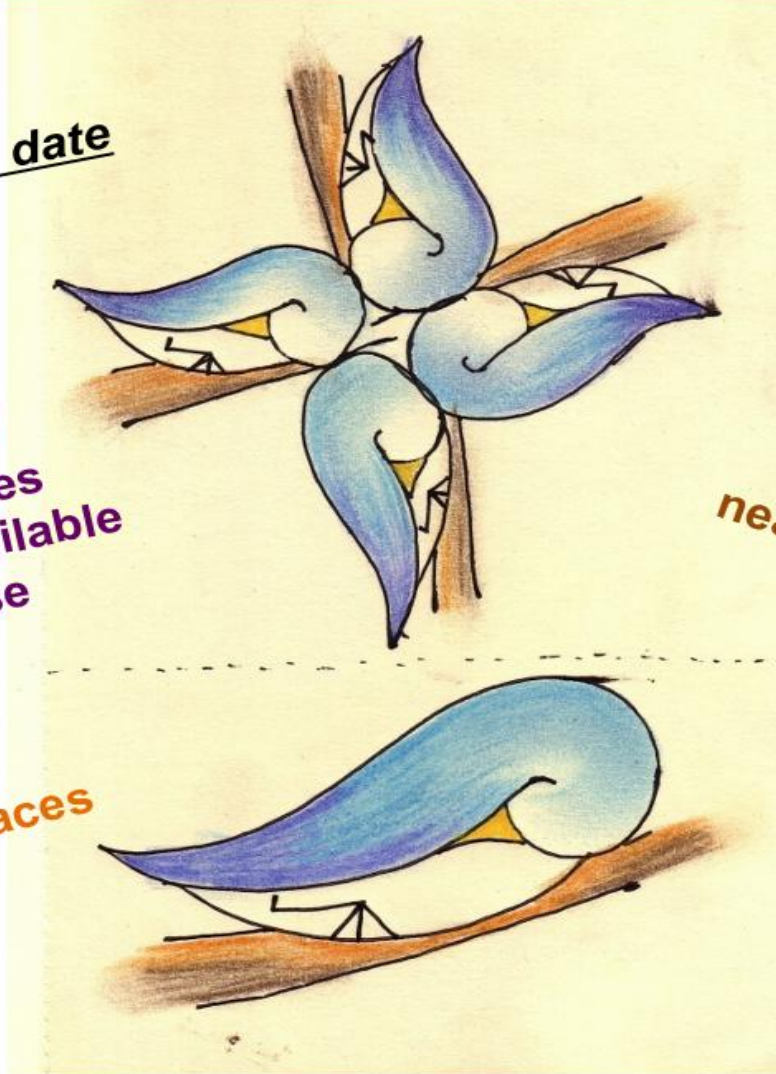
**Come and
join us!**

**Lots of
resources
will be available
to use**

**More info.
nearer the time**

Quiet places

Worship



**Please bring your own Packed Lunch.
Feel free to bring along a note book
or journal, pens and your Bible.**

Worship Academy 2024-2025

Season 12

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH EXCEPT AUGUST,
SEPTEMBER & JANUARY

BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH SS7 5LH

7 PM FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

8 PM WORSHIP & LEARNING

The Christian Calendar and Christmas

2nd October – The Christian Calendar
PAUL WOOD and IAN WORSFOLD

6th November – What is the Methodist Connexion
offering for Christmas?
RICHARD ARMIGER

4th December – Planning for Christmas Services
COLIN and CATHY TURNER and WORSHIP ACADEMY
SUPPORTERS

Easter

5th February – Holy week Scripture
DAVID CHAPMAN

5th March – What is the Methodist Connexion offering
for Easter?

2nd April – Planning for Easter Services
BOB and ANNE BRIANT and WORSHIP ACADEMY
SUPPORTERS

Remembrance

7th May – Remembrance Scripture
MOSES AGYEM

4th June – Planning for Remembrance Services
JANE FULFORD and WORSHIP ACADEMY SUPPORTERS

2nd July - Fellowship, Feedback and Future Planning