

**WEYBAY NEWS**

A monthly what’s on

** **JUNE 2024**

For flowers that bloom about our feet;
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;
For song of bird, and hum of bee;
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!

 Ralph Everson

.

Weymouth Bay is part of the Dorset South and West Circuit

**Minister**

Revd Ruth Lownsbrough ruthlownsbrough59@hotmail.co.uk

**Circuit Administrators**

Maria Jacobson 07570 036288

Jacqui Trent 07709601567

Wey Bay Booking Secretary  weybay@yahoo.com 01305457510

Web Circuit address: www.dsw.church

Facebook: Facebook@weybaychurch

Weymouth Bay Methodist Church, 32 Melcombe Avenue, DT4 7TH

Contact the newsletter production team for entries in future newsletters.

Ailsa Binnie binnie148@btinternet.com

Jean Capp jean@thecapps.co.uk

Jackie Chevis jackietweymouth@yahoo.com

Dear Friends

By the time this newsletter reaches you, many people associated with Wey Bay Methodist Church will already know of my intention to retire from Circuit ministry when my appointment comes to an end at the end of August 2025.

I’m confirming this now, more than a year before I will ‘sit down’ (retirement in Methodist speak!), so that the Circuit can begin the process of stationing which, hopefully, may lead to another minister being appointed to the Circuit. The stationing process also gives the Circuit opportunity, with churches, to review where they are and what kind of ministry is needed in the future to enable flourishing and growth, thus enabling greater participation in God’s mission here in Dorset South & West.

The decision to retire has not been an easy one but after much prayer, thought and conversation with trusted friends and colleagues, I trust that it is the right one. Having said that, I’m quite sure that ministry for myself and Richard will not stop completely; it will just look different after August 2025. We hope to settle somewhere in Bridport so won’t be too far away.

Meanwhile, we have a whole year of worship and service to join together in…

Recently, I attended an ecumenical gathering in Weymouth to learn more about the Open Table Network, a growing partnership of communities in England and Wales which genuinely welcome and affirm LGBTQIA people, their families, friends and anyone who wants to belong in an accepting, loving community.

It is a sad reflection that some people from the LGBTQIA community have not always found church to be such a community. The hope of those who gathered to learn about the Open Table Network is that there will be an Open Table community established in Weymouth. If you would like to know more or are interested in supporting this venture, please do have a look at the Open Table website: [www.opentable.lgbt](http://www.opentable.lgbt) and please do contact me: ruthlownsbrough59@hotmail.co.uk or mobile 07398855146.

Every blessing

 Ruth

**Rev John Yarrien** . Our superintendent minister Rev John Yarrien will also come to the end of his 5 year term in 2025 but has requested to stay for another term.

**PREACHERS AT WEYMOUTH BAY in JUNE:**

2nd June Rev Ruth Lownsborough

9th June Flora Waring

16th June Rev Gwyneth Owen HC

23rd June Local Arrangement

23rd June 6 30pm Rev Riches

30th June Richard Lownsborough

7th July Rev Ruth Lownsborough

**CHURCH NEWS**

 In May we held a thanksgiving service for the life of Ralph Allgood. who died at the age of 99 years. Ralph attended our Maiden St church with his wife Joan when they moved here in the 60” s. They formed a group for young people called The Mustard Seed which ran for many years. Later they attended several churches in Weymouth before returning to Methodism and once more took up membership at Wey Bay. We remember their son Stephen and daughter Mary and their families at this time.

**Christian Aid Week 2024**

So far, the Weybay, Chickerell and Lanehouse total for this year's Christian Aid week is £946 with further donations still to come. My thanks to everyone who gave donations, raffle prizes, came to Big Breakfast and the quiz. Also, Thanks to all my helpers - I couldn't do this on my own!

**REGULAR EVENTS**

**Coffee morning** – every Wednesday, coffee and cake served from 10.00 until noon. We also have books and jigsaw puzzles that may be borrowed.

**A short time of prayer in the chapel** every Wednesday before the coffee morning. This is a time for you to bring your own anxieties before the Lord and also to pray for the life of our church here at WeyBay and how we can go forward with God.

**Grace Notes** singing groupmeets every Wednesday at 10.30am. New members welcome. Come and sing and have some fun.

**Cameo** a fortnightly group for women meeting at WeyBay at 2pm alternate Wednesdays. You are very welcome to come along to all meetings or just when you are able. We only have one speaker for June.

12th June – When Myra will show us the skills of flower arranging.

.

During the summer months Cameo will meet just once a month at the church for tea and chat. Open to both men and women, the dates are July 10th and August 7th*.*

**Miscellany,** themusic group which meets in the church every Wednesday from 5-6 pm. This is for anyone who plays a musical instrument, however brilliant or rusty you may be. Why not give it a go? If you are interested speak to Rosemary or Ailsa for further information.

**Bible Study**

Meets on Thursday at 2pm. This is a very informal group with plenty of opportunity for discussion and we welcome anyone who would like to join us.

**Dementia Cafe:** Friday 7th June from 2pm – 4pm.

An afternoon providing a welcome to visitors and carers for a joyful afternoon of activities and music.

More details from Esme on 01305 812637

**Eco Church**

As you know we have already achieved our Bronze Eco Church award and are working towards our Silver award. This will include contacting other churches and organisations in the town to spread the climate change and green message. Is there anyone out there who would be willing to help me with this application? You would need to be happy to engage with people like local councillors and MPs, Transition Town, Weymouth College, local churches. We are already doing a lot of good things in the church to promote the green agenda and have achieved Gold standard already for Worship and Teaching and Land but need to do more in the areas- Lifestyle, Community & Global Engagement and Buildings.

In the first instance perhaps, we could have an informal chat before we convene an actual meeting. Catch me after church on a Sunday morning, at coffee on a Wednesday or ring 07709 601 567 or email weybaymc@yahoo.com.

Jacqui Trent

**OUR CHURCH**

At the recent church meeting there was an interest in hearing about the day to day running of our church. So here is a short account, which we hope will be helpful.

All major decisions are made by the church council. This is made up of anyone who holds an office in the church plus 6 representatives from the congregation. Our recent church meeting agreed these members.

Then the stewards and our Minister make decisions on the running of services and special events. Anniversary, Easter, Harvest, Christmas. Quite a lot to think about as well as preparing for and overseeing the Sunday services,

We also have a Property and Finance committee. Our building - now 15 years old is beginning to tell us of things we need to replace. We have a rolling programme for redecoration. We recently have had to negotiate a new energy contract. - not good!! Jacqui looks after our finances. We appreciate our gift day donations which amounted to £2292 32 A bequest last year means that we have been able to purchase a bench for the garden together with a replacement piano for the back room. Verna has recently been able to secure some more church bookings which help the finances.

As a church we must remember those less fortunate. The budget allows the finance committee to donate quickly to disaster appeals. Also this financial year (from sept) we have already supported the food bank to the tune of £2348.67. A really great amount. This has come from Wed coffee in Dec, Normas Christmas Fayre and Raffles and coffee money from Pete’s concerts. We have also supported Christian Aid, and several other charities.

There are also lots of people doing other jobs big and small that help the general running of the church. We are very fortunate and thank everyone for all for the “extra mile” help which helps our day to day running and helps our church to flourish and continue to proclaim Gods love to all who enter.