

# CONWAY ROAD METHODIST CHURCH NOTICE SHEET – May 2023



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Dear Friends,

It's still April as I write this. Pentecost is weeks away.

During the Dark Ages, at a time when food was scarce, work difficult to find and families living from hand to mouth, the local cathedral was often the centre of the community. Not many people could read, so engravings, stained glass windows and ornate decoration told the stories of Jesus in a way that made sense to every-day people.

Some cathedrals, however, were built specifically to express the meaning of Pentecost. The painted ceilings of these buildings contained small, cleverly concealed doors. During the worship at Pentecost some unfortunate people would climb up onto the roof of the cathedral and release a live dove through one of these doors – a living symbol of the Holy Spirit! Immediately after this the doors would open again and buckets of rose petals would be thrown out, representing tongues of flame showering the congregation. We can scarcely imagine the effect this sensory spectacle would have had on the difficult lives of these Christians more than a thousand years ago.

There aren't, to the best of my knowledge, any trapdoors in the roof of Conway Road, though I'll admit the thought of throwing rose petals from the balcony is tempting – maybe next year! That said, we too need to be reminded of the significance of the Holy Spirit. We may not follow the example of the medieval Christians and deploy live animals and cascades of rose petals, but if we celebrate Pentecost as something that happened once, a long time ago, then we lose something vital. Pentecost was never meant to be a one-off event. Instead, it's a celebration of the coming of the Spirit to Christians then, throughout the ages and into our lives and the life of our church today.

This year Pentecost falls on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May and, fittingly, we're celebrating with a Circuit Service at Wesley Caerphilly.

By the time you read this, Pentecost will already be happening. The Spirit is already speaking in your life and in the life of this church and community. Let's pray that we all listen to that voice.

Every blessing,  
Laura

## Sunday Services

Sunday morning worship commences at 10.30am – and includes Junior Church, who meet with us in the Church and then go down for their own activities part way through the service.

## May

Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Rev. Cathy Gale (Holy Communion)
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Deacon Laura Evans
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> May	10.30am	Deacon Laura Evans
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Circuit Service at Wesley Caerphilly

We will be returning to **passing round the collection plate** in services from the beginning of May – followed by a blessing for all our gifts to the Church

## What's on at Wesley, Canton – all welcome!

Weekly:

**Monday Club** for the over 50s - 2.00pm till 3.30pm - a fun afternoon with tea/coffee and cake, then an activity.

**Wednesday Toddler Group** - 9.15am to 11.15am

**Thursday Pop-in** (warm space) – 2.00pm to 4.00pm

2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays **Knit/Natter** – 2.00pm to 3.30pm

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday **T.L.C (Ladies Group)** – 7.00pm to 9.00pm – 4th May, talk on Marie Curie.

Saturday 13th May **Coffee Morning** - 10am till 12pm

## Junior Church



We had a wonderful month with baked hot cross buns, an Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday and a scavenger hunt to help understand the meaning of Peace within our lives. We are excited to plant out our vegetable patch in the coming weeks and, fingers crossed, we will have enough to harvest in the Summer / Autumn to cook up & have a Junior Church Harvest Festival Feast!

## Message from Father Jacob and the Russian Orthodox Church

I would like to express not only my thanks, but those of the whole community, for the incredible hospitality of Conway Road methodist. Your consideration for our needs over Holy Week was incredible. People I tell can't believe how blessed we are as a parish to be the beneficiaries of such kindness.

May God bless you and the whole Conway Road Methodist community this Eastertide and always – Father Jacob

## Dates for your Diary

Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> May	7.30pm	<b>Double Choir Concert at Conway Road Church:</b> A Fistful of Spookies, back in Cardiff with their inimitable acapella beauty and lunacy, with Denmark's groovalicious and soulful sensations, Vokalkompagniet. <b>See posters - tickets online £15</b>
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> May	3.00pm (4.30pm for tea)	<b>'Christ the King' Activity Afternoon followed by a Coronation Cream Tea. (Note - change to this event!)</b> Lots of fun activities for all the family celebrating Christ our King If you can't make the whole afternoon do join us for the tea - everyone welcome!
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am	<b>Spring Fayre/Coffee Morning</b> Come and browse stalls full of cakes, plants, nearly new fashions, books and the gift stall. Coffee, tea and delicious cakes to be had on the morning! <i>Contributions for all stalls gratefully received before the event- thanks!</i>

## Conway Road 50+ Group

<b>May 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Music for Monarchs: Ceremonial Organ Music and Hymns</b> In the Conway Road Methodist Church: Programme arranged by the Conway Road Methodist Church organist, Roger Yeo
<b>May 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>My Nursing Vocation, Covid and Council Services</b> Councillor Norma Mackie, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Cardiff Council
<b>May 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Knitting for the Kingdom: Responding to emergency requests</b> Maureen Mackay. Nurse. Further Education teacher [Retired]
<b>May 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Glyn Houston: The famous TV and film actor from the Rhondda Valley</b> Dean Powell. Journalist, author, broadcaster and vocalist.
<b>May 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Day Trip: To the South Wales Aviation Museum, at St Athans, and Barry Island.</b> Booking essential. £15 to cover entry to the Museum and a contribution to the cost of travel. The coach is being subsidised by Conway 50+ Co-op grant.

## Spring Fayre, Saturday 13th May

Calling for donations for all the stalls at the Spring Fayre. Any of the below would be much appreciated:

**Cakes (particularly the homemade variety!)**

**Raffle prizes**

**Books (paperbacks please)**

**Nearly new occasion wear - needs to be in good condition please**

**Gifts**

Also, any willing volunteers for any of the stalls please let Heather know,  
Many thanks in advance



## Family News

### From Stan and Angela

Just to say a big thank you to yourself, Alison and Laura, for your part in helping us to celebrate our Ruby wedding. It was wonderful to be back at Conway Rd and to catch up with those we haven't seen for many years. The welcome we received was just the same as when we first set foot in Conway Rd all those years ago. Please convey our gratitude to everyone. The words Laura prepared and so eloquently delivered by Alison made us feel so special and we thank the Lord. May you all have a Blessed Easter.



Congratulations to **Gracie** who recently passed her grade 2 cornet exam – brilliant achievement Gracie!

### An Invitation from Catherine

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> is the Church Anniversary. It is also my (ridiculously big) birthday. To celebrate both events, you are invited to a 'Garden Party' at my house. Do visit at any time, between 3p.m. and 6p.m, for food and fun. I do NOT want presents of any kind, just your presence. However, the Church would welcome any gifts you wish to contribute! Hoping to see you on June 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Catherine

### *And to finish:*

Entwine, O God, your very being, your word, your love, through our lives. Run through us like the trickling brooks of summer, like the raging torrents of winter, like the rays of summer sun, like the crispness of icy mornings, so that all our lives are flooded with your love, so that your love may seep and flow and flood and shine from us to all we know and love and care for. Amen.

**Elaine Halls, supernumerary presbyter, South West Wales Circuit**

