



## West Bergholt Methodist Church

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# THE LINK

JUNE

2018

### SUNDAY SERVICES

**WORSHIP at 11 am** will be led by  
June 3<sup>rd</sup> No service in our Church  
June 10<sup>th</sup> Mr Ron Firmin-MHA Sunday  
June 17<sup>th</sup> No service in our Church  
June 24<sup>th</sup> Rev Ron Smith with Communion

If you would like to come to any of our services, or any other church activities, but would need a lift, please phone 01206 242511 or 241969.

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All children are very welcome. Crèche facilities will be provided when necessary.  
For further information please contact Mrs Susan Windscheffel.

**Please note** that the pattern of our Sunday worship has changed. Sunday services will only be held on the second and fourth Sunday in the month. On Sundays, when there is not a service at our church in the village, transport will be arranged to a service at another Methodist church within the Colchester Circuit. Please contact Judith, 01206 241969, or Andrew, 01206 242511, if you would like a lift. Full details of all these services will always be available in 'The Link'.

**All other activities are continuing as usual.**

### OTHER MEETINGS

*Please feel free to join us at any of these – you will be made most welcome...*

 <p><b>Bible STUDY</b> Join us!</p>	<p>Our Bible Study Book Club meets every third Wednesday, next meeting <b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am</b> in our hall. We are looking at Paul's Letter to Philemon. All are welcome.</p>
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### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting will be at 2.30pm



on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June –the speaker will be Mrs Susan Windscheffel. **All are welcome.**

### CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED

In the years before the current Welfare State or the NHS were set up, the Rev Walter Hall recognised the need even then to support older people. His vision was supported by the Methodist Church with funding for the first home, The Ryelands in Wallington, Surrey, and a values-led, innovative organisation was born.

In July 1943 – the Methodist Conference agreed to proposals from a committee set up the previous year to

*'Consider the advisability and practicability of establishing Methodist homes for people usually of sixty years of age or over, who desire to avail themselves of such amenities as the homes provide, and agree to contribute to their means.'*

Fast forward to 2018 and MHA now runs 90 care homes, 72 retirement living schemes and 61 Live at Home schemes, supporting more than 17,800 older people across England, Scotland and Wales, employing 7,000 staff and enjoying the support of over 5,500 volunteers.

75 years on from the agreement of the Methodist Conference to the setting up of MHA and the charity is continuing and improving on the care it was initially set up for.

MHA's new chief executive, Sam Monaghan, comments:- "As I walked round MHA's care home and retirement living settings – I was struck by the quality of care, the environment, but more so the interaction of staff with residents, their families and each other. There was a genuine respect, warmth and valuing of all concerned. There was evidence of strong links with the local community; the benefits of the chaplaincy and music therapy services. That sense of hope, enabling people to live to their full potential. And it's an exciting time as MHA marks its 75th anniversary in 2018, after members of the Methodist Church had the vision to provide homes for older people.

The Rev Walter Hall was a true visionary in seeing

what was needed to support older people all those years ago. That vision means we are now part of many communities across England, Scotland and Wales, providing support and care to thousands of older people each day.

Some other landmarks:-

1977 - Methodist Homes Housing Association was set up and MHA's first retirement living scheme opened at Church Court in Midsummer Norton, Somerset.

1988 – Lichfield Live at Home scheme opens to support older people living in their own homes and to help tackle loneliness and isolation.

1997 – MHA's first purpose designed home for people living with dementia opens at Mayfields, Ellesmere Port.

2008 – Pioneering music therapy is introduced for, and free to, residents living with dementia in MHA's specialist dementia care homes. Today MHA are the UK's largest employer of music therapists.

As MHA celebrate their 75th anniversary, Methodist Homes Sunday will have a special focus on the achievements of age and the completeness of life, writes the Rev Dr Chris Swift.

'Full of years' is the phrase from the Book of Genesis describing Abraham and the richness of his extraordinary role in history. As the pace of change in Western society has accelerated, the idea that older people are witnesses to multiple worlds has grown. Those in later life bridge not simply generations but vastly different contexts of experience. This length of years gives them a unique perspective on the passage of time and a society where lasting change has taken place in every community.

Those 'full of years' can offer a sense of perspective to younger people who feel disturbed by the pace and content of change. I hope that as we prepare for Methodist Homes Sunday we'll take time to listen to those in the care of MHA, and learn to focus on the things that matter in each and every age."

**"Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."**

**Philippians chapter 4 verse 8**

**Please Note** that MHA Sunday is on June 10<sup>th</sup> and envelopes are available to support the wide range of care and support offered by MHA.

The next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on  
Weds. 13<sup>th</sup> JUNE 10 - 11.30am  
BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU  
Coffee or Tea and Biscuits - 50p  
Gifts for Cake and General Stalls  
will be appreciated.



**Books and Greetings Cards will be on sale**  
Thank you for your support. May result - £40-14

## VILLAGE OPEN GARDENS SUNDAY JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>

We will be supporting the village Open Gardens on July 1<sup>st</sup>, open from 11.00am until 5.30pm. With a variety of gardens, the allotments and other attractions, this year's open gardens should have something for everyone. Admission to the gardens is £5 (accompanied children free), with all proceeds going to the Tom Bowdidge Foundation and the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance. Our car park by the hall will be available for visitors and the hall will be open for programmes and refreshments. Donations of cakes for the refreshments will be appreciated. Please speak to Pat, Judith or Sylvia.

### School Holiday Activities

Coffee & Craft mornings will be planned for the school summer holidays but the dates are yet to be decided. Watch this space for further details.

**Action For Children** - a sponsored walk will take place here in **West Bergholt** on **Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>** at 10.00am, starting from the Methodist Church Hall. All are welcome to join in the walks (two choices - one or two hour) and sponsorship for the walkers would be welcomed. Please speak to Sylvia Wilks for details.

### Ken's Sabbatical

Our Minister, Rev Ken Chalmers is on sabbatical until July 6<sup>th</sup>. For Methodist presbyters and deacons, a sabbatical is a time of grace allowing them to spend time with God doing something different.

Sunday worship and the other regular church activities will continue much as usual throughout this period, but of course taking account of Ken's absence.

Rev Sue King, a retired Minister living in Halsted, has kindly agreed to support the Circuit, and the Churches Ken cares for in particular, during this period.

For any queries during this time please phone Judith Fletcher (01206 241969), e-mail Andrew Wilks (awilks1op@btinternet.com) or speak to any of the Stewards. They will deal with pastoral and any other issues, involving a Minister where needed.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun. June 10<sup>th</sup> – Methodist Homes Sunday.

Sat. June 16<sup>th</sup> – Action for Children Walk, West Bergholt

Sun. July 1<sup>st</sup> Village Open Gardens

Sun. July 9<sup>th</sup> – Action for Children Sunday

Fri. July 27<sup>th</sup> - Church meeting at 3.30pm

Sat. July 28<sup>th</sup> - welcome back from sabbatical social event for Ken, Mile End Church.

School holidays – Coffee & Craft in the hall

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**Copy for the July/August edition should be with  
Andrew Wilks by the third Sunday in June – June 17<sup>th</sup>  
please.**