

Sunday 24th August, 2025

10.30 a.m. - Mr Robert Sheard

- Contemporary Worship

3.0 p.m. - Rev. Debbie Caulk

Epworth Churches Together service in the garden of Wesley (weather permitting) on the subject of Journeys

Please remember to bring a chair with you.

Monday 25th August, 2025

9.30 - 11.30 a.m. - CHATTERBOX

Wednesday 27th August, 2025

7.45 a.m. - Prayers meeting by Zoom

Wednesday 27th August, 2025

Jack in a Box is taking his summer holiday, returning **Wednesday 10th September.**

Sunday 31st August, 2025

10.30 a.m. - No service - cruise visitors

See request for help in the next column.

Raised beds

There has been some progress with the raised beds and the small one has been planted up. The herb garden has mint, marjoram, rosemary and lemon balm growing well; please help yourself. The large bed is almost completely dug over. Any plants you can donate or help with planting and maintenance would be much appreciated, Thanks. *Tish*



The catering team is very grateful for the china tea sets which have been donated. We now have enough, but are still looking for two-tier cake stands if anyone has one to donate. *Glenise*

HELP, PLEASE! On Sunday 31st August we expect 282 visitors from the USA who are cruising around the UK. The first coaches will arrive in Epworth for 10.15 a.m. They are visiting The Old Rectory, St Andrew's Church and Wesley Memorial Church, spending around 20 minutes at each venue. There will be no morning service at Wesley that day, to allow the visitors to look around. We need volunteers to act as stewards, to greet the visitors, answer any general questions about the life of the church, direct them to any facilities they and generally being helpful. No historical knowledge is required as leaflets will be available to anyone requesting them. There is no time for hot drinks, but cold drinks will be available.

If you feel able to help with providing hospitality to these visitors, then please contact Val on 07927050023. Even if you can only volunteer for an hour or so, that's fine, because we shall have a rota. We anticipate all the visitors will have left by 1.0 p.m.

Connexional Advent and Christmas resources

This year's theme is called 'Gifted' and comes with a message of good news to a weary world.' It will need to be organised early to fit in with the December Plan dates. Rev Stuart invites a volunteer to co-ordinate this year. Marilyn Hall and Val Hackney will liaise and volunteers are invited to help to co ordinate.

Fire! Last week's lectionary told us that God's word is like a hammer and like fire. This week we are reminded that he is a consuming fire. That sound dangerous to me; how about you? Did your parents ever warn you about playing with fire? Mine certainly did. Our old-fashioned stove, providing inadequate heating for our 1900's terrace house, was prone to dropping live coals on to the hearth if poked too vigorously and could not be relied on to provide enough hot water for the family's needs.

Even so, for a dreamer like me it was fascinating to gaze into its flame and read the stories it seemed to be telling. One thing was clear; it was potentially dangerous. Every hearth we ever saw in those days was surrounded by a fire guard, and children we kept back from it. The result? Obvious, really. My brother and I were always glad when we had cleared enough garden rubbish to be allowed to light a fire. Of course, we sought as much combustible stuff as we could.

Needless to say, we created more smoke than flame, and I am surprised now by how tolerant our neighbours were, especially when our garden fire coincided with their washing day.

I promise you, it wasn't the battle-cry of "Blood and Fire" which drew us to the Salvation Army. We were taught that we could be washed in the sacrificial blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ and purified in the fire of the Holy Spirit. It's a simple message, but a very direct one. We were to radiate His light and heat. No half-measures would do.

It would be good if I were able to claim that I had always succeeded in this, but I have to admit that there have been times when I have shown only a dim little glow. However, one of my favourite authors, Terry Pratchett, has the truth of it, I think, in one of my weekly quotations. You'll see it at the bottom of this column. Send the fire!

Build a man a fire, and he'll be warm for a day.

Set a man on fire, and he'll be warm for the rest of his life. - Terry Pratchett



Just as a candle cannot burn without fire, men cannot live without a spiritual life. - Buddha




Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews ch. 12 v. 29 (NIV)



Catch on fire and people will come for miles to see you burn. - John Wesley

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Face book	www.facebook.com/ WesleyMemorialMethodistChurchEpworth
Baptism admin.	Mrs Louise Howard—07460 657278
Circuit web site	www.esgmethodist.org.uk
Notices	Keith Topham - grange.top35@gmail.com
Room bookings	epworth_roombookings@esgmethodist.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Bamford - 07549123574 epworthwesleysafeguarding@gmail.com
	Our Church Prayer chain is now using WhatsApp, which is totally encrypted, adding to our security and privacy policy. If you have a prayer request (with permission from the recipient) or wish to know more about becoming part of the Prayer Group, please contact Pauline - 01427 875478 or Pat - 0777 649027 in the first instance.

O Christ of burning, cleansing flame,
Send the fire!
Thy blood-bought gift today we claim,
Send the fire today!
Look down and see this waiting host,
Give us the promised Holy Ghost,
We want another Pentecost,
Send the fire today! Send the fire today!

God of Elijah, hear our cry:
Send the fire!
To make us fit to live or die,
Send the fire today!
To burn up every trace of sin,
To bring the light and glory in,
The revolution now begin,
Send the fire today!

'Tis fire we want, for fire we plead,
Send the fire!
The fire will meet our every need,
Send the fire today!
For strength to ever do the right,
For grace to conquer in the fight,
For power to walk the world in white,
Send the fire today! Send the fire today!

To make our weak hearts strong and brave,
Send the fire!
To live a dying world to save,
Send the fire today!
O see us on thy altar lay our lives,
And give our all, this very day,
To crown the offering now we pray,
Send the fire today! Send the fire today!
William Booth, the Salvation Army



Wesley Memorial
Church, Epworth

Notices for the week commencing

Sunday 24th August, 2025



The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled. - Plutarch