

You Care - Leeds Friends of the LWPT - We Care.

Please help us to continue to care

for all Christian Leaders in Worship.

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20th February 2009

Dear Friends,

Local Preacher's Meeting Newsletter & Leeds Friends' News.

You are very warmly invited to attend our annual **Leeds Lunch** at Trinity Methodist Church, Tempest Road, in South Leeds, which will be held on **Saturday 14th March 2009** at 12 noon for 12.30 pm. Mrs. Janet Marchbank and her team provide us with a top quality meal, with a very imaginative menu. As usual, we do not make a charge for the meal, so that everyone who would like to take part can do so, but for those who are able to make a donation, the cost is £6. Our speaker will be **Mr. Philip Nuttall, the current National Advocate of the LWPT**. He is the current representative of the Wesleyan Reform Union on the LWPT board, and he will give us an insight into how this very similar denomination to Methodism is being an evangelical force for good in our country. The denomination is particularly strong in the Sheffield area.

Please do come and support us, and let me know that you are coming, and how many guests can come with you. I know that there is always something else that one can do or attend, but I would urge you to give this as high a priority as you can. Our planned event last October in Morley, to which the Mayor of Morley had agreed to come, had to be cancelled due to lack of support.

We have tentative plans for the summer and autumn. Please book these two dates in your diary – we have received an invitation to come to **Knaresborough on 20th June 2009 in the morning**, when their super, Revd. Jackie Betts, will talk about her experiences in a rural community. This will be followed by lunch, leaving Friends the afternoon to explore the delights of Knaresborough. We have also been invited to share in the **Pateley Bridge 100th Chapel Anniversary weekend on 19th September**, with a high tea followed by an evening concert by Dr. John Pemberton on the newly refurbished organ. More details will be available later for both these events, but do try to keep the day clear.

The ten circuits which exchange pulpits for **Local Preachers' Sunday** have been making their plans, and have organised some comprehensive exchanges. Most of these take place on Low Sunday, 19th April 2009. We also have several members of the LWPT Trustees and Directors of the Homes Board willing to visit our District on Pentecost Sunday, 31st May, when the other churches celebrate how Local Preachers enhance the Spiritual Life of our Methodist Churches. **How LWPT helps all leaders of worship** can be summarised as, **Enabling the best for Worship**, and **Enabling the best for times of Need**.

This year we have set up a **new website for LWPT**. To read all about the LWPT, click on www.lwpt.org.uk, and then follow the menu through "leaders of worship & Preachers Trust". To receive help and ideas for worship on LP Sunday, go to "Worship", "The Christian Year", "Special Sundays" and "LWPT Sunday". For ideas for a theme for events start at "Take Part" and "2009 theme". Using the letters of LWPT, could you organise a **Local Walk and Picnic Treat**, which could be somewhere local incorporating a Prayer 'Walk, or a little further afield for the enjoyment of a shared activity. **Linking with the Methodist Church website**, there are ideas & suggestions for Worship for each Sunday of the Year and special occasions under "The Christian Year".

Our Leeds Local Preacher Friends continue to be very well looked after at **Westerley in Woodhall Spa**. I was able to visit them all last summer, and they do appreciate being able to live in a peaceful atmosphere arising out of a culture of Christian Care giving Love and Respect to each and every one. Unfortunately, on Christmas Eve, Edna Paul died after a short illness. She was well into her 104th year and had been active well into the autumn. The Middleton church in South Leeds was packed for her service of celebration in January; I was so pleased that her final four years were so fulfilled and happy as she shared and took an active part in the spiritual life of her new home. Most Sundays she attended the local Methodist Church with her close friend, Ethel Leak, from Cookridge.

I would greatly value your prayers for our plans – please pray that through our planned activities and services the caring work of LWPT will become better known, and that our Methodist and LEP Partnership congregations will support us with prayer and practical giving. Please also remember our Residents and their dedicated carers in the four Westerley homes – Grange over Sands, Woodhall Spa, Minehead and Westcliff, as well as those in need who are supported in their own home. Finally, also please pray for all our Leaders of Worship, that the new people on Note and on Trial will realise their dreams of serving their Lord in this very privileged way to the blessing of themselves and their congregations, and to the Glory of their Lord.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you every blessing in the coming year 2009 in your service of the Lord!

With kindest regards, Yours sincerely, John Witt