

# Methodist Centenary Church

Wesley House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6

Superintendent Minister: Rev Andrew Kingston, Tel. 01-668 0833; 083-152 0171



## Announcements on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2025

### Our Mission Statement

Our Mission is to receive God's love and to share it with others through our Welcome, our Worship, our Community and our Service.

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August - Luna Kahonzi Mwandeje

Service of worship with Rev Andrew Kingston and blessing and dedication for baby Luna Kahonzi Mwandeje, daughter of Erick & Harriet.

### Leeson Park Players

The 2025 LPP AGM will take place on Wednesday 3 September in Room 6, Wesley House @7.30pm. Auditions for the Winter Play will take place on Wednesday 10 September in Room 6, Wesley House @8.30pm. The Winter Play will be *The Constant Wife* by Somerset Maugham to be directed by Mary Hennessy. Performance dates are 4-6 December.

### Sky's the Limit

The discussion group will resume on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30pm in Room 1**. All are welcome. We will wake up our critical faculties after the summer with a session led by Charles Richards entitled '**An Evening of Drama**'. You have to be there to find out more!

The programme will continue on the first Tuesdays as follows: 7th October, 4th November, 2nd December; 3rd February 2026, 3rd March 2026, 5th May 2026 (no session in January or on the Tuesday after Easter). Please save the dates. We will consider future topics when we meet on Tuesday 2nd.

## Thought for the week

Some time ago I was watching an interview with Rory McIlroy after he had just won the Masters golf competition in Augusta. It was a great achievement for this young man from Holywood in County Down.

The interviewer was asking Rory about his driving and putting skills and his nerves coming into the play off. Everything was going great but then the interviewer asked him “are you looking forward to getting home to share this achievement with your parents”. Immediately Rory’s eyes visibly welled up and he said “I’ll never be able to repay Mum and Dad for what they did for me’ His parents Rosie and Gerry sacrificed a lot for him to chase his dreams taking on every extra work shift they could to pay for Rory’s coaching at a young age. They always supported his golf pursuits. His father was a golfer himself and first introduced Rory to the sport in the Holywood Golf Club. Rory said “Going into the Golf Club with my Father and the trophy will be a time I will not forget”

What a joy to see this open relationship with a Father. Where love, respect and care are to the forefront. It reminds me of the relationship we can have with our Father in heaven. I am often struck by the opening words of the Lord’s Prayer, as Jesus was responding to His disciples he said when you pray say “Our Father which art in Heaven” but it strikes me if He was talking to just, you or me, he would say, say “My Father which art in Heaven” for me that makes the relationship even more personal because each one of us also have a Father who loves, respects and cares for you and me and what a testimony for us to respond to that love as we go about our daily lives.

Don Black

## Prayer



A prayer using a familiar song:

Father I place into your hands my friends and family  
Father I place into your hands the things that trouble me  
Father I place into your hands the person I would be  
For I know I always can trust you.

## Bible Study

Bible Study, commencing on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm. The Romans Course.

A promotional graphic for 'The Romans Course' by Bible Society. It features a solid orange background. On the left, there is a white silhouette of a classical Roman bust. To the right of the bust, the text 'The Romans Course' is written in white, followed by 'Explore the Letter to the Romans' in a larger white font. Further right, a paragraph of white text describes the course as an inspiring, ten-session journey through Romans, with video teaching set against the backdrop of Rome, and accompanying group and church resources. It mentions Andrew Ollerton as the guide. At the bottom right, the Bible Society logo is visible, consisting of the words 'BIBLE SOCIETY' around a central icon of an open book. The website address 'Visit [biblesociety.org.uk/theromanscourse](https://biblesociety.org.uk/theromanscourse)' is also included.

The Romans Course

Explore the Letter to the Romans

Run *The Romans Course* – an inspiring, ten-session journey through Romans, with video teaching set against the stunning backdrop of Rome, and accompanying group and church resources. Andrew Ollerton will be your guide, helping you to discover the message of Romans and its relevance today.

Visit [biblesociety.org.uk/theromanscourse](https://biblesociety.org.uk/theromanscourse)

BIBLE SOCIETY

## Book Club

We will resume our meetings on 9 September when our chosen book is *The Figurine* by Victoria Hislop.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month from 12.30-2.00pm in Room 1, Wesley House. Each month we choose a book from a wide range of genres including biography, crime fiction, historical novels, humour and children's novels. We always have a lively discussion, with very varied opinions. We currently have 15 members and would be delighted to increase our numbers. If you would be interested in joining us, please contact Sylvia on [sylviahroddie@gmail.com](mailto:sylviahroddie@gmail.com)

## Governance Meetings

Church Council: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 7.30pm, Room 1

Student Resident's Committee, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 11am, Room 1

Circuit Executive: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm, Room 1

## Family Fun Day Rathgar

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 12md-3pm, Family Fun Day, Rathgar Methodist Church. All welcome.

## Harvesting Hope a future for sustainable agriculture?

Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> 2025 10.00am for 10.30am start- 4:00pm Enjoy good speakers, lively discussion and a 'walkabout' in Gurteen. Cost €20 on the day (includes a donation to the Embrace Farm Charity and towards costs). Please register(for catering purposes) by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September by contacting [michael.hanna4@gmail.com](mailto:michael.hanna4@gmail.com) ~ 087 832 6113

## Eco Congregation Notes from Maureen Rowan Harvey

Eco Congregation Notes have been absent for a while. The commitments have not gone away, the focus had to turn from reflection to practical tasks.

After completion of the refurbishment of Wesley House, funding was available from Dublin City Council for a number of climate action projects. Very few of these are visible yet, apart from the new sliding doors. We hope these will prove their worth in winter and, as Andrew Kingston has phrased it, 'stop the global warming' which was happening with the original doors being left open.

The slow progress of the rest is largely due to the demands of funding requirements and the age of the building. Galatians 6:9 needed to be recalled frequently: *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* There was weariness when the grant for solar panels could not be spent because of the unsuitability of the electrical wiring and when we found that simply stopping draughts in Litton Hall would require planning permission. Despite setbacks, however, almost of the funds available from Dublin City Council will be spent in the coming months. You will see more sliding doors to keep in the winter heat, a bicycle cage to encourage active travel by all users of the building and more pollinator-friendly planting. New pots are being made for us by Terenure Men's Shed. The pollinators have already been busy around the myrtle which was provided with a grant from Eco Congregation Ireland.

Watching the buzzing pollinators is more inspiring than gazing at the energy meters, but this has to be done regularly to see if we really are reducing emissions, not just talking about them. Indications are that our gas usage for the period from completion of refurbishment is about half what it was in previous years. Gas bills have come down by 50% through a combination of reduced usage and better tariff. This is a good start, but the ongoing journey to sustainability will be a very long and expensive one for Wesley House. Changing from gas heating to a heat pump would require a new plumbing system. Solar panels cannot be installed until the building is re-wired. Then there is the leaking roof of Litton Hall and the need for various planning permissions if anything is to be done about draughts and insulation there.

Of course being an Eco Congregation is not all about plumbing, meter readings and planning permission. There are three other pillars of membership of the Eco Congregation network – Spiritual, Community and Global. As the Season of Creation approaches on 1<sup>st</sup> September, we are reminded of our connection to the worldwide ecumenical efforts of faith communities caring for our common home:

*"To be at peace with creation is to dwell in harmony with God's life-giving presence in all things. The Season of Creation calls us to a deeper communion with the Earth, embracing our role in God's unfolding work of love, healing, and reconciliation for the whole of creation."*

*Dr. Hefin Jones, World Communion of Reformed Churches (Season of Creation Guide, 2025)*



## **National Ploughing Championships 2025**

Dear Friends,

It's that time of the year when we are glad to focus the attention of all the churches on the Southern District to our major outreach opportunity – the Methodist Church stand at the National Ploughing Championships. This year it returns to a location used last decade: Screggan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. It will be held from Tuesday 16th – Thursday 18th September.

The Methodist Church in Ireland, through Home Missions, believes in the importance of this presence, and is financing the lion's share. We, as Southern District Methodists, have shown our commitment to this over the years. We expect this September to make and hand out 5000 cups of tea/coffee with biscuits, have hundreds of meaningful conversations, hand out hundreds of leaflets of information, respond to 100 or more prayer requests, sing Happy Birthday to a couple dozen people, provide a relaxing space where ten people at a time can sit down, rest, and interact with all that we provide and bring surprise gifts to bless NPA staff.

The main thing we need is the participation of members from across all the churches on the District to make this initiative the success that we believe it will be. Approximately quarter of a million people descend on the site over the three days. We have booked our stand to be on a busy corner beside a main tent entrance. We will need plenty of volunteers who can operate on a rota that includes various types of help and so suit different volunteers.

We need people to volunteer to help so that we cover three main areas:

- To make and serve tea/coffee
- To speak with people, taking an interest in them, answering questions about why we are doing this
- Practical, such as getting water or helping with other needs for the stand or members of the public

We need people who would commit to any of the days for two or more of these main time slots: 9.00-11.00am, 11.00am-1.00pm, 1.00-3.00pm, 3.00-5.00pm

And two shorter slots as we set up (7.30am-9.00am) and tidy up (5.00-6.00pm)

By committing to one or two of the time slots as above, volunteers commit to being there, having already taken account of the time, it would take to get in/away, and still be able to enjoy the wider event outside your time slots.

If you have queries, contact Rev Steven Foster on 087 163 1208.

Thank you for helping make this crucial initiative a success!

Kind Regards,

Rev Andrew Dougherty (District Superintendent)


## Monthly Morning Holy Communion

There is a monthly morning Holy Communion Service on the second Wednesday of each month from 10.00–10.30am in Room 1 followed by the Friendly Room.

## Friendly Room

The Friendly Room will open its doors again on Wednesday September 3rd. If you are free, do drop in for a cuppa and a chat between 10.30 and 12 noon. All are welcome—it's a great spot to catch up, enjoy good company, and share a bit of banter.


## God's Storehouse in Tallaght


 Please put donations of non-perishable food in the basket in the Coffee Bar at Wesley House

## Giving to the church

### Standing Order or Bank Transfer:

- **Bank:** AIB Bank plc, 7/12 Dame Street, Dublin 2
- **Account Name:** Methodist Centenary Church Council No. 3 Account
- **BIC:** AIBKIE2D
- **IBAN:** IE89AIBK93122526909346

 Please include your **offering envelope number** so that the church can avail of tax relief on our donations.

 Questions? Please contact Alan Perry.

### Tax Back Tax Relief Scheme

A taxpayer who contributes €250 to the church in a year enables the church to recover €112.82 from the Revenue Commissioners thereby increasing the donation to €362.82, and pro rata for donations of over €250. This scheme brought in over €17,000 last year. To register, you need an envelope number and a CHY3 form from Lynne Pasley. This latter is valid for 5 years and doesn't commit you to make any future donations.

### Debit or credit card

A card reader is placed in the Coffee Bar each Sunday through which donations can be made using a debit or credit card.

### Cheque

If you can not come to church and you contribute by cheque we ask you to post your cheque, quoting your envelope number, to Billy Given. You can contact him at

[billygiven115@gmail.com](mailto:billygiven115@gmail.com)



### **Forthcoming Services at 10.30am**

September 7	Service of Holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston
September 14	Service of worship with Mr Erick Mwazonga
September 21	Service of Celebration of Local Preachers with Rev Andrew Kingston
September 28	Service of worship with Rev Andrew Kingston

### **Local preachers**

Our local preachers take services regularly on the circuit and sometimes outside it. The current preaching plan includes:

August 31	10.00 Tallaght Mrs Lesley Rankin
September 7	10.00 Tallaght Mr Moba Mwanzele
September 28	11.30 Rathgar Mrs Lesley Rankin

### **Text for Announcements**

Text for inclusion in the Announcements should be sent to [news@methodistcentenary.ie](mailto:news@methodistcentenary.ie). The deadline is 10.00am on Wednesday morning.

### **Stay Connected**

 Email: [news@methodistcentenary.ie](mailto:news@methodistcentenary.ie)

 Website: [www.methodistcentenary.ie](http://www.methodistcentenary.ie)

 Whatsapp: [Centenary Updates](#)