



Dear Friends,  
Those of us who have seen our *Project Regenerate!* work taking shape cannot wait to share our renewed worship

space. The building will be handed back to us on **Friday June 2nd**, and new furniture will arrive early in the following week. This means that we are now preparing 2 very special acts of worship:

- ⇒ On the morning of **Sunday June 11th** we will be moving back into the space as a congregation (*as a mirror image of our Covenant Service in January when we left it*). We trust that this will be a very special moment for the church family to gather in worship.
- ⇒ On **Sunday 18th June** our morning worship will include an 'official' celebration of the completion of the work. Following the service the new Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor Razia Daniels, will

unveil a plaque to mark the occasion; and then we will share light refreshments with (*hopefully*) many guests. It will help us to know if you are planning to be there on that day; please sign up on the list on the noticeboard at the bottom of the stairs, or contact the office.

As we take these next steps on the continuing journey of Wesley's witness, it is good to remind ourselves why we have done the work. The mission policy we adopted in 2014 affirmed:

*As part of the Methodist Church, Wesley's mission is:*

***"To proclaim and affirm our conviction of God's love in Christ for us and for all the world; and renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world and in the church."***

*We are called:*

- *to open the Wesley Church Centre as a resource for all*
- *to encounter and engage with people beyond our fellowship's margins; and so*
- *to make new relationships with*

## Music @ Wesley Concert

**12.45—1.35 pm**

**Saturday, 1st July 2017**

*Lunchtime concert*

**Jeremy Heald** (*Piano*)

*at Wesley Church Centre*

**making music**

*In aid of Wesley Church Centre funds.*

*individuals, groups and organisations.*

*We aim to create a space of warmth and openness in which we can:*

- *offer hospitality to those coming into the city centre*
- *sensitively offer friendship, a sense of belonging and pastoral care*
- *offer opportunities for worship, prayer and reflection*
- *provide opportunities for personal, social and spiritual development*
- *promote action for social justice and transformation*
- *form pathways to engagement in Christian community and to faith commitment*

I think that the renewed building is ***beautiful!*** But the work is much, much more than a new coat of paint. It springs from our call to be open to others, in ways that draw them into a deeper understanding of God's love for them.

My prayer is that, as well as sharing our joy at the wonderful work that has been done, we will renew our commitment to sharing our confidence in God's grace.

Yours in Christ,  
Revd Neil Stacey



## News from the Church Family

### Weddings & Anniversaries:

Revd George & Julia Evans  
Celebrated their Ruby Wedding  
Anniversary on 12th March.

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### We remember and give thanks for the life of:

Rev'd Brian Chantler  
who died on 29th November.

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Edward Ranyl Griffiths  
who died on 20th December.

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Jean Bentley

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Bill Hollinghurst  
who died on 11th February

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Nona Almond  
who died on 13th March 2017

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Neale Evans  
who died on 22nd May 2017

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Sheila Brown  
who died on 25th May 2017

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Please hold in prayer over the  
next few months our young  
people who are currently  
preparing to take GCSE and A  
Level examinations.

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*Any family news for future  
newsletters to be passed to  
Linda Tudor in the office.*



### Wesley Church Centre

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## Mission Development Officer

Life in the UK in 2017 is truly a mixed bag. For some, affluence brings comfort and the allure of a life insulated from risk. For others, life is a struggle, with over-stretched finances and insecure income. Regardless of personal circumstances, global threats are never far from our thoughts: nuclear exchanges, ecological catastrophe, financial collapse, terrorism.

We are surrounded by paradoxes. We are more connected than ever before and yet find it so easy to become isolated. Opportunity is apparently limitless but makes living a human life in our time a job in itself. We are physically healthier than we have ever been, yet people of all ages and backgrounds struggle with anxiety, depression, compulsive behaviours and social isolation.

Given this complexity, there can be no simple answer. But we rightly expect our faith to make a difference for us, and for others, in our time and context. I want to bring to your attention one approach which has emerged from the work of West Cheshire foodbank and conversations with many local partners. This is the concept of *meeting places*.

I was privileged to have the opportunity earlier in May to take part in a study tour to Chicago and St Louis as part of a group learning about evangelism and church growth.

I have written an article with some initial thoughts for the circuit newsletter and hope to have the chance to share some of the learning and reflection with you all, in worship and in small groups over the months to come. If you would like to listen to some of the keynote

Foodbank has been on a long journey, always struggling to find a way of responding to food poverty that tackles underlying problems and builds resilience for the future. Many of our partners - who also work with those who have become vulnerable - share our struggle. We have come together in a new 'Welcome Network', which aims to establish Meeting Places all over the county. These will always offer food in some way but also an introduction to people who can help with challenges such as debt, benefits and mental health.

Each Meeting Place will become part of a visible network of hospitality, a node of connection for those who feel disconnected. The vision is for all our foodbank distribution sessions to evolve into such places. I envisage Wesley becoming a host of multiple meeting places at different times in different spaces. It's exciting for both Wesley and Foodbank to be part of a new movement which intends to provide places for hospitality to be made real, and alongside partners that include the local council, health bodies, social landlords and grassroots organisations.

### Andrew Herbert



talks from the conference we attended they are available at <http://lci17.com/resources/>

It was a time of refreshment, resourcing and time to listen carefully to where God might be calling us to share our faith and take risks, and I ask for your prayers as I continue to reflect and process all that I experienced.

Your sister in Christ  
**Christine Dutton**

