

# Rivercourt Methodist Church

## Newsletter

**July 2025**

**CELEBRATING 150 YEARS**



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## **Message from the Editor**

Hello Rivercourt family as we welcome in a new month. I hope you are all enjoying the nice weather and its not too hot for you.

Our annual Summer day trip will be on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August, going to Alexandra Palace In London. Our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations also continue.

For any items for the August newsletter, please forward them to: [rivercourt.ministry@outlook.com](mailto:rivercourt.ministry@outlook.com) by Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July or let me know in person.

Regards,

Scott

### **Dates for you diary**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July – *Open church* will be closed.

Sunday July 13 – shared lunch after service

July 19<sup>th</sup> – All age activities

August 9<sup>th</sup> – Annual Summer Day outing

August 10<sup>th</sup> – Musical Concert

August – Open church will be closed throughout this month for summer break.

September 20<sup>th</sup> – Cultural Festival: A celebration of the different cultures at Rivercourt – dress, music, dance, food etc.

September 21<sup>st</sup> – Mfantse Kuw join Rivercourt for worship and to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting at Rivercourt.

JULY 2025						
MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## **Administration**

Sadly, Olu Olayinka who joined the church in May as Administrator has been offered an exciting opportunity to work for Google and left Rivercourt 26<sup>th</sup> June. Congratulations and Good luck Olu.

Mariyam supporting Rivercourt - producing the order of service sheets/monthly poster and newsletter until a replacement found.

If you know someone who is interested in PT work and is computer literate please let Rev Singa know.

## **CIRCUIT NEWS:**

### **Changes in District Leadership: Appointment of Rev Faith Nyota as an interim District Chair for 2 Years**

In accordance with Standing Order 423(6) of the Methodist Church, the London District Council has discerned that it needs a time to agree its way ahead following an unexpected change of leadership and so asked the Synod to designate a Chair to work alongside the London District Chair, Rev. Jonathan Dean for two years.

The Synod meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May recommended to Conference that the Revd Faith Nyota is nominated as Chair of the London District from 01 September 2025 for a period of two years. Faith will continue in her appointment as the Superintendent of Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham Circuit and will continue to have pastoral responsibility for Chelsea and Fulham Broadway churches and will continue to live in the Circuit Manse at Albert Bridge Road.

The district and the connexion will work with Faith and the circuit to find an appropriate minister to assist her in those circuit responsibilities.

The operational and financial details remain to be finalised between the District and the Circuit. Once completed, the Circuit will be informed about them.



# LEAVING SERVICE

Please join us to say  
farewell to Revd Dr  
Jongi Zihle as he  
leaves the role of  
London District Chair

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**DATE:**

SUNDAY 06 JULY 2025

**TIME:**


4PM

(REFRESHMENTS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE AFTER THE  
SERVICE)

**VENUE:**

WESLEY'S CHAPEL &  
LEYSIAN MISSION, 49  
CITY ROAD, EC1Y 1AU

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## THE CLOCK

The clock in the worship area has stopped! You may have noticed that the hands have been removed. The clock is 150 years old and has never needed any servicing or repairs. Unfortunately, in the anniversary year of Rivercourt, the clock has stopped. A specialist clock repairer has looked at the clock and provided an estimate of £756.00

The church decided to repair the clock and this is currently underway.



## **Annual Summer day outing**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025

The church has decided that this year we will be having a day out to Alexandra Palace in London. We will therefore be able to use public transport, from Hammersmith. Everyone is welcome, so please do come along. We will meet at Rivercourt at 9am and leave together. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and we can take a packed lunch to all sit down together for food and fellowship. If you have friends you wish to bring along then please do. If you require any further information please speak with myself or a Steward.



## **An Opportunity to join a pilgrimage to Wesley's Chapel**

A pilgrimage to freely enter Wesley's Chapel with others to hear Revd. Canon Dr Julian Pursehouse, Chair of the Editorial International Board of the Holiness Journal affiliated with Wesley House Cambridge, talk on "What would John Wesley's message be today?"

Your host, the London Methodist Lunch Club, warmly invites you to the historic Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission:

Date: Friday 12 September 2025 Time: 1:00pm to 4:30pm  
Address: Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, 49 City Road,  
London EC1Y 1AU.

The Pilgrimage Programme: 1:00pm to 4:30pm  
1:00pm – 1:30pm Reception and refreshments

1:30pm - 2:15pm Welcome, freewill donations collected,  
introduction of the speaker, Julian's talk, and question and  
answer.

2:15pm - 3:15pm

**Option A: Walkabout and talk  
led by Carole Merriman**

**Option B: Visit to the House  
and talk led by Peter  
Richardson (£10 per person  
to be paid by the visitor)**

3:15pm Closing Act of Worship led by Revd Canon Dr Julian  
Pursehouse. Refreshments and fellowship after worship

Julian is a Methodist minister serving in the Aire and Calder Circuit in the Yorkshire West District, where he has pastoral charge of three churches, with responsibility for developing a Creative Arts Project based at Newmillerdam. He is a qualified supervisor in the British Methodist Church.

The Pilgrimage to Wesley's Chapel is sponsored by the London Methodist Lunch Club. The Club meets regularly, for lunch and to hear an invited speaker on the second Friday of each month from October to May in the Lancaster Hall Hotel, 35 Craven Terrace, London, W2 3EL. Alcoholic and soft drinks are on sale by the hotel with your lunch. Tele: +447928016681.

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission is considered the "Mother Church of World Methodism," incorporating the iconic Georgian Methodist Chapel, Museum of Methodism plus the home of Methodism's founder, John Wesley (28th June 1703 to 2nd March 1791). The tomb of John Wesley, a Grade: II Listed Building, is located in the burial ground of Wesley's Chapel.

**To book your free seat, see this Eventbrite registration link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-would-john-wesleys-message-be-today-tickets-1379903852569?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DKF8Se2o0gy/?igsh=MTR6cm04ZmFpN3Uwbw==>



## **Rivercourt 2050 – 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. - Memories / Views about Rivercourt**

Very few, if any, of us will be at Rivercourt for the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary let alone the 200<sup>th</sup>. The articles and photographs will be saved to build an archive. As part of the archive there is a hard back book for members and visitors to write their thoughts, memories and suggestions down. Please add to the book. If you have any memorabilia you would like to add to the exhibition please see Joan

## **Commemorative Items for 2025 – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

A booklet has been produced providing information about the history of the church. The church has bought some pens with a stylus for using with a touch screen and had them personalised to mark the occasion. Please take a booklet and a pen as a souvenir. All donations towards the production costs are welcomed

## AGM 1st June

- The Annual General meeting was held 1st June 2025. At the meeting, the leadership roles in the church were confirmed.
- **Treasurer:** Steve
- **Safeguarding Officer:** James
- **Communion Steward:** Francess,
- **Pastoral Secretary:** Betty
- **Church Council Secretary:** Joan)
- **Stewards:** Betty and Juliana agreed to continue to serve. Rev Singa asked for a further steward and Monty was appointed.
- Betty agreed to be a Trustee for Rivercourt
- **Congregational Representatives:** John, Kwaku
- **Gift Aid Secretary:** The meeting agreed that the Administrator should undertake this role.
- **Circuit Representative:** Monty as Circuit steward.
- **Rivercourt Representative at Circuit meetings:** Betty

Margaret, Scott and Fiona stepped down from their roles and the meeting acknowledged their contribution with thanks.

## Special Meeting about Rivercourt Church House

On Sunday 15th June 2025, 12 members of Rivercourt met to decide which option to take concerning the future ownership and management of Rivercourt House, the building next door at 229 King Street. The meeting was chaired by Rev Faith Nyota, Superintendent Minister. Church Council members authorized those individuals present to vote on this occasion. The outcome of the vote was 11 people voted for option two – keep and manage the building for the next 5 years and 1 person voted for option one – sell the building. The Church will now undertake a feasibility study to consider the longer term future of the whole site – the church and Rivercourt House.

## **Thank you's**

To Margaret for going to Marks and Spencer's and buying the sandwiches for both the AGM and the special meeting in June. Because of the cyber-attack, sandwiches couldn't be ordered in advance. Margaret went to both the Hammersmith and Chiswick branches at 10 past 8 in the morning to make sure we had sandwiches.

To Steve and Vicky Lawrence for their kind donation of £500 towards the repair of the clock.

Thank you for all your prayers for Christine booth and her sister, Christine emailed me to say her sister is now in recovery and we hope to see her soon.

## **Please pray for**

All those church member who are unable to attend service due to ill health

All those affected by war and conflict around the world especially in Gaza and Ukraine.

## **Preaching Plan**

SUNDAYS			
Date	Time	Preacher	Steward Team
Sunday July 6th	11am	Reverend Singa Vunipola (Holy Communion)	Steve
Sunday July 13th	11am	Fe'ao Vunipola	Juliana
Sunday July 20th	11am	Reverend Marylin Neufville	Betty
Sunday July 27th	11am	Reverend Singa Vunipola	Steve

THURSDAYS			
Thursday July 3rd	12.30pm	Reverend Singa Vunipola	N/A
Thursday July 10th	12.30pm	CLOSED	N/A
Thursday July 17th	12.30pm	Mr Monty Grigg	N/A
Thursday July 24th	12.30pm	Reverend Singa Vunipola	N/A
Thursday July 31st	12.30pm	Reverend Marilyn Neufville	N/A