



World Community

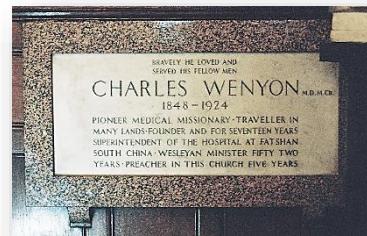
Adult Chapel Trail

Introduction

This trail will take you on a walk around the Chapel looking at objects which tell some of the history of Methodism's spread across the world to become Wesley's 'world parish.'

The congregation of this Chapel alone has members from over 50 different nationalities! Each one representing a part of the world touched by the Methodist message.

James Calvert went to Fiji in 1838, where he remained for 18 years. During his work among the cannibalistic Fijians he was ably assisted by his heroic wife, Mary Fowler Calvert. By Calvert's ministry the Fijian King Seru Epenisa Cakobau was converted to Christianity. Having been apprenticed to a printer, he also translated and printed a Fijian Bible.



Charles Wenyon spent twenty years as a medical missionary in South China, where he founded a mission hospital, winning the confidence of a hostile people by his sacrificial devotion and surgical skill. He travelled extensively in the Middle East and central Asia.

Matthew Simpson was an American (born in Ohio) bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a strong supporter of radical policies that favoured the Freedmen (former slaves). He played a leading role in mobilizing the Northern Methodists for the cause.





If you look inside the font you will see this stone. This was given to Wesley's Chapel by Nathaniel Gilbert who preached Methodism to his slaves on the Caribbean Island of Antigua.

John Fletcher settled in England, became the vicar in Shropshire and was one of Wesley's most valued clerical supporters. Wesley hoped Fletcher would succeed him as leader of the Methodist movement but outlived him by six years.



William Shaw was a pioneer missionary who has been called the "Father of South African Methodism". Under his leadership a chain of mission stations were established as a foundation for later Methodist work in Africa.

(This memorial is high up to the right of the pulpit.)

The marble pillars which support the upper gallery were donated to the Chapel in 1891 on the 100th anniversary of Wesley's death from Methodist churches from around the world.

The metal plaques in front of them indicate which country they are from (from front left to back; South America, North America, Ireland and from back right to front; West Indies, South Africa and Australia)



Methodism came to South Korea via missionaries from the United States in the late 19th century. It became independent in 1930, and celebrated its centennial in 1984. The church has approximately 1.5 million members today.



Museum of Methodism and John Wesley's House