

Good News

Lancashire West Methodist Circuit

Prayers of the
Day
from
Methodist.org.uk

Lord, your love knows no bounds. Help us to be ready for, make space for, and warmly welcome those among whom your Spirit is moving. Aid your Church at this time to be a safe place for all who are discovering your saving grace. May your kingdom come and your will be done, here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Stephen Lindridge,
Newcastle Upon Tyne
District Chair



The LORD has been my defence, and my
God the rock of my refuge.

Psalm 24:92

O mighty God, there is no safety apart from
You. Please give us the wisdom to follow
Your path today.

Thoughts from Jenny

As the autumn days start the wind up to Christmas, I am reminded of the fruitfulness of this Planet that God put into our keeping.

Two of us walked the towpath on the canal and found damsons, now transformed into jam. Apples from next doors tree and our small one here at 358, made pies and helped supplement the plums we had to make more jam.

The Rowan trees are heavy with berries, rose hips are in abundance and the thornless blackberries have yielded up their fruit to be stored in the freezer till needed. As I strip the vegetable beds and start to plant bulbs in the troughs and containers, I note that the squirrels are already beginning to bury their acorns in the containers too.

We are busy taking up some of the bottom lawn to make a wildflower garden next year. Trees are starting to lose their leaves and the autumn colours are glorious.

As the weather starts to get cooler, autumn clothes make their entrance and summer ones are put away.

In the midst of all the busyness of Autumn and getting ready for winter. We need to take a moment and Thank God for all his bounty.

Thank God that we are a land of plenty and as we thank him, turn our attention to the places and countries where there is famine, where children often go to bed hungry.

As we gather our produce and then go to our supermarkets to be overwhelmed by the massive choice of goods at our disposal, we need to stop and pray for a just and equal sharing of this earth's resources.

Mercy Sibande, the lady who will be looking after the six girls we are supporting in Malawi, through the Mamie Martin Fund, could not get her head round the fact that we in the U.K have so many clothes that often they are sent to charity shops

Deadline for articles to
include in the next edition
of Good News is

Monday 6th December

Please send to

Rev Stephen Foster

Stephenfoster533
@btinternet.com

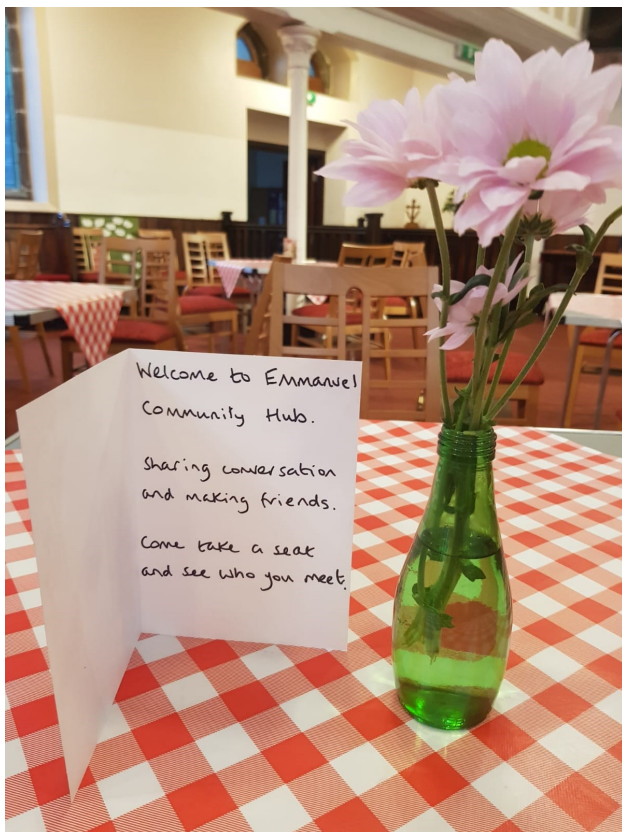


to sell, as clothes in Malawi are worn until there is no wear left in them.

At our Autumn service we listened a video of Rev. Martin Atkinson ask the question whose earth is it?

The answer is the Lord's and all that is in it .
Our responsibility is to look after it .

Jenny Ashcroft



Community Hub at Emmanuel

Hello all!

My name is Julie Foulds and I will be at The Emmanuel Methodist Church every Thursday in our new Community Hub.

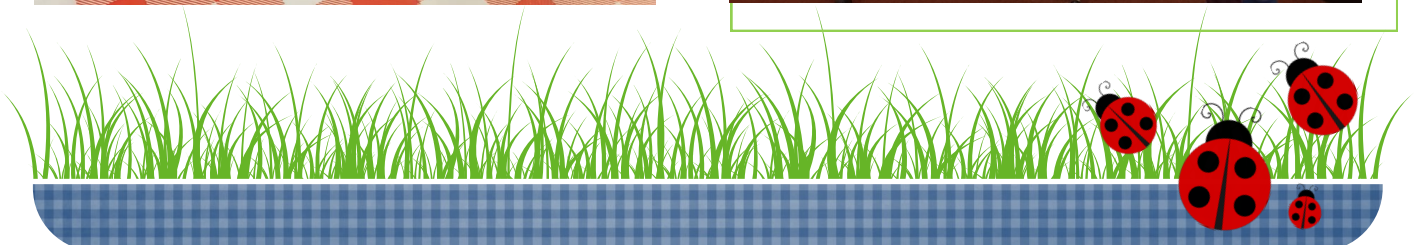
I will be one of a number of friendly faces to welcome you through our doors and provide you with tea, coffee biscuits, warmth and conversation.

We are open 10am-3pm EVERY Thursday!

You are also welcome to bring along your own craft projects...as long as they fit on a table! So far people's crafts have included crochet, needlework, knitting and even poetry and 'life stories' have been shared!

We look forward to meeting you soon...if we have not met you already!

A warm welcome to you all!



Harvest in Lancashire West Circuit

Harvest at Holmes—Barbara Meynell

It will be 2 years this Sunday since we last celebrated our Harvest Festival. Two years ago, we began our weekend at the beginning of the week with some of our menfolk putting up the arches and table then pinning the corn onto the framework. This was not an easy task, but so worthwhile.

On the Friday evening the ladies take over, decorating the corn with flowers, some ladies would be tying string round the pears and grapes which would then be tied and hung on the arches. Other ladies would prepare the flowers and put them in vases ready to be displayed on the table. Meanwhile others would place the gifts



of fruit, vegetables as well as many cups of sweets for the children on the table. The corn round the table was also decorated with flowers and ivy. When all was completed it was a beautiful display.

On the Saturday afternoon we opened up the chapel for people to come and see the Harvest display, where we had music playing and chapel members to welcome them. Meanwhile some of our ladies served drinks and lots of home made cakes in the Sunday School. Holmes Brass played a varied programme as people sat having their "baggin"

On the Sunday morning our service was led by Rev. Sheryl Anderson (Chair of the Liverpool District). The Sunday Club took part with the help of Hayley Fisher and Katy Golding. In the evening, friends, joined us from other Chapels and friends who live in Holmes and surrounding areas. Rev. Graham Cutler was our preacher. It was a joy to see him and Judith, as we remember them years before Graham became a minister.

On the Monday we held a Hotpot supper, brought in by caterers which was delicious. After everyone had been fed, the children helped to bring down the Harvest gifts. Then it was time for the sale. Not everything was for sale, as most of the flowers and some of the fruit would be taken to the sick and housebound.

Everyone enjoyed the sale and people paid over the odds because they knew the proceeds when to help the upkeep of God's House. Harvest is very special and we gather together to give thanks to God for another bountiful year.

It will be so different this year because of Covid restrictions, no Saturday to invite friends and neighbours, no Holmes Brass and no Harvest tea and sale. Instead we are bringing gifts for the Skelmersdale Food Bank, which we will display on tables. No local produce this year but food that will keep and help many families who are finding it very difficult during the pandemic. We will still have flowers to take out to the lonely and sick.

Great is thy faithfulness, Great is thy faithfulness

*Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand has provided
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*





Harvest in Lancashire West Circuit

Burscough - led by Revd Geoff Farthing

We decided that this year's Harvest Festival Service would include donations of non-perishable food and monetary gifts to support the Skelmersdale and District Foodbank and we were not disappointed - the response from the Methodist Church and School community was tremendous.

We had supported the Grove Community Centre food bank for many years until the centre closed two years ago but felt it was important that the work of food distribution within the community of Burscough should continue.

So we are planning that Burscough Methodist Church will be a distribution hub for Skelmersdale and District Food Bank, overseen by the Trussell Trust.

A Meeting with Derek and Jenny Ashcroft at Burscough on 13th September was followed by discussions about the feasibility of running a distribution hub on the premises at Burscough. Jackie Moore and Pat Robinson are trustees and organisers for this satellite distribution centre, assisted by an 'army' of volunteers who will be recruited from the church, school and local community.

The church will receive goods from Skelmersdale to distribute to clients who will be able to collect food bags with vouchers issued by the Trussell Trust. The goods will be stored on church premises and the vestry cupboards have been cleared in readiness.

Derek, Jackie and Pat are meeting to decide on store cupboard items needed for Burscough and training for volunteers.

Burscough will also be a collection point for goods and also funds for the food bank.



Burscough Methodist School headteacher, Louise Tyrer is also supporting the Foodbank, inviting parents to support with donations and also volunteering to help the team. Mrs Tyrer is also inviting headteachers of the other Village Schools to join her in helping make the food bank Hub a whole community venture.

Church Member, Bev Hayman, is to join the team bringing her experience of working for and with the Skelmersdale Foodbank in her home village of Parbold.



Harvest in Lancashire West Circuit

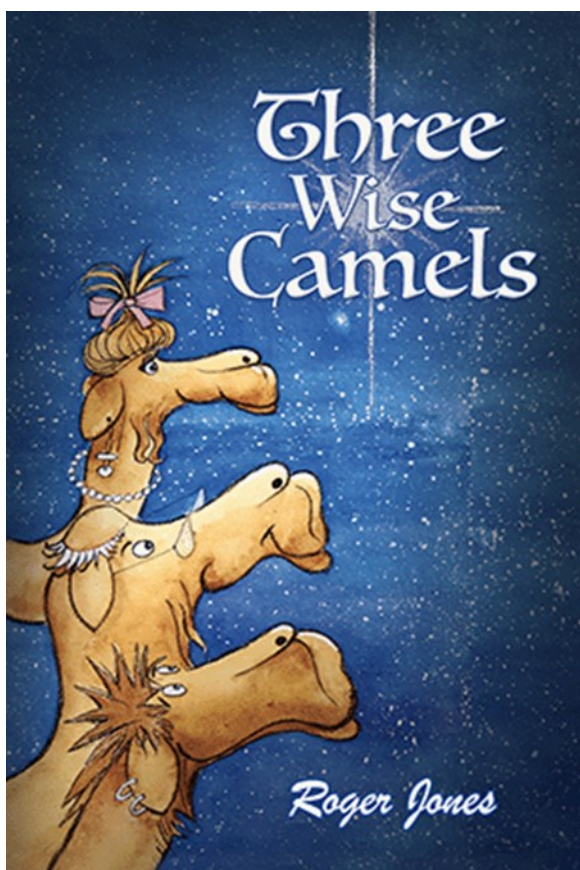


Mawdesley - led by Revd Stephen

Beautiful Altar display By Rhona, all the windows decorated and the children with harvest wreaths as well as food and toiletries collected for the food bank.

A wonderful service on Sunday then all the children and staff of St Peters attending on Monday to share in a school harvest.





Three Wise Camels

Sunday December 19th –

Holmeswood Methodist Church. 6.30pm

You are invited to come and join a combined choir at Holmeswood to learn Roger Jones's latest Christmas Cantata – Three Wise Camels.

The Choir will be led by Graham Wright and rehearsals begin at 7.30pm on:

Tuesday 9th November

Thursday 18th November

Tuesday 23rd November

Tuesday 30th November

Tuesday 7th December

Thursday 16th December

(all 7.30pm start - to be held at Holmeswood)

Ideally it would be good to have as many people there as possible at least for the first rehearsal when we will be introducing the work.

If you are interested in taking part it would be helpful if you could let Graham know:

01772 813099

grhmwrgh@aol.com

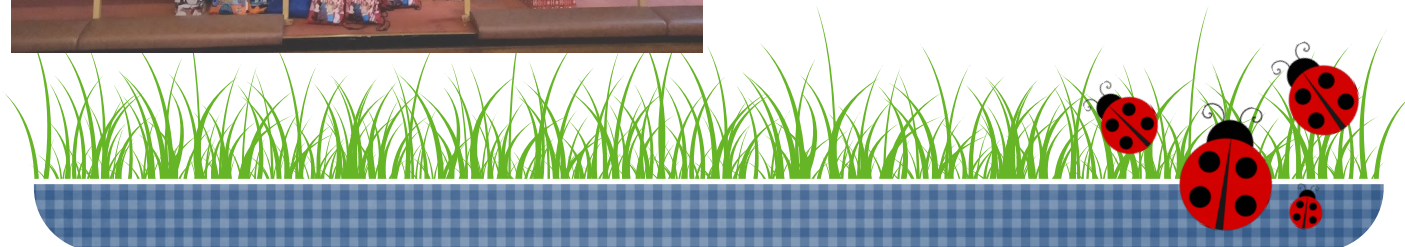
Whilst it would be preferable to attend all rehearsals, having to miss one or two doesn't stop people from being able to take part. There are a number of solo parts so, if necessary, extra practices can be arranged/CD's distributed to accommodate these.

Up Holland Shoe Box Success

Up Holland has filled 178 shoe boxes for the Blythwood Care Christmas shoe box appeal.

Thank you to everyone who donated items, money and helped with the packing.

<https://blythwood.org/shooboxappeal/>



God's Provision by Barbara Davis

Ten years ago, on 1st November 2011 our son Andy suffered a catastrophic brain-stem stroke, aged 33 years. This is not a big stroke, however, it is in one of the most crucial parts of the brain and usually fatal. Andy survived but he was left with 'locked in syndrome' which meant his entire body had shut down, but the cognitive part of his brain was undamaged. This meant he was unlikely to be able to live any form of independent life again, totally dependent on others for everything.



In which case Andy may not wish to go on At the time our response was to affirm our faith that as Christians.

*"We believe in God, who created this universe, this planet, who is far greater and more powerful than we can ever imagine. God who created all this can heal a tiny piece of damaged brain!what is humanly impossible is possible with God" * (Pressed but not Crushed)*

As news of Andy's desperate condition spread, Christians around the world prayed for his recovery and healing. With only a tiny flicker of movement in his thumb, restricted head movement and limited speech Andy began to build a new life for himself and his family. Physically there has been very little healing in the years since his stroke but Andy says he now has a life worth living but also one he enjoys. God's wonderful provision has sustained and strengthened Andy and his wife, Emma, and blessed them in the most amazing ways.

Using assistive digital technology to operate a computer and an electric wheelchair Andy now has greater independence and control over his life, finances and home management.

With the wonderful support of Emma and a great care team he has been able to do so much more than any of us could have asked or imagined.

To date he has graduated with a degree in applied theology, completed a course in counselling, written two books (see below) and been invited to 'speak' in churches

and online. He has also built a thriving business offering accessible holiday accommodation for the disabled.

Perhaps the greatest blessing for Andy and Emma and all the family has been the gift of two sons, Samuel and Charlie, so they were able to write:-

'However, I know that in our life our faith and God's provision has been the only thing that could have sustained us. This sustaining power of Jesus is so common amongst Christians who are experiencing difficulties and yet we still talk more about, and hanker after, physical healing or the removal of trials.

It's important to emphasise the fact that Jesus can and does step in to a situation with miraculous power but we also need to champion God's phenomenal ability to sustain and provide in other ways for his children.' ** (Healing or Hurting)

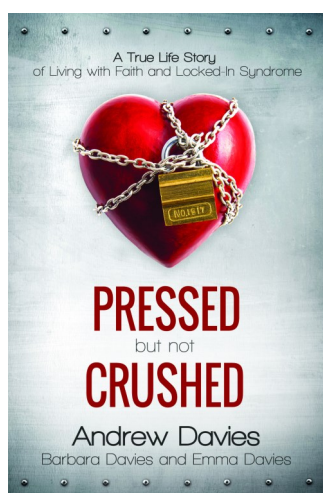
Barbara Davies

* * If you would like to read more of Andy's story, his books are available from online booksellers or from me.

Please contact me tel 01704 892995 Mobile 07544579471

Or

email: bmc.barbara.d@gmail.com



Book 1 - 'Pressed but not Crushed' (Free with Book 2)

Book 2 'Healing or Hurting' (£8.99)



Andy's Holiday Accommodation:

<https://www.aplaceforeverybody.co.uk>

Lancashire West Methodist Circuit

Autumn Term - 'Messy' Dates

Messy Church:

Tuesday 4.30-6.00pm at Croston

- 14th September
- 12th October
- 9th November
- 7th December

Saturday 4.30-6.00pm at Emmanuel

- 11th September
- 9th October
- 13th November
- 11th December

Messy Vintage:

Tuesday 7.30-9.00pm on Zoom

- 14th & 28th September
- 12th & 26th October
- 9th & 23rd November
- 7th & 21st December

Wednesday 2pm-4pm at Trinity

- 15th & 29th September
- 13th & 27th October
- 10th & 24th November
- 8th & 22nd December

If you'd like more information about any of the above;
please contact Cheryl by email:
family.schools@lancashirewest.org.uk



CHURCH SERVICES

	NOV		
	14 th	21 st	28 th
Burscough Orrell Lane 10.00 HP, CMP, STF, NIV	Janet Walton	Michaela Barker	Michael Tindsley Baptism
Holmeswood Holmeswood Rd 10.30 HP, CMP, STF	o/s	Michael Tindsley 10am	o/a
Mere Brow 10.30	o/a	Andy McShane	Barbara Clark
Holmes Park Lane 10.30 HP, MP, JP, 6.30	-----	Merle Farthing	Stephen Foster
Tarleton Church Rd 10.30 HP, MP,	Stephen Foster	Geoff Farthing S	o/a
Mawdesley Four Lane Ends 10.30	o/a	Stephen Foster	Jonathan Richardson
Croston Westhead Rd 10.30 HP, MP, STF,	Malcolm Roxburgh	Sue Guénault F	Gordon Waring
Ormskirk Derby St 10.30 HP, CMP, StF	Sue Guénault	Helen Hindle	Malcolm Abbott
Trinity High Street 11.00 STF, GNB	Jenny Ashcroft	Michael Tindsley	o/a
Up Holland Alma Hill 11.00 STF LP	Michael Tindsley	Up Holland & Dalton	Geoff Farthing S
On line / streamed	<i>The circuit ministry team will continue to deliver weekly on-line worship services.</i> <i>See https://lancashirewest.org.uk/</i>		

Trinity Methodist Church

Westhead Road Croston

Eccleston Brass Band

We Are Back!



Friday 19th November 7:45 pm.

Admission at door. Adults £6.50, including refreshments

Children Free

Raffle to be drawn at interval

MP – Mission Praise Combined

CMP – Complete Mission Praise

S – Sacrament/Communion

HC – Holy Communion

o/a – Own Arrangement

F – Family Service

P – Parade Service

HP – Hymns and Psalms

STF – Singing the Faith

HON – Hymns Old and New

JP – Junior Praise LP – Let's Praise

NIV – New International Version GNB – Good News

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Jayne Chard

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