

Good News

Lancashire West Methodist Circuit

Prayer of the Day from Methodist.org.uk

God of all, whose love welcomes each person, in a world where many feel they have no place, help us to remember that you offer a place for all, that no one is excluded from your love and that each has a home in your kingdom of justice and peace. When we are tempted to think ourselves more important than others, remind us of the special place you hold for people who are poor, weary and dispossessed, and for those who are neglected, reviled or unjustly treated. Help us to share in your righteous anger against all that harms our sisters and brothers, to rejoice in your all-encompassing love and to see in our neighbour the face of Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

Jonathan Pye,
Bristol District Chair



May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our LORD Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

O LORD, may our lives be a living sacrifice to You today. Strengthen us for Your Kingdom.

Bible Studies and Lent Courses from around the circuit

Monday evenings, 7.30pm, via ZOOM

(contact geoff.farthing@hotmail.com for Zoom link) All Welcome

Bible study led by Dr Rev Geoff Farthing

Monday 14th March: Nicodemus: John 3: 1-21

Monday 21st March: The Samaritan woman: John 4: 5-42

Monday 28th March: The man born blind: John 9: 1-41

Monday 4th April: Lazarus: John 11: 1-45

Monday 11th April: Jesus last day: Matthew 26: 14 to 27: 66

Tuesday mornings, 10.30am, Upholland Methodist – All Welcome

Led by Rev Michael Tindsley

Following 2022 Lent York Course “God has no favourites”

Tuesday mornings, 10.00am, via ZOOM

(contact janewoodcock@outlook.com for Zoom link) All Welcome

Bible study led by Rev Stephen Foster

Continuing Luke’s gospel.

Tuesday afternoons, 2.00pm Trinity Methodist URC, Skelmersdale

Bible study led by Rev Stephen Foster - All Welcome

Continuing Luke’s gospel

Wednesday mornings, 10.30am Burscough Methodist in the upper room & on ZOOM (contact revmct@msn.com for zoom link)

Led by Rev Michael Tindsley All Welcome

Following “Life on the Breadline” Lent Course

Wednesday evenings, 7.30pm Emmanuel Methodist URC (ladies only)

Rev Sue is leading a group for ladies using resources from ‘All We Can’ entitled ‘Let wisdom speak’.

This is an exciting new resource to take us on a Lenten journey, as we hear the voices of incredible women from around the world. So ladies, come and join us for coffee, cake and conversation.

The four sessions will be in the Worship area at 7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd and 30th March, 6th and 13th April.



Walking with Micah

Rachel Lampard, formerly leader of the Joint Public Issues Team, writes about the new Methodist project, Walking with Micah

I have always been stirred by the words of the prophet Micah. When asked how God wanted his people to worship, to respond to God's love, Micah replies:

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

and to walk humbly with your God.

As Methodists we find this response to God's love through acting justly present in our tradition. John Wesley, one of Methodism's founders, was a vocal opponent of the slave trade. The Tolpuddle Martyrs – many of whom were Methodist lay preachers - were early activists in the trade union movement. A disproportionate number of Methodists have served in Parliament. Sybil Phoenix OBE is one of many community activists and anti-racists. The work of All We Can, Action for Children and MHA speak powerfully of the commitment of Methodists to see justice for all people in God's world.

What does "challenging injustice" look like in your own life? Methodists are involved in responding to needs in our communities or the world, through running debt advice centres, giving to foodbanks, raising money for charities, writing to political prisoners. Sometimes we use our consumer power, through buying fairtrade bananas or avoiding excess plastic wrapping. And through our protesting, writing letters to MPs or community organising we try to change problems at their source.

Justice is present in the bible, in our tradition, often in our lives, and yet we sometimes find it hard to see where it fits in our Church, especially when we disagree.

The Methodist Church has set up – Walking with Micah: Methodist Principles for Social Justice – to explore what it means to be a justice-seeking church and people. Over the next two years, we will listen and learn together, focusing on our principles and priorities for justice. Through this, I hope we can increase our practical ability to seek God's justice, as a Church and in our own Christian lives.

I'm looking forward to a big conversation about justice this year. If you're interested in getting involved visit <https://www.methodist.org.uk/walking-with-micah/>



Events Around The Circuit

Burscough Methodist Church

Sit and Knit' group

Wednesday 8.30am - 11am. (At STAR café)

Sit , Knit (or Crochet) and Chat.

Learn with others, spare needles and wool available

Also games e.g. cards and draughts if you don't fancy knitting

Book swap available

Toast and brews available in the café for a small donation.

Emmanuel Methodist URC, Ormskirk

Community Hub

We are open 10am-3pm EVERY Thursday!

Come along and enjoy free tea, coffee, cake and biscuits plus conversation.

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!

Trinity Methodist URC, High Street, Skelmersdale

Spring Sale

Saturday 26th March

10am-2pm

All the usual stalls

And the café will be open for refreshments

Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill

Indoor Car Boot Sale

Saturday 9th April

10am-1pm

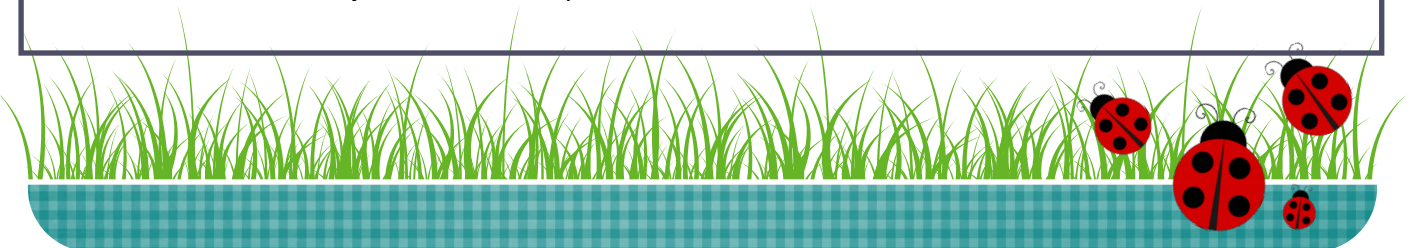
Refreshments / Books/ Jewellery / Bric-a brac / Plants / Toys / Clothes

Free Admission

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

Monday 4th April

Please send to Rev Stephen Foster Stephenfoster533@btinternet.com





Family and School Worker Update - Cheryl

Messy Church:

On Saturday 12th February, we had our first face-to-face session since November.

Our theme was 'God is love' and there were Bible references linked to the letters of love, support and encouragement sent to the early churches. We wrote on papyrus using sticks dipped in paint; we made bookmarks to remind us that God loves each one of us; we made hearts with tissue paper to remind us that God's love shines through each of us; and we made postcards with messages of support and encouragement that will be posted to Anne Baldwin in Sri Lanka for her to distribute amongst the Theological College students.



Our next Messy Church sessions are

<p>Croston Methodist Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 5th April 4.30-6.30pm 	<p>Emmanuel Methodist URC, Ormskirk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday 9th April 4.30 - 6.00pm
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Children from all over the circuit are welcome at either Messy Church session.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, please contact Cheryl at family.schools@lancashirewest.org.uk

Messy Vintage:

Our most recent sessions have been:


'A Time for Everything' based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

We thought about nature's seasons and the seasons of our lives, and the hope and promise of God's love and faithfulness through all time. For the creative part of the session we painted trees in different seasons.

'Treasures of the Heart' based on Matthew 13:44-46.

We talked about our treasured items and listened to the story of a perfectly perfect pearl - to know Jesus is the most precious gift we will ever find. We created little boxes and were each given the gift of a pearlescent bead, which we used in our prayers for ourselves and for those known to us, that all may know God's presence in their hearts.



from The Bible Reading Fellowship 

<p>Zoom @ 7.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 5th April Tuesday 19th April 	<p>Trinity Methodist URC, Skelmersdale - 2.00pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 6th April Wednesday 20th April
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Mere Brow Methodist Church

Hello from Mere Brow

It's wonderful that the snowdrops and daffodils are telling us that Spring isn't far away and the increasing daylight hours bring feelings of hope & joy into our lives

Spring is on the way - If you are driving through Mere Brow and passing the Chapel we invite you to visit our Chapel Garden which is open to the public 7 days a week- call and just sit for a while - some biblical stories are depicted in the garden design - garden signs available - Well worth a visit!



If you visit, please look up and see the dates on the two chapels - 1861 on the older chapel and 1902 on the later building - Methodism goes back a long time in Mere Brow-

2022 is 120th Anniversary of the "new chapel"

2022 is a very special year for our Country - we will be celebrating with Queen Elizabeth as she reaches her Platinum Anniversary in June

The annual Walk of Witness will be held on **June 19th** - it will combine with a Jubilee Celebration sharing with the local churches and the schools and concluding with an open air service followed by some refreshments

We have been part of Lancashire West Circuit for a very short time and we appreciate the welcome we have already experienced

As God's plan for our future becomes clear - we hope to share many great times together as we go forward in love x

Ever Blessing

Joan

Steward



Mere Brow Walking Day 1930's

COME4COFFEE

Mere Brow Coffee Morning

The **LAST TUESDAY** each Month

Starting 29th March

10-30am to 12 noon

Toasted Teacake Tea / Coffee

Come & join us



Mawdesley Methodist Church



On **Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th March** we are hosting a weekend of art and music activities.

Our art exhibition will showcase the talents of the Mawdesley U3A art group and other local artists. With over 80 exhibits on display in the church and church room. From oil paintings, watercolours, pastels, and acrylics, there is sure to be something to satisfy everyone's taste, and many of the exhibits will be available to buy.

Locally based master potter Stephen Kingsford, who is a member of our church, will be demonstrating how he makes beautiful hand-crafted garden and patio pots in terracotta. His unique range of pots will be available to buy, or order, in a wide range of sizes. See more [@StephenKingsfordGardenTerracotta](#).

From 7am on Saturday our organist, David Fletcher, will embark on a sponsored 'Hymnathon' to raise funds for a new church sound and projection system. David will play his way through all 823 hymn tunes from the church hymn book 'Hymns and Psalms' continuously, back to back.

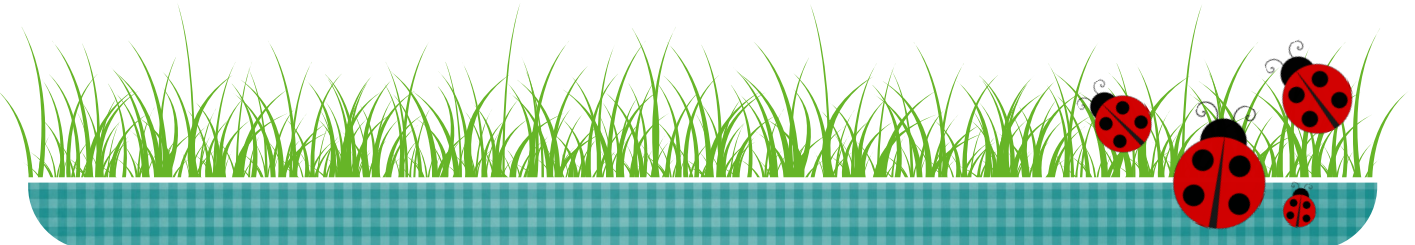
This is a mammoth undertaking and will be going on alongside the art exhibition. You can sponsor David, or make a request to hear him play all the verses of your favourite hymn, to help raise money for the sound system. Which is the hymn you remember singing at school, or from your wedding day, or even in March, what about your favourite carol?

Requests can be made in person on the day or this is the link to the Just giving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Hymnathon12?>

As you would expect, during both days, refreshments, including home baked cakes, will be available.

David Fletcher





Love Beyond Our Shores

Circuit Fundraising for Mamie Martin continues to go very well. The school years have been disrupted because of Covid restrictions but the new school year started in early January.

Our 6 girls are all boarding at St Mary's, Karonga in Malawi.

The money provided by Lancashire West Methodist Circuit includes funding for Mamie Martin's Ready2Learn fund and for sanitary products for the girls. So, their needs in relation to those items (including sometimes transport to and from home for the holidays) are already funded by our circuit.

We are hoping to receive photographs of our girls soon. In the meantime, please continue to give and make a real difference to young lives.

www.justgiving.com/campaign/LancashireWest

Love Beyond Our Shores / Trinity Methodist URC, Skelmersdale. - Date for your diary

Sunday 8th May - Celebration and Circuit Service.

This is a celebration of the renovations of our Church. Moira Dunworth from the Mamie Martin Fund will be coming down from Scotland and there will be an exhibition of Photos of their work in Malawi.

The Church will be open from 2pm and an afternoon tea will be provided.

At 6.30pm, there will be a circuit service, led by Rev Michael Tindsley, and Moira will show a video of the six girls we are supporting and give us information on the schools etc.

All are invited to come in the afternoon and the evening.

All We Can and the Methodist Church in Britain have launched an emergency appeal in response to events unfolding in Ukraine.

As communities face violence, upheaval, and the trauma of war, your urgent support is needed. Working together with the Global Relationships Team of the Methodist Church in Britain, donations will be used to support the response to the crisis happening in Ukraine, and ensure that critical humanitarian assistance is available to those who need it.

Please pray for the people of Ukraine today, and give all you can to the Ukraine Emergency Appeal. Your gift today will be used to meet emergency needs.

<https://www.allwecan.org.uk/donate/ukraine/>

You can contact one of our friendly Supporter Care team by calling +44 (0)20 7467 5132 or Emailing info@allwecan.org.uk.

If you wish, you can choose to donate over the phone or post cheques to All We Can, Ukraine Emergency Appeal, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR, UK.

CHURCH SERVICES

	March			April			
	13 th	20 th	27 th Mothers Day	3 rd	10 th	17 th Easter	24 th
Burscough Orrell Lane 10.00 HP, CMP, STF,	Lorraine Howarth	Michael Tindsley S	Michael Tindsley F	Jenny Ashcroft	David Allen	Michael Tindsley F S	o/a
Holmeswood Holmeswood Rd 10.30 HP, CMP, STF	o/a	Jonathan Richardson	o/a	Michael Tindsley S	o/a	Malcolm Abbott "Jerusalem Joy" 6.30pm	Malcolm Roxburgh
Mere Brow Mere Brow Lane 10.30 CMP, MHB ,HP	Geoff Farthing	Holmeswood	o/a F	Malcolm Abbott	Michael Tindsley S	Barbara Clarke	o/a
Holmes Park Lane 10.30 HP, MP, JP,	Stephen Foster S	Lynne Watson	Helen Hindle	Anne Wallbank	Cliff Hill	Stephen Foster S	Geoff Farthing
Tarleton Church Rd 10.30 HP, MP,	o/a	Janet Walton	David Allen	Stephen Foster S	Malcolm Roxburgh	Stephen Foster S 9.30	o/a
Mawdesley Four Lane Ends 10.30 HP, MP, JP, NIV	David Allen	Malcolm Abbott	Merle Farthing	o/a	Croston	Sue Guenault S 9.30	Stephen Foster
Croston Westhead Rd 10.30 HP, MP, STF,	Merle Farthing	Gordon Wearing S	Sue Guenault F P	o/a	Sue Guenault S	Mawdesley	Lynne Watson
Ormskirk 10.30 Derby St HP, CMP, STF	Michael Tindsley	Geoff Farthing	Malcolm Roxburgh	Sue Guenault P	Merle Farthing	Sue Guenault S 11.00	David Allen
Trinity High Street 11.00 STF, GNB 6	Jenny Ashcroft	Stephen Foster S	Jenny Ashcroft	Mary Foley	Stephen Foster	Geoffrey Farthing S	Janet Walton
Up Holland Alma Hill 11.00 STF LP	Paul Givens	Andrew Richardson	Michael Tindsley S	o/a	Lorraine Howarth	Michael Tindsley S 11.15	Chris Dunbar

MPC –Mission Praise Combined
 CMP – Complete Mission Praise
 HP – Hymns and Psalms
 STF – Singing the Faith
 MHB – Methodist Hymns Old and New
 JP – Junior Praise LP – Let's Praise
 NIV – New International Version GNB – Good News

o/a – Own Arrangement
 S – Holy Communion
 F – Family Service (all age)
 P – Parade Service

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