

## Lancashire West Methodist Circuit

### Prayer of the Day from MWib

Almighty God,  
 Who created this vast and wonderful world,  
 We thank you for all that is revealed to us in creation.

Forgive us when we seek light in the wrong places.

Forgive us when we refuse to see the darkness of the world.

Forgive us when we doubt your power to prevail.

Help us to seek the truth of your light.

Help us to see and name the darkness.

Help us to be light in your vast and wonderful world.

We pray in the name of Jesus

Amen

By Jude Simms



Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

Please give us the faith to believe this, especially in these difficult times we live in. Help us to trust You, LORD, in every area of our complicated lives. For You alone are faithful.

### Welcome to our new Minister Rev Alexandra Laing



Hello! I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Alex and I will be the new probationer presbyteral minister in the circuit from 1st September. I'm very excited to be joining the circuit and am looking forward to meeting you all before too long.

Just to tell you a bit about myself: I've been in the Methodist Church since my teens, having chosen to be a Methodist aged 14, and I was baptised and made a member at 18. This was at Monton Methodist Church and it's fair to say I've moved around the UK quite a bit since then.

My (now adult) children were born on the Isle of Man and for the last 13 years I've been living in Culcheth, Warrington. My background is in secondary education and it was during my last teaching post that I realised I could no longer put off candidating for ministry – even though I had successfully put it off since first hearing it aged 7! So here I am about to take up my first position and I couldn't be happier. Please come and say hello when you see me in the street. I don't always wear my glasses so if I seem not to recognise you from a distance, you'll know why!

I'm going to sign off with my current favourite biblical teaching. It's an encouragement to really live in love, and in this way, God lives in each one of us. That is beautiful, humbling and transformative.

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 1 John 4:16 (NIV)

*See you soon, Alex.*

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

**Monday 5th September**



# Love Beyond Our Shores Term 2 Report

## Introduction

The visit for St Mary's Karonga Girls Secondary was done on the 9th of May 2022. All the six Lancashire West Girls were at school at the time of the visit, and they were very happy to see the manager accompanied by the Malawi MMF trustee, Remie Kamanga.

## Objectives

- (a). Checking if all the girls were at school
- (b). Distribution of Ready to Learn Fund to the needy girls
- (c). Offering guidance & counselling

### (a). Checking if all the girls were at school

All the six Lancashire West girls were at school and had a nice chat with all of them.

They all are very grateful and appreciate the help that they are getting.



Lancashire West girl

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### b). Distribution of Ready to Learn Fund (R2L)

As always is the case with the girls on the bursary, they pass through a lot of financial hardships and need help for them to concentrate on their academics. Hence, when meeting them each term they are given a chance to talk to

the MMF Manager if there are any problems that need to be addressed before she leaves. Of course, all their problems cannot be solved but they are grateful for all the little help they are having. Some do not have soap, sugar, school notebooks and pens while others do not even have transport to come to school when the term starts sometimes even when the term is closing. These very needy girls depend upon the R2L Fund for them to come to school and have necessities for their education. Reusable sanitary wear was distributed to all the six girls this term.

### (c) Offering guidance & counselling

Remie Kamanga the Education Co-ordinator for Karonga and a M M trustee, talked to the girls. He stressed about being disciplined and well behaved. He talked to them about being focussed and concentrated on their studies. This would bring good results and that is all the thanks that are needed by their sponsors. He asked them not to get involved in romantic relationships at this stage of their lives, but to dedicate themselves to their education.

### (d) A.O.B

Mickdonna Chizumila was found very energetic and happy this term and she said that she was looking forward to doing well in her academics. The help has lifted the huge financial burden she had in her life, she is amongst the students who had no transport money to go back to school for term 3 and transport money was sent to her.

**Conclusion:** The MMF manager and all the girls are sending their gratitude for the help Lancashire West is providing. It has come at the right time and many lives are being transformed by this great help you are providing.

**Compiled by:** Mercy Sibande (Mamie Martin Fund Manager Malawi).



## Salt and Light.....now on tour!

*A photographic exhibition of the work of the Mamie Martin Fund*

This exhibition landed in our circuit in May and was erected at Trinity /URC Church where Moira Dunworth, a Trustee of the Mamie Martin Fund from Edinburgh, gave a presentation on the Fund. The exhibition travelled to “The Garden Party of July” hosted by Upholland and Trinity/ URC Churches.

Afterwards, it was transported into the suburbs to Croston Methodist Church, giving the folk of Croston and Mawdesley and other interested joe public the opportunity to learn more about the work of the Mamie Martin Fund.

The exhibition was included in a special Own Arrangement Service on 24 July which included various videos from Mariot, Mamie’s granddaughter, Blandina, one of our Lancashire West Girls. The videos were shown at several times while the exhibition was in Croston (22 Jul to 2 Aug) During the service the Malawian Song / Melody Dzuma Lapita was given a rendition too. This is number 145 in Singing the Faith if you too fancy giving voice to it! It was used in reflective time within the service .



Here are some photographs of the exhibition within Croston church including Our Lancashire West Girls.



The readers of quotations on the importance of education by some famous people

Quotations include the Mamie Martin motto *“Educating Girls, Empowering Malawi”*

Another is a Tibetan Proverb, *“A child without education is like a bird without wings”*

The exhibition has moved to Holmes Chapel and will be available as soon as Helen Hindle has put it up! Most likely from 7 August until 6 September giving folk from Holmes, Holmeswood, Tarleton and Mere Brow the opportunity to find out more about the Fund.

Helen would be very happy to arrange for anyone in the other churches within the circuit who have not had the opportunity to view the exhibition because it hasn’t been in their area. Please do ring Helen 01772 815738 .

The exhibition will then be leaving Lancashire West and heading off back across the border to a new destination in the Kingdom of Fife .

There is at least one representative from each of our churches on **Love Beyond Our Shores** in which The Mamie Martin Fund is one of the partnerships .

If you wish to know more details about our partnership with the Fund and don’t know who to contact please contact **Jayne** at the **Circuit Office** (01695 578990) who has all contact details

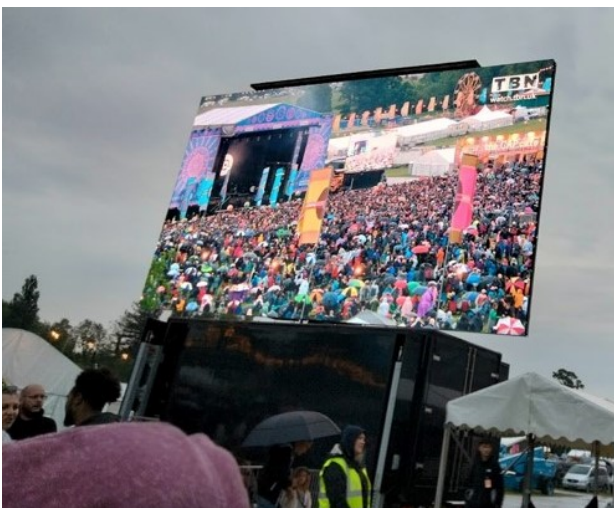
## Big Church Festival 3rd & 4th June 2022

Having attended the Big Church Day Out North (Cheshire) a few years ago, I wanted to go to the bigger event in Sussex. There hadn't been one for 2 years due to Covid so, when the tickets became available late last Summer, we booked. After 11 years of BCDO events the name was changed this year to The Big Church Festival as it is a 2-day event. The venue was Wiston House in Steyning. Camping was available for the weekend but we opted for a nearby hotel. Too old to camp!

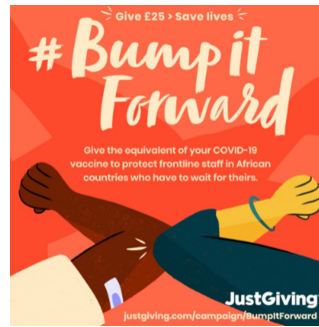
The grounds were vast with areas for children's activities, fairground rides, craft stalls, merchandise, stalls selling books and DVDs, lots of food outlets, and numerous marquees. The main outdoor stage had Rend Collective, Matt Redman, The Brilliance & Casting Crowns to name but a few. There was continuous coverage from UCB radio including live streaming from the festival. The garden stage was particularly lovely – we got sunburned sitting listening to the various artists on stage. With about 10 different stages there was music to everyone's taste. It was such a lovely atmosphere with Christians from across the UK, and others who had travelled from abroad.

Rend Collective ended the Friday evening with a great performance watched by thousands of people of all ages - all joining in with the singing and jumping up and down. The atmosphere was fantastic. Saturday evening ended with Matt Redman on the main stage, sadly it rained quite heavily but people stayed to sing along and the rain didn't dampen spirits. The highlight of the event for me was Graham Kendrick's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert in the largest marquee. The sound was deafening as everyone sang along ending with "Shine, Jesus, Shine".

Linda & Alan Upholland



	August		
	14 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Burscough</b> Orrell Lane 10.00 HP, CMP, STF,	Michael Tindsley <b>S</b>	Jenny Ashcroft	Michael Tindsley
<b>Holmeswood</b> Holmeswood Rd 10.30 HP, CMP, STF	o/a	Michael Tindsley <b>S</b>	Mere Brow
<b>Mere Brow</b> Mere Brow Lane 10.30 CMP, MHB HP	o/a	Merle Farthing	Geoffrey Farthing <b>S</b>
<b>Holmes</b> Park Lane 10.30 HP, MP, JP,	Andrew Richardson	Jonathan Richardson	Lynne Watson
<b>Tarleton</b> Church Rd 10.30 HP, MP,	o/a	Geoffrey Farthing <b>S</b>	Merle Farthing
<b>Mawdesley</b> Gorsey Lane 10.30 HP, MP, JP, MHB	Malcolm Abbott	Sue Guénault S	Croston
<b>Croston</b> Westhead Rd 10.30 HP, MP, STF,	o/a	Mawdesley	Janet Walton
<b>Ormskirk</b> 10.30 Derby St HP, CMP, StF	Sue Guénault	Malcolm Abbott	Sue Guénault <b>S</b>
<b>Trinity</b> High Street 11.00 STF, GNB	Geoffrey Farthing S	o/a	Michael Tindsley
<b>Up Holland</b> Alma Hill 11.00 STF LP	Michael Tindsley <b>S</b>	Paul Givens	David Allen



## Bump it Forward ..Update

**An update on the Appeal brought to the attention of the Circuit Meeting last year.**

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine's (LSTM) Bump It Forward campaign has won Grand Gold in the international Circle of Excellence competition of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). A Grand Gold Award is the highest level of recognition in the program. Grand Gold Awards are rare, and only one is given per category.

The Bump It Forward campaign, launched in January 2021, asked the public to give the equivalent of their vaccines (c£25/\$33) to protect health workers in African countries until the vaccine reached them.

The campaign was conceived and launched in 72 hours, and to date has raised more than **£285,000** thanks to the **support of over 5,000 donors**. An estimated **1,323,017 items of PPE** have been purchased through Bump It Forward, supporting health workers in seven countries.

MP – Mission Praise Combined    CMP – Complete Mission Praise    O/A – Own Arrangement  
HP – Hymns and Psalms            STF – Singing the Faith            F – Family Service [All Age]  
JP – Junior Praise                  MHB – Methodist Hymn Book    P – Parade Service  
S – Holy Communion

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