



# The Methodist Church

## Bolton and Rochdale District

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## District Newsletter – April 2018

### Welcome to the Bolton and Rochdale District Newsletter.

This edition includes details about events, dates for your diaries, training opportunities, vacancies, links and contacts. If you have any information to share then please contact us so we can include in future editions. Please share this newsletter around your churches, circuits and contacts.

### Events & Dates for your diary:

For District Diary Dates visit the District Website: [www.barmd.org.uk](http://www.barmd.org.uk)

#### **Friday 30 March and Saturday 31 March**

The Bolton Methodist Circuit presents... 'My beloved Son' a presentation of the life of Christ in music and narration by James Davis.

7.30pm at: The Triangle, New Church Road, Bolton BL1 5QP

Tickets: £5.00

#### **21<sup>st</sup> April: 'Ek Aurat - One Woman'**

An Asian Theologians' conference which will be held at St.Paul's Church, Hanstead, Birmingham. This conference is open to all. More information can be found in the flyer.

#### **27<sup>th</sup> April: Stories of Hope 10am-4pm**

Join us for Christian Aid's first North West conference! Connect with other supporters to share ideas and engage more with Christian Aid's movement for justice.

At: Manchester Methodist Central Hall, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

There will be the opportunity to hear from the Bishop of Manchester and from our Haiti Country Manager, Prosperity. Find out more about our brand new campaign, and so much more! We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Suggested donation: £8 to cover catering costs.

For more information, contact [Bex Turner](mailto:Bex.Turner@ca.org.uk) (01925 582 817).

#### **Saturday 12th May: United Christian Singers present 'A Journey to Hope'**

7:00pm at St John's Methodist Church, 3 Victoria Road, Horwich, Bolton BL6 5PJ

Retiring collection in aid of church funds.

Enquiries: 01204 669912 [www.stjohns.horwichmethodist.org.uk](http://www.stjohns.horwichmethodist.org.uk)

#### **Big Church Day Out (BCDO): 26-27 May in West Sussex & 1-2 June in Cheshire**

If you're not familiar with us, the Big Church Day Out (BCDO) is the UK's largest annual gathering of the wider church that creates a space for all denominations and ages to gather each year for 2 exciting days of worship and celebration. BCDO is held on two sites- Wiston House in West Sussex and Capesthorpe Hall in Cheshire. In 2018 BCDO South celebrates its 10th event, plus we will be returning to Cheshire for BCDO North's second year. The Big Church Day Out has grown year after year, and in 2018 we will be expecting around 40,000 to gather between the North and South events.

The Big Church Day Out draws together tens of thousands of Christians from all over the UK and Europe to worship and celebrate all that is good. It's a one-of-a-kind expression of church unity that's as vibrant and varied as its wonderful guests. Whatever your age, denomination or musical taste, you are welcome to join us for two days of discovery and enjoyment you'll never forget. [www.bigchurchdayout.com](http://www.bigchurchdayout.com)

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May: Ordinands Testimony Service for Rev Jez Hackett**

6pm at Heaton Park Methodist Church, (Bury Circuit) Bury Old Road, Prestwich, M25 1JA

**1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> June: Connecting Disciples 2018**

Lay employees Conference at Cliff College, Derbyshire. See: <http://www.methodist.org.uk>

**9<sup>th</sup> June: Spirituality day**

A one off spirituality day conference in Liverpool for the spiritually curious

Check out the save the Date e-flyer and like the Facebook event

<https://www.facebook.com/events/194098601340312/> and watch out for more info as the day comes nearer. Bookings will as usual be via Rob at [NWMannNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:NWMannNetwork@gmail.com)

**Vacancies:**

**Children and Family Worker**

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a part time enthusiastic, motivated, Christian staff member with the Wigan Methodist Circuit to develop work with children and families in two churches on the west of Wigan.

The Circuit is looking to employ a Children and Families for 20 hours per week, to be based at Bispham, Billinge and The Vale Church, Appley Bridge. The remuneration will be £10 per hour, on a fixed term contract for three years

Main Job Purpose

- To build and develop outreach work with children and their families.
- To walk alongside and build pastoral relationships.
- To plan and deliver special events for children and families.
- To support, develop, and motivate existing leaders and helpers.

Closing date for applications - Friday, 11th May, 2018.

Interviews will be held week beginning Monday, 11th June, 2018.

For an application pack is available from the Wigan Circuit Administrator – email

[wiganmethodist@outlook.com](mailto:wiganmethodist@outlook.com)

Or contact Senior Circuit Steward Mrs. Margaret Sowerby.

**Family Missioner**

We are seeking a Family Missioner (30 hours per week). to deepen the discipleship of families that worship in our two churches and engage with families living in our community in making new followers of Christ.

Applicants will work alongside the ministers and congregations of the Methodist and Anglican churches in Alderley Edge, Cheshire and will be able to demonstrate fresh, imaginative ways of sharing the love of Jesus with families and younger people through personal experience.

Salary is £16,920 pa depending on qualifications & experience.

There is an Occupational Requirement that the applicant is a Christian, in accordance with the Equality Act, 2010.

For further details please e-mail: [office@stphilipsae.plus.com](mailto:office@stphilipsae.plus.com) or in writing to Mrs. Sheila Raynor, Parish Office, St. Philip & St. James Church, Church Lane, Alderley Edge SK9 7UZ

Closing date for applications, mid-day April 9, 2018

Interview date: Saturday 12th May 2018

## **Exciting job opportunity in the Isle of Man.**

We are currently seeking to appoint an Ecumenical Safeguarding Advisor & Coordinator for the island.

This innovative and exciting new role will build on best practice to collaborate on safeguarding across several denominations to ensure the development of a strong, relevant and appropriate safeguarding regime for all. Employed by the ecumenical partnership organisation 'Churches Alive in Mann' the post holder will be the main advisor on safeguarding, providing support to the Anglican, Methodist, Catholic and Living Hope church leaders, officers and congregations; and overseeing the implementation of operational procedures; and be an ecumenical voice in policy for safeguarding in the Isle of Man.

You can find further information and an application form at [www.churchesalive.im](http://www.churchesalive.im)

## **Training Opportunities:**

### **DMLN (Discipleship Ministries & Learning Network): North West & Mann Region**

See: [www.methodist.org.uk/nwm](http://www.methodist.org.uk/nwm)

Our DMLN Team have various events and training coming up so please visit the website for further information of what is coming up this year - <http://www.methodist.org.uk/learning/network-regions/north-west-mann-region/key-areas-of-work-for-201718>

## **Connexion:**

### **'To Be a Pilgrim' conference**

As part of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential theme for 2017/18, a conference with the title 'To Be a Pilgrim' will take place at Cliff College from Friday evening 6<sup>th</sup> April through to Sunday lunch 8<sup>th</sup> April. The programme offers a choice of variety of different topics and activities, with Rev Michaela Youngson, President-designate, as the keynote speaker. Bookings can be done through the website at <http://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/learning/discipleship/journeying-with-others/pilgrimage/pilgrimage-events/to-be-a-pilgrim-conference>. The conference fee includes high quality accommodation at reasonable prices.

### **Thy Kingdom Come, 10th – 20th May 2018**

We are delighted to invite you and your churches and communities to take part in Thy Kingdom Come, a global, ecumenical call to prayer between Ascension and Pentecost 2018.

As many of you will know, Thy Kingdom Come began in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Today, Thy Kingdom Come aims to equip individuals, families and churches to pray, so that through prayer, people will be empowered by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Methodists are already involved in Thy Kingdom Come in a number of ways, but we are delighted to say that the Methodist Church is now a formal partner in the initiative, as an expression of the Church's commitment to personal and social holiness and to paying attention to God through prayer.

There are many ways to get involved. A number of churches across the Connexion will host Thy Kingdom Come Beacon events in 2018, and Thy Kingdom Come 'champions' who will promote the initiative across the Connexion. A wide range of resources are already available through [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global) for use by churches, including materials for prayer walks, prayer stations and service templates. Further resources are currently being developed with particular reference to Methodist contexts and charisms.

Further information, along with suggestions and resources for prayer, will be available on the Methodist Church's website and at [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global) We do hope that you and your churches and communities will join us in engaging with Thy Kingdom Come and in uniting in prayer between Ascension and Pentecost 2018.

## Writing Competition

A writing competition organised by Methodist Women in Britain inspired by the life, writing and work of Rev Julie Hulme. Open to all aged over 16. Closing date: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Theme: "At the Heart". Entries must be maximum length of 500 words, typed and can be submitted by email or post. First prize £150, runner up £50 to be announced on evening of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June at Methodist Conference fringe event. For more details please see website: -

<http://mwib.org.uk/index.php/2018/01/15/at-the-heart-2018-writing-competition>

## Resources:

- **Action for Children:** [www.actionforchildren.org.uk](http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk)
- **All We Can:** [www.allwecan.org.uk](http://www.allwecan.org.uk)
- **Bible Society:** [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)
- **Children's Bible stories:** [www.childrenschapel.org](http://www.childrenschapel.org)
- **Christian Aid:** <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>
- **Connexion website:** [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)
- **DMLN:** [www.discipleshaped.org/events/date](http://www.discipleshaped.org/events/date)
- **Methodist Women in Britain:** [www.mwib.org.uk](http://www.mwib.org.uk)
- **Methodist Publishing:** [www.methodistpublishing.org.uk](http://www.methodistpublishing.org.uk)

## **Quiet Days at Chapel in the Fields**

We are offering Quiet Days at The Chapel; April 14<sup>th</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>, August 8<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, October 10<sup>th</sup>, November 17<sup>th</sup>, December 12<sup>th</sup> - 9:30am for 10:00 start and finish by 3:15pm. Spaces will be limited so please contact [tcitf15@gmail.com](mailto:tcitf15@gmail.com) if you would like attend. We are asking for £10 donation for the day to include a simple lunch.  
peace-stillness-prayer-creativity

## Christian Aid News:

### **Stories of Hope: Friday 27 April 10.00am – 4.00pm**

Join us for Christian Aid's first North West conference! Connect with other supporters to share ideas and engage more with Christian Aid's movement for justice.

There will be the opportunity to hear from the Bishop of Manchester and from our Haiti Country Manager, Prosperity. Find out more about our brand new campaign, and so much more!

We are looking forward to seeing you there! Manchester Methodist Central Hall, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ. Suggested donation: £8 to cover catering costs.

For more information, contact Bex Turner (01925 582 817).

### ***Is your business truly sustainable? inclusive? ethical?***

Christian Aid and the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce invite you to join them for breakfast, on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 8.30-10.00am, and explore how you can be supported and inspired to develop a more values based business which has human flourishing and care for creation at its heart. Want to find out more about how your business can not just strive to be the best *in* the world but the best *for* the world? This event will mark the launch of a new Christian Aid business network, Salt, in the NW and also a series of training events (to be hosted by the Chambers) which aim to support business leaders to develop more ethical, sustainable and inclusive practices. If you would like to explore how business leaders are uniting to eradicate poverty and how you could be part of this growing movement please register for your free place now at <https://saltnw.eventbrite.co.uk> or email us at [salt@christian-aid.org](mailto:salt@christian-aid.org). Find out more at: [The Salt Business Network | Christian Aid](#)

## How to become a Fairtrade Church:

**The three goals:** To be part of the campaign by becoming a Fairtrade Church, please register with us. [www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/get-involved/in-your-community/faith-groups/fairtrade-churches](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/get-involved/in-your-community/faith-groups/fairtrade-churches)