



Culcheth **Methodist** Church

Transforming the World by meeting the needs of our community as God's people

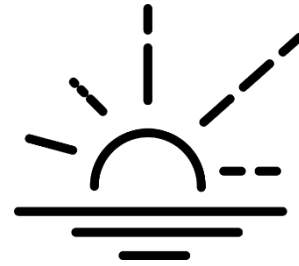
Ellesmere Rd, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4BJ

Reg Charity No. 1129901

Minister: Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

kjbland@yahoo.co.uk

Church Contact: Elizabeth Marr 01925 762187



Our Church building remains closed for the time being, due to the rise in Covid cases in our area.

Regrettably, our getting together groups (max 6) are also “on pause” due to the request for people in the Warrington area to not meet in each other’s gardens

We are sharing connection via phone calls, an email group, a facebook group (Culcheth Methodist Church), and the weekly notice sheet.

If you would like to join the email group, please email amyedriver@gmail.com

Regular podcasts from Rev Viv can be found here:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-476066366>

SHARING SUNDAY WORSHIP

We are sharing our Sunday Service over the telephone.

If you would like to listen in, for 10.30am on Sunday:

Dial **020 3478 5289** on your telephone,

When it asks for the access code, enter **145 404 825#**.

When it asks for your ID, press #

The call will be charged at the standard UK phone rate.

Any questions, call 01925 766550.



Luke 24: 28-31

When he was at the table with them, he took break, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

Pray Together – members of the church will be at prayer from 6.30-7pm every day, and from 9.30-10am on Mondays, do join in wherever you are.

Communication:

Weekly Notice Sheet: To Amy by Wed 6pm for inclusion this week, Tel 766550, culchethmethodist@gmail.com

Website: www.leighandhindley.org.uk Facebook: LeighAndHindleyMethodist contact Rev Viv Smith with content

Room Bookings: Linda Bloomfield, lindajbloomfield@yahoo.co.uk 01925 765875

Magazine entries to cmcnews57@gmail.com.

Prayer Circle requests contact Janette Hutchinson:766819/07729 313466 or Jane Bushby:509558/07949 390862

Message from Rev Katharine Bland

Hello Friends,

Well, what kind of a week have you had? I have had a week of 'rearranged' meetings - meetings that had been planned to be held in various gardens which, because of our local lockdown situation, have not been able to take place. So its back to the computer screen and slippers, at least for the time being! Interestingly, in one of my meetings we discussed how much people have talked about missing church coffee mornings, and no surprise really. Whether a coffee morning or hospitality following worship, we should never underestimate the importance that this kind of fellowship brings. I certainly believe that it is equally as important as time spent in worship...in fact I would go so far as to say fellowship is worship.

I have long held the belief that 'Coffee Time Fellowship' is pastoral worship. It's a time for us to socially engage with one another, to come alongside someone we may not have spoken to for a while, or someone who may be going through a difficult time, or equally a special time. In essence, fellowship encompasses our joys and our sorrows, where a smile can speak volumes and a slice of cake helps us on our path to healing. So, no wonder we are missing our fellowship together.

While I am unable to arrange a sneaky get together for us, not for fear of being arrested but for the fear that we won't be safe, we can still be together in our thoughts, our prayers, in our phone calls and emails, and dare I say, actual letter writing! You know the sort I mean, with writing paper, envelopes and stamps (if unable to hand deliver!) I mention this because I have taken delivery of some lovely cards, a job-lot of stamps, and I am writing a letter...to you! I'll print the letter, but I will write in each card. And as I write your card I will be praying for you and your loved ones. It isn't quite the fellowship I had in mind when Paul and I were packing to move here, but, for the time being at least, it brings me close to you in the safest way I know how. My phone number and email are also on this newsletter. If you fancy a chat you are welcome to give me a ring, or send me an email, or ask someone else to contact me on your behalf if you prefer.

God Bless and lots of love, Katharine x

Good News

Our thanks to Daphne, who has had some more success this week!

The Allcurches Trust have awarded us £2250 for the necessary upgrade to our Fire Alarm system, and the Charles Hayward Foundation has awarded us £3000 to establish our Community Garden. Great news!

Harvest

Sunday 4th October will be our dial in Harvest service, lead by Rev Viv, Rev Luke, Rev Katharine and Rev Len – a full complement of Presbyters! Our harvest appeal is for All We Can and their “Change begins with a Bicycle” appeal. If you would like to donate, you can do so here <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/harvest-landh>, or Viv Briney will be using her bicycle to deliver donation envelopes, if you prefer to give that way.

Returning to Church

As you know, we took the decision not to reopen for Church last week. We have approved the risk assessment, and can legally open, but we felt it was not appropriate for us to do so given the current situation. The processes are all set out, so when the time is right, we can open once more. At the moment, the most important thing is that everyone stays safe. Keep Well everyone!

27th Sep 2020

Nursery Rhymes in Lockdown

Morag and a small team of artists have produced a booklet 'Nursery Rhymes in Lockdown'. We are selling them for £5 with all proceeds to Culcheth Methodist Church.

Our interpretations don't address the sad implications of the virus and it is mainly an elderly person's perspective on the past months; but hopefully some may enjoy looking at our painting efforts which might bring back memories and maybe even a smile!

If anyone would like a copy please get in touch. Tel. 01925762002 or email

burtens_all@btinternet.com Thankyou, Morag

A letter from Alex Laing (Student Presbyter) to all in the Leigh & Hindley Circuit

Culcheth, 16th September 2020

Dear friends,

When I began the candidating process I really didn't expect the day would come when I would be writing to you to say farewell! I am now officially a student presbyter and no longer part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit. So, before I start my training at Queen's Theological College on Monday, I wanted to write to you to thank you for the support you have given me during candidating. In fact, your support goes much further back than that, as I became a Local Preacher in our circuit in 2016. Your prayers and kind words have been such a help. If anyone of you believes that you can't make a difference in our churches, please remember how much your prayers helped me to grow and have the courage to act on God's call. A special thank you to my home church, Culcheth, for keeping me going in more ways than one.

I am very fortunate to have been in the Leigh and Hindley Circuit. I met my best friends through church and have been encouraged by my church family across the circuit. Our wonderful local preachers have inspired me. Our ministers have taught me so much, and I am indebted to their example. The everyday thoughtfulness that you have shown me has been priceless.

May the Lord bless you and keep you, may he make his face shine upon you and give you peace.

Much love

Alex

Church Council

The next Church Council meeting is on Tuesday 6th October and will be held via Zoom. If you would like the papers, or to attend, please speak to Linda Bloomfield or any of the Stewards.