



# Culcheth **Methodist** Church

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

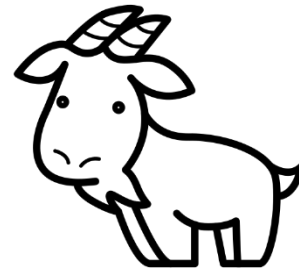
Ellesmere Rd, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4BJ

Reg Charity No. 1129901

Minister: Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

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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, and our Getting Together groups are “on pause” unless they can meet virtually.

If you can access zoom, we are meeting for coffee after the Sunday Service at 11.30am – see link on the next page, we are going into small breakout groups, so we can catch up with each other.

We are also 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

## 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.



**Matthew 25 31-46** 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

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 Katharine Bland

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**

Dear Friends,

I received a card from a friend this week - we often do that, and especially if we find that particular image or punchline that speaks to us because we know the recipient so well. We email and ring each other often, but there's something about receiving something, something you can hold in your hand, or, as is often the case, pin it to my notice board so that I can see it often, and smile, and remember the sender. On the front of my card was an image of a somewhat bedraggled female vicar, (clearly not a Methodist Minister!) wearing a clerical blouse with pyjama bottoms, crawling about under her desk looking for her meeting notes while a screen full of Zoom participants create chaos and mayhem attempting to chat, sing and pray whilst popping in and out of break-out rooms at break-neck speed! The caption read: "Too Blessed to be Stressed!" I couldn't possibly comment!

I'm not stressed, honest. I'm feeling somewhat concerned for family and friends, for you who are poorly and struggling with lockdown and the loneliness and isolation it brings. As I'm sure you all are too. But I do feel blessed. Blessed to be here with you. Blessed that I can communicate with most of the members of my family. Blessed that we can think ahead to Advent and Christmas, and ways in which we can reach out in love and worship, whether we are inside church or not. Blessed for the breakthroughs in vaccine research this week, bringing much needed hope.

Hold on to that hope, not just of a vaccine, but the hope that comes to us in Christ. Hold on to it, and feel blessed by it. It encourages us when we feel flat. Calms us when we feel anxious. Strengthens us when we feel weak. Hold on to it, and it will hold on to you.

Thom Schuman is one of my favourite authors. He is an American pastor, poet and liturgy writer, and here I share with you his 'Beatitudes for these day'

Blessed are they who wash their hands,  
for they shall hold living water;  
Blessed are those who keep their distance,  
for they shall draw closer to God;  
Blessed are they who self-quarantine,  
for they shall help others;  
Blessed are those who do not hoard,  
for they shall feed families;  
Blessed are those who sing songs to sheltering neighbours,  
for they shall be members of the heavenly host;  
Blessed are parents who learn to teach at home,  
for they shall learn from their children;  
Blessed are they who shop for vulnerable folk,  
for they shall receive everlasting thanks;  
Blessed are the frontline health workers,  
for they shall be called healers of humanity.

Stay safe, Love and Blessings, Katharine

*Loving God, be close, keep us safe, along with all whose tasks today includes the care of others.  
Grant us wisdom to make sensible choices, not just for ourselves, but for everybody. Amen*

### **Post Church Virtual Coffee**

If you would like to join in for a virtual post-church Zoom coffee at 11.30pm, just for half an hour, the link is below.

Note that this is now a repeating meeting – it will be the same link each week, and there is a password, which means Elizabeth will not need to admit each one of us manually.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88560759929?pwd=MFFDRittR0hkN0loWTlaTjlBN1V6UT09>

Meeting ID: 885 6075 9929 Passcode: 012778

### **Community Garden**

The Garden project has received a further £500 grant towards the work, which is planned to start in March. Many thanks again to Daphne for her tireless pursuit of funding!

### **Christmas Post**

Although the usual Christmas post will not go ahead this year, it is hoped to offer a delivery service for members of Culcheth and Glazebury Methodist Churches. Watch this space for more info. If you could offer to assist in the deliveries, please contact David O.

### **Support Needed**

Although we are not currently meeting, the work of our team continues – the Pastoral team have, of course, been particularly busy since March, and so many people have been praying. Behind the scenes, volunteers continue to manage our finances, lettings and property, and the Steward team are currently planning some extra activities we can all get involved in during the Advent and Christmas season.

Could you offer any support? As you will have seen in our last Church Council minutes, our finances are in good shape at the moment, so it would be a great time to take on the Treasurer role, with able support from Julie Mainwaring as bookkeeper and Julie Worswick on Gift Aid.

The Lettings role is also vacant, and again this would be a great time to take on the role, while it is quiet, and Linda has got everything ship-shape.

Perhaps you'd like to join the Steward or Pastoral team? As most of you know, Viv & Dave Briney are planning to move as soon as they are able, which will leave some big gaps, but ones we can fill in different ways.

Remember, you don't need to do these roles in the same way as the previous person did – all the roles can be shaped to fit your gifts, and perhaps you will bring a different way of working that will help us renew!

### Christmas Hamper Appeal – Culcheth Methodist Church Family for “Helping Hands”

Helping Hands is the group who are delivering food parcels to anyone in need during the Covid crisis. Earlier in the year they had a base at the Village club and are now working from the Orford Hub. Helping Hands are not a foodbank and deliver to anyone on request. Warrington Foodbank continues to collect items at Brunch on Warrington Rd, and the Atherton and Leigh Foodbank is still operating from Kingsleigh Methodist Church and collects at the Leigh Supermarkets. <https://athertonleigh.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>



**How many hampers have we collected so far?**

*0.5 collected + 3 pledges*

**What are we short of?**

*All items still required*

**Who do I give my donations to?**

Please phone Janette Hutchinson to arrange collection (Tel: 01925 766819)

Or drop off at Jane and Dave Bushby's (address: 8 Langcliffe Close WA3 4LR phone first 509558)

Thank you so much for your support. Stay safe and keep in touch.

Feel free to interchange some items for similar products. Please check use by dates before donating.

**One Church, One World One Lord.**

**What's in a typical hamper?**

1. Tea bags
2. Coffee
3. Sugar
4. Tinned Peas
5. Tinned Carrots
6. Shortbread
7. Biscuits
8. Cereal
9. UHT Milk
10. Jam/Marmalade
11. Stuffing mix
12. Mini Xmas Crackers
13. Selection box
14. Crisps/snacks
15. Pasta
16. Rice
17. Curry sauce
18. Tinned Meat
19. Jar Pickles
20. Tinned Potatoes
21. Carton of juice
22. Mince pies
23. Cream crackers
24. Nuts
25. Gravy granules
26. Xmas cake
27. Xmas pudding
28. Sweets
29. Chocolate bars
30. Tinned fruit.