



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 ambition is to re-open for Church services from Sunday 23rd May, along with "step 3" of the government roadmap. The online/telephone Sunday service will continue.

On Zoom:

- Virtual coffee on Sundays 11.30am -12.15 Meeting ID: 885 6075 9929 Passcode: 012778
[Sunday Morning Coffee Link](#)

- Or "at" Glazebury 10:30am on Saturday mornings. Zoom meeting no.: 8407 5877 165

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

Recordings of the Sunday Service and A Weekly podcast from Rev John Fisher can be found here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-476066366>

SHARING SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30am



We are sharing our Sunday Service over the telephone, or online.

Online, click this link to join the meeting via webex. (more info overleaf)

[Sunday Service Webex Link](#)



On the Phone: 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.

John 20.19-31

'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

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: Culcheth Methodist Church and LeighAndHindleyMethodist

Magazine entries to cmcnews57@gmail.com.

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

Message from Rachel Slater

Rev Katharine is taking some more time to recover from her illness. Thanks to Rachel for her message this week.

Getting together is not just a good idea, it is a God idea. In Genesis ch 2 v 18 God says "it is not good for man to be alone ", and he created a family. In August last year you may recall that someone had the wonderful idea of creating small groups, so that we could meet up in someone's garden, sharing fellowship, strengthening friendships and supporting one another, as meeting in church was out of the question.

Several groups emerged and spent enjoyable and much needed time together after being "alone" in the isolation of the first lockdown. But with the darker evenings and cooler days approaching, thoughts were turning to how can we continue to meet in gardens over winter. Our Prime Minister made the decision for us, with a semi lockdown, followed by a full lockdown.

As host and leader of our group my initial thoughts were of dismay, which quickly turned to a righteous anger. How dare something so vital and precious be banned. Those of you who know me well enough will know that it's not a good thing to tell me I can't. Its ok for me to tell myself I can't (and I'm learning not to). But it's like a red rag to a bull if others tell me not too. So with this determination I was spurred on to find an alternative way to continue meeting up, legally of course!

Most of our group have since become zoom literate, but back then none of us were. So with David's help, we settled on using a conference call each week. We had a few teething problems, but soon settled into a rhythm of "meeting up" and chatting.

We developed the format of the first 25 to 30 minutes for chatting, sharing and caring for each other. Supporting each other through some tough times of bereavement, illness, stress and fears.

The second half we do something spiritual.

Our first study was advent, looking at peace, joy and love.

In the new year we studied faith, what it is, how to increase our faith, sharing examples of faith both personally, biblically and other people's faith exploits.

Then up to Easter we looked at the 3 part being of our makeup, the body, soul and spirit. We delved into each part, and how they all interact with each other.

Easter was obvious but very powerful, and we finished our Easter studies this week with the two on the Emmaus road.

It was during our studies over Easter that we became aware of how relevant it was to our present situation.

We were reading the account of Jesus appearing to his disciples in John ch 20.

They were locked in for fear of the Jews (that they might be the next to die),
Jesus prayed peace over them.

Next in Luke ch 24 he appeared to the two on their way home to Emmaus, they were dejected, traumatised, depressed and confused.

If you have any safeguarding concerns, contact Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

Jesus listened, he walked beside them and then shared the truth with them, opening their eyes to see the truth and hope of their salvation. The transformation sent them running back 7 miles with joy to tell the others.

On the third visit, Jesus met his disciples on the beach.

To cope in their confusion, they had gone back to the familiar, to fish. What else could they do?

But even that was a flop

Until Jesus turned up!!

At his instruction they filled their nets to overflowing with fish.

He then nourished them with breakfast, before reinstating them and giving them vision and direction.

Doesn't this sound familiar to us?

Lockdown for fear of death?

Traumatised, fearful, bewildered.

Things never the same again.

Is it time for us to have an encounter?

Is it time to go temporarily back to the familiar so we can be nourished and reinstated. Where in the familiar we will be directed and given vision for the greater things to come.

This week we sat in the garden again, and the presence of Jesus was tangible.

As the weather improves, so comes the hope of more groups being able to reopen.

May 23rd sees us in church again.... Its Pentecost!!! What an encounter that will be as the Holy Spirit breathes new life into us.

Have a very blessed week

Rachel

Magazine Deadline

The May / June Magazine deadline is Sunday 25th April.

Yes – it's come round again!

Any pictures of 'families finally having fun' or other such wonderments will be welcome.

Any content to cmcnews57@gmail.com

Lay Pastor Vacancy

There is a vacancy in the circuit for a Lay Pastor – please share with anyone who might be interested [Leigh & Hindley - Vacancy: Local Lay Pastor \(leighandhindley.org.uk\)](http://leighandhindley.org.uk)

Church Window Displays - Healing

As our next "windows" project, we are putting together some ideas for a theme on "Healing". If you would like to be involved in putting this theme together, please speak to Janette on 766819 – it would be great to have your contributions, whether that is with any ideas, healing stories, or with artwork itself. What would you like to see?

Getting Together Groups

Our getting together groups can restart, depending on the weather – Hearts and Hands met outdoors last week. A maximum of 6 people are allowed to meet in gardens now. If you were not involved and would like to join with others in fellowship, please speak to David Ogilvy or

Janette. We are looking at using the Big Church Read material in any groups that are interested. See the website here: [Home - The Bible Reading Fellowship \(brf.org.uk\)](http://brf.org.uk)



Church Community Garden – LATEST INFO

Great news! In the next few days work should be starting on the paving for the seating area in front of the Church. A Hoggin path will also be created for ease of access to the planting areas. Once this work is completed, we can begin to develop the vegetable and flower beds.

Thank you to everyone who is nurturing seeds and young plants. Please let us know if you need bigger plant pots or compost for potting on.

Many thanks for the large planters left at Church and to those of you who have passed on plastic tops for future craft creations.

Your continuing prayers for the development of this project are much appreciated, as we strive to create an area which can be enjoyed by members of the Church and our wider Community.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

The Garden Team: Heather, Rachel, Daphne, Anne, Julie (764443) and Janette (766819).

Glazebury Quiz Night

Glazebury are holding a quiz night on alternate Fridays at 8pm. Join in on the Zoom meeting on 19th March and fortnightly thereafter – this link will be the same for every one:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89804710886?pwd=dE9lVm53WWNoZlUxQkYyQzU3am91Zz09>

Meeting ID: 898 0471 0886 Passcode: 465850

Joining the Sunday Service via the internet

Would you like to join our Sunday Service on your computer, so you can see the preacher (and each other) as well as hear them? We are now offering this option. If you prefer the telephone, you can continue as before - there are no changes.

If you would like to join, click on this link (which will be the same every week) and follow the instructions below:

<https://mydanone.webex.com/mydanone/j.php?MTID=mcfe21c4f7df98fe26d8960c752cefd8b>

Click on the link to join the "Webex" system and join in that way. Webex is like "Zoom" and other virtual meeting systems.

You will be on "mute" and won't be able to be heard. Only the people taking part in the service will be able to unmute themselves. You can decide whether you wish to be seen - click "Start my video" at the bottom of the screen if you are happy to be on view, or "Stop Video" if not. I would encourage you to have it on if possible, it's lovely for us to be able to see each other.

On a laptop, once you click the link, you can download the app (recommended) or click "join from your browser", which takes you in through your internet.

If you are using a tablet or smartphone, it will prompt you to download the Webex app.

You will need to enter your name and an email address, then click "Join Meeting".

If you use the app, at the top right-hand corner of the screen, there is a control called "layout" - set this to "Stage" or "Focus" so that the person speaking will appear larger on your screen. On the internet browser, this is automatic.

If you need to put in the meeting number, this is the number from the phone-in - 145 404 825

Troubleshooting: If you can't hear, either click on "connect to audio" at the bottom of the screen, or click on the down arrow next to "Unmute" and choose the headphones/speakers that

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you are using. Also, check the volume on your computer/device is turned up, and not muted. If all else fails, it might be worth leaving by clicking the red "X" and then rejoining from the link. I hope this works for you, improves your experience of our Sunday services and helps you feel more connected. Love, Amy.