



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



SHARING SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30am

Sunday 15th May – Audrey Davies – Steward Amy Driver

Sunday 22nd May – Rev John Fisher – Holy Communion – JOINT SERVICE AT GLAZEBURY (No service at Culcheth)

Sunday 29th May – Brenda Litton – Joint service with Glazebury at Culcheth

Sunday 5th June – Rev Wilfred Robinson – Holy Communion

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

Everyone is warmly welcome to join us in the hall after the service for tea, coffee and fellowship.



To Join our online/telephone service:

Online: click this link to join the meeting via **Zoom**. [Sunday Service Zoom Link](#)



On the Phone: Dial **0330 088 5830** on your telephone,

When asked for the access code, enter **935 8460 6158#**.

When asked for your ID, press **#**.

You will be put into a waiting room and we will let you into the service.

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

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the service this morning especially to Celia Crow for the flowers.

John 13: 34-35

"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Pray Together – members of the church will be at prayer from 10.00-10.30am on Mondays, do join in wherever you are.

Communication:

Weekly Notice Sheet: To Joyce McComb by Wed 6pm for inclusion this week: email to

culchethmethodist@gmail.com or tel 767308

Website: www.leighandhindley.org.uk Facebook: Culcheth Methodist Church and LeighAndHindleyMethodist

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

Food Bank

The shortages this week are tinned vegetables, carrots and peas, chopped tomatoes, instant mash and washing powder.

The food bank were very pleased to receive your gifts from last weekend. Your contributions are very much appreciated.

Many thanks, Ray and Irene

Joint Services

You'll be aware from earlier pieces in the Notices that there are going to be more joint services in the Circuit, some of which will involve travelling to other churches. I know this is not a welcome development for some people but would encourage you to consider the positive aspects:

- * Access to a "live" rather than a streamed service
- * Sharing of resources enables a better quality of worship
- * Sharing venues, ideas and fellowship makes us a wider and more inclusive family

Please also see Linda's notice about arranging lifts. I'm sorry there can't be an "official" system organised by the church but Linda has explained very well why this isn't possible.

We have 2 joint services with Glazebury later this month:

22nd May - a joint communion service at Glazebury led by Rev John Fisher.

29th May - a joint Own Arrangement service at Culcheth led by Brenda Litton.

I hope as many of you as possible will be able to take communion at Glazebury on the 22nd.

Blessings, David Ogilvy

Circuit Events

Saturday 14th May

Lancashire Night at Glazebury Methodist Church.
Entertainment by *Flotsam*. Alcohol-free cocktails and Lancashire Hot Pot. Doors Open 7.00pm. Tickets £8.00
☎07836 721964

Saturday 21st May

Parkside Colliery Male Voice Choir at Hindley Green Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Tickets £7.50 including refreshments ☎01942 877678 or pay on the door

Friday 27th May

Indian Feast at Bedford Methodist Church – 3 course Indian meal planned and prepared by Rev Wilfred and Doris. 5.45pm for 6.00pm. Tickets £20.00 ☎01942 670054 or 01942 676538 by Monday 16th May

Saturday 4th June

Circuit Picnic at Glazebury Methodist Church from 2.00 to 4.00pm to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Further information will be posted on the Circuit website. Watch this space for any activities at Culcheth.

If you have any safeguarding concerns, contact Linda Bloomfield ☎ 01925 765875/07715 282145 or the District Safeguarding Officer, Helen Bolton, boltonandrochdaleso@dso.methodist.org.uk

☎ 07498 800427

Work Day

A small but dedicated group worked hard last Saturday to rub down the woodwork under the front windows ready for painting. Further work will be needed to prepare the front doors then paint all the woodwork - watch this space for details. David Ogilvy

Church Arranged Transport

It is really appreciated that Culcheth drivers are thoughtful in offering lifts when needed. As there will be more shared events we wondered whether it might be good to have an official scheme for arranging lifts to ensure no one missed out because they couldn't arrange a lift themselves. A few weeks ago, therefore, I wrote to everyone about the possible introduction of church organised arrangements. However, these would have to comply with safeguarding regulations.

A few drivers have come forward who have offered to be involved in a formal scheme but the majority prefer to continue to offer lifts on a "friend to friend" basis. We have concluded, therefore, that it isn't feasible to try to establish a scheme. I am sorry to say that this means that the church cannot act, even informally, as a "matchmaker" for drivers and those needing a lift. This is because if we did, in the event of a problem arising, it could be argued that the church was following an official scheme which should have checked and trained drivers. Thus, there will not be any more announcements offering to arrange lifts.

Hopefully everyone who needs a lift will continue to be able to find one but just in case we will put a list in the foyer for each shared event where people can add their name if they need a lift. Hopefully drivers who intend to go to that event will keep their eye on it and help out if they have any spare seats.

During these conversations about an official scheme some drivers have asked questions about their insurance when giving a "friend to friend lift". Problems are not envisaged but drivers might like to check their own policies.

As we are not getting any sprightlier I plan, also, to put together some practical tips for drivers who assist the less mobile amongst us.

Thank you to everyone for participating in this discussion and all the information and advice that was shared Linda

Rev Paul Martin

You will be aware that Paul, a former Minister of this church and Circuit Superintendent, will stand down as Chair of the Bolton and Rochdale District this Summer. His Farewell Service will be at the Victoria Hall, Bolton on Sunday the 10th July at 3.00pm. I'm sure many of us will want to go and say goodbye and thank you to a very dear friend. I will put up a list on the notice board. If you are interested in travelling by minibus/coach please put your name down. I have no indication yet of availability or cost, which is likely to be a lot higher than before because of the increase in fuel prices. David Ogilvy



Meet Janet: a grandmother who transformed her dusty land into a garden of hope.



A woman who has faced the worst of the climate crisis is Janet, a grandmother from Zimbabwe. In her village, Janet has experienced first hand how drought pushed her family into desperate hunger.

‘One year, there was so little food. Rains had not fallen. We ate things which we wouldn’t eat in normal times. I made porridge and gave it to the children, then removed a portion and put it

down for the dogs. The children picked up the dogs’ share because they weren’t full. When I saw this, I knew the situation had become unbearable,’ Janet shared. ‘My heart was so painful thinking that my family would die. By God’s grace we did not die. We soldiered on.’

With faith, hope and love for her family, Janet brought her family through this painful time with the support of Christian Aid’s BRAC programme (Building Resilience through Absorptive and Adaptive Capacities for Transformation).

BRAC helps the most at-risk communities in Zimbabwe to prepare for and adapt to the changing climate. Working with local partners, Christian Aid’s work empowers vulnerable communities to grow drought-tolerant crop, teaches women like Janet how to grow food in dry seasons and helps families to build storerooms to preserve food so they have the resilience to bounce back from future droughts. Families learn to eat more healthy, nutritious food and gain new skills for alternative sources of income when agriculture fails.

By learning how to grow drought-resistant crops with the support of Christian Aid, Janet was able to bring her family through a painful time and turn her barren land into a garden of plenty. Now, her farm is bursting with life, and she harvests enough surplus food to share with her neighbours while also storing enough to survive future droughts.

You can help women like Jessica and Janet turn hunger into hope. So far, Christian Aid has helped over 27,000 people in Zimbabwe to stand strong and resilient to the climate crisis. But there is still more to do.

Please donate this Christian Aid Week (15-21 May). Your donations will help families facing poverty and injustice around the world. Envelopes will be available in Church on 8th and 15th May. Alternatively you can donate at caweek.org

Photo credit: Christian Aid / David Brazier

15th May 2022

Rev Katharine's Sabbatical

While Katharine is absent our Superintendent Minister, Rev Wilfred Robinson, will provide cover but will obviously be extremely busy. Please see the note printed below from Janette about pastoral care. I would add that, if you have any concerns of a non-pastoral nature please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the stewards and we will do our best to help. My contact details are davidwo71@icloud.com or 07586299397.

With every blessing, David Ogilvy, Senior Steward

Pastoral Support during Reverend Katharine's Sabbatical

As well as having a team of caring Pastoral Visitors, who each undertake to keep in touch with a number of people from our Pastoral List, we are fortunate in our Church in also having other informal support networks of individuals who show God's love in caring about others as a natural part of their daily lives.

All these contacts, formal and informal, are greatly valued in ensuring that everyone feels cared about and that any needs are flagged up and appropriately responded to, through prayer or action, whilst being ever mindful of the importance of confidentiality.

During her Sabbatical, we will miss having our own minister Katharine so readily on hand but are reassured to know that, despite a heavy workload, Reverend Wilfred Robinson will be standing in to provide Ministerial Pastoral Support in her absence.

If you have any pastoral concerns at all please do not hesitate to contact your Pastoral Visitor or myself. We will do our best to help and to liaise with Wilfred as necessary.

Thank you and many blessings, Janette Hutchinson Pastoral Secretary (Tel: 01925 766819)

Meeting Point

We have definitely decided on a programme of fortnightly meetings, all on Thursdays at 2.00pm (unless shown otherwise), with an informal social meeting alternating with a more formal meeting possibly with a speaker. The provisional programme is as follows:

May 17 th (Tuesday)	Outing to see the Three Towns Operatic Society perform "Iolanthe"
May 26 th	Invitation to bring and talk about something of special significance to you
June 9 th	Social Meeting
June 23 rd	Speaker will be Liz Bell and the subject 'The Experience of a Contestant on Tipping Point'
July 7 th	Afternoon Tea

Meetings will restart on the 15th September

Many thanks, Joyce Davies and David Ogilvy

Circuit Administrator

There is a vacancy within the Circuit for a Circuit Administrator. Further information can be found on the Circuit Website at <https://www.leighandhindley.org.uk/vacancies.html>. Please share the information with anyone you think might be interested.

Current Covid Precautions

Following the changes to the Covid regulations, the church council have agreed some small changes to our Covid precautions at church. We now:

- Wear masks in Church services. Smaller groups meeting within the Church building can make their own decisions as to whether to wear masks following discussions within the members. It is hoped that groups will be sensitive towards those who prefer masks still to be worn.
- Maintain Social Distancing from others not in our household.
- Use hand sanitiser as we arrive and leave the building.
- Take a lateral flow test before we come if possible.
- Please do not attend if you are suffering from any symptoms or have been in close contact with someone with Covid.
- Wipe down common surfaces after use (door handles, light switches, chair arms etc)
- Rather than having the main entrance doors open for ventilation the windows in the Welcome Space will be opened during services. The fire door in the Sanctuary will still be partially open.
- If you prefer not to have anybody besides you please indicate by placing something on the next chair - please don't move around but remain seated.
- Retiring collection rather than passing round the bags.
- Chairs have been returned to rows with a space of 1.3m between rows (from the back of one chair to the back of the one in front). It is recommended that you leave 2 empty chairs between household groups. If you wish to sit closer, please make sure that both parties agree!
- Tea and Coffee - we are now able to serve drinks and individually wrapped snacks.



The Methodist Church
Bolton and Rochdale District

District Farewell Service

For Rev Paul and Dr Susy Martin

On:

Sunday 10 July 2022 at 3:00pm

At:

**The Victoria Hall
Bolton Methodist Mission
Knowsley Street, Bolton, BL1 2AS**

Paul is 'sitting down' this August from his role as District Chair and from his many years of active ministry within the District. We are very grateful for all he has done and all he has meant to those within the District and the wider Connexion. You are very warmly invited to attend his farewell service.

Parking available at:

Bolton Market Place, BL1 2AL

Topp Way NCP Car Park, Duke Street, BL1 2DJ

Upper Bark Street, Bolton, BL1 2AX

District Website
www.barmd.org.uk