

Culcheth Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number 1129901

Transforming the World by Meeting the Needs of our Community as God's People

Ellesmere Road, Culcheth, Warrington, WA3 4BJ

Minister: Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

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Psalm 52:

I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God; I trust in God's unfailing love for ever and ever.

Sharing Sunday Worship 10:30am

Sunday 17th July - Own Arrangement Songs of Praise Service - Steward Rachel Slater

Sunday 24th July - David Bushby - JOINT SERVICE AT GLAZEBURY - No service at Culcheth

Sunday 31st July - David Ogilvy - Joint service with Glazebury at Culcheth - Steward Rachel Slater

Sunday 7th August - Eileen Groves - Steward David Ogilvy

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

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the service this morning, especially to Aileen Patterson for the flowers. Flowers next week from Morag Burton

The service from Astley/Tyldesley Methodist Church, preacher Joyce Daniels, is available at 10.30 today online or through your telephone

Online: *Click this link to join the meeting via Zoom **Sunday Service Zoom Link***

Phone: *Dial **0330 088 5830**. 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

Glazebury Garden Safari

Sunday, 17 July from 11.00am to 4pm. Ticket £10.00 for 2 Guests. Following the success of the previous garden safaris, 5 gardens will be open to the public for a special charity event. All monies raised will go to Glazebury Methodist Church, All Saints Church and Glazebury School. Tickets available at Glazebury Methodist Church or phone 07806 600508 or purchase at Bents.

Delayed MWiB Easter Offering Service

This will now take place on Sunday **17th July** at 2.00pm at Bedford Methodist Church.

18.30 Praise

Modern worship with a live band at Newchurch Parish Hall on **Sunday 17th July** at 6.30pm and fortnightly thereafter.

Rev Brian Jones

Most of you will know that Brian has sadly passed away following a long battle with illness. We're thankful that his suffering is over but will miss his thoughtful and thought-provoking preaching, his dry sense of humour and his mischievous, off-beat view of life. Our thoughts and prayers are with our dear friend Mary, who has such a special relationship with this church, and all the family. The funeral will take place here, conducted by Rev Helen Byrne (Brian's daughter) and Rev Paul Martin, with a welcome by Rev Katharine, on **Friday the 22nd July** at 1.30 pm followed by a short committal at Howe Bridge Crematorium. Refreshments will be served afterwards at Glazebury Methodist Church.

For the funeral the seating capacity in the sanctuary will be increased by reducing the distance between rows to 1m, as for Bob Burton's funeral. There will be additional seating in the foyer and Welcome Space if needed. Mindful of the rise in Covid cases doors and windows will be open for ventilation and we suggest you may want to wear a face covering.

Thank you



I was struck on Sunday by how good the front of the Church was looking in the sun. I think that a big thanks should go to the working parties who have repainted the wood and weeded the paving at the Church entrance, the garden group who have tended the flowers and vegetables and the property committee who have arranged the new notice boards.

Ed

Communication:

Weekly Notice Sheet: Joyce McComb by Wednesday 6pm for inclusion that week - email to culchethmethodist@gmail.com or phone 767308

Website: www.leighandhindley.org.uk Facebook CulchethMethodistChurch and LeighandHindleyMethodist
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Safeguarding Concerns contact Rev Katharine Bland 01925 763218

Rev Paul Martin's Farewell Service

Most of us made it to the service despite the panic over the coach not turning up. Grateful thanks to the car drivers who gave lifts to passengers. I will refund fares paid when I see you at church if this is ok. It was worth the effort to be able to celebrate Paul's ministry and say goodbye and thanks to him and Suzy along with a hall full of friends.

David Ogilvy

The response for donations towards Paul Martin's retirement collection was immense and I have sent off two cheques totalling £318.00 to the Circuit Treasurer. Susan Fisher has responded by saying "Thank you. That's very generous of Culcheth. I know how highly regarded Paul is by the Culcheth people."

Once Susan has received all donations, she will confirm the total.

Carol Sherratt

All We Can Harvest Collection 2021..... yes 2021!

Since taking over as Treasurer I have found money in the safe which was donated back in October 2021 for the Harvest Appeal for All We Can. Following a telephone call to All We Can, I have sent a cheque for £272 plus the completed Gift Aid forms where applicable. They were very pleased to know that the donation was on its way.

Carol Sherratt

Foodbank

This week we are asked to bring Instant Mash, tinned vegetables, fruit squash drinks, jam and chopped tomatoes. Of course you can give other foods that you think would be useful for family meals.

Thank you again for your previous gifts. Everything you bring is much appreciated.

Ray and Irene

Cleaning of Play Area

You'll be aware that we're concerned about the poor state of the play area at the back of the building, which is used regularly by young children. Not only is it unsightly but the surface is becoming hazardous. It requires regular washing down and brushing and generally keeping clean and tidy. I would like to establish a rota for tackling this. If you are willing to go on a rota with others to do this on a regular basis please speak to me or contact me on davidwo71@icloud.com or 07586299397.

David Ogilvy

Regular Maintenance Work Days

In order to keep on top of the regular external maintenance of the building and keep the grounds clean and tidy we need regular work groups. It's an opportunity for people to work together to improve the appearance of the church and the impression it gives to the community. My suggestion is to have a regular date in the calendar when anyone who is free can come along to help such as the 1st Saturday in the month. This could start on the 6th August. Can I have your comments please?

David Ogilvy

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Gift Day

I hear that the Gift Day presentation was well received. If you have any queries please do get in touch. There was a very good response to the appeal. Many people pledged to do one or more of the following:

Increase their monthly giving
Make a One Off donation
Offer their time and talents and
Pray

I have already banked the collection which amounted to £1,615 which with added Gift Aid will be £1,752.50.

Some people have already increased their monthly giving so a big thank you to all who have contributed so far. If you weren't at the service last week but would still like to give a one off donation, please put the money/cheque in an envelope marked Gift Day or if it can be Gift Aided please put it in a church white Gift Aid envelope.

We just have to come up with some fundraising events that we can run hopefully in the next few months. If you have ideas or could help in any way please contact one of the Leadership Team..

Once again a big THANK YOU.

Carol Sherratt

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Church Finances July 2022

I knew when I took on the role of Church Treasurer, it wasn't going to be easy but I know that I can do the mathematics and trust in God. I will not be responsible solely for decision making for that is up to the Church Council and church members.

Back in December 2019 a letter went out to explain just how the church's finances were then, not in a great shape. Well as you can imagine due to people moving away, passing away and personal circumstances changing, regular giving no longer covers the Circuit Assessment which has to be paid first and foremost. This funds our ministers and manse primarily. At a Circuit Treasurers' meeting we shared each church's state of finances. Most of the 11 churches had experienced the same problems; having to use dwindling reserves. Even the circuit itself has had to produce a balanced budget for next year.

Our assessment is the same as the current year, £42,807.20 but in order to meet all our bills, our income has to increase. The cost of living is rising for everyone including the church. Our gas fixed rate contract ends early next year and whilst we will endeavour to find a good new contract the cost will undoubtedly rise. This is just one example.

The total funds at the start of the year were £52,513 of which £29,707 were restricted, ring-fenced or earmarked for certain projects. These funds cannot be used for general purposes. During the 9 months to the end of May, Income has exceeded expenditure by £4,571.

At present we have £27,378 with which to pay the monthly bills and hopefully we will have approximately £13k income in June, July and August (If the summer term lettings invoices are paid before the end of August). Expenditure will be £18k. The next instalment of the assessment, £10,702 is due early August and this must be paid. As Methodists we have to cover this commitment but our giving at present does not match this. On top of this our building needs essential maintenance and tasks completing before the next Quinquennial Report. We should also have 6 months of expenditure in reserves but this has dwindled to very little.

We have God and faith on our side and if it is His will, we will be able to meet these costs BUT it needs everyone to think seriously about their giving of both gifts and talents. Gifts include praying, increasing a Standing Order or giving a one-off donation. Don't forget to let us know if your donation can be Gift Aided.

It would be good for church members and the community to have a few fundraising events. We all like to have an event where there is food, chatter, laughter and maybe even a quiz and after the various lockdowns and restrictions over the last two years I think that we are ready to start socialising a bit more, albeit with caution. Could you lead or form part of a team organising a fundraising day, morning, afternoon or evening? The more that volunteer, the less work for each person. The possibilities are endless but we do need

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bodies. A simple soup and roll lunch on a Saturday might be an example. Calling all those who bake bread and make soup if such an event appeals.

The church really does need more funds on a regular basis to keep our presence in Culcheth alive with the Good News and continue to support the community. If you can volunteer your expertise or want to Gift Aid a donation please let one of the stewards know.

Carol Sherratt

Social Events/Fundraising

The stewards have been giving a lot of thought to the importance of once again having regular social events, following the long lay-off during the pandemic, with grateful thanks to Daphne for her helpful suggestions and support. This would bring us together and help us to get to know one another better and especially allow Katharine to meet people properly at long last. It would also hopefully generate a spirit of mutual support and working together which would lead to all sorts of much-needed fundraising projects and a fresh interest in keeping the building and grounds tidy and well-maintained.

Some of the ideas mentioned so far include:

- * A hotpot supper/singalong (with ukulele band?) possibly at Harvest
- * Revival of the Supper Club in some form but with different catering
- * Occasional evening meals/Sunday lunch at a venue such as the Village Club
- * Fundraising quiz with raffle
- * Table-top sale/auction
- * Regular maintenance work parties with something to eat afterwards (barbecue?)
- * Soup & roll/faith lunches at church
- * Safari Supper (very popular at Glazebury)
- * Reviving the Saturday morning Open Doors

We would love to have your views and ideas on this. I'm sure the Gift Day has convinced you how vital ongoing fundraising is going to be. Do please talk about this, exchange ideas and let the stewards have your thoughts.

None of this can happen without organisation, of course, and we do need a person or small group, who would be willing to coordinate, but not necessarily organise in detail, social/fundraising events. If you think you might be able to do this please speak to me or one of the stewards.

Many thanks, David Ogilvy

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