

GLAZEBURY METHODIST CHURCH

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Circuit Website — www.leighandhindley.org.uk



REV KATHARINE BLAND

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READINGS FOR SUNDAY, 1 MAY 2022 – Acts 9: 1-6 and 7-20; Psalm 30; Revelation 5: 11-14 and John 21: 1-19.

REVELATION 5: 11-14 – The Scroll and the Lamb – Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voiced they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures said, "Amen", and the elders fell down and worshipped.

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THANK YOU FOR THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH THIS WEEK PROVIDED BY RUTH WAREING

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COFFEE MORNINGS – The next Coffee Morning will be held on **Tuesday, 10 May 2022** – 10.00am – 12noon
- If you can help with our Coffee Morning please contact Janet Crozier (Steward).

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:-

Community Day at Culcheth – Monday, 9 May – Please speak to Robert Graham if you can help out.

**Tickets now available for Lancashire night
SATURDAY 14 MAY. Doors open 7pm for 7 30pm
Entertainment by FLOTSAM**

Please note that the Circuit Picnic for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be taking place on Saturday 4 June, 2pm to 4pm at Glazebury. More information is available on the Circuit website: <https://www.leighandhindley.org.uk/news/circuit-picnic-for-platinum-jubilee.html>

**Home-made Hotpot. Bar available with non-alcoholic beer and cocktails
Tickets only £8 from any member of Men's Breakfast group**

General Church Council Meeting – Sunday, 11 September 2022.

Harvest Festival – 2 October –hopefully at the allotment as last year.

Church Council Meeting – Thursday, 13 October 2022

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SERVICES AT GLAZEBURY METHODIST

Date	Preacher	Virtual (V) or Physical (P)	If you can't attend church – join online by this link
			On the Phone: Dial 0330 088 5830 on your telephone, When it asks for the access code, enter 935 8460 6158# . When it asks for your ID, press #.
1 May	Joyce Daniels	P	Steward – John Martin
8 May	Breakfast Church/LA	P	Steward – Janet Crozier
15 May	LA/Live Stream		Steward – Graham Borg
22 May	Rev John Fisher (HC) and Live Stream	P	Steward – Delia Caswell
29 May	LA/Live Stream		Steward – Christine Taylor

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A MESSAGE FROM TEARFUND

Courage and sacrifice: stories of humanity from Ukraine

First-hand accounts from people affected by the conflict in Ukraine, and updates from our partners in the region.
[Written by Agnes McGrane | 26 Apr 2022]

Andriy could have stayed in safety. But he didn't. Though he'd escaped the war in Ukraine, he knew he had to go back. Like many refugees who our local partners have been supporting, Andriy volunteered to keep helping people caught up in the conflict.

'I was in Kyiv when the war started,' remembers Andriy*. 'The lines to get tickets on buses that day were incomprehensible.'

Andriy was concerned about getting his niece, Sofia, to safety. They were eventually able to get a lift with a local pastor and crossed the border into Slovakia. The journey was long and stressful, taking more than 40 hours.

As soon as Sofia was safe, Andriy returned to Ukraine to help others. He sent us this update from Lviv, a city in the west of the country: 'Please pray for us, as we don't know what to do in the near future and when we will go back to Kyiv. Big thanks to all of you for your generous financial help and for supporting us with your prayers.'

Essential supplies

'What I saw at the border was disheartening,' says Adrian, who works with Tearfund's local partner in the region. 'Very long lines of people, mostly mothers and children, shivering in the cold weather... lots of crying and despair.'

Tearfund's local partners have been supporting Ukrainian refugees who have crossed the borders into neighbouring countries such as Poland, Romania and Slovakia with food, safe water and shelter. They have also been sending trucks filled with essential supplies to people still living in Ukraine.

'There are thousands of people who are still coming [across the border] on a daily basis, and we are doing all we can to help – either by sending goods over or hosting them,' says Adrian.

Canteen for displaced people in Chernivtsi, West Ukraine. The text on the wall reads 'Give us this day our daily bread' (Matthew 6:11). Credit: Tearfund partner.

Sacrifice

Adrian shares the story of Vasyl*, a Ukrainian who drove his extended family across the border into Romania.

Our local partner helped them to find a host family, who welcomed them into their home. But as soon as his family was settled, Vasyl returned to Ukraine. He has been filling up his van with supplies to distribute to anyone in need.

'His sacrifice is inspiring,' says Adrian. 'It takes a committed heart and deep trust in the Lord to be able to make these kinds of choices which put the needs of the others above your own.'

Vasyl* has been filling his van with supplies and distributing them across Ukraine. Credit: Tearfund partner.

The sounds of Kyiv

Alex*, another refugee from Kyiv, shared some of his drawings and reflections with us.

'The noise [of the tram] disturbed some Kyivans in the past... but the metal rhythmic grinding became a desirable sound, because it reminded us about normal peaceful days.

'That sound of a tram in Kyiv lasted only a couple of days after the morning of February 24. In those days there were a lot of other sounds in Kyiv. There were the sounds of shells rumbling.'



A drawing of a tram in Kyiv by Alex, a Ukrainian refugee. Credit: Tearfund partner.

'We spent the last nights of February in the underground shelter. Those days and nights were shaken by the terrible sounds of explosions.'

Open hearts

Alex joined a group of Ukrainian Christians who organised an evacuation to the western part of Ukraine. He finally reached safety in Slovakia, and is now staying at a refugee camp run by one of our local partners.

'I am thankful to God and to Christians from different European countries who helped me and other people from Ukraine during those strenuous days,' Alex says.

'[The camp] is well organised and volunteers helped us with food, clothes, and useful advice. Enough support was given to everyone who needed it... everywhere I go, I meet people with open hearts who are ready to assist.'

What it means to serve

There are countless stories like these: stories of hope, of human kindness and of God's provision in the midst of pain and loss. But the war rages on and the future is uncertain. Please continue to pray with us for the people of Ukraine.

One of our church partners sent us this message: 'We continue to do what we were called to do as a church: serve the people and preach the gospel. What it means to serve people is now very clear – to respond to their needs. And the needs are also clear: to be near, to listen, to encourage, to cry together, to clothe, feed, heal, take into the house and into the heart. But in order to share all this, you must always be strong, filled and ready to give, to sacrifice. Perhaps this is what we ask you to pray for.'

Pray with us

- Pray for people who have fled the conflict in Ukraine. Ask that they will find safe and welcoming places to stay and that they will receive all the support they need.
- Lift up the people who remain in Ukraine. Pray that they will know God's comfort, strength and protection. And continue to pray for lasting peace.
- Pray for our local partners and everyone involved in reaching out to those affected by the conflict. Pray for renewed energy and strength, opportunities to rest, and wisdom to know how to best allocate resources.

**Names changed to protect identities.*

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Please CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING in your prayers:-

- Eileen Groves – who is unwell.

Those, for one reason or another, feel that they are not ready to return to church. May your blessings be always with them. For any of our friends and relatives who are finding these times difficult. May your presence be with them.

Rev Paul Martin - You will be aware that Paul, a former Minister of this church and Circuit Superintendent, will 'sit 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. See notice board for more details. If you are interested in a coach please let me know. [Christine Taylor]

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Pastoral Care for the Next Three Months - Rev Katharine is now on Sabbatical, which will last for three months. During this time Rev Wilfred Robinson will have Pastoral care for eleven churches. This is an impossible task without the help of our Pastoral Visitors. As a church family we must all take care of one another and the Pastoral Visitors will keep their eyes and ears open for those in their group. The list of groups will be on the notice board in church if you are not sure who your Pastoral Visitor is. Every one of us has the role of looking out for one another.

We pray that Rev Katharine will return refreshed, rested and renewed to continue to serve The Lord. **Delia - Pastoral Secretary**

We are looking forward to snippets from Rev Katharine's Sabbatical via this news sheet.

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THE LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETS ON A REGULAR BASIS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES/QUESTIONS PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT THEY ARE AND I WILL TAKE THEM TO THE MEETING – IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT THE QUESTION/CONCERN MIGHT BE. WE CANNOT WORK FOR YOU IF YOU DON'T TELL US WHAT YOU MAY BE CONCERNED ABOUT!!!

Taylor]

[Christine

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Room / Event Bookings

Please direct all room / event booking enquiries to Robert Graham via one of the following methods: DM via the Glazebury Methodist Church Facebook page By email: By Phone or text: 07806 600508

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For the most up to date news see our Facebook page.
Search 'Glazebury Methodist Church' on Facebook.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWS SHEET PLEASE CONTACT ME - CHRISTINE TAYOR – ON 07801252625 OR

