**GLAZEBURY METHODIST CHURCH**

**Minister:** Rev Katharine Bland Tel: 01925 763218

**Superintendent**: Rev Luke Smith Tel: 01942 665654

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**Circuit Website ––** [www.leighandhindley.org.uk](http://www.leighandhindley.org.uk)



**REV KATHARINE BLAND** 

**A REFLECTION FROM OUR MINISTER –**

Dear Friends,

One of the first things I like to share with my church families is ‘my story’. I don’t like the word ‘testimony’, it’s far too churchy a word! But I do like the word story, and we all have a story to share. From my school-life to my working-life, I seem to have chosen paths that involve wearing a variety of uniforms! I’ll hang back sharing my story with you in this newsletter, I would much prefer to share it with you all in person, and hopefully that opportunity will be very soon. So, for now, I’ll just reveal to you that I left school at 16yrs and I joined the Army!

Did you know that Saturday 27th June is Armed Forces Day? It’s a day when we are encouraged to remember, give thanks, and hold in our prayers our armed forces personnel. Here is a little snippet from the ‘Armed Forces Christian Union’ website:

*Life in the Forces – Service personnel spend a large proportion of their military service in training. After basic recruit training (Phase 1) and trade training (Phase 2) individual training takes place throughout their careers. Once established in their ships or units much time is spent on collective training to prepare for possible operations, for peacekeeping, for disaster relief at home or abroad, and for assisting the government, as has been the case with the Covid pandemic. Whilst exercises can be exciting and give a degree of realism, they can also be dangerous, frequent, and involve long spells away from home.*

* *Pray for those undergoing training that they take every opportunity to do their best and grasp the knowledge and skills that they need to do their job well.*
* *Pray for safety of those undertaking exercises and for their families while they are away from home.*
* *Pray for those planning exercises, that they will have an eye for detail so that the exercises achieve their purpose.*
* *Pray for military Christians on deployment that they will show integrity and be a witness to their colleagues while they are together for long periods of time.*

From the Field Service Book of the British Army

*Almighty God,*

*in you alone we find safety and peace.*

*We commend to your gracious keeping*

*all the men and women who serve in the Navy, the Army or the Air Force,*

*who face danger and put their lives at risk so that others might live in safety.*

*Defend them day by day by your heavenly power;*

*and help them to know that they can never pass beyond the reach of your care.*

*Keep alive in them and in us your vision of that peace*

*which alone we must seek and serve;*

*Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

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**BIBLE READINGS for Sunday, 27 June 2021– 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 Psalm 130, 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15 and Mark 5: 21-43.**

**Extract from – Mark 5: ‘A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman’ – When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered round him while he was by the lake. Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him, “my little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.” So Jesus went with him……..**

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**Please note that all services in the Circuit will start at 10.30am for the foreseeable future.**

**We’re Open! Services Now Held in Church – Sunday 10.30am**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Preacher** | **Virtual (V) or Physical (P)** | **If can’t attend church – join online by this link** |
|  |  |  | **From 6th June:****Online**: click this link to join the meeting via **Zoom**. [Sunday Service Zoom Link](https://zoom.us/j/93584606158?pwd=VjcxWVBlVTg3NWs1NHRmQ1U0Wk9jUT09)**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 **#**.  |
| 27/6/21 | Dial in Service – **Steward –Graham Borg** | V | Circuit Dial In Service - Dave Conway |
| 4/7/21 | **Steward – Janet Crozier** | P | Audrey Davies |
| 11/7/21 | Dial in Service – **Steward – Christine Taylor**  | V | Circuit Dial in Service – David Burkey |
| 18/7/21 | **Steward – Delia Caswell** |  | Susan Stewart |

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**Question Answered?**

When are we opening church was a question asked?

We re-opened on 23rd May and since then we’ve had a combination of live and virtual services including two ‘live’ communion services led by Katharine, who is desperate to meet her ‘new’ congregation.

Have you been back to church yet?

If not, why not?

We all live in unprecedented times and if we think that things will ‘return to normal’ at church, or in our lives, sorry to burst the bubble – they’re not.

At the moment we have to continue to follow Government and Methodist Church guidelines so social distancing, track & trace, masks, no singing (it’s the law, by the way and subject to a hefty fine!). That may change in mid-July.

We have worked around this very well and continue to do so.

There are some things that we could now do, but have chosen not to do at this time do to the extra burden, paperwork, etc. put on the few.

You may or may not have seen ‘the plan’, which outlines the services for the next few months. The current one runs until the end of August 2021.

This is made up of ‘in person’ led services by a minister or local preacher with Janet on the organ, or a ‘virtual’ service which is Zoomed into the church led by a minister or local preacher from the Leigh & Hindley or Liverpool North Circuit.

All services start at 10.30am and last about ¾ hour.

Due to the ‘Coffee Hut’ being open, there is a chance for fellowship (socially distanced and rule of 6) in the church gardens after the service.

When the September to Christmas plan is published later in the summer, the services will remain a combination of ‘live’ and ‘virtual’ and Liverpool North will be leaving us at that time.

We’ll ask the question again – have you been back to church and if not why not? The Leadership Team would love to know.

**Please speak to Katharine, Delia, Robert, Janet, Christine, Graham or Eileen.**

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**The COFFEE HUT** will be open each Sunday outside for refreshments. This is open from 11am – 3pm. We will try to provide a covered area for inclement weather. Please continue to follow Covid Regulations.

We know there’s still a lot of ‘rules’ to follow but we are keen to welcome you back to church in whatever format you choose to follow.

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**Glazebury Booking System**

Due to social distancing we are limited to numbers who can attend services on Sundays:-

19 people (22 if same bubble) in church

12 people in the hall (live relay)

To book your seat please follow the link below.

<https://forms.gle/DyyEEELjuudMXoYt6>

Whilst you are given the opportunity to book a few weeks in advance, you must process each date singularly.

If you do not have access to the online booking system please contact one of the stewards who will do it for you or phone or text 07806 600508.

**Please remember to wrap up warm as church windows/doors will need to be open according to CoViD 19 regulations. We will set up the Coffee Hut outside church with social distancing after the service.**

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| Icon  Description automatically generated | For the most up to date news see our Facebook page.Search ‘Glazebury Methodist Church’ on Facebook. |

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**Please CONTINE TO REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING in your prayers:-**

Please remember two families that I am friends with that are going through a very rough time at the moment due to serious health problems. *[Christine Taylor]*

**ALSO** – Let us remember anyone we know of that is suffering at this time of year whether from illness, mourning or mental health problems. They are all in our prayers.

**IF THERE IS ANYONE YOU KNOW OF WHO NEEDS OUR PRAYERS PLEASE LET ME KNOW (WITH THEIR APPROVAL) AND I WILL INCLUDE THEM IN THE LIST. THEY DON’T NEED TO BE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH.**

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**Missing Hedges and Deep Holes**

Over the last couple of weeks, you’ll have noticed that the hedge, garden area and trees have gone from alongside the porch and kitchen. Thanks to Peter Grundy, Josh Wyke (for the digger and digging) and Paul from SM Drains we have now managed to start to clear the ground and dig a deeper hole than previously to help install a soakaway. However, we have found some old drains lower in the ground which have been surveyed from the building to the road. More work and digging are needed, the remaining tree will be removed shortly – roots and drains don’t mix!

Costs have been kept to a minimum up to now but we are keen to extend our community church garden to reinstate the land afterwards*. [Robert Graham]*

**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.**

 *[Christine Taylor]*

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 **BECAUSE OF A FALLOFF IN MEMBERS FOR THE**

**GLAZEBURY WEEKLY SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING- We have postponed them for a while –Leadership Team. Remember the Coffee Hut is still open.**

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**Topic: Quiz Night
Time: 2 July 2021 8:00 PM**
Join Zoom Meeting
Topic: Quiz Night
**Time: This is a recurring meeting - meet anytime**

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89804710886?pwd=dE9IVm53WWNoZlUxQkYyQzU3am91Zz09

**Meeting ID:** 898 0471 0886
**Passcode:** 465850

**NB – QUIZ NIGHTS WILL BE HELD EVERY OTHER FRIDAY AT 8PM**

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**IF YOU WOUD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWS SHEET PLEASE CONTACT ME - CHRISTINE TAYOR –ON 07801252625 OR** **christine4872@sky.com**

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