

# THE RECORD

SUMMER 2023



## CHURCH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

The **Methodist** Church South Fylde Circuit  
*Making Disciples: Transforming Lives and Communities*

Minister: Revd Louise Makin – currently on sabbatical

Superintendent Minister: Revd Stuart Wild  
Tel. 07470 350205; email: [revstuartwild@aol.com](mailto:revstuartwild@aol.com)

Pastoral Assistant: Judith Smith  
Tel: 07586 842846; email: [jp.smith185@btinternet.com](mailto:jp.smith185@btinternet.com).



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Web Site [www.churchroadmethodist.org](http://www.churchroadmethodist.org)  
Email: [churchroadmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:churchroadmethodist@gmail.com)*

*Church Road Methodist Church Registered Charity No 1134109*

## **THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION**

is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the Word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation,  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.

Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
In love may dwell with Thee.

*Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)*



## **Just a thought from Judith**

Now that Louise has gone on her Sabbatical. I thought I might share a few thoughts around that topic. I certainly empathise with the idea, along with many of you no doubt, and would love to take time out from the daily routine of life.

A time of Sabbatical leaves a church bereft of its minister and it can feel a little like floating on a ship without the captain. However, the Methodist church deems it necessary, when Ministers reach seven years of service, to allow them a Sabbatical. It has a very Biblical basis as we go way back to the beginning of time. In Genesis God decreed the seventh day a day of rest. Those who cared for the land were instructed to leave a field fallow every seven years for the soil to rest and crops to be rotated.

Sabbatical is a time to reflect and recuperate from the demands of Church and Circuit life. I've known minister's go off to other countries to explore how the Methodist church works in different cultures. Some take the time to read and write the odd book. Others take time to explore a different way of life, find new skills, for Louise she is going to explore Iconography. Unfortunately, we won't be the ones to share in her newfound skills as she journeys across the Pennines to pastures new in September. But we wish her well as she travels on.

Perhaps many of us too would like a Sabbatical and perhaps we just need to be a little bit more inventive about how we to can find time to explore our faith, find new skills and be kind to ourselves. One way may be tuning to God on the seventh hour of the day, or every seven weeks make timeout in your diary to explore your faith or share it with others. It's amazing what God can do when we get in touch.

Here is a short prayer you might like to use to give you a start.

### ***Psalm 46 v 10***

***Be still and know that I am God  
Be still and know that I am  
Be still and know that I  
Be still and know that  
Be still and know  
Be still and  
Be still***

# WORSHIP SERVICES

## JUNE

4<sup>th</sup> June  
9.00 a.m.

*ACTIV8*  
Ms Judith Smith

11<sup>th</sup> June  
10.30 a.m.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY & GIFT DAY  
Revd Kevin Johnson

18<sup>th</sup> June  
10.30 a.m.

MHA SUNDAY  
Revd Janet Pybon  
Service includes the celebration of Holy Communion

3.00 p.m.

CIRCUIT SERVICE at The Drive Methodist Church.

25<sup>th</sup> June  
10.30 a.m.

Ms Adrienne Simpson

## JULY

2<sup>nd</sup> July  
9.00 a.m.

*ACTIV8*  
Mr. David Turner

9<sup>th</sup> July  
10.30 a.m.

Ms Christine Pierce

16<sup>th</sup> July  
10.30 a.m.

Revd Stephen Heath  
Service includes the celebration of Holy Communion

23<sup>rd</sup> July  
10.30 a.m.

Ms Julia Brooks

30<sup>th</sup> July  
10.30 a.m.

Ms Sue Leach

# WORSHIP SERVICES (cont'd)

## AUGUST

6<sup>th</sup> August

9.00 a.m.

*ACTIV8:*

Ms Julia Brooks

13<sup>th</sup> August

10.30 a.m.

*ACTION FOR CHILDREN SUNDAY*

Ms Judith Smith

20<sup>th</sup> August

10.30 a.m.

Revd Alan Clark

Service includes the celebration of Holy Communion

27<sup>th</sup> August

10.30 a.m.

Revd Andrew Halstead

## CIRCUIT SERVICES

**Sunday 11 June** 3.00 p.m. at Layton Methodist Church. Service to mark 40 years' service as a local preacher by Fred Jackson.

**Sunday 18 June** 3.00 p.m. at The Drive Methodist Church. The service will include a speaker from the Christian Police Association.

Both services will be followed by refreshments and a time of fellowship.

All will be very welcome.

## SPRING FLOWER DEDICATIONS

### MARCH

- 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday memories of Gordon Porter
- 8<sup>th</sup> Loving birthday memories of Ross Wells
- 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday memories of Michael from Valerie  
Audrey Porter - Wedding Day memories of Gordon
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Loving memories of Muriel Maddocks  
Birthday memories of Arthur Nicholson  
Loving memories of Margaret Richmond, Wilfred & Dorothy Lowe

### APRIL

- 2<sup>nd</sup> In loving memory of Eric and Jean Currie  
Treasured memories of Vera Pate
- 30<sup>th</sup> Treasured memories of Conrad Pate  
Treasured Wedding Anniversary and birthday memories of Derek Rigby

### MAY

- 7<sup>th</sup> Diana Thompson - birthday memories of a dear Mummy & Daddy
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sylvia Dibble in loving memory of Audrey and their parents
- 21<sup>st</sup> Rosemary Wells – Wedding Anniversary memories  
Fond memories of Hannah Nicholson
- 28<sup>th</sup> The birthday of Margaret Joyce Knight



## Letter from our Superintendent Revd Stuart Wild

Dear Friends,

There are major changes happening in the circuit as I am sure you are aware. Last year the Blackpool and South Fylde circuits combined to form the not very imaginatively named Blackpool and South Fylde Circuit. This was a circuit of nine churches staffed by three presbyters, a deacon (half time) and two lay workers (half time). This year Louise Makin has left and Judith Smith will finish in the summer.

You may be aware that there are not the number of ministers available that there used to be and that means that there are far fewer ministers available than circuit appointments seeking ministers.

Unfortunately, our circuit did not secure a probationer and so from September we will be down to two presbyters. There was nothing wrong with the appointment. There were just more appointments than probationers available and we were unlucky. We will try again next year but there are no guarantees and no account will be taken of last year's disappointment.

So next year, in addition to our existing sections, I will take responsibility for The Drive and Rev Andy Halstead will take on responsibility for Church Road. Deacon Kim will look after Freckleton. We will be seeking to recruit three part time lay workers and one of them will be working alongside Andy at Church Road and Wesley's. Initially these appointments will be for a year but...

Well let me quote a worship song

*I do not know what lies ahead,  
the way I cannot see;  
yet one stands near to be my guide;  
he'll show the way to me.*

And that is my prayer.

God bless you

Stuart Wild, Superintendent Minister

# SABBATICAL CONTACT INFORMATION TO 31 AUGUST 2023

For **pastoral issues**, please contact Judith Smith

Tel: 07586 842846

email: [jp.smith185@btinternet](mailto:jp.smith185@btinternet).

**Baptisms, weddings and funerals** please contact Revd Stuart Wild

Tel: 01772 715134

email: [revstuartwild@aol.com](mailto:revstuartwild@aol.com)

**Wesley's Café and Larder** please contact Revd Stephen Heath

Tel: 01772 683884

email: [stephen.heath@methodist.org.uk](mailto:stephen.heath@methodist.org.uk)

**Room bookings** please contact Mrs Jan Platel

email: [janplatel@hotmail.com](mailto:janplatel@hotmail.com)

For any **other queries** regarding Church Road Methodist Church please contact Mrs Linda Butcher Tel: 07796 035514



Everyone is welcome to join us for our

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

**SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER AT 10 30 AM**

There will be a collection for All We Can. All We Can helps people in some of the world's poorest communities to become "all that they can".

Envelopes will be available if you want to gift aid your donation.

## Paws for thought 7

As I sit this afternoon like many of you, I am looking forward to some sunny summer weather. Unfortunately, it is a typical Bank Holiday and we have come back soaked from taking Fimber for his walk. Strangely the sea front around Fairhaven was devoid of people which meant a rather peaceful walk if rather wet.

It's strange how sometimes we crave being with people and at other times we appreciate the peace and quiet around. The tide was coming in, gently lapping, the birds were singing in the rain, and a few honks from the geese letting us know they were there.

We don't read much about the rain in the New Testament, lots about rain in the Old Testament. The story in Matthew Ch 7 v 24-29 about building your house on the sand rather than being founded on rock is a pertinent reminder of flooding. In Mark Ch 4 v 35-41 we read the story of the storm, when the disciples feared for their lives, which Jesus stilled, both point out that Jesus spoke with authority.

Speaking with authority about our faith is something we often shy away from. We don't want our faith to be washed away or to face stormy weather when we feel challenged. I think what we need is the gentle rain approach, just enough to encourage the growth of a seed and be there with the watering can in the warm summer sun if life begins to wilt a little.

*God of all living,  
God of all loving,  
God of the seedling,  
The snow and the sun,  
Teach us, deflect us,  
Using us gently, making us one.*  
(729 STF by Shirley Erena Murray)



I'm praying for sunshine....

Judith Smith – Lay worker

## THANK YOU TO LOUISE



One of the features of Methodism is the itinerant nature of the ministry. Every minister brings something fresh to our church and new ideas to help keep our fellowship alive.

It is now time to say good bye and thank you to Louise for the support she has given us during her time as Minister at Church Road. She is now taking her sabbatical before formally leaving us in August to take up an appointment in South Yorkshire from 1 September.

We have been blessed by Louise's different approaches to worship, her imaginative and creative ideas for Active8 services and especially the activities for children and young people at all services. We have appreciated her attention to our premises, especially with the decoration of the prayer chapel, her encouragement to keep the place neat and tidy and the addition of colourful poster displays in the foyer. We even appreciated the impetus from Louise to work together on a long overdue clear out day, which was a great success! Her talent for making candles was a lovely addition to our Christmas coffee mornings, also and in the Hub.

At her last service at Church Road on Sunday 30 April, Louise was presented with a cheque from the congregation, a wooden tea-light holder (made by the Chapel in the Fields) and an orchid.

We pray for success, joy and blessing for Louise in the next assignments that God has planned for her.

With our thanks and best wishes for the future.

*The Church Road Family*

## New President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference elected for 2023/24

The Methodist Conference has elected the Revd Gill Newton to serve as President and Deacon Kerry Scarlett to serve as Vice-President, starting their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference opens in Birmingham in June.



**The Revd Gill Newton** is a life-long Methodist, raised in Cornwall, with experience of circuit ministry and has served as the Sheffield District Chair since 2014.

Following the announcement of the election results, the Revd Gill Newton said: “I am both humbled and honoured to have been entrusted with this role by the members of the Methodist Conference. With God’s help and together with the Vice President Designate, Deacon Kerry Scarlett, I

look forward to the opportunities we will have to encourage, inspire and challenge the Methodist people during our year of office.”

Gill Newton chairs the Ministries Committee overseeing the development of the church’s ministry in many varied contexts. She also serves on the Strategy and Resources Committee and on the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Board and has previously chaired the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee and served as Chair of the Chairs.

**Deacon Kerry Scarlett**, from the Birmingham District, has a passion for justice and seeks to enable and amplify the voices of others. Kerry founded [ADAVU](#), an anti-trafficking charity and participated in regional network and anti-trafficking campaigns.



Speaking following the election, Kerry Scarlett said: “It is an honour and a privilege to have been elected Vice-President Designate. I am very much looking forward to working with Gill Newton, and am very grateful for the opportunity to serve the Methodist Church in this way.”

Kerry has served the church in a number of ways including theological education, the Learning Network, a variety of committees including the Candidates Committee and has contributed to and facilitated complex reviews.

The role of President of the Methodist Conference is reserved for presbyters and that of Vice-President for lay people or deacons.

This year, the Methodist Conference will take place in Birmingham, from 22- 29 June



## **LANCASHIRE METHODIST DISTRICT NEWS**

Last year, we reported that the Districts in the North West have been working more closely together to share resources in support of mission, training and opportunities. Proposals were being developed for a regional structure, with work divided between three hubs: a Mission Hub for spiritual leadership, a Service Hub for statutory matters such as property, finance, safeguarding etc and a Ministry Hub for worship and discipleship matters.

At the District Synod in April, representatives voted in favour of the proposed amalgamation of the Lancashire District with neighbours in Cumbria, Liverpool and Bolton & Rochdale Districts, to become a new North West regional District from September 2024, with new ways of resourcing ourselves for mission. We now look to Methodist Conference at the end of June for final discussions and decisions regarding this proposal.

# CHURCH ANNIVERSARY & GIFT DAY

**SUNDAY 11 JUNE 2023**

Morning Worship at 10.30 am



We will be celebrating our Church Anniversary and Gift Day on Sunday 11 June with a special morning service at 10.30am. We are delighted that our former Minister, Revd Kevin Johnson has agreed to lead us in worship on this special occasion.

Following the service, there will be a Jacob's Join lunch at the back of the church. Contributions of food can be brought before the service - where possible please bring food that is ready to serve.

Everyone is welcome, we do hope that you will be able to attend and share this memorable celebration with us.

## **GIFT DAY ARRANGEMENTS**

Special envelopes (and Gift Aid slips) will be available in church in June, to enable members to make an extraordinary donation. If you prefer to make a donation by cheque, please write 'Gift Day 2023' on the reverse, or if making the payment electronically, please input 'Gift Day 2023' in the 'Reference' field.

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*For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.*

*According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

1 Corinthians 3:9-11

## FROM REVEREND KEVIN JOHNSON

I have been a Methodist minister for 30 years having previously worked as a self-employed furniture maker. For the last seven years I have been project leader of The Chapel in the Fields, working from a refurbished Chapel in Dunham Massey, near Altrincham in the Manchester & Stockport Methodist District.



This is seen as a pioneering project exploring spirituality, creativity, hospitality and worship. The Chapel now is a resource to local churches and others. We recently enjoyed welcoming the Time Out group from Church Road.

My old skills in woodwork have come in useful as we developed a workshop within the Chapel where, amongst other things, we make quality wooden items for sale, we upcycle old wood where possible and we enjoy a link with the local Social Prescribing team. This partnership has resulted in welcoming folk into the workshop who benefit from social interaction as well as making and creating. This helps improve wellbeing.



We also host and lead Quiet Days; we serve the very local Crematorium with a Hot Drinks ministry and since Lockdown we distribute a weekly digital 'Postcard' to countless numbers of folk. Also, for over three years we have engaged with over thirty folk for a monthly gathering for worship and reflection.

I look forward to being back at Church Road and sharing with you more about The Chapel in the Fields.

Rev Kevin Johnson

**Project Leader at The Chapel in the Fields**

## Prayer – Care



Have you noticed that prayer is becoming more prominent in our church buildings? As well as the prayer chapel, stunning window display and prayer chain, a new Prayer-Care initiative is being launched to offer prayerful support within the hub for anyone visiting the premises from the wider community.

Prayer buckets will be placed on each of the tables in the café during opening hours, with pens, for people to leave prayer requests on slips. These will be collected and passed to our church prayer chain. They will also be brought into the church service once a month to be blessed and offered up in prayer. There will also be buckets on the prayer tree in the foyer to receive prayers when the café is not open and for anyone using the church premises.

If you would like someone from church to pray for you, your family, a friend, neighbour or for worries about the wider world, please fill in a prayer-care request (using only the first names or initials of anyone you write about) and leave it in a prayer bucket.

**We will collect it...and pray!**

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## Bible Month

The book of Revelation at The Drive Methodist Church at 2.00 p.m. on Monday afternoons.

June 5th The Church then and now

June 12th The Triumph of the Lamb

June 19th Witness, worship and waiting

June 26th Heading home

All are welcome. Come and explore with a coffee and time of fellowship.

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## THANK YOU

Judith and Brian would like to thank everyone for all the prayers and flowers while Brian has been ill. He is recovering slowly and has much appreciated all the care he has received.



## VESTRY TEAM

At the General Church Meeting in May, Janet Fielding was appointed as a Church Steward to join the Vestry Team.

At the same time, Jonathan Livesey, who has served as a church steward for the past seven years has stepped down. Subsequently, Marie Hawkins has volunteered to serve as Property Secretary and, as a consequence, also wishes to step down as a Steward. We are grateful to Jonathan and to Marie for their service to the church in the important role as stewards.

The vestry team is now Ben Derbyshire, Bill Ellison, Janette Farley, Janet Fielding, and Catherine Irving.

We pray for support for all the team as they fulfil their duties of leadership in the church. Together, they bring a range of talent and experience to act on our behalf. Please speak to any of them if you have suggestions or concerns about any aspect of our church life together.

## OUR NEW CHURCH TREASURER



For those of you who don't already know me, I'm Karen Holt. I have been attending Church Road Methodist for around 25 years with my husband Brendan and 4 children; Scott, Lewis, Katie and Matthew. We are an active family, enjoying most sports, all 4 of the children have played football and cricket for local teams. I enjoy tennis and netball, having previously made the Northern Ireland netball squad as a 16-year-old. I was born in Belfast and grew up attending our local Methodist

Church in the close-knit community of Belfast's Shankill Road. This was where my parents and grandparents had also attended.

Brendan and I married in 1994 at Shankill Methodist and had originally intended to settle in Belfast. However, on leaving the army in 1995, it was easier for

Brendan to adapt to civilian life in England. We therefore decided to move to St Anne's, where Brendan had family and I was able to secure a transfer from my job in the Northern Ireland civil service. My dad helped us decide on Church Road as he attended most of the churches in the area during his frequent visits and believed Church Road would be the best fit as it had a large number of young families and children attending. Scott- our eldest child had been christened in Shankill Methodist; however, our other three children were christened at Church Road.

As a lifelong civil servant, I have had a variety of roles; from administering social security benefits, to IT software testing, business analysis, HR and payroll. I have always enjoyed working with numbers, so when I saw the request for a volunteer to help with the treasurer's role, I saw it as an opportunity to do something I enjoy whilst also helping out the Church.

I wasn't expecting to take on the full role of Treasurer as I have no prior formal finance/accountancy training; however, as I seem to have been the only volunteer, I have been on a fairly steep learning curve. Due to us only having one child at home now, (with Lewis and Katie off at university and our eldest moving to London), life is on a slower pace, so I believe this is the perfect time for a new challenge.

## **OUR NEW PROPERTY SECRETARY**



For those who don't already know me, I'm Marie Hawkins. I have been attending Church Road Methodist since we relocated here in May 2005. I live only a few streets away from church with my husband Rob, 14-year-old son Joseph (Joe) and our 2 dogs Betty & Biscuit.

I was born in Stafford, Staffordshire and attended church local to our semi-rural family home since as long as my childhood memory can remember. Rob and I married in October 1999 and due to Rob's work, we found ourselves moving north. It was very strange for me at first being born and bred in a small town but having church and being a member of Girl

Guiding it soon helped me to meet people and settle in to life in St Annes on Sea. I still to this day run the 6<sup>th</sup> St Annes Brownie group which when I moved here in 2005 was meeting at The Drive Methodist but we later moved here to Church Road Methodist.

Joseph was born in 2008 and was christened here at Church Road by the late Rev. Terry Hudson. Joe is diagnosed with various conditions so doesn't attend Church Road much these days, but I know many people know him and regularly ask after him. Sometimes he can be spotted volunteering in Wesley's café.



As some of you are already aware, I have agreed to take over from Mike Bennett as Property Steward for our church and community hub. I have worked now for over 12 years plus in Facilities Management so am very experienced in the day-to-day running of large-scale premises and working with external contractors in maintaining buildings. Likewise, my background is predominantly in Health & Safety so again I fully understand the requirements upon us as a building and what is required to enable us to operate and open our doors safely to the public.

I look forward to working with you all in helping to keep our wonderful church and hub in the best condition it can be.

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## **PROPERTY ARRANGEMENTS**

As Marie works full time, she will not be on site fixing and repairing things herself; hence, she will collate jobs and then allocate suitable trades people to undertake the works at the soonest timeslot available. For this to operate smoothly, our co-operation will be needed. Please report any property issues via the slips in the church office and help Marie by thinking ahead to plan jobs that may be required.

## APPRECIATION

We would like to say a very big *Thank You* to **Mike Bennett** as he steps down after many years of service as Church Road's Property Secretary. Mike has ensured that our premises have been kept in good order and has undertaken his work quietly and efficiently.

We also thank **Terry Cardwell** who has worked with Mike, screwdriver in hand, for many years quietly fixing things. He also deserves our gratitude for keeping the maintenance of the property in check.

**Thank you to you both.**

At the same time, we are extremely grateful to Karen and to Marie for volunteering to take on the responsibilities for our financial affairs and our property matters respectively. These positions are not only vital to the practical management of the church and our activities, but are also positions that are not always easy to fill!

Thanks also to John Mayes who has continued to support our day-to-day financial management arrangements.

## CHURCH LIFE



The Church Life Group is made up of representatives from the various groups and activities taking place on our premises. We meet several times a year to share news, discuss any issues and plan activities and events both social and around the church calendar. Our aim is to bring people together from both inside and outside the church for fellowship, often food and occasionally fund-raising, so that we can grow together as a church family.

## Defibrillator

Thanks to Marie Hawkins this has now been installed and registered. Guidance on how to use it can be found on page 35, or speak to Marie.

## Farewell to Louise

We said goodbye to Louise after her last service on 30<sup>th</sup> April, with a buffet lunch at the back of the church, which was well attended by church members and representatives from the circuit. In addition to a cheque from the church Louise was given a wooden tea-light holder (purchased from the Chapel in the Fields) and an orchid. A card from the Church Life group expressed our thanks for her support in our social activities and imaginative ideas for Active8 and other services.

## Coronation



On the Sunday after the King's coronation the Active8 service concluded with a cake suitably decorated by Sadie Bridge, and a (non-alcoholic) toast to the King.

**THANK YOU** to Sadie for her talented contribution for our celebration - the cake was greatly appreciated!

## Church Anniversary

The Church anniversary service on **11<sup>th</sup> June** will be followed by a Jacob's Join lunch which will take place at the back of the Church; everyone is welcome to share food and fellowship.

## St Anne's Carnival

For several years we have served coffee and cakes for people watching the carnival procession, and we will be doing this again on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July**.

We will appreciate anyone who can provide cakes / biscuits for sale or help with serving on the day. Look out for further details.

### **Afternoon tea**

On **Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup>** we will be hosting an afternoon tea in aid of Action for Children, details are shown elsewhere in the Record on page 30.

### **Harvest Lunch**

Following the harvest service on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September** a ploughman's lunch will be served, everyone invited, look out for further details nearer the time.

If you have any suggestions for activities or would like any further information about Church Life, please contact Linda Butcher on 07796 035514 or any member of the Church Life group.



## **Come and join us for Carnival & Coffee time Saturday 8 July from 10am-12noon**

*Watch the carnival procession pass whilst enjoying a  
coffee and cake*

There will also be a walking float organised by Churches Together – further details will be available nearer the date.

## GREETINGS FROM BATH

The Record is sent to several former church members who no longer live locally; over the years, we have received several messages of appreciation from those who have received it. This email has been received from Dawn Hudson, who has recently moved to Bath to be nearer her family.

*“Thank you so much for the latest newsletter. It’s lovely to keep up to date with what’s going on. My local Methodist church had ceased to meet not long before I arrived, so I have gone back to my roots at the Salvation Army. Andrew comes with me most Sundays and I feel very happy to be in worship. God bless you all”*

We send our love and best wishes to Dawn as she settles in to her new surroundings



#



Congratulations & Best Wishes to

**FRANK MELLOR**

who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 10 May 2023

Registered charity number: 1134109

Wesley's  
**Community**  
Programme

Celebration Event!

Supported by  
Church Rd  
Methodist  
Church and  
Fylde Council

A vibrant background featuring a blue sky with a bright sun in the top right corner, casting rays. Two strings of colorful triangular bunting (yellow, red, green, pink, blue) are strung across the sky. The bottom of the image shows a field of green grass.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 1.30 – 3.30pm**

Please join us to **CELEBRATE** the Community Programme  
Enjoy Creative Work produced by the Art & Gardening Groups  
**Free Refreshments** Singing with Wesley's Café Choir  
**All Welcome—no need to book!**

## VISIT FROM HEYHOUSES SCHOOL PUPILS

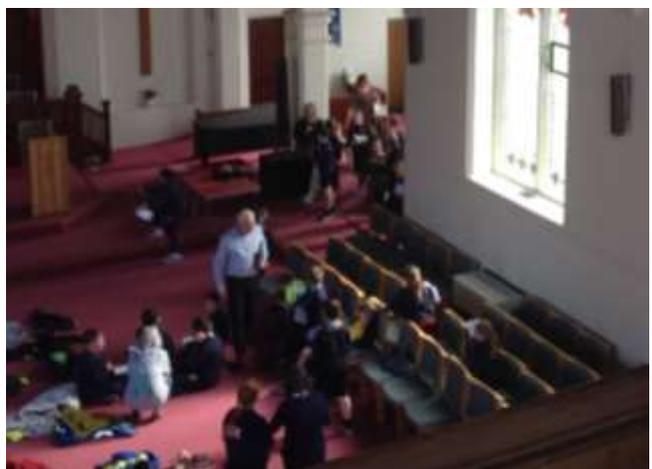
On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April Church Road Methodist opened its doors to 91 Year 4 children from Heyhouses Endowed Church of England Primary school, accompanied by their teachers, teaching assistants and parent helpers. This is a long tradition going back long before Covid 19 put a stop to these sorts of visits and all the staff and children were delighted to return.



The 8- and 9-year-old children have been studying churches as part of their RE learning. They had considered the important features of a church, looked at churches from around the world and read about the formation of the early church. For the Church Road visit the focus was on their observation skills as they had to compare and contrast the features with

those from St Annes Parish Church. The children were already in small groups and primed with things they wanted to look out for, iPads at the ready to take photographs.

After a short welcome from Rev Louise Makin, they were off exploring the building. Fortunately, many church members were on hand to show them around and answer their questions. The great advantage of this was that each group saw different things and gleaned all sorts of fascinating facts about the building, key features, beliefs and worship traditions. (The conclusion of the RE topic is really that no matter where and how we worship, “We are the Church.”)





They were excited to go up to the balcony and look down on their classmates and possibly even more excited to be offered squash and biscuits.

Thank you to everyone who gave

up their morning to come along and talk with the children, answer their weird and wonderful questions, make refreshments and show them what it means to be 'church'. It made such a difference to have that personal touch. If you're happy to do it all again, we'll be back next year!



*Catherine Irving*

Year 4 teacher

**THE BROWNIES** have seen lots of new members join since our last update which is fantastic news and

**Brownies**

we are now officially full and at our maximum capacity again. We are moving now into our Summer "out and about" programme which sees us leaving the community hub and getting out in the summer evenings visiting a variety of our local tourist hotspots from Fairhaven Lake to Ashton Gardens, from sandcastles on the beach to eating cones of chips on the seafront. We're looking ahead also to our winter programme and love visitors to the group, so if you have an interest, hobby or crafting skill which you'd like to share with the girls we'd love to hear from you.

Marie Hawkins – Guider 6<sup>th</sup> St Annes Brownies, 07984 537721



## BUMBLEBEES

Bumblebees meet in church on Tuesday mornings during term time, from 9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

Toys and activities available for the children include slides, a play house, sit-and-ride cars /bikes, dressing-up clothes and a train set, as well as plenty of baby toys. The toddlers also enjoy playing with the sand, card- making, puzzles, drawing and joining in with action songs.



Our last session before the summer holiday is on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July with an indoor Teddy Bears' Picnic. The children will be invited to bring a teddy and they will gather round for a 'picnic' of cheese, biscuits, crisps and fruit.

This photograph shows some of the Easter Eggs which were kindly presented to us by the Lytham 'Totally Rotary' group. This came as a lovely surprise and, of course, the children were delighted to receive them!

We open again on Tuesday 12 September 2023. If you are interested in joining the group, please text Lesley on 07840 924882 to reserve a place, and/or you are welcome to come along to Bumblebees on a Tuesday morning with your child for a taster session. The cost per week, including refreshments, is £2 for an adult and one child (plus £1 for any extra child).

*Lesley Turner*



Action for Children Sunday  
**SUNDAY 16 AUGUST at 10.30 a.m.**  
Morning Worship led by Judith Smith

## TIME OUT UPDATE SUMMER 2023



*“Time Out is a faith-based fellowship group for secondary school aged young people, encouraging them to explore their faith, what it means to them, how it relates to their daily lives and those of the local and worldwide community in which they live”.*

So much has happened and there has been so much to celebrate and be thankful for in our work with the young people since we last wrote in October.



Christmas may seem like a lifetime ago, but we have very clear and special memories of the teenagers finding, dare we say their “inner child” as they supported the JKids with their nativity service and prepared Christingles for our annual service over creamy hot chocolate in the Hub.

They soon resumed their usual level of teenage competitiveness as they immersed themselves along with their families in our Time Out Christmas social – *the source of this collective competitiveness became clearer once we’d seen the adults in action!*

As the new-year rolled in, we shared an evening entitled “Aspirations – What does the Bible Say?” Discussion focused on their hopes and dreams, alongside the challenge of what makes a better Christian and how living this way may help them in their aspirations and the aspirations that God has for their lives.

No chance to rest on their laurels, as the next session quickly followed with a movie night when we watched “An Interview with God”, following the journey of a young war journalist on his returning from Afghanistan, readjusting to life in America and questioning “where is God?”. Some really open and honest debate arose from the story line and the concept of how and in what way you recognize God if He sat down in front of you and what would you want to ask Him or challenge Him about if He did .....*food for thought!*

In March we had the privilege of sharing in the confirmation service of two of our group members, Iona and James. What a joyful celebration of public witness with a mixture of traditional and contemporary worship music chosen by the young people to express their faith and calling, followed by a time of shared fellowship with their church family. We ask that you continue to support these young people as they continue their journey and explore the potential skills they can share to live out their calling.



Lent was then tackled from a different perspective this year as we explored “Beauty in Brokenness- How God Restores Our Broken Hearts,” using the art of Kintsugi. Never have we seen a group of young people both surprised and delighted to be given a hammer **and** permission to officially break healing and restorative power when we open our hearts to Him.

Easter was subsequently a real joy and blessing as seven of our young people joined us at a day retreat led by Revd Kevin Johnson, and his wife Jane, at The Chapel in the Fields, Dunham Massey, Altrincham. The day was designed to allow the group the time and space to take literal “Time Out” in fellowship together whilst exploring their relationship with God through a mixture of Godly play, creativity and nature.



We weren't disappointed; from our departure from Church Road at 8.30am and safe return at teatime the same day, the group was upheld by the Holy Spirit and God's peace and joy was evident in both in the quiet and the practical activities we shared as we explored “I Am”.

From Bible readings and prayer, to challenge and reflection, through woodwork and games, a nature walk and ice cream, toasted marshmallows and the loud song call of the wren, God walked with us.

We are truly grateful for the prayerful support and personal generosity of congregational members that enabled this retreat to be possible. It not only encouraged and upheld the young people on their journey but renewed and refreshed us both as we work alongside them.



**Please visit the Church webpage to see the slideshow from our day retreat!**

As we step into our summer programme, we ask that you join us in prayer for our wonderful young people as we continue to work together to build God's Kingdom:

**Loving God, we offer to you the gifts and needs of our young people. Bless them with your guiding grace as they face the challenges and opportunities in their lives. Touch their hearts with the gentleness of your love that they may know they are valued.**

***May you strengthen them with joyful hearts, give them a vision of your Kingdom here on earth and embolden them to act.***

**Amen**

*Sharon and Caroline*

Sharon Hird and Caroline Livesey, Time Out Leaders

**Fan into flame the gift of God**

**(2 Timothy 1:6)**

Time Out celebrated Pentecost this year through prayer, creative arts, expressive dance and fellowship. They have produced a video of their work, which they would like to share with the congregation. Please have a look.

The video can be found on the church website

<https://www.churchroadmethodist.org/page-2/timeout.html>

## CIRCUIT PICNIC

*South Fylde and Blackpool churches*



**SUNDAY 13 AUGUST AT 1.30 P.M.**

**St. Annes Promenade**

on the green between the Beach Café and Denford Avenue

Please bring your own seating and picnic.  
Come ready to make friends and have fun!



## Chatter and China



The Church Life group invite you to an afternoon tea and raffle on

**Wednesday 16 August at 3pm**

Sit down to a proper afternoon tea with real china and enjoy the company  
of friends old and new

Tickets will be £10, raffle tickets extra, and all profits will go to

**Action for Children**

Please put the date in your diary and look out for when tickets are  
available. For further information or offers to help please speak to

Linda Butcher or any member of the Church Life group

# Who was Wesley ?



- John Wesley was born in Epworth, Lincolnshire in 1703.
- He was brought up as an Anglican and studied at Oxford with his brother Charles.
- They and their friends were ridiculed for studying the bible and one of the nicknames they were given was Methodists because of their methodical approach to study and prayer.
- Both brothers were ordained as Anglican priests and in 1735 John and Charles travelled to America as missionaries.
- In 1778 both brothers had profound spiritual experiences that assured their faith.
- John developed a gift as a preacher and travelled the country on horseback to meet the “real people”, preaching in the open air, while his brother Charles became a wonderful hymn writer, writing many of the hymns still sung today.
- The first Methodist Chapel was opened in Bristol and today there are 80 million Methodists worshipping across the world.
- Wesley worked for justice, he visited prisons and worked alongside widows and orphans to bring relief to those most in need and campaigned against slavery until his death in 1791.



# Wesleys Café and Larder



- Church Road Methodist Church has a history of service to the local community.

The room now used for Wesley's Café was the original Wesleyan Mission Hall, built in 1888 (the date plaque is on the front of the building), and where the kitchen is used to be a stage. The present church was built in 1904/05, when the original Mission Hall became the Sunday School. A large hall and more rooms were added in the late 1950s.

- In the 1970's the Church raised funds to build an extension to the centre to provide much needed Day Care facilities, originally staffed and managed by Church members in association with the local council.
- Over time, changes in the way Social Care is provided meant that the Day Care Centre (by then run by a private company) became financially unviable and was closed at the end of 2013.
- In September 2014 the space left by the Day Care Centre was offered to the Trussell Trust to operate a Food Bank, and this continued until December 2017 when the redevelopment of the premises meant they had to find a new home at the United Reformed Church in St Annes.
- A new mission for the Church began in 2016 thanks to an initiative from Paul Caddy to engage with the Church in a 'Cooking on a Budget' project. The aim of the project was to teach people to cook healthy meals whatever their budget, and to develop a community café providing meals for visitors to the food bank and the local community. This was the start of Wesley's café.
- Removal of the Church pews in 2013 had created a flexible area for worship and other activities, and in April 2017 the Church Council approved the sale of half of the Church premises to create space for affordable housing and a new Community Hub.
- The redevelopment was funded through the property sale, various grants and donations, and the generosity of Church members supporting the efforts of an enthusiastic and effective fund raising team.

- Wesley's closed temporarily after Christmas 2017 in preparation for the demolition and re-development of the centre, and reopened in the spring of 2019.
- On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 Church Road Methodist Community Hub was officially opened and the Minister's vestry was refurbished later in 2019 to provide a base for Wesley's larder.
- **In 2023** Church Road Methodist Church continues to seek grants and fundraise to support the project and to purchase new equipment for the community such as the defibrillator. We also provide practical support and pastoral care working, alongside the dedicated and skilled group of volunteers from across the whole community of St Annes.
- The Community Hub continues to thrive, providing a safe space for Wesley's café and larder, iHope, Brownies, JKids, Movement to Music, and various Council funded and other activities.

**“Do all the good you can  
By all the means you can  
In all the ways you can  
In all the places you can  
At all the times you can  
To all the people you can  
As long as ever you can”**

*John Wesley*



## **MHA SUNDAY 18 JUNE**

Gift Envelopes will be available on 18 June for contributions to the work of Methodist Homes. Your gifts for MHA Sunday 2023 will help to support people to live well in later life and will be gratefully received.

## **PRIMARK® launches global partnership with Fairtrade**



PRIMARK are proudly partnering with Fairtrade to launch six new Fairtrade certified beauty products, showcasing their shared values of offering more sustainable products and improving people's lives across the supply chain.

Whether you're in need of some new beauty goodies for yourself, or looking for a pampering present for a friend, PRIMARK'S new Fairtrade collection contains the must-haves every beauty enthusiast needs.

Every product in their new piece collection contains Fairtrade shea butter, olive oil, or a blend of both. These ingredients for skin nourishment and hydration are renowned for their skin-softening properties.

## USING THE COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR



Firstly, thanks again to everyone who helped to raise the funds to buy the defibrillator. I've been asked since by several people "how do I use it?" Hopefully the below helps to explain this. I can also recommend the British Heart Foundation, who also have some excellent online videos which you can watch.

A defibrillator is a device that gives a high energy electric shock to the heart of someone who is in cardiac arrest. This high energy shock is called defibrillation, and it's an essential part in trying to save the life of someone who's in cardiac arrest. A defibrillator may also be called a defib, an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) or a PAD (Public Access Defibrillator).

### **To use the defibrillator, follow these simple steps:**

**Step 1:** Turn the defibrillator on by pressing the button and follow its instructions.

**Step 2:** Peel off the sticky pads and attach them to the patient's skin, one on each side of the chest, as shown in the picture on the defibrillator.

**Step 3:** Once the pads have been attached, stop CPR and don't touch the patient. The defibrillator will then check the patient's heart rhythm.

**Step 4:** The defibrillator will decide whether a shock is needed and if so, it will tell you to press the shock button. An automatic defibrillator will shock the patient without prompt. Don't touch the patient while they are being shocked.

**Step 5:** The defibrillator will tell you when the shock has been delivered and whether you need to continue CPR.

**Step 6:** Continue with chest compressions until the patient shows signs of life or the defibrillator tells you to stop so it can analyse the heartbeat again.

Anyone can use a defibrillator and you don't need training. Once you turn it on, it will give clear instructions on how to attach the defibrillator pads. The device checks the heart rhythm and will only tell you to shock if it's needed. You can't shock someone accidentally.

*Marie Hawkins*



# CHURCH DIARY

**WESLEY'S CAFÉ:** Every TUESDAY and THURSDAY 10.00am to 1.30pm.

**BUMBLEBEES:** Every TUESDAY until 11 July, 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. for 0-4's with parents and carers. Contact Lesley Turner

**MOVEMENT TO MUSIC:** Every WEDNESDAY until 12 July, 9.15am to 10.15am and 10.45am to 11.45am. Contact Monica Bissett

**TIME OUT** at 7.00 p.m. every THIRD SUNDAY of each month. An informal faith-based group for young people 12+. Contact Caroline Livesey or Sharon Hird

**ACTIV8 INFORMAL STYLE WORSHIP** on the first SUNDAY of each month. at 9.00a.m. followed by breakfast together

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## KEEPING UP TO DATE

For up-to-date information about services and church activities, please follow our monthly news sheet which will be distributed by email. If you do not receive a copy in this way, please let the Church Office know and we will send you one. You can also follow us on our website and on Facebook.

[www.churchroadmethodist.org](http://www.churchroadmethodist.org)

The Autumn edition of the Record will be published at the beginning of September. Contributions from members of the congregation are always welcome, as well as any special family news that you would like to share with our readers.