

THE RECORD

SUMMER 2018



CHURCH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

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

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Church Road Methodist Church Registered Charity No 1134109

Summer suns are glowing over land and sea;
Happy light is flowing, bountiful and free;
Everything rejoices in the mellow rays;
Earth's ten thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.

God's free mercy streameth over all the world,
And His banner gleameth, by His church unfurled;
Broad and deep and glorious, as the heaven above,
Shines in might victorious His eternal love.

William Walsham How (1823-97)

WORSHIP in JUNE

3rd

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at The Drive Methodist Church

9.15 a.m. Activ8 Café Church led by Mr David Turner

10.30 a.m. Mr Andrew Barratt

7.00 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

10th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

10.30 a.m. Revd Gary Hall - Holy Communion

7.00 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

17th

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath - All Age Worship

7.00 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

24th

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath

7.00 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven



WORSHIP in JULY

1st

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at The Drive Methodist Church

9.15 a.m. Activ8 Café Church led by Revd Stephen Heath

10.30 a.m. Mr Richard Golding

7.00 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

8th ACTION FOR CHILDREN SUNDAY

10.30 a.m. Revd Joan Edwell - Holy Communion

7.00 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven



15th

10.30 a.m. Revd Terry Hudson - All Age Worship

22nd

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath

29th

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath



ACTIV8

Our monthly informal service of early morning worship is on the **first Sunday of each month** at 9.15 a.m. A time of warm fellowship with associated activities for children.

Each month, this will be followed by a family ramble. Further details can be obtained from Bill Ellison (01253 640576) or email wfellison@outlook.com

WORSHIP in AUGUST

5th

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at The Drive Methodist Church

9.15 a.m. Activ8 Café Church led by Mr Malcolm Hancock

10.30 a.m. Revd Malcolm Maymand

6.00 p.m. Circuit Farewell Service for Revd Dr Adrian Burdon

12th

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath - Holy Communion

19th

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath - All Age Worship

27th

10.30 a.m. Mr. David Elliston



Sunday evenings

at Fairhaven

FRESH CAFÉ STYLE WORSHIP - a time to explore faith through media, conversation and prayer. Drinks are available from 6.30 p.m. and worship begins at 7.00 p.m. See weekly notice sheet for details.

**There last meeting of FRESH before the summer break will be on
Sunday 8 July.**

Please visit the South Fylde Circuit website, which has more details of the services and other events across the circuit.

www.methodistsouthfylde.org.uk



A word from Stephen....

Dear Friends

Sometimes life does not go as planned. These last three months most certainly are a case in point. We had expected to commence the demolition and the building of the new Community Hub in March and now we are looking at a June start, but as I write there is no definite date.

The transfer of the land has proved to be difficult and resolving the legal issues has taken these last three months to resolve. It is looking as though work will begin around the Church Anniversary. There has, of course, been some progress. The building of the new store in the North Transept and removal of asbestos under the Gent's Toilets mean that we will get a quick start once we are able to proceed.

So as we celebrate another year in the life of our church, 2018 will be a significant milestone in the history of the Methodist Church in St Annes. A new centre for Mission and Ministry is being built. A new Ministry Team being formed to assist the church to reach out in the name of Jesus. These show we are moving on, investing in the future so that our church is equipped to respond to an ever changing world.

I find myself speaking about us replanting our church. As we celebrated Pentecost and were reminded of the empowering and enabling gift of the Spirit of God in our world, I am excited at what God is doing among us. As I have been typing this letter the second verse of Charles Wesley's hymn came to mind. I was going to type that verse alone but then it seemed right to include all four verses:

*A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save,
And fit it for the sky.*

*To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfill:
Oh, may it all my pow'rs engage
To do my Master's will!*

*Arm me with jealous care,
As in Thy sight to live;
And O Thy servant, Lord, prepare
A strict account to give!*

*Help me to watch and pray,
And on Thyself rely,
Assured, if I my trust betray,
I shall forever die.*

It was published in 1762! Yet it still speaks today of the importance of remembering our calling, our purpose, our passion and our accountability to God. Our Mission Statement says it in a more modern way “Making Disciples, Transforming Lives and Communities”.

Within all the busyness of our lives, the upheaval of the development and the frustrations when things are not straightforward may we sing or repeat Wesley's words and be encouraged for it may not be easy but it is what we are called to do!

May God give us patience and strength to do his will.

Stephen

‘...let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.’

1 John 3:18

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

APRIL

2nd Treasured memories of Vera Pate

9th Pauline, Tony and Rachel, treasured birthday memories of Claire
In loving memory of Eric and Jean Currie
Treasured birthday memories of John Eadon from Louise, Helen and Rachel.

16th In memory of Dorothy Plenderleith
In memory of Glenda Thompson

23rd Birthday memories of Mr & Mrs Blundell
Treasured memories of Conrad Pate

30th Treasured Wedding Anniversary and birthday memories of Derek Rigby



MAY

- 7th Diana Thompson, birthday memories of a dear Mummy & Daddy
- 14th Mr and Mrs P. Harrison, in memory of their parents Sylvia Dibble, in loving memory of Audrey and their parents
- 21st Fond memories of Hannah Nicholson
Rosemary Wells – Wedding Anniversary memories
- 28th Birthday memories of Arthur and Evelyn Buckley



CHURCH FLOWERS

Any contributions to church flowers should be sent to the Flower Secretary, Miss Elaine Watts, Flat 10, Fellborough Lodge, 195 St.Annes Road East, Lytham St.Annes, FY8 3HF, telephone 01253 722302. Please make cheques payable to Church Road Methodist Church Flower Fund and include the wording for any dedication that can be inserted in the Church Record.

Thank you to everyone who helps with the arrangement and distribution of flowers each week. After Sunday morning service the flowers are given to the sick, bereaved or someone who might appreciate them. If you know of anyone who might appreciate some flowers one week, please have a word with Elaine Watts.



MARJORIE

AINSWORTH

DONALD PLENDERLEITH

GLYNNIS SINGLETON

JEAN WHITEHEAD

*"The Lord's my Shepherd, I shall not want
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green, He leadeth me,
The quiet waters by"*

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Names of departed loved ones may be entered in the Book of Remembrance, on the day when loved ones are especially remembered. Please complete the details on one of the slips in the Church Foyer and hand to one of the Stewards if you would like a name to be included.



CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND GIFT DAY

SATURDAY 9th June

10.00 a.m. to noon

GIFT DAY

- Enjoy a coffee and chat with other members,
- An opportunity to make a donation for our future mission
- Spend some time in prayer for the work of the church

SUNDAY 10th JUNE

CELEBRATION OF OUR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

MORNING WORSHIP AT 10.30 A.M.

followed by Holy Communion

Led by REVD GARY HALL

- A service of thanksgiving and celebration for the mission of our church
- Dedication of gifts received towards our continuing ministry.
- Service followed by a Jacob's Join lunch for all the family.
(Please speak to Linda Butcher or Catherine Peak about choices of food to bring)

Revd Gary Hall



Our Church Anniversary celebrations this year will be led by a former Church Roder, Revd Gary Hall. Gary is the son of Peter Hall and the late Marjorie Hall and is the brother of Mandy Hall and Yvonne Smedley. Gary grew up in the fellowship of Church Road and was an active member of our Sunday School. He took part in a wide range of youth activities, including appearances in the annual Sunday School Pantomimes!

After leaving school in St. Annes, Gary gained an MA from Cambridge University and later trained as a Methodist Minister. He held circuit responsibilities in Leeds and Leicester before joining the Connexional Team in 2004 and moving to Birmingham. He is now Lecturer in Practical Theology at the Queens Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education in Birmingham. From 1970, Queen's pioneered ecumenical training with the Methodist Church and now trains those who have been selected for ordained ministry in either the Church of England or the Methodist Church.

As a tutor in the Centre for Ministerial Formation, Gary shares responsibility for oversight and stationing of Methodist student ministers, regularly working with students on social justice activities and reflection as well as supervising research dissertations.

Gary continues to preach and lead worship with local Methodist and Anglican churches around Birmingham and beyond. He has contributed to the work of the wider Methodist Church in various ways such as writing for the Faith and Order Committee, writing part of the new training programme for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, and leading research into the experiences of ministers transferring from overseas to the UK.

He has recently completed a PhD at the University of Birmingham.

We look forward to welcoming Gary back to Church Road to lead us in our morning worship for our Church Anniversary.

Revd Dr Adrian Burdon

Our Superintendent Minister, Revd Dr Adrian Burdon will be leaving us in August to take up his new appointment as Superintendent Minister of the



Shaw and Royton Circuit in the Manchester District. His farewell service will be at Lytham on 5 August at 6.00 p.m. The service will be led by Rev Nick Wells, Vicar of St Cuthbert's in Lytham.

Adrian has been in the circuit since September 2013, initially as Minister of the Drive and Lytham and then as Superintendent Minister since September 2014. During 2014-15, he was also Minister in charge at Church Road, when he helped guide us in our deliberations about the development of our premises and our future ministry.

We are grateful to Adrian for his support of Church Road and for his work in the circuit. We will remember Adrian and his family in our prayers and wish them well as they move to Shaw and Royton.

A Circuit Service of Farewell for Adrian and his family will take place at Lytham Methodist Church on Sunday 5 August at 6.00 p.m.

The Vestry Team

As from 1 May, there are now two new Church Stewards in the Vestry Team. At the General Church Meeting, Janette Farley and Hazel Hawkins were appointed to serve and we are grateful to Janette and Hazel for offering their services to the church in this way. We pray for support for them and the whole vestry team in their leadership positions in the church.

The team for the coming twelve months is now Linda Butcher as senior steward, supported by Colin Hird, John Mayes, Jonathan Livesey, Catherine Peak, Janette Farley and Hazel Hawkins.

SIX COUNTIES CYCLE RIDE



Plans and training are well underway for the Six Counties Bike Ride. Ten cyclists will ride through six Counties in four days covering a distance of nearly 400 miles. Starting in Lancashire they will ride through Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, County Durham and Yorkshire.

All ten cyclists and four support crew are donating £200 to the ride to cover their costs. We are glad to welcome five riders from outside of our church who are supporting us in this way.

Stage 1 - St Annes to Carlisle

Stage 2 - Carlisle to Consett

Stage 3 - Consett to Yeadon near Leeds

Stage 4 - Yeadon to St Annes

The Charities we are supporting

We hope to raise as much money as possible for the Church's new Community Hub facility and Trinity the Hospice in the Fylde.

As the church has been developing the building plans, it has also been developing Wesley's Community Café which will be at the heart of the Community facility. During 2017 the low prices in Wesley's Café enabled families with young children and older persons to come along regularly and reduce their isolation. In addition to paying customers over 500 free meals have been given to Foodbank clients last year.

- *Recycling unsold food from supermarkets*
- *Cooking on a Budget – training people how to cook healthy & affordable meals*
- *Training and personal development courses*
- *New facilities for Fylde Foodbank*
- *Bumblebees Parent & Toddler Group*
- *Youth activities* The building will also offer interview rooms and a store room for the use of Fylde Food Bank, training to assist people back into employment and to improve self-esteem and self-confidence in people to overcome mental illness.

Trinity the Hospice in the Fylde provides compassionate care on the journey towards the end of life. By 2020 they want everyone on the Fylde Coast to have access to good end of life care in the place they choose: the hospice, the hospital, a residential



nursing home or their family home. For over 30 years they have provided excellence in specialist palliative care and have a huge impact in the community, touching the lives of around 8,000 local people every year. Demand for their care keeps on growing and their services evolve to meet changing expectations.

Open 24 hours a day, every day of the year, they are rated 'outstanding' and are proud of their modern facilities and high standards. But they are much more than a set of buildings – their nursing teams work at the hospital and out in the community, day and night, covering every part of the Fylde Coast.

How you can help:

- Please remember this venture in your prayers.
- Sponsoring the team. Why not take a sponsor form and ask your family, friends and neighbours, work colleagues etc. to sponsor the team.
- We have a donation page on JustGiving called Six Counties Bike Ride but we prefer it if people give directly to the church as Just Giving take a percentage. However, we know that for some people, this means of giving is much easier.
- Nearer the 12th July 2018 donating some flapjacks, fruit cake and energy bars!

Waving Off and Cheering Home

We would also welcome your support at the start to wave the team off from church at 8.00 a.m. on Thursday 12th July 2018.

The ride will finish at The Dalmeny Hotel, South Promenade, St Annes at approximately 4.30 p.m. on Sunday 15th July 2018 when the Mayor of Fylde, Councillor Peter Collins, has accepted our invitation to present medals to the cyclists.

We have also obtained a licence for a street collection on that afternoon so if you can help by shaking a bucket please speak to Stuart Wrigley, Stephen or Linda Heath.

SPONSORS

We are very grateful to the following business sponsors who have each given donations of £250 or more and will be featured on the cycle shirts, on our website and Facebook page.

Apple Bikes
Barnetts @ Inn on the Prom
Bushell & Benstead
Cooksons Removals, Transport & Storage
Dalmeny Hotel
G-Line Holidays
Hollowells Funeral Directors
Mark Rae Funerals
Merlin Entertainments
Roland Whitehead Funerals
Stephen Taylor Opticians
R P Tyson Construction
Vincents Solicitors

The Post Office on St Albans Road has a sponsor form and collecting boxes and are showing their support this way.

FUNDRAISING

A big thank you to Caroline Livesey and her fundraising team for all their efforts to raise money in support of our development project. Almost £5,000 has now been raised through various events. More events are in the pipeline, so please watch out in the weekly notices and try and support as many as you can.

And don't forget easyfunding, a cost and trouble free way of raising funds for our project every time you shop online. Please encourage your friends and family to sign up for this as well. **Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/churchrdmethodist/> and join for free.**

If you have ideas to help the fundraising or would like to join the team, please speak to Caroline or Linda Heath.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

GDPR is a new set of regulations, across Europe, concerning data protection which came into force on 25 May 2018. Implementation of GDPR will require some changes to the way personal data is managed by the churches.

This affects us at Church Road and as the first step of our compliance with the legislation we are completing an audit of what information we have, where it is held and how it is used. At this stage that is all we need to do. When this is completed we will then decide what we need to do next to ensure full compliance.

We are very grateful to David Turner who is completing the audit for us. If you have any concerns please speak with David or Stephen.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 2019



Rev Gyula Fiak, Minister in the Chorley and Leyland Circuit, will be leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 1 – 8 November **2019**.

This will visit the major sites associated with the life and ministry of Jesus, in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Galilee and the surrounding areas.

Including flights, the services of an expert guide and times of devotion, the cost will be £1700 per person sharing or £2100 in single rooms. For more details or to express interest in joining this trip, please contact Gyula on 07427 699218 or revgyulafiak@gmail.com

URPOTENTIAL is a training organisation sponsored by Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Borough Council. They have held several training courses at Church Road when Wesley's was operational and they will be offering more courses here when our redevelopment is completed.

In the meantime, there are a couple of courses which they are hoping to run at the White Church, depending on possible numbers.

- Basic First Aid
- Basic Food Hygiene

These courses will be FREE to those aged 19 and over and will be certificated. For more information and to express interest, please speak to Keith Hall. Expertise in basic first aid especially is a valuable skill, which would be appreciated in anyone taking part in our church activities.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Fundraising Committee invite you to

SUNDAY LUNCH

in the Atrium at the Dalmeny Hotel

SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2018

Further details soon.

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

part of Methodist Women in Britain – MWiB

MEET IN ASHTON GARDENS' CAFÉ, ST ANNES

All ladies are welcome to join us for a drink and a chat between
3 00 pm and 4 00 pm every Wednesday starting 6 June.

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP AFTERNOON TEA

WEDNESDAY 18 JULY at 3.00 p.m.
in the Church

Tickets £3.50
(see weekly notices for more information)

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

The Ladies Fellowship is part of the Methodist Women in Britain network. We have a proud heritage stemming from the twin roots of Women's Work, founded in 1858 to support training and care for women missionaries, and Women's Fellowship, started in 1945 out of a concern to address social problems resulting from the war.

These two movements merged in 1987 to form the Women's Network of the Methodist Church, with a clear place in the Methodist connexional team. Change came in 2008 resulting in the launch in 2011 of Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) as an independent, self-financing organisation.

Our aim today is to connect women with an interest in creative spirituality and a passion for global social justice.

A QUIZ ...ABOUT US !



During the summer months I would like to compile a quiz about us – i.e. members and friends of Church Road Methodist Church. When complete (around Aug/Sept), the quiz sheets will be on sale to raise funds for our community hub fund.

We hope that the quiz will be fun to do and will encourage us all to chat and get to know one another better.

So if you or a family member has an interesting or amusing ‘claim to fame’, please let me know.

I would also like to hear from you if you were born somewhere amazing, have met someone famous, have eaten something strange/ disgusting , have an amusing photograph of yourself at a special event, have an interesting hobby or play an unusual instrumentetc etc !

I cannot promise to include all suggestions but will do my best to cover as many different families, church groups and age groups as possible. (Of course no one will be included in the quiz without their consent.)

***** ANSWERS ***** will be revealed at the **QUIZZICAL COFFEE MORNING** to be held at Church on **SATURDAY 15 September from 10 a.m.**

Also at the same coffee morning we would like to display photographs of weddings or christenings etc for an informal ‘Guess whose wedding/ christening/ school photo it is’. If you have a suitable photo, please name it carefully on the back in pencil, mount or wrap it (to protect it) and bring it along with you on the day.

Thank you
Lesley Turner (tel: 727267)

The Methodist Church CONFERENCE 2018 in Britain

The 2018 Conference will take place from 28 June – 5 July in Nottingham.

The Conference is the governing body of the Methodist Church, with responsibility for the government, discipline, management and administration of the life of the Church. The Conference is also a place for worship, thanksgiving, ordination and celebration.

At the conference, the new President Revd Michaela Youngson and Vice President Mr Balachandren Muthualoe Gnanapragasam will start their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference meets on 30 June. They will succeed the current President and Vice-President, the Revd Loraine N Mellor and Jill Baker.



Michaela Youngson

Michaela was born on Christmas Day 1965 in Cornwall and has been Chair of the London District since 2012. With a passion for social justice and for developing strong ecumenical relationships, Michaela is committed to working within the diverse and rich context of the Connexion. She is a regular contributor to the BBC Radio 2 Early Breakfast Show's 'Pause for Thought'.

Her first appointment as a minister was in Burnley and later in Oswaldtwistle, where she began to develop her radio work as a guest on BBC Radio Lancashire on Sunday mornings.

Bala Gnanapragasam

Sri Lankan-born Bala Gnanapragasam believes strongly in mission and social justice. He serves on the board of Christian Aid and MHA. He is also a trustee of the London HIV/Aids Chaplaincy. He was the first Synod Secretary for the London District.

Bala came to the UK in the 1960s and has previously served as an elected councillor for the London Borough of Lewisham. He has also served as the Chair of University Hospital Lewisham.

Action for Children News



Many people will know that David Breare, who was secretary of South Fylde branch of Action for Children, resigned earlier this year after many years' service. Our thanks and good wishes go with him.

The Methodist Church continues to be a major contributor to the charity which was founded as the National Children's Home by Methodist minister Thomas Bowman in 1869. Originally it was to rescue and house homeless, abandoned and runaway boys. Today the organisation continues the work of supporting children and families in a variety of ways and has become the largest children's charity in the UK.

One of the ways of contributing is through the League of Light collecting boxes which members have in their homes . This brings in a major source of income for Action for Children. We would like to update the information on those who currently hold boxes and if necessary arrange for collection. Please could anyone with a box contact Shirley Eade on 789217 to confirm that they wish to continue. Shirley will pass this information on to Jim Edwell, treasurer, together with any requests for boxes to be emptied.

We always need more box holders, so if you feel you can contribute in this way, please contact Shirley to request one. Sunday July 8th is Action for Children Sunday and boxes will be available at the morning service.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday 21 June:** Tea and Scone afternoon. Fairhaven Methodist Church 2.00 -3.30pm
- Saturday 7 July:** Morecambe Bay Walk
- Sunday 8 July:** **Action for Children Sunday**
- Saturday 14 July:** Strawberry Afternoon Tea. The Drive Methodist Church, 2.00 -4.00pm
- Saturday 3 Nov:** Afternoon Concert by Nigel Ogden, organist at the Drive Methodist Church (details later)

Thank you for your support - Joan Edwell

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



The Church Council has agreed that Church Road should support the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoe Box appeal again this year. Further details of this will be included in the next edition of The

Record. As last year, the shoeboxes will need to be returned to church by early November.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Since 1990, more than 146 million children in over 150 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child.



Looking back on last Christmas, here are three children's positive reactions to receiving a shoebox:

"It wasn't just my first Christmas gift - it was my first gift ever. When I held it, there was joy and love in my heart such that I never felt before. I knew there were people out there who cared for me. I was not alone... We were still loved."

from Belarus

Kirill is 12, and dreamed of having a black sports hat and gloves. Winter came and still he did not have them. When he received his shoebox he opened it and inside was a hat, gloves, and a scarf! He immediately put them on and did not take them off for some time. His mother looked at him and wept.

from Central Asia

"My name is Anna, and I am nine. In my life miracles just do not happen always. I live with my mum, and I don't have a dad. My mum has to work a lot, though it's hard to find a job in the place where we live. To sell fish in the marketplace is the only option. Very often my mum is not at home. Once there were some men and women who came to me to bring me a gift. I was very surprised. My first thought was that it's not for me, but they confirmed that it was mine. So, thank you everybody – I don't know who you are and how you happen to know me that you've brought me a gift. I am very glad, and I tell everyone – just believe – the miracles come true!"

From Ukraine

**THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR SUPPORT AT CHRISTMAS 2018
AND FOR MAKING MOMENTS LIKE THESE POSSIBLE.**



The controversial decision by President Trump to move the American Embassy to Jerusalem has led to rising tensions once again between Israel and the Palestinians.

With this situation in our minds, this recent article in the Methodist World Church News by Rev John Howard, is particularly relevant:

The differing worlds of Israel/Palestine

By John Howard

“Lying in bed at night, I frequently hear the sounds of stun grenades, tear gas or even live fire. The Aida Refugee Camp, where more tear gas is used than anywhere else in the world, is half a mile from my apartment. My walk from home to the office takes me along the ‘wall’ past the famous Banksy graffiti and through Checkpoint 300: almost the only way for Palestinians now to get to Jerusalem. Ministering in this highly divided situation, the Jerusalem Methodist Liaison Office spans the divides. I meet with Jewish rabbis, with Orthodox priests and with Muslim clerics. While many of my daily encounters are with the Christians of Bethlehem, I have the chance to talk to visitors about what it is to live here today. I preach in churches in Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Tiberias. I travel between communities: into Gaza and across checkpoints, into settlements and returning to the Beit Jala community of Bethlehem, where I live. One initiative the Liaison Office supports perhaps encapsulates much of the diversity in one

monthly event. ‘Praying Together’ brings Muslims, Jews and Christians into the same space and enables us to pray alongside each other. Every last Thursday of the month, we meet at the Jaffa Gate and walk together to a location in the Old City of Jerusalem. As we walk, we talk; as we pray, we long for a land of peace and justice; as we leave, we return to very different worlds. It is at the same time both a privilege to live here in the land where Jesus walked, daily walking past places many in the world can only dream of ever visiting, and an experience that breaks my heart daily as I see the injustices of life in this place.”

Revd John Howard works at the Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem. The office was officially launched in October 2012 as a partnership of the World Methodist Council, the Methodist Church of Britain and the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. Its purpose is to increase international awareness and involvement of the Methodist community in the issues of Palestine and Israel. The Office is charged with coordinating advocacy and education initiatives and to provide travel and volunteer opportunities for and/or by the worldwide Methodist community.

A prayer for Palestine from Christian Aid.....

God of mercy, even as we long to understand that which is often beyond our comprehension, we lay before you the hearts, minds and bodies of all those suffering from conflict in the occupied Palestinian territory and Israel, and from the ongoing occupation. Shower upon all the people of this holy land the spirit of justice and reconciliation.

God of justice, bless those who work for peace through justice. Strengthen their resolve in the face of seemingly endless violence. Guide the leaders of the peoples of the Middle East to know your will and to support a just peace for all of your children.

God of love, lifting up the holy land for all humankind, breathe love and compassion into our prayers with a desire for nothing other than

peace: peace in our hearts, peace for all creation, and especially peace in the land that is called holy.

Amen



CHRISTIAN AID is an international development agency for 41 sponsoring churches and keen to serve and work with other churches, too.

It was established so that the sponsoring churches and others 'could respond to Christ's command to care for all in need'. Its values are rooted in the Christian belief which asserts that human beings are called to have a special relationship with God and in turn to have a particular relationship with one another.

Jesus called his followers to 'love God and love your neighbour'. Through his life and teaching, his death and his resurrection, he inspired his followers to love God, love their neighbours and long for justice.

Our faith tells us that human beings are created in the image of God, and that we should all use our power, skills and resources for the good of all. But we experience the world as one damaged and often broken by suffering, injustice and sinfulness – a world in which there is poverty and war, hunger and pain.



The relationships between people, communities, corporations and nations are distorted, as inequality becomes greater, oppression stronger and poverty persistent. Even creation itself is in crisis, as it is exploited and degraded. Where relationships are broken or distorted, wherever there is stigmatisation or discrimination, where some are exploited or diminished by others, Christian Aid believes that these relationships should and can be changed. They believe the world can be restored and transformed, and that there is hope for a renewed world to come.

The issues that Christian Aid work on are complex. But they have the hope and confidence that God is with them, revealing good ways of living human life together.

We all have the gift of hope and also the responsibility to keep working and praying for God's will to 'be done on earth as in heaven'.



The Traidcraft stall will be in church after the services on the following dates over the summer:

25 June, 30 July and 27 August.

Please come along and support fair trade products and help to improve lives in the developing world.

Albert Schweitzer was a theologian, an organist, a philosopher and a medical missionary. He was certainly a clever man and knew a lot of stuff! But even after all his schooling and training, there were four things that he still wanted to learn; things that we also might benefit from.

“To think clearly without hurry or confusion, to love everybody sincerely, to act in everything with the highest motives and to trust God unhesitatingly”

From The Friendship Book 2017

Be careful how you ask God for things!

A man asked God "How long is a million years to you?" God replied "A

minute."

The man then asked "How much is a million dollars to you?" and God said "one cent".

So the man said to God "will you give me a cent, please" and God replied "In a minute!!"

THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN

OUR England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows ;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the Glory of the Garden occupieth all who come.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth every one.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner In the Glory of the Garden.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away!

Selected verses from The Glory of the Garden, by Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936).

Kipling was a very well-known English journalist, short-story writer, poet, and novelist. His most famous work of fiction was probably "The Jungle Book" , published in 1894.



THE ITALIAN CHAPEL, LAMB HOLM, ORKNEY

On the island of Lamb Holm in the Orkneys is one of the most unusual churches to be found in the British Isles, the Italian Chapel. It is made out of two Nissen huts placed end to end, with a theatre set entrance and an extravagantly painted interior belying the crude simplicity of its outside appearance.

The story of this remarkable church goes back to October 1939, when a torpedo attack by a German U-boat on the HMS Royal Oak anchored in the Scapa Flow resulted in the loss of 833 British seamen. This tragedy prompted plans to build giant causeways to protect the British fleet by sealing off the approaches to Scapa Flow from the open sea. Work started in March 1940, but a shortage of local labour meant progress was slow and so in 1942, Italian prisoners of war captured in the North African Campaign were brought to Orkney to help.

Camps were established on the uninhabited island of Lamb Holm to house these prisoners. Initially, the Italians found life hard in the cold and windy climate of Orkney and the work they were forced to do was physically demanding. They realised that they needed to keep their faith alive, but lacked a suitable place for formal worship. After Italy capitulated to the Allies in September 1943, they were given more freedom and it was at this time that an Italian priest arrived on the island. The British camp commander then gave the Italians permission to build a place of worship.

The British authorities arranged for two Nissen huts to be moved to the camp. The Italians continued to work on the barriers, but dedicated their spare time to work on the church.

One of the prisoners, a man called Domenico Chiocchetti, led the work using materials that could be found locally, wood from wrecked ships and bits of scrap metal. The baptismal font was made from the inside of a car exhaust covered in a layer of concrete. Empty tins of corned beef were used to form the lanterns. A Scottish contractor donated concrete and a local Orkney artist provided brushes and poster paints for the interior frescoes.



In the end, the chapel was only used by the Italians for a very short time, but its construction became for them a spiritual journey. It gave the men hope and a sense of purpose. As the project progressed, friendships with local people developed and former enemies became friends.

When work on the Churchill Barriers was completed in September 1944, the prisoners were moved from Orkney and soon after returned to Italy. Domenico Chiocchetti was allowed to stay behind to put the finishing touches to the chapel that had become a symbol of hope for the prisoners during their captivity.

In 1960 Domenico returned to Orkney to assist with the restoration of the chapel. When he left, he wrote an open letter to the people of Orkney in which he said:

“The chapel is yours - for you to love and preserve. I take with me to Italy the remembrance of your kindness and wonderful hospitality. . I thank the authorities of Kirkwall, the courteous preservation committee, and all those who directly or indirectly have collaborated for the success of this work and for having given me the joy of seeing again the little chapel of Lamb Holm where I, in leaving, leave a part of my heart”.

The chapel stands today as testament to these men’s dedication to their faith and to their efforts to overcome adversity through creative activity.

The chapel is now in the Roman Catholic Parish of Our Lady & St Joseph in Orkney, part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen. Mass is held in the chapel on the first Sunday of each month during the summer and it is also a popular venue for weddings.

FSW

CHURCH ROAD DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| Saturday 9 June | Church Gift Day Coffee Morning |
| Sunday 10 June | Church Anniversary Preacher Revd Gary Hall |
| Thursday 12 July to Sunday 15 July | Six Counties Bike Ride |
| Sunday 5 August | Circuit Farewell for Revd Dr Adrian Burdon at Lytham Methodist Church at 6.00 p.m. |
| Sunday 9 September | 6.30 p.m. at Lytham Methodist Church Circuit Service of welcome to the new Circuit Staff and Commissioning of the team |
| Saturday 15 September | Quizzical Coffee Morning |
| Sunday 16 September | Church Family Lunch at the Dalmeny Hotel |
| Sunday 23 September | Harvest |
| Saturday 6 October | Evening of Music & Song by Heyhouses Community Choir & Fiddle Faddle |
| Saturday 13 October | 6.00 p.m. Fairhaven Methodist Church – Rev. Sylvester Deigh will feed back on his Sabbatical experience |
| Saturday 17 November | Christmas Fayre and Table Top Sale |

DIARY NOTES

Please check the weekly notices for summer meetings and closures during school holidays

MOVEMENT TO MUSIC: Every MONDAY 7.30 to 8.30 p.m and Wednesday from 9.45 to 10.45 a.m.

BUMBLEBEES: Every TUESDAY in term-time from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m. for 0-4's with parents and carers.

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP: Commencing June 6, every WEDNESDAY from 3.00 to 4.00 p.m. in the Ashton Gardens Café.

WORSHIP ON THURSDAY: Not meeting during the Summer

FRIDAY FUN CLUB: Every FRIDAY in term time, for children, ages 6-11 years from 6.00 to 7.15 p.m

THE HUB: Not meeting during the development works.

ACTIV8 CAFÉ STYLE WORSHIP at 9.00 for 9.15 a.m. on the first SUNDAY of each month.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL: After morning worship, on the last SUNDAY of each month. Come along and support fair trade products.

TIME OUT at 7.00 p.m. every THIRD SUNDAY of each month. An informal faith based group for young people 12+

FRESH CAFÉ STYLE WORSHIP at 6.30 for 7.00 p.m every SUNDAY at Fairhaven Methodist Church until **8 July**. An opportunity to explore faith

through media, conversation and prayer. Drinks are available from 6.30 p.m. and worship begins at 7.00 p.m.

Keep up to date!

All our church activities are included in our weekly news sheet. Any items that you wish to be included should be sent to the Church Office, preferably by email, by lunchtime on Thursdays. The news sheet for Sunday 30 July will include the month of August.

churchroadmethodist@gmail.com

If you would like to receive a copy of the weekly notices by email, please email a request to the church office or speak to Stuart Wrigley.



Church Road is on Facebook. If you are too, "Like" our page and receive updates each week of activities taking place here. Don't forget to share our news with your friends as well.

Please visit our new website, which has details of all services and activities at Church Road. If you have a church event that you want to include, please pass the information to the church office.

www.churchroadmethodist.org.uk

The next edition of the THE RECORD will be the Autumn edition, which will be published at the end of August 2018. All contributions welcome. Please let us know if you have any special family news or celebrations that you would like to share with our readers.

You don't need to wait for the deadline to send something for inclusion in the next edition, but in case you are a last minute person, the absolute deadline will be

1p.m. on Sunday 20 August 2017

Please send articles by email if possible to
churchroadmethodist@gmail.com