



# CHURCH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Transforming Lives and Communities

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May 2024

Dear Friend,

We are very blessed at Church Road. We have a beautiful suite of premises which we can use ourselves and share with others in the community. We have an amazing organ and a fantastic piano and we have some fantastic amazing musicians who play them and other instruments and use their God-given gifts to lead us in following the Psalmist and singing a new song to the Lord.

We are able to work in partnership with the other churches in the Blackpool and South Fylde Methodist circuit and with people of other denominations through Churches Together in St Annes. We can engage with those in need through Wesley's café and Wesley's Larder. We have volunteers who work with young people of all ages from babes in arms to teenagers. We are reminded by them of Jesus' statement that only those who become as children will enter the Kingdom of God.

We have people of every generation from those with the enthusiastic energy of youth to those with the wisdom of age and experience. We are cared for pastorally; we have opportunities to get together. We can share friendship, fellowship and fun.

God is good and we are richly blessed.

This is where you are probably expecting the fourth F-I've mentioned friendship, fellowship and fun, what about finance? After all this is a Gift Day letter, I am supposed to quote another F-figures to show you how dire our financial situation is and why we need you to give generously but I am not going to. This is not because our financial situation is good-it's not, far from it. This is not because I don't want you to give generously. I most certainly do.

However I am going to refer you to some words of St Paul in chapter 9 of his second letter to the Corinthians at verse 7

*"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

In fact I would encourage you to read Chapter 9 verses 6-15. I do not see Gift Day as an imposition but rather as an opportunity. God is good. God's love is generously bestowed upon us. Gift Day is our chance to be cheerful givers and offer some of what we have to be used to bring glory to God.

I hope you will be able to join us for the Anniversary on 9<sup>th</sup> June for a service conducted by Judith Smith followed by a Jacobs Join lunch.

## **Gift Day arrangements:**

Envelopes (and Gift Aid slips for cash donations) will be available in church from 9<sup>th</sup> June and for the following few weeks, to enable members to make a donation. Otherwise, any envelope may be used, as long as it is marked 'Gift Day 2024'.

If members would prefer to make their donation by cheque, please write 'Gift Day 2024' on the reverse, or if making the payment electronically, please input 'Gift Day 2024' to the 'Reference' field.

All donation envelopes will be passed, unopened, to the Treasurer.

God bless you

*Stuart Wild*

Please direct any queries to: Mrs J Farley, 29 Newton Road, Lytham St Anne's, FY8 3JW, 07958100041 or [janettefarley63@gmail.com](mailto:janettefarley63@gmail.com)