

# THE RECORD

AUTUMN 2017



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## 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

## WORSHIP in SEPTEMBER

3<sup>rd</sup>

9.00 a.m.

9.15 a.m.

10.30 a.m.

Holy Communion at The Drive Methodist Church  
Activ8 Café Church led by Revd Stephen N Heath  
Revd Sylvester Deigh

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at The Drive Methodist Church  
9.15 a.m. Activ8 Café Church led by Revd Stephen N Heath  
10.30 a.m. Revd Sylvester Deigh  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven



10th  
10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen N Heath - Holy Communion  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

17th HARVEST FESTIVAL  
10.30 a.m. All Age Worship led by Revd Stephen N Heath  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

24th  
10.30 a.m. Revd Joan Edwell  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven



## ACTIV8

Our monthly informal service of early morning worship is on the **first Sunday of each month** at 9.00 a.m. in the south transept. 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](mailto:wfellison@outlook.com)

## WORSHIP in OCTOBER

1st  
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. Revd Stephen N Heath  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

8th  
10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen Heath - Holy Communion  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

15th  
10.30 a.m.- All Age Worship led by Ms. Christine Pierce  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

22nd MISSION IN BRITAIN  
10.30 a.m. Revd Kevin Johnson  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

29th



6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven  
29<sup>th</sup>  
10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen N Heath  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

## ***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.

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

[www.methodistsouthfylde.org.uk](http://www.methodistsouthfylde.org.uk)

## **WORSHIP in NOVEMBER**

5<sup>th</sup>

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at The Drive Methodist Church  
9.15 a.m. Activ8 Café Church led by Revd Terry Hudson  
10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen N Heath  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

12<sup>th</sup>

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

10.30 a.m. Revd Terry Hudson - Holy Communion  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

19<sup>th</sup>

10.30 a.m. Revd Stephen N Heath - All Age Worship  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven

26<sup>th</sup>

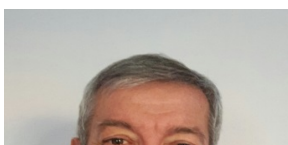
10.30 a.m. Mr. Richard Golding  
6.30 p.m. FRESH Café Style Worship at Fairhaven



## **CIRCUIT PRAYER DAY AT CHURCH ROAD**

**Saturday 2 December from 10.00 a.m.**

Everyone is invited to come along and share a time of peace and reflection.  
More details nearer the time in the weekly notices.



**A word from Stephen....**



Dear Friends

I confess to being an armchair sportsman these days. My mobile phone too often reminds me I have not achieved my Daily Activity Goals. As I sit and watch the athletes at the World Championships in London I salute their dedication, years of training, attention to detail as to how they run, jump, throw and cope with the ups and downs of competition.

Only a few will ever reach the heights of Mo Farah and Usain Bolt, yet many youngsters will be inspired to believe they can. They will take up running with a hope and a belief, parents will support them feeling they should give them a chance to succeed but all the while being ready to comfort them when they understand how hard it is, success does not come easy, failure can be hard. Ask Holly Bradshaw, the pole vaulter from Lancashire, who uncontrollably sobbed in view of thousands in the stadium and millions on TV, her head hidden among the rack of poles, her only comfort a towel placed over her head and shoulders by a competitor as the pain of a missed medal shattered her dream of a pole vault medal and sadness overwhelmed her.

Another telling image was Justin Gatlin spoiling Bolt's farewell party. The loud booing around the stadium revealed what the crowd felt towards the two times drug cheat, Gatlin. He was not deemed undeserving of the win but his right to be there at all caused the crowd to react with such disapproval. I too wanted Bolt to win, a fitting end to a great career. A great ambassador for the sport was beaten by a former cheat who had brought the sport into disrepute not once but twice.

Another athlete, Luvo Manyonga of South Africa, whose life had fallen apart after years of drug addiction, but with the help of athletics he turned his life around and a year after returning to formal competition he is now Long Jump World Champion.

Three athletes evoked different emotions within me. I recalled three sayings of Jesus, "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone", "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" and in response to the question "How many times shall I forgive?" "Endless"!

The words of Jesus are still relevant today! I may not have broken into a sweat but my mind has been put through its paces as I reflect upon what I see and feel.

As we begin another Methodist year is this not what the call of Jesus is about? Not just to watch but to see. Not just to listen but to hear. Not to walk by but to get involved.

Our God is not just an everyday God but an every moment God who desires that we listen to his word as we work, rest and play. This is going to be a very busy year, a significant year in the life of our church. We need to make time to hear God's voice in all we do. Let's all get active and be part of what God is doing at Church Road.

We have an exciting but demanding year ahead

make time to hear God's voice in all we do. Let's all get active and be part of what God is doing at Church Road.  
We have an exciting but demanding year ahead.

Stephen

*In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend



RON HARRIS

MARGARET WESTMACOTT

HILARY JACKSON

PETER WESTON

DONALD FOULKES

*"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"*



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### 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.

### SUMMER FLOWER DEDICATIONS



Stewards if you would like a name to be included.

# SUMMER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

## JUNE



- 4th Cherished birthday memories of Ross Wells  
Loving memories of my parents, Kay and Cedric Eyre, from  
Catherine
- 11th Loving birthday memories of John, from Barbara, Caroline  
& Samantha  
Loving anniversary memories of Michael Ball
- 18th Loving anniversary memories of Muriel and John Watts

## JULY

- 2nd Loving memories of a dear Auntie & Uncle,  
from Philip and Betty Harrison  
In memory of Jean and Herbert Mayes
- 9<sup>th</sup> In memory of Roy and Freda Brice
- 16th Birthday memories of Glenda Thompson
- 23rd In loving memory of Nancy and Harry Wrigley  
Loving memories of Jean Biddulph from John
- 30th Birthday memories of Edwina, from Audrey and family



## AUGUST

- 6th Loving birthday memories of Nan, from Len Macklin
- 20th Loving anniversary memories of Fred and Marion Holland  
Fond memories of Arthur and Hannah Nicholson
- 27th Loving birthday memories of Jessie from Barbara  
and all the  
family.

## CHURCH FLOWERS

Flowers are paid for by people who make dedications in memory of loved ones. If anyone else would like to contribute in this way please contact Elaine Watts. (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.

Church Road Methodist Church Flower Fund and include the wording for any dedication that can be inserted in the Church Record. 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.



### A PRAYER

Dear Lord, we thank you for the gift of family,  
for the fellowship of the church family and the wider world family.  
We ask that your peace and love stir each and every heart  
to create harmony and peace throughout the world.  
We pray for those who are alone, bereaved and suffering.  
Hold them in your loving arms and grant them the joy and comfort of family and friends.



Amen

*This prayer was written by Bessie Thewlis, who attended Church Road for many years but who is now housebound. The prayer was submitted and published in the Methodist Prayer Handbook 2012-13, "Crossing the Chasm"*

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### APPRECIATION

Margaret Robb would like to thank members of the church family for their loving support, flowers and prayers during a particularly difficult time for her and her family. It is greatly appreciated.



## MARRIAGE CELEBRATION



Sarah Bruce and Dr. Robert Spoczynski

20 August 2017





*Our congratulations to Sarah and Robert,  
wishing them every blessing in the future  
from all friends at Church Road*

*Two are better than one, for if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow  
Ecclesiastes 4 verses 9 &10*



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## **CONGRATULATIONS**

to Marion and Michael Allanson,  
who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary  
on 2 September



**SUNDAY 25 JUNE**

**Jacob Benjamin**

*son of Ben and Rebekah Derbyshire*

*The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you  
The Lord look on you with kindness and give you peace*

Baptised into the Father's name  
We're children of our God;  
Baptised into the Son, we claim  
The ransom of his blood

We're children of our God,  
Baptised into the Son, we claim  
The ransom of his blood.

Baptised into the Holy Ghost,  
In this accepted hour,  
Give us to own the Pentecost,  
And the descending power.

*George Rawson (1807-97)*



## **MORNING PRAYERS**

### **Second and fourth Thursdays** **at 11.00 a.m.**

Come along and join with a small group to share concerns for the world, our community and our church.

## **WORSHIP ON THURSDAYS**

commencing for the Autumn season  
**on Thursday 5 October at 11.00 a.m.**  
**thereafter on the first and third Thursdays**



A Time of Bible Study, Worship and Reflection

This is a great opportunity to take time out from the hustle and bustle of the week to reflect on God's presence. The autumn programme will be published in the weekly notices in September.



Our Rainbow group for **girls aged 5-7** meets on Tuesday evenings from 6.15 to 7.15 p.m. during term time. The next meeting is on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September** in the Church Centre.

We have lots of fun including playing games, cooking and doing craft activities. If your daughter, or the daughter of anyone you know, would like to come along and see what we do, please contact the Rainbow Leader, Lois Thomas: email: [lhthomas@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:lhthomas@uclan.ac.uk), telephone: 01253 723862.

## **DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**



Proposed Ramp Design to New Church Centre

People have been asking how is the development progressing is it still going ahead?

The answer is a resounding yes! These last two months have seen a great deal of progress. We have worked with our solicitors in preparation for the sale of the land to Great Places Housing Association. All the preliminary work is now completed and we expect to be able to present the Contract of Sale to be ready for approval by the October Church Council.

The Housing Association and ourselves have been working with our architects and the developer to finalise plans ready to submit a Planning Application to Fylde Council. This is now completed and the plans were submitted on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017. They can be viewed on Fylde Council website or on our website.

Our project was submitted to the Lancashire Methodist District for approval along with an application for a grant. The project has been approved and awarded a grant of £10,000. The project has also now received final authorisation from the Connexion.

Work is now underway to finalise the specification of the works and the total costings which will be brought to the Church Council for final approval with a provisional date to commence works in the New Year. We will provide updates through the notices, our website and Facebook page as things develop and decisions are made.

We currently need to raise around £50,000 the projected cost of the project. Various fundraising projects are being planned and funding bids are being submitted to charitable and grant making bodies.

We ask for your prayers for wise decisions as we work through the plan for the new building, the period of the build and the raising of funds.

## **FUTURE STORAGE & DE-CLUTTERING**

## **FUTURE STORAGE & DE-CLUTTERING**

A big task now is to identify our storage requirements and to get rid of stuff no longer needed. Keith Hall and Joan Edwell are leading the planning for the future storage of all our equipment and the disposal of unwanted goods. There will be detailed planning of how we make a smooth transition from the delivery of all our activities in the halls to the new building and facilities. During September Joan and Keith will meet with each group to identify what your storage needs are and to discuss how we are planning to accommodate your needs.

It will be a great help if you can declutter now and dispose of items that are no longer needed. (Please do not dispose of old registers of attendance or financial records without checking with Keith or Joan.) An inventory of all furnishings and cupboards has been made. What we now need to establish is what is held in the cupboards. What do we need to keep? What can be disposed of?

Once we have that information we can progress plans for disposal as well as storage. Keith and Joan will be glad to speak with you and we have set the target of quantifying storage needs and the volume of rubbish to be cleared by the **30<sup>th</sup> September 2017**. That then leaves us time to arrange for the sale of goods with value and the disposal of rubbish.

If you are a group leader or the person with the keys to a cupboard please contact Joan [joan@edwell.org.uk](mailto:joan@edwell.org.uk) or Keith [keithandreta@talktalk.net](mailto:keithandreta@talktalk.net) don't wait for them to contact you.

*Thank you, Stephen*

## **CHURCH ANNIVERSARY GIFT DAY**

**3rd June 2017**

I'm delighted to report that the Gift Day donations totalled £6,930. Most of the donations are subject to gift-aid, so I would anticipate receiving a further £1,400 from HM Revenue and Customs. This demonstrates the huge benefits of gift-aiding all your donations.

The money will be retained to fund our building development for which a planning application was submitted on 4th August 2017.

On behalf of Church Road Methodist Church, I would like to thank all of you who have donated so generously to the Gift Day. Your generosity is very much appreciated and will help us to move forward as a fellowship of God's people.

*Andrew Whitley  
Church Treasurer*

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## FUNDRAISING BOXES



We are grateful to the many people who have taken collecting boxes to help with our fundraising. These are a great opportunity to put in occasional extra donations towards our development fund and also to seek contributions from friends and family. The first collection of the boxes will take place in September.

**Please can you return your box to church on either  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> or Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

Please write your name clearly on the BACK of the box. After counting, the boxes will be acknowledged and returned to you.

*Thank you*

## **Sponsored Bike Ride: 12-15 July 2018**

To raise money for our church and Trinity, the Hospice in the Fylde.



The ride will start and finish at Church Road and will involve the cyclists riding approximately 400 miles, over 4 days to raise money for church and Trinity, the Hospice in the Fylde.

The route is:-

Day 1 – St Annes to Carlisle

Day 2 – Carlisle to Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Day 3 – Newcastle-upon-Tyne to York

Day 4 – York to St Annes

Some of our keen young men are already signed up to the ride: Bill Ellison, Colin Hird & Jonathan Livesey. We will be arranging a meeting for anyone else interested in taking part, so if you know of any other keen cyclists, please speak to Stephen or Linda Heath - 01772 683884.

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## FORTHCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

28 October

Concert by Lytham Community Choir

28 October  
18 November

Concert by Lytham Community Choir  
Christmas Fair and Table Top Sale

**Please note the dates and look out for more details in the weekly notices and on the church noticeboards. Your support will contribute to our new development and future mission of the church.**



## **YOU CAN ALSO SUPPORT US THROUGH EASY FUNDRAISING**

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Church Road Methodist Church? There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's, Next, B&Q, John Lewis, Expedia, Ebay, Aviva, thetrainline and thousands more – it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/churchrdmethodist/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to our church for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and the church will be really grateful for your donations. Remember us when you're planning your Christmas shopping. Please also encourage your friends to support us in this way as well.



**Check them all out at [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)**

**THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR SUPPORT**

## **LADIES' FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

**OPENING MEETING :**

**WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2015 AT 9.45 PM**

# **OPENING MEETING : WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2017 AT 2 15 PM**

Traditionally this is when we celebrate President Val's afternoon with tea and cakes being served. Please note the first meeting will be in Church.

This afternoon we will be entertained by the St Anne's Community Choir. Anyone wanting to stay to the tea, please notify Elaine Watts no later than Sunday 30 September. This is the start of an interesting session with a variety of speakers etc. If you have not been to Ladies' Fellowship before why not try it. If you are not able to come every week then just come when you can. We meet in the Church Parlour in the Centre most times, so use the Centre door on St Albans Road. All ladies welcome.

## **AUTUMN PROGRAMME**

Until 27 September, the Fellowship is continuing to meet at Ashton Gardens Café between 3 00 pm and 4 00 pm on Wednesday afternoons. All ladies welcome.

### **October**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 4 Oct  | St Anne's Community Choir <b>(in Church)</b>             |
| 11 Oct | Rev Stephen Heath  |
| 18 Oct | Fylde Sharks Disability Swimming Club – Christine Miller |
| 25 Oct | Visit to The Drive                                       |

### **November**

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 1 Nov  | Everyday First Aid – Eric Lee – Red Cross |
| 8 Nov  | Musical afternoon <b>(In Church)</b>      |
| 15 Nov | “Ladies of the Theatre” – Barry Band      |
| 22 Nov | Revd Dr Adrian Burdon                     |
| 29 Nov | “Arctic Dog Sledding” – Pat Ascroft       |
| 6 Dec  | To be arranged                            |
| 13 Dec | Christmas Service in Church               |

For more information about Ladies' Fellowship,  
please contact Elaine Watts – Tel: 01253 722302.



Everyone is welcome to join  
us in celebrating our

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

Sunday 17 September  
at 10 30 am  
with Revd Stephen Heath



Methodist  
relief and  
development

## CHIRP FOR JOY! HARVEST APPEAL 2017

Once again, we are inviting everyone to support All We Can's Harvest Appeal 2017. Envelopes will be available in church during the Harvest period for your donation.

***All our gifts will help projects in the world's poorest communities. Here is one example of where All We Can is working with a local community in Zimbabwe.....***



### **From breadbasket to breaking point**

Zimbabwe was once described as the breadbasket of Africa.

Now, many people struggle to grow enough food to provide for their most basic needs. Regai is one such person. When her husband died in 2005, things reached breaking point: "I was unable to pay for my children to finish school. I was here, working my land like other people in the community. If I had no food, I would have to work other people's fields." Regai works hard to farm her small maize field but insufficient rainfall has meant a poor harvest

Regai works tirelessly for her children, but insufficient rainfall and subsequent poor crop productivity has only intensified her challenges. Regai knows the power of education: "My hope is that my cycle of being poor will come to an end if my children will go to school". Right now though, she struggles simply to feed them. All We Can, working with a local organisation, brought particularly vulnerable members of Regai's community together, to discuss how they could unite to develop a business to provide an ongoing source of income. After considering different options, they decided to keep and rear chickens. The provision of business and chicken training, an initial investment of chickens, and resources such as feed and a coop, will equip the community to start their business. Community groups like this will earn £205 every six weeks for every 100 chickens they sell. This is a significant income for individuals in the group like Regai, and an answer to her prayers. "I hope that by the end of the year my life will be improved. My children will go to school and have enough food to eat."

of the year my life will be improved. My children will go to school and have enough food to eat.”

This Harvest, you can help answer the prayers of more people like Regai; people like us, who simply want to provide for their family’s basic needs. Your support this Harvest will not only help families like Regai’s now, but for generations to come.



*In Hebrew texts, the Tree of Life is seen as an embodiment of the soul’s journey back to the source. The tree’s fruits are the good things given to us by God – the harvest of virtues, including love, compassion, peace and self awareness.* **MISSION IN BRITAIN SUNDAY – 22 OCTOBER 2017**



We are pleased to welcome back Rev Kevin Johnson who will be leading our morning service for Mission in Britain Sunday. Kevin was our minister at Church Road from 1999 to 2005 and is now working on an exciting new project as leader of the Chapel in the Fields, Sinderland Green Methodist Chapel, Altrincham.

Close to urban south Manchester, Sinderland Green Methodist Chapel is a small church in the countryside which has recently undergone significant refurbishment. The result is 'space' that embraces the heritage of the building and brings out the best of the Chapel, its beauty and simplicity. In addition, the countryside surrounding the Chapel offers a real sense of peace.

The Chapel in the Fields offers a safe space to church and non-church people alike and will be a base from which work is taken into schools, churches and the wider community. Godly Play will have a central place and the chapel will offer a Godly Play space to people in the North West and in particular the Manchester and Stockport, Liverpool



and Bolton and Rochdale Districts, which do not have a purpose built Godly Play centre at present. The chapel will be ideal for training and for those wanting a first meaningful experience of what Godly Play is. Other forms of storytelling and creativity will also be nurtured and developed, in particular through woodwork in a purpose built workshop. The rural

those wanting a first meaningful experience of what Godly Play is. Other forms of storytelling and creativity will also be nurtured and developed, in particular through woodwork in a purpose built workshop. The rural location of the refurbished chapel makes it a perfect location for reflection and a non-threatening environment for people not comfortable with normal church premises.

The project is sponsored by the Manchester and Stockport Methodist District, and has the support of the North West districts through the regional chairs' covenant relationship and of the North West Learning Network. The Chapel



in the Fields is based in the Sale Methodist Circuit and the project is a partnership with the Circuit and with the present congregation of the chapel. Outside the church, networks are being built with schools, starting with the Greater Manchester schools RE hub. There is the capacity through the chapel as a resource and a base to reach very large numbers of people and it is intended to monitor carefully not just the numbers of people touched but the effect on their spiritual lives.

Kevin and the Chapel in the Fields team believe that they can demonstrate a model for new uses of rural chapels and of practice in using creativity to support spiritual formation, which could be replicated elsewhere in the country.

## **COME ALONG ON SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER TO LEARN MORE OF THIS EXCITING PROJECT SUPPORTING MISSION IN BRITAIN**

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### **HELP REQUIRED**

We have an ongoing need for volunteers in a number of areas to ensure that we can maintain our fellowship and continue to provide outreach to the community, especially young people in the area.

- 1) **The Cleaning Team** would welcome some more volunteers on a Tuesday morning to help keep the church clean and welcoming. The effort is rewarded with a time of coffee and lively conversation afterwards! Please have a word with Irene Harrison on 01253 726185.
- 2) **The Hub** is in need of more volunteers on a rota on Friday evenings during term time. Duties could be just once or twice a month. This is rewarding outreach work with 11-15 year olds. If you, or someone you know, could help with this, please have a word with Jonathan Irving on 01253 782176.

**AUTUMN 1964**

*by John Betjeman*

Red apples hang like globes of light

Against this pale November haze

Red apples hang like globes of light  
Against this pale November haze,  
And now, although the mist is white,  
In half an hour a day of days  
Will climb into its golden height  
And Sunday bells will sing its praise.

The sparkling flint, the darkening yew,  
The red brick, less intensely red  
Than hawthorn berries bright with dew  
Or leaves of creeper still unshed,  
The watery sky washed clean and new,  
Are all rejoicing with the dead.

The yellowing elm shows yet some green,  
The mellowing bells exultant sound;  
Never have light and colour been  
So prodigally thrown around;  
And in the bells the promise tells  
Of greater light where love is found.

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Sir John Betjeman CBE (28 August 1906 – 19 May 1984) was an English poet, writer, and broadcaster who was [Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom](#) from 1972 until his death. He was particularly well-known for his poems that evoked a sense of nostalgia.

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Starr Hills 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations continue with a



bringing quality to later life

## **COFFEE MORNING**

on 7 OCTOBER

at FRECKLETON METHODIST CHURCH

from 10.00 a.m.



**Service of Remembrance & Holy Communion**

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30 a.m.**

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30 a.m.**

**led by Revd Terry Hudson**

Remembrance Sunday is the day on which we traditionally remember all those who have given their lives for the peace and freedom that we enjoy today. On this day at the eleventh hour, people across the nation will pause to reflect on the sacrifices made by our brave service men and women in both past and present fields of armed conflict.



For the sound of war still thunders  
through our planet, on this day.  
Every hour new victims suffer,  
even as we meet to pray.  
God, we need your help and guidance  
in our constant search for peace.  
Move us on to new solutions  
as we pray that wars may cease.

*Marjorie Dobson (b. 1940)  
from Singing the Faith No 131*

## **GRAND CHRISTMAS FAYRE & TABLE TOP SALE**

**on Saturday 18 November from 10.00 a.m.  
in aid of Church Funds**

Please note the date and come forward with ideas and offers of help, particularly with any of the following:

- Knitted items or fancy gifts for the CHRISTMAS Stall (see Val, Sadie or Shirley)
- Cakes, mince pies etc for refreshments/cake stall
- Help with running stalls
- Tombola Prizes
- Christmas Lucky Dip for children
- Volunteers to serve refreshments and clear tables etc.
- Help to put out tables before and clear away afterwards.

It's also an opportunity to try and pass on some of your surplus or unwanted goods. Any extra suggestions or offers of help will be gratefully received! If you are keen on crafts and have ideas for items you could make for sale, please speak to Lesley Turner.



**Action for Children Christmas cards**



## Action for Children Christmas cards

For those who like to support a charity when buying Christmas cards, Action for Children have a good range to choose from at reasonable prices. Joan Edwell or Lesley Turner will be pleased to show you this year's catalogue (now available) and to take your order.

## Carol Concert Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December An advance date for your diaries

This is Church Road's major annual fund raiser for Action for Children. It's also an opportunity for the church to welcome parents and families of the choirs from local schools who come to sing for us. It's good to have a church presence.

## CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year, we are supporting Samaritan Purse's Operation Christmas Child, which since 1990 has arranged for more than 124 million boys and girls in over 150 countries to experience God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts.

Information on preparing the shoe boxes was published in the Summer edition of The Record, but we make no apology for repeating it in order to encourage as many people as possible to support this worthy initiative.

**Step 1** - Get an empty medium sized shoebox, wrapping the lid and box separately in colourful wrapping paper. Attach the appropriate [boy/girl label](#), marking if your gift is for a boy or a girl. Select an age category 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14 and attach the label to the top of your shoebox.

*If you are struggling to find a shoebox please ask one of the Stewards who have a supply of boxes and labels.*

**Step 2** - fill your shoebox with a selection of fun toys, hygiene items and school supplies.

### Gift Suggestions

*Toys - include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.*

*School Supplies - pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators,*



*School Supplies - pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.*

*Hygiene Items - toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.*

*Other Items - hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, wrapped sweets (best-before-date must be at least March of the following year).*

**Please Do Not Include** - used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate or other food items; liquids or lotions of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers, mirrors or fragile items; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; clothing other than as listed above.

Please pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo of yourself or your group. The shoeboxes will need to be returned to church by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

**THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS WORTHY CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN**

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## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS PAGE

A reminder that once again we will be having a Christmas Greetings page in the next issue of the Record. If you wish to send greetings to church friends in his way and give a donation to church funds instead of sending Christmas cards, please hand your gift to the Editor, Audrey Frodsham, by early November.

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## THANK YOU

I would like to thank the friends at Church Road for their kindness during my recent illness. Many thanks to Stephen for visits; also cards, telephone calls and flowers which were so much appreciated from so many friends. The warmth and love experienced in the church family is such a blessing.

*Audrey Frodsham*



# WESLEY'S COMMUNITY CAFÉ



*Part of the Cooking on a Budget initiative to promote healthy and affordable eating*

|                   |                  |                     |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TUESDAYS</b>   | Opens 11.30 a.m. | Full Menu served    |
| <b>WEDNESDAYS</b> | Opens 11.00 a.m. | Tea, Coffee & Cakes |
| <b>THURSDAYS</b>  | Opens 12 noon.   | Full Menu served    |

*Child friendly*

*Make new friends*

*Affordable prices, no booking required*

*Great food and atmosphere all*

*Child friendly  
Make new friends  
welcome.*

*Affordable prices, no booking required  
Great food and atmosphere, all*

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## Would you like to improve your IT skills?



Come along and enjoy refreshments in Wesley's café **every Wednesday** morning from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m. and learn how to:



- ✓ access the internet,
- ✓ use on-line banking
- ✓ shop on line and use easyfunding to help raise money for Church Road
- ✓ and importantly, find out how to stay safe on-line.

*Tuition is free and is provided by URPotential, a not for profit organisation supporting communities across the North West achieve their potential*



**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade



The Traidcraft stall will be at the rear of the church on the last Sunday of each month. The stall sells food, also green cleaning products and greeting cards. Every product you buy from Traidcraft gives skilled farmers the power to cultivate a better future for themselves, their families and their community.

The new autumn/winter catalogue is now available. If anyone would like one please ask Elaine Watts or take one from the next stall.

Thank you to everyone who supports and helps with the stall in any way.

## Tu'a 'Ofa 'atu



### ***Report of World Church Visit to Tonga – June-July 2017***

*by our Superintendent Minister, Rev Dr Adrian Burdon*

It was Wesley Day, 24 May 2000, that Janet and I took our leave of Tonga after over seven years of working as mission partners with the Free Wesleyan Church of



It was Wesley Day, 21 May 2006, that Janet and I took our leave of Tonga after over seven years of working as mission partners with the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga. I had been Principal of Sia'atoutai Theological

College, Janet had been Head of Economics at Queen Sālote College for Girls. As our transport pulled away from the college a Police car screeched to a halt in front of us and out leaped one of the Queen's Ladies with a last-minute gift. At Fua'amotu Airport we were bidden farewell by every one of the two hundred theological students and friends who had followed us on our final journey.

I realised, of course, that my return seventeen years later was never going to pass unnoticed. I had not expected what happened though. Making my way down the aircraft steps into the sunshine and onto the tarmac I was suddenly aware that I had been joined by an airport official who was gently steering me away from the crowd of fellow travellers with the bidding to come follow him through a 'special door'. Finding myself in the VIP entrance, being greeted by the Rev Dr 'Ahio. President of the Free Wesleyan Church and former colleague, I was relieved of my passport and given a cup of coffee.

Sometime later, my passport was returned, all formalities having been completed on my behalf, my luggage had been claimed and I was invited to make my way with the President of the church away from the airport and into town. It was to be made clear to me on number of occasions over the next two weeks that I was not just a visitor, but I was a member of the family who had come back home.



Adrian with Rev Dr 'Ahio, president of the Tongan Conference and his wife Loukinikini

The purpose of my being in Tonga was to attend the 94<sup>th</sup> annual Conference of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga as representative of the Methodist Church in Britain. The Conference was to take place on the distant island of Vava'u a few days after my arrival and so my first few days were spent reacquainting myself with the main

island of Tongatapu and meeting again with old friends. It was a joy to visit Sia'atoutai Theological College, meet staff who were my colleagues and some who had been my students. On Sunday morning I joined the college staff to lead worship at Centenary Church in Nuku'alofa, I being given the task of preaching the sermon – in Tongan of course. To my right sat His Majesty King Tupou VI who, after the service, was very gracious about my use of very rusty Tongan language!

As if the 32 hours of flying from Manchester to Tongatapu were not enough, a further hour's flight was required to get me to the location of the Conference. The roll call of those present revealed that the Conference delegates numbered almost 800 people from within Tonga, and from New

the Conference. The roll call of those present revealed that the Conference delegates numbered almost 800 people from within Tonga, and from New Zealand, Australia and the United States. A further 1200 people accompanied these delegates as members of choirs and church groups who were also present for the Conference. 2000 people had descended upon the usual population of Vava'u and the miracle of hospitality ensured that all were housed and fed for the length of the Conference. One of the major issues to be discussed at the Conference centred upon the decline in attendance and participation in the church of young people. There were the usual financial reports and opportunities for mutual encouragement of the various groups from across the Pacific.

The highlight for me came on Sunday afternoon when I was privileged to preach at the Conference service at which thirteen new ministers were ordained. The greatest joy was that four of them had been my students seventeen years previously.



The view from the pulpit as Adrian was preaching at Centenary Church, Nuku'alofa.

There have been some significant changes in the country in seventeen years. The nation is now a democracy, with open and free elections, instead of the benign feudal system that it had previously

been. It was interesting to see how that was working. Maybe the only country to make that transition bloodlessly and by deliberate determination in recent years, the government and people of Tonga are still getting to grips with the demands of democratic government. There are new health-drives and people are being encouraged to eat more healthily, to do more exercise and to stop smoking. There is concern for how the internet and modern technology might interfere with the maintenance of the otherwise very traditional society and yet the positive benefits of such technology are to be welcomed.

It was great joy to be back in Tonga after seventeen years. It was a great delight to find that many of the senior leaders in the church were my former students. The greatest joy was meeting those who had been students and who, according to their culture, had been deferential and distant when we lived amongst them, but who were now able to greet me and stand alongside me as a brother in Christ.

And their message to the Methodist Church in Britain?

*Tu'a 'Ofa 'Atu* – we extend our loving greetings to you.

*Adrian*

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## DIPPING INTO THE DIARY OF JOHN WESLEY



This summer David and I have enjoyed several trips to new places as well as returning, nostalgically, to old haunts. Some of our journeys have had the odd hiccup, like the time we broke down at a level crossing on our way to Leeds and, of course, we had to face the inevitable delays at roadworks on the motorway.

But my holiday reading has shown me that the drawbacks of modern travel are soon put into perspective when compared to the journeys described in John Wesley's diary.

During the course of his ministry he covered thousands of miles in all weathers, over rough roads completely without the benefit of SatNav and before the days of motorway service stations serving Costa Coffee. How did he manage it? Well, sometimes with considerable difficulty!

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 1747, he wrote "The wind was turned full north and blew so exceedingly hard and keen that when we came to Hatfield, neither my companions nor I had much use of our hands or feet" The following day "We set out as soon as it was well light; but it was really hard work to get forward...the untracked snow covering all the roads, we had much ado to keep our horses on their feet.

In 1752 John Wesley rode to Durham and then on to Barnard Castle He wrote "I was exceedingly faint when we came in. However, the time being come, I went into the street and would have preached; but the mob was so numerous and so loud that it was not possible for many to hear." Clearly this was a very challenging day for Wesley despite his resilience, faith and dedication.

Some of the incidents that he described would seem to us today to be quite extraordinary. In 1779, Wesley took the coach for London. He remarked "Behind the coach were ten convicted felons, loudly blaspheming and rattling their chains, by my side sat a man with a blunderbuss and another upon the coach"

convicted felons, loudly blaspheming and rattling their chains, by my side sat a man with a blunderbuss and another upon the coach.”

However, not all journeys were so unpleasant. In 1755 he wrote “At six in the morning, I preached to a large and serious congregation; and then went on to Liverpool, one of the neatest, best-built towns I have seen in England.”

Wesley was also impressed with Bangor – the situation of which, he wrote, “is delightful beyond expression”. When he visited Newcastle he commented “I know no place in Great Britain comparable to it for pleasantness.”

I would recommend a browse through John Wesley’s Journal as an amazing account of life in the eighteenth century, combined with an insight into the roots of Methodism and the character and ministry of John Wesley himself.

*contributed by Lesley Turner*

## Smiling

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu,  
When someone smiled at me today,  
I started smiling too.  
I passed around the corner  
And someone saw my grin,  
When he smiled I realised  
I’d passed it on to him.  
I thought about a smile then realised it’s worth,  
A single smile like mine  
Could travel round the earth.  
If you feel a smile begin  
Don’t leave it undetected,  
Let’s start an epidemic quick,  
And get the world infected.

Author unknown  
contributed by Myrtle Peplow



Congratulations to Myrtle on the celebration of her  
90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 20 August.

With love and best wishes from everyone at Church Road



With love and best wishes from everyone at Church Road

# DIARY NOTES



*Please check the weekly notices for any changes*

**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.

**RAINBOWS:** Every TUESDAY in term-time from 6.15 to 7.15 p.m. for girls aged 5 -7

**LADIES' FELLOWSHIP:** Every WEDNESDAY at 2.15 p.m. commencing on 4 October. In the Ashton Gardens Café from 3.00 to 4.00 p.m. during September.

**MORNING PRAYERS:** 2nd & 4th/5th THURSDAY at 11.00 a.m. A time of quiet reflection and prayer.

**WORSHIP ON THURSDAY:** 1st & 3rd THURSDAY of each month, starting on 5<sup>th</sup> October from 11.00 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. A time of worship, bible study and reflection.

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

**THE HUB:** Every FRIDAY in term time from 7.30 – 9.30 p.m, for young people aged 11-16 years,.

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

**TRAIDCRAFT STALL:** After morning worship, generally 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. 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

## **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.

[churchroadmethodist@gmail.com](mailto: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**



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

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The next edition of the THE RECORD will be the Christmas and New Year edition, which will be published at the end of November. 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 to the Editor, Audrey Frodsham, c/o the Church Office, but in case you are a last minute person, the absolute deadline will be

**1p.m. on Sunday 26 November 2017**

Please send articles by email if possible to

[churchroadmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:churchroadmethodist@gmail.com)