



# MINI MACCLESFIELD MESSENGER

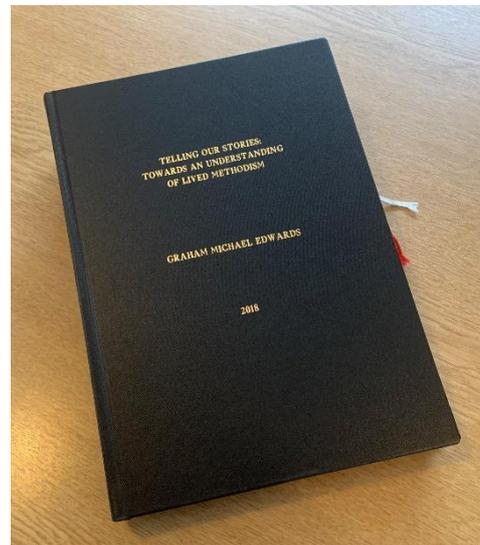
27<sup>th</sup> Issue: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Please feel free to distribute 'Mini Messenger' to others who may find it of interest.

## A message from the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

In my study there is a hard-bound copy of my Doctoral thesis, I occasionally gaze at it remembering the process of writing it! I wish I could say it was a quick easy process, written over a couple of evenings and perfect with just that one draft! However, it wasn't that simple. Writing it was the work of about three years, (after some years doing the research and reading the literature) which included several drafts. Why am I telling you all this? Well, the process of writing this thing included many hours of supervision, I would write something, my supervisors would read it make comments and then we would meet and talk about the work. In the early days there were some quite harsh comments written in the margins of my work, for instance "what?", or "I think you need to explain this" or the worst one "Graham, this is a terrible sentence and I can't begin to correct it". At times it was a quite brutal process, paragraphs that I thought good were deleted, chapters that didn't quite fit were dropped along the way, entire themes that had excited my imagination were ultimately surplus to requirements! I had to trust my supervisors and listen to their guidance, because what emerged at the end was infinitely better with the perspective they offered.



Supervision requires me to admit that I might not have all the answers, I might not have all the wisdom, that I might not always be right! It is a process which is a bit like putting the pieces of a jigsaw together, but with someone else helping, providing



suggestions for which piece to work with, or what part of the image to focus on. Supervision helps us to see, and reflect in new ways, and we need that. Methodist Ministers are now required to be in a formal supervision relationship, and there are lots of different models in different professions, but I'm not talking about that.

For many of us seeing beyond ourselves can be a challenge, to accept that our understanding, our perspective, our theology might not be all there is to say on any particular issue is hard. When those things we hold are challenged or critiqued it can feel quite uncomfortable, yet we need the super-vision of others, because that allows us to see - to understand the jigsaw pieces in new way. I think we need to become supervisors for each other, to offer our thoughts, our wisdom, our experience of God, and find new exciting ways to be Gods people in this world. We all have our own experiences of God, some things we are happy to share with each other and some that are ours alone, but we know that we will never know all there is to know of God. We will never understand the depth of God's love and grace, of his power and passion, and so I need what you know and you (I hope) need what I know, so that together we are able to create a richer, deeper picture of God.

But of course, good supervision is hard, we are not called to shout our opinion at the top of our voice, assuming that will somehow help others! We are called to be a means of grace, a way in which we and others might encounter God. To do this we need to be willing to let go of some things, the grudges and resentment we might hold, the regrets we might struggle to release, the mistakes we have made (and see in others). In doing that - in Christ-filled grace-full ways – I pray we will begin to see a new church and a new world, in which that grace of God shines from every part. So, let us be a community of faith, who help each other to know what it means to be God's children and God's disciples in this world.

With every blessing

Graham

**We are always pleased to receive articles for mini messenger and these are the words and views/ comments of the authors themselves. They may or may not represent the views of the Macclesfield Circuit of the Methodist Church.**

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### **Please keep collecting!**

If you're able to get to one of our forthcoming church services, please remember to take any collections you've built up with you. There will be a facility to leave them.

Church finances will still be stretched though, so if you haven't already, why not set up a regular Standing Order?

And of course, don't forget to Gift Aid if you can - it's worth an extra 25% from HMRC for your church.

Your church Treasurer can let you know how you can help – they'd be delighted to hear from you!!!

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## Children & Families

For those missing Sunday School, or if you know other children who may be interested, this week's focus is **Paul's letters to the Philippians 2: 1-13**. Paul encourages the Philippians to do things not for their own good but for good.

Living faith like it matters means having the same mind as Christ – who, leaving behind his former identity and taking on that of the lowest in society, let himself be humiliated on a cross. This week we will explore being interested in the interest of others. Full details attached.

Date for your diaries....**24<sup>th</sup> October - Light Party**



The poster is for a 'Light Party' and features a yellow background with various icons and text. At the top left is a lit candle icon. The title 'Light Party' is written in large, stylized letters, with 'Light' in orange and 'Party' in yellow. To the right of the title is a red circle with a white cross. Below the title, it says 'A Light, bright and fun alternative to Halloween' and 'Suitable for 4+ yrs-parents/carers to stay with children'. The date and time are 'Saturday 24th October 3 - 4pm via Zoom'. In the center, there is a red box with the word 'LIVE' in white. To the left of 'LIVE' is the 'Messy Church' logo, and to the right is a pumpkin with a cross on it. Below 'LIVE', it lists 'Music', 'Games', 'Craft', 'Magic', and 'Story'. At the bottom, it says 'Book a place by emailing methodistfamilies@gmail.com' and 'To find out more visit: @MacclesfieldCircuit' with a Facebook icon. In the bottom right corner, there is a small jar icon and a diagonal banner that says 'suggested donation £1 per child'.

You are invited to a  
**Light Party**  
A Light, bright and fun alternative to Halloween  
Suitable for 4+ yrs-parents/carers to stay with children  
**Saturday 24th October 3 - 4pm via Zoom**  
Music **LIVE** Games  
Craft Magic Story  
Book a place by emailing  
methodistfamilies@gmail.com  
To find out more visit:  
**@MacclesfieldCircuit**  
suggested donation  
**£1**  
per child

Angela

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**Prayer– in our Circuit Prayer Cycle we remember Poynton this week. This prayer has been provided by Mandy Hawkyard.**

Let's pray

Father we thank you for all four Gospels, each in its own way bringing Jesus alive in our minds. We thank you for our faith and remember what Ros brought to us on Sunday – Proverbs 3 – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.” Give us the strength and tenacity to achieve this in these difficult days.

We thank you that we could worship together on Sunday in Church, because of the team who worked hard to make this possible. And for those who couldn't be there in person there was online worship which could be accessed also by phone. We thank you for technology and the way it is being used.

We pray for our government and the difficult decisions they have to make in the coming days. Help each one of us to keep both ourselves and others safe by what we do or don't do.

We pray for all involved in any way in the NHS – doctors, nurses, physios, dentists, opticians, and support staff of all kinds. Be with the staff of our local surgeries, especially as Autumn arrives.

We pray for our care homes and those who either live or work in them, thinking especially of our MHA homes. We think of those we know living in Woodlands – Theo, Betty W and Peggy (98 on Thursday). May they feel your presence with them.

We think too of all those who have little medical aid – refugees, those who live in poverty in other countries and we ask again that a vaccine will be found that is safe for all. Make us grateful for what we do have and generous to those in far worse situations than ours.

We pray for our children and grandchildren returning to school, college or university thinking especially those leaving home for the first time and starting school (and their parents.) We pray for their safety and happiness.

Thank you for this gift of prayer – teach us to use it well, to the glory of your name. Amen

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**Members' voice** - by Celia Lea, Gawsworth

### **Sunday 13th September - Gawsworth**

The sun was shining when nearly 20 members of Gawsworth Methodist church gathered together to social distance in the church car park. The last time that worship had been conducted was on March 15th, after that the Covid 19 lock down took place.

I was welcomed by smiling faces and warm greetings. At 10.30 the service started by Clive singing the hymns from 'Singing the Faith' for us (we were humming and following the words). The first was a harvest hymn 124, prayers and reading followed led by Rev Sheila and Rev Frank. The message that Rev Sheila gave was summed up in the last hymn 610.

Best of all God is with us,  
God will hold and never fail  
keep that truth when storms are raging,  
God remains though faith is frail.

It meant so much and seemed to say what we were all feeling

We do hope and pray that worship will be possible starting on October 4th. Let us try and keep that warm of love and friendship, even with social distance and no coffee!

**You may recall a few weeks ago we featured an article from Ann Eden, Macclesfield about the weekly flowers – here is an update!**



**My email 'ministry of blooms'**

**F**or many years I've been on the church flower team, both arranging flowers in church and afterwards taking them to members in need of pastoral care. Whenever it's my week to be on duty I particularly enjoy using flowers from my garden. When places of worship had to close I decided to do an arrangement. These were sent to all the members via email (and subsequently distributed far and wide). Each week I added a paragraph - maybe a gardening tip, why I had chosen these flowers or, as with the arrangement pictured above, explaining that all the flowers were from free seed supplied with Garden News magazine. This ministry of flowers has been greatly appreciated by many people.

**Ann Eden, Macclesfield Methodist Church**

**Simon says:** *What a wonderful idea Ann, and I'm delighted to see you've done so well with the free GN seeds too! Keep up the good work - I can imagine your efforts are very much appreciated.*

Ann wins a £25 voucher from Mr Fothergill's for use in its mail-order catalogue. It's packed with a huge choice of quality seeds and exciting flower, fruit and veg plants.



*Maybe the title is a bit of an exaggeration but we do feature in Garden News (the UK's number 1 gardening weekly.)*

*I sent a letter to Garden News about our weekly church flowers during lockdown, along with a photo of the arrangement of flowers grown from free seed from Garden News. The letter and photo are printed in this week's edition (8 Sept) and we have won the star prize, a £25 voucher for seeds.*

**Well done Ann!**

**Could you write the next article?**

*We are looking to feature a contribution each week from a member of the congregation who would be willing to tell us what they are doing during these strange times – what are you watching/reading/making?*

*Any tips to share with others? It would be lovely to hear from you!*

**email: [macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com)**

## Year of Testimony: Sharing Our Story

It has been good to share the story of God in our lives with each other during our services this year. We all benefit from hearing each other's testimonies and so we would like to continue this during our online services. So, if you would like to share your experiences of God during this time please make a recording and send it to Graham. Or, if you would prefer, contact Graham and he will record you via Zoom.

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## Do you watch us on YouTube?

If you use YouTube, we'd be really grateful if you could subscribe to our channel.....  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh1PS5ox80YSZj71WMDHVMQ?fbclid=IwAR2kh47mOQ5ZdZHpVnLvSFqemJ3TwylalezVvSsywnvucNS569sb1tDhsnl> Just click on the red 'Subscribe' button on the top left of the screen and click 'sign in'.

Or from the TV, on the YouTube page, under 'Subscriptions' click 'sign in'. This will help us get a 'proper' url. (That's the link to the morning service that we include each week.) Subscribing doesn't cost anything as this is a free channel. You can find a Subscribe button under any YouTube video or on a channel's page. Once you subscribe to a channel, any new videos it publishes will show up in your Subscriptions feed. You may also start getting Notifications when a channel you subscribe to publishes new content.

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## Helen's Blog

Please see [www.questforspirituality.com](http://www.questforspirituality.com)

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## Community....

### 12 October 7pm

The GMCT Assembly will consider ways in which churches have responded to Covid-19, and how we may continue to work together to serve our communities.

Panels will include presentations on homelessness, the care sector, and social/digital isolation.

Our evening will open with worship together led by King's Church, following which there will be a presentation about the past year of GMCT's work, a keynote address from Roger Sutton, and then four workshops - related to homelessness, social and digital isolation, and work in the care sector.

Please book via Eventbrite at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/greater-manchester-churches-together-annual-assembly-tickets-113650050360?aff=ebdssbeac>



**Hope, Calling and Unity**  
Churches working together in response to Covid-19

Keynote speaker: **Roger Sutton**, Director of Movement Day UK and leader of GATHER

Worship led by King's Church

Greater Manchester Churches Together Annual Assembly 2020  
Date: 12 October 2020  
Time: 7pm- 9pm  
Online gathering this year

More info on Twitter @greaterchurches gmct.org.uk

Workshops:  
Kate Le Sueur, Head of Chaplaincy, MHA  
Jan Rutherford, Chair of Greater Manchester Homelessness Faith Network.  
Lawrence Moore, Church Mission and Discipleship Consultant, Walk the Walk

(Please book your free ticket online through Eventbrite)



**16 October 7.30pm**

Chapel in the Fields Online Poetry Evening  
- The Kingdom of Love.

Join poet & priest Rachel Mann for an evening of poetry which explores the meaning of love, hope and redemption in a time of precariousness and fragility.

Via Zoom - book by email....

[tcitf15@gmail.com](mailto:tcitf15@gmail.com)

**Scoop and Scales – Plastic free shopping in Macclesfield  
Pop up Shop Sunday 27 September, The Old Sunday School, Roe  
Street 10am-3pm**

Scoop and Scales is a cooperative with an aim to open a fill your own container / plastic free shop in Macclesfield in the autumn of 2020. We also hope that this space will be a hub for environmental activity in the town.



Due to fitting our shop ready for opening in October, we will have a reduced range of items on offer:

- We will mainly be selling non-food refills but, do not fear, our sweet treat table will still be in operation!
- We will also be selling a range of herbs and spices (turmeric, paprika, chilli powder, cumin, garam masala, oregano, coriander, ground ginger, ground cinnamon and mixed herbs)
- Household and store cupboard liquids: Come and try out our BRAND NEW RANGE FROM SESI.

Bring your bottles and stock up on: washing up liquid, laundry detergent, fabric conditioner, all purpose cleaner, toilet cleaner, window and glass cleaner, white vinegar, washing powder, bicarbonate of soda, hand soap, organic castille soap, shower gel, extra virgin olive oil, rapeseed oil and organic sunflower oil.

– Please come along with your ideas and suggestions to make Scoop and Scales a place for all the community to visit.

For more information see...

<https://www.scoopandscales.co.uk/pop-up-shop-this-sunday-27th-september-10-2/>

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## **It's Harvest Time!**

As we can't hold conventional harvest festivals this year due to all the restrictions, it's been suggested we hold a virtual harvest, and show the results on our screens during our harvest festivals and maybe online.

But we need your help! Why not set up our own harvest display, photograph it and send it to the email address below and it could be on screen during the actual service!

There's loads we could set up from allotments and baking, gardens, tins, Fairtrade, flower displays etc.

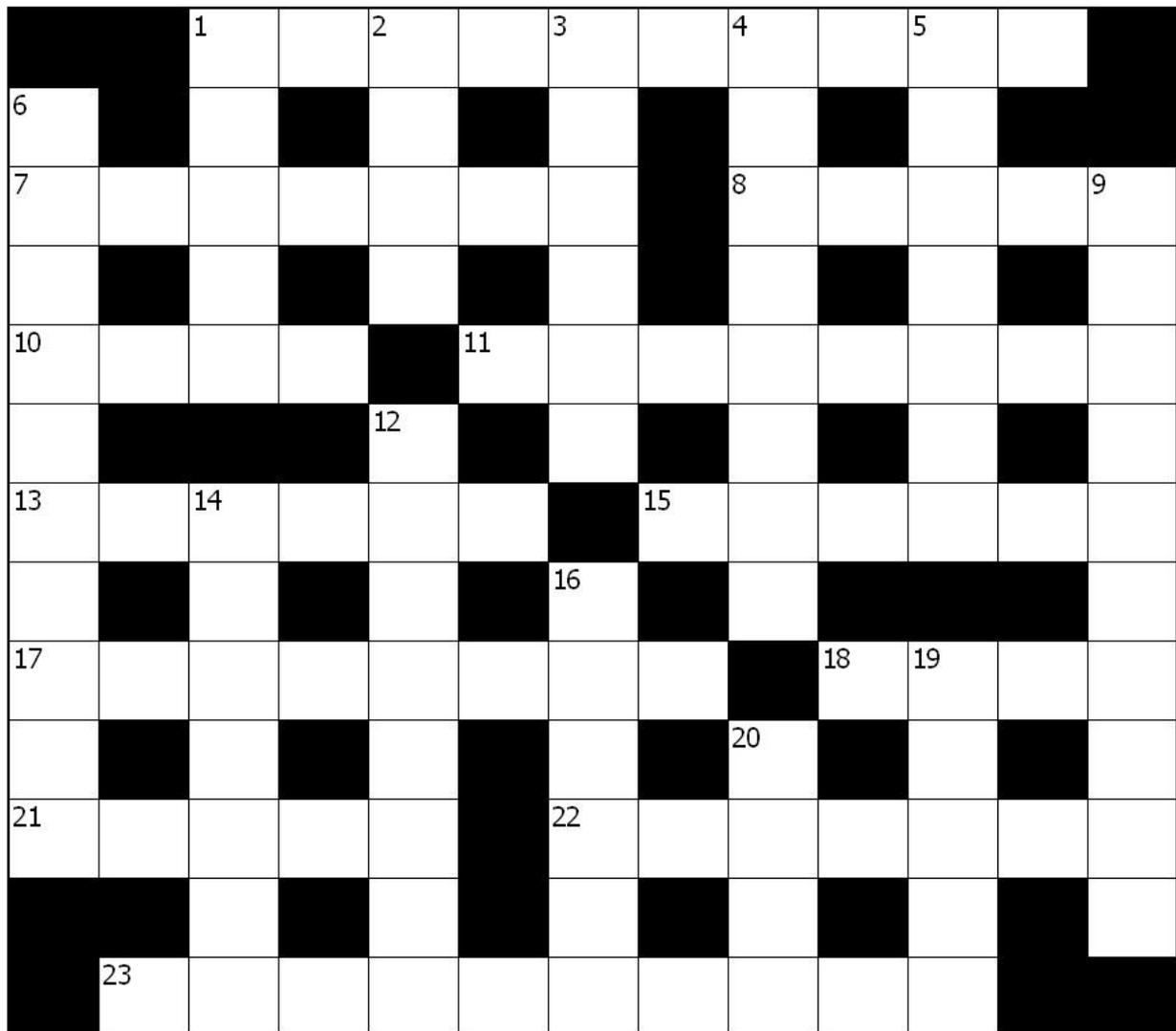
Here are some ideas.....



email: [macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com)

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**Just for fun!**



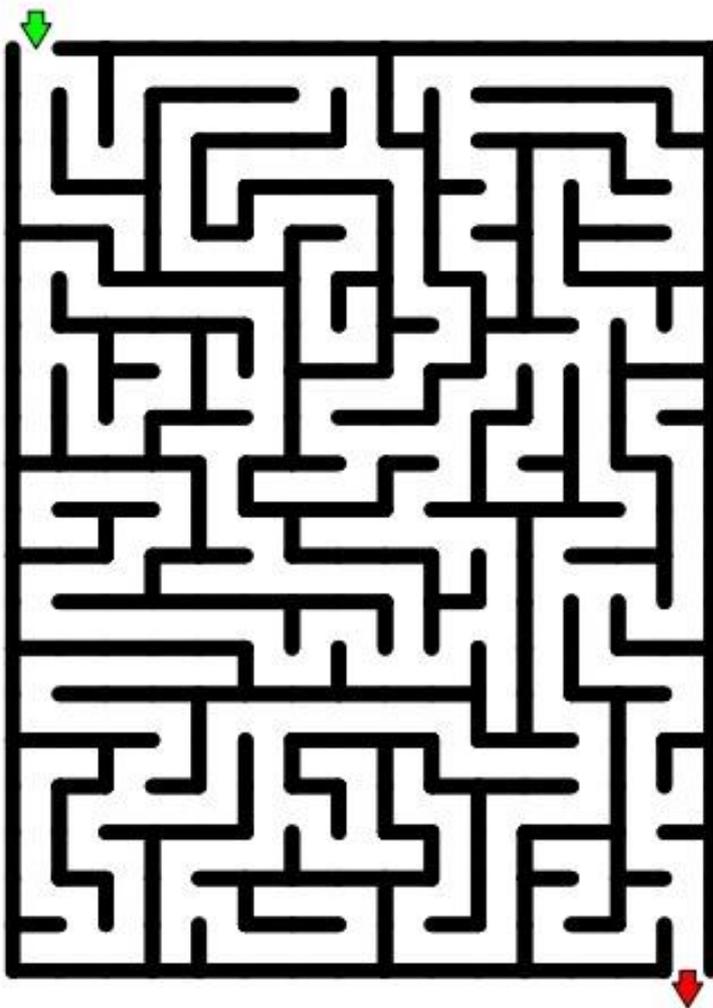
**Across**

- 1 Provisional meeting place of God and the Jews (Exodus 25:9) (10)
- 7 David's third son, killed when his head got caught in a tree during a battle with his father (2 Samuel 18:14-15) (7)
- 8 They ruled much of the west coast of South America in the 15<sup>th</sup> & early 16th centuries (5)
- 10 Small deer of European and Asian extraction (4)
- 11 Seized control of (Numbers 21:25) (8)
- 13 Terror (Luke 24:5) (6)
- 15 First World War heroine shot by the Germans in Brussels, Nurse Edith ó (6)
- 17 Stormy (8)
- 18 A bitter variety of this, together with lamb and unleavened bread, was the Passover menu for anyone unclean (Numbers 9:11) (4)
- 21 Arson (anag.) (5)
- 22 How John Newton described God's grace in his well-known hymn (7)
- 23 Habitation (Isaiah 27:10) (10)

### Down

- 1 \_\_\_ and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8) (5)
- 2 The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as \_\_\_ as a lion (Proverbs 28:1) (4)
- 3 One of the exiles, a descendant of Parosh, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:25) (6)
- 4 He escaped from Nob when Saul killed the rest of his family and joined David (1 Samuel 22:19-20) (8)
- 5 City and lake in Central Switzerland (7)
- 6 Offer your bodies as living \_\_\_, holy and pleasing to God (Romans 12:1) (10)
- 9 Pouches carried by horses (Genesis 49:14) (10)
- 12 One who accepts government by God (8)
- 14 Aromatic substance commonly used in Jewish ritual (Exodus 30:1) (7)
- 16 He asked Jesus, 'What is truth?' (John 18:38) (6)
- 19 Are (Romans 13:1) (5)
- 20 'You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will \_\_\_ his people from their sins' (Matthew 1:21) (4)

Can you find your way out of the maze?



## **Fancy baking?**

**Michaelmas**, is the Christian feast of St. Michael the Archangel, celebrated in the Western churches on **29<sup>th</sup> September**. Given St. Michael's traditional position as leader of the heavenly armies, veneration of all angels was eventually incorporated into his feast day. In the Roman Catholic Church, Michaelmas is now more commonly celebrated as the Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, the archangels; in the Anglican Church, its proper name is the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels. The Eastern (Orthodox) Church does not observe Michaelmas and celebrates the archangels on November 8.

A traditional meal for the day includes goose and of course, as it's harvest time, fruit is bountiful. So.... this week's recipe uses apple and blackberries and will keep wrapped in foil or in a tin for up to 2 days. Coating the blackberries in flour helps to stop them sinking to the bottom of the tin.

### **Blackberry and Apple Loaf Cake**

250g self raising flour  
175g butter  
175g light muscovado sugar  
½ tsp cinnamon  
2 tbsp demerara sugar  
1 small eating apple such as Cox's, quartered but not cored or peeled  
2 large beaten eggs  
1 tsp baking powder  
225g blackberries, washed and rolled in extra flour

Butter and line the bottom of a 1.7 litre loaf tin. Preheat the oven to 180C/gas 4/fan 160C. In a large bowl, rub the flour, butter and muscovado sugar together to make fine crumbs. Measure out 5 level tbsp of this mixture into a small bowl for the topping, and mix in to it the cinnamon and demerara sugar. Set aside.

Coarsely grate the apple down to the core and mix in with the eggs. Stir the baking powder into the rubbed-in mixture in the large bowl, then quickly and lightly stir in the egg mixture until it drops lightly from the spoon. Don't overmix.

Gently fold in three quarters of the berries with a metal spoon, trying not to break them up. Spoon into the tin and level. Scatter the rest of the berries on top. Sprinkle over the topping and bake for 1¼ -1 hour 20 minutes. Check after 50 minutes and cover loosely with foil if it is browning too much. When done the cake will feel firm, but test with a skewer. Leave in the tin for 30 minutes before turning out, then cool on a wire rack.

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**Tell us about your bakes & share your favourite recipes**

**Please send us your photos of your finished bakes!**

**email: [macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com)**

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## SERVICE LINKS & CONTACTS

Sunday 27 September

**AM** – Morning worship led by Ros

**WATCH ONLINE** ..... <http://tiny.cc/trinity16>

The Reading is Matthew 21 v.23-32

**LISTEN.....DIAL IN - 01625 786346 (Available from 10am Sun)**

**FACEBOOK.....** : <https://www.facebook.com/MacclefieldCircuit/>

**YOUTUBE.....**: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh1PS5ox80YSZj71WMDHVmQ>

**PM** – Live Evening Prayer Service at 6.30pm

**JOIN ONLINE.....** Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88677436411>

Meeting ID: 886 7743 6411

Dial by your location

+44 203 051 2874 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 886 7743 6411

**LISTEN.....DIAL IN - 0203 051 2874 or 0203 481 5237 & and when asked, input the Meeting ID: 886 7743 6411**

**Services coming up.....**

4 October AM – led by Graham

11 October AM – led by Ros

A [FREE phone service](#) to hear prayers and news from the **Methodist Church** has been launched.

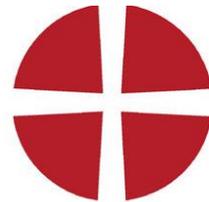


FREE phone lines for prayers and news from the Methodist Church

Listen to a **prayer**: 0808 281 2514

Listen to **news**: 0808 281 2478

Content is updated weekly on Thursday afternoon



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Are you in need of some daily hope during this lockdown? The **Church of England** have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

## Circuit Facebook page

For the latest information on what is happening within the circuit, follow....

<https://www.facebook.com/MacclefieldCircuit/>

## Other important links

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus-guidance/>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.methodistchurch.org.uk/MWoL>

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## Contact Details

### *For Children & Families*

Angela Bourne

Tel: 07901 777506

Email: [methodistfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:methodistfamilies@gmail.com)

### *Ministers*

Rev Graham Edwards

Tel: 01625 426051

Email: [graham.edwards@methodist.org.uk](mailto:graham.edwards@methodist.org.uk)

Rev Ros Watson

Tel: 01625 872060

Email: [ros.watson@methodist.org.uk](mailto:ros.watson@methodist.org.uk)

Rev Helen Byrne

On sabbatical

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## Crossword Puzzle Answers

**ACROSS:** 1, Tabernacle. 7, Absalom. 8, Incas. 10, Roes. 11, Captured. 13, Fright. 15, Cavell. 17, Cyclonic. 18, Herb. 21, Sonar. 22, Amazing. 23, Settlement.

**DOWN:** 1, Taste. 2, Bold. 3, Ramiah. 4, Abiathar. 5, Lucerne. 6, Sacrifices. 9, Saddlebags. 12, Theocrat. 14, Incense. 16, Pilate. 19, Exist. 20, Save.