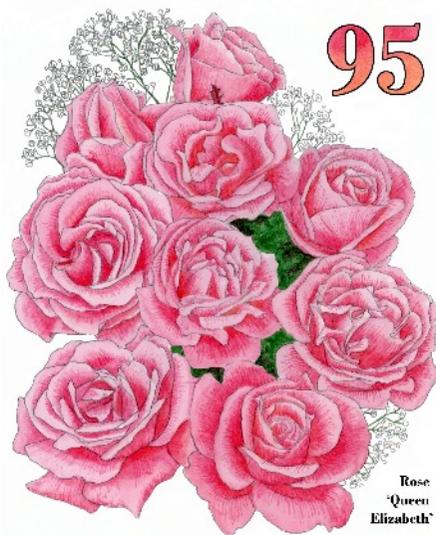


**LANGLEY
METHODIST**

NEWS



June
2021



Rose
'Queen
Elizabeth'

Ministers: All the congregation
Contact: Rev Dr Graham M Edwards
01625 426051



LANGLEY VISION STATEMENT

“To maintain a growing, caring and welcoming fellowship that develops spiritual growth and wholeness through worship and outreach to the community.”

LANGLEY CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Dr G Edwards	23 Marlborough Drive,	01625 426051
Church Stewards	Mrs J Fenton	17 Forest Drive, Langley	01260 252891
Church Sec	Mr A Spray	8 Brynmore Drive Macclesfield	01625 434742
Church Treas.	Mr D Bullock.	Cophurst Frm Hollin Lane Sutt	01260 252742
Gift Aid Sec	Mrs H Self	“Fernlee” Meg Lane Sutton	01260 253480
Property Sec.	Mr D Bullock	Cophurst Frm Hollin Lane Sutt	01260 252742
Pastoral Roll	Mr A Chapman	3 Selwyn Drive Sutton	01260 252745
Missions/MWiB	Mrs B Chapman	3 Selwyn Drive Sutton	01260 252745
Cradle Roll	Mrs M McQuinn	26 Pexhill Road Macclesfield	01625 511015
Action/Children	Mrs P Deegan	3 Balliol Close Sutton	01260 253396
Prayer Requests	Mrs M McQuinn	26 Pexhill Road Macclesfield	01625 511015
Flowers	Mrs M McQuinn	26 Pexhill Road Macclesfield	01625 511015
Choir	Dr S Court	4 Parkmount Drive Macc	01625 476343
Safeguarding	Dr S Court	4 Parkmount Drive Macc	01625 476343
Newsletter	Mr A Chapman	3 Selwyn Drive Sutton	01260 252745
Key holder	Mrs D Wardle	Ridgewood Langley Rd, Lang.	01260 252253
Christ. Aid Sec	Mr D Bullock.	Cophurst Frm Hollin Lane Sutt	01260 252742
All We Can	Mr A Chapman	3 Selwyn Drive Sutton	01260 252745
Room Bookings	Mrs P Spray	rooms2017bk@gmail.com	01625 434742
Publicity	Mr B McQuinn	26 Pexhill Road Macclesfield	01625 511015
Archivist	Mr D Bullock	Cophurst Frm Hollin Lane Sutt	01260 252742

Activities at Langley Methodist Church

ON LINE

Sunday Services You Tube *Macclesfield Methodist Circuit*.
 Available from about 08:00 on the Sunday
 Earlier services are available from the same site.

The dates and times and contact details below are legacy information for guidance if you need to contact any group for information when there is any news of an easing of the lock down.

Regular Activities

Coffee & Chat	10.30 am	Wednesday
Choir Practice	7.30 pm	Thursday
Lunch Club	1.00 pm	2 nd Tuesday of the month

Other Activities During Term Time

Little Lambs	10.00 a.m	Monday
Yoga	1.30 p.m	Monday (places available)
Scottish Dancing	6.30 p.m	Tuesday Juniors
	7.30 p.m	Tuesday Adults
T'ai Chi	6.45 p.m	Wednesday
Craft Group	10.00 a.m	Thursday
U3A Painting Grp	10.15 -12.15	Friday
	1.30 - 3.30	Friday

Contact information.

Little Lambs	Sarah Sinnett	07762497985
Lunch Club	Marie Gilbert	01260 253126
U3A Painting Grp	Jackie Gibbs	07843 799614
Scottish Dancing	Joan Bradbury	01260 252976
T'ai Chi	Karen Davies	01477 534667
Yoga	Marion Duff	01625 528650

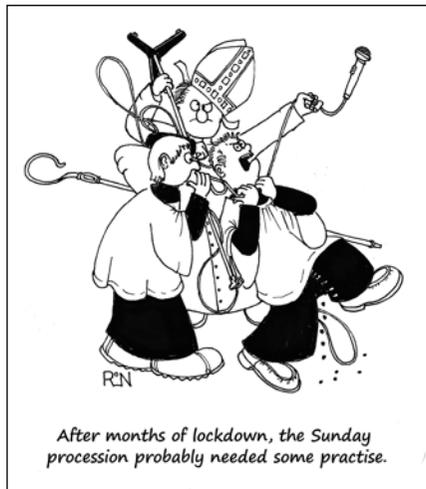
PLANNED SERVICES

REGULATIONS and STAFFING PERMITTING

13/06/2021	10.30	Rev Dr. Graham Edwards	Morning Service
27/06/2021	10.30	Mr John Nicholls	Morning Service
11/07/2021	10.30	Rev Frank Bishop	Morning Service
25/07/2021	10.30	Rev Dr. Graham Edwards	Morning Service
08/08/2021	10.30	Rev Sue Edwards	Morning Service
22/08/2021	10.30	Mrs Anne Fielding	Morning Service

More details will be published when available.

Please email lmcsundayservice@gmail.com or contact any of the Church Stewards, details on the back page



Editor: Dr Peter Brierley (a statistician) delves into some statistics on the second largest denomination in England.

A look at the Methodists today

The Methodist Church of Great Britain (MCGB) was formed in 1932 from a merger of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church and the United Methodist Church (itself a merger of three groups in 1907), then with a total membership of 840,000 and 7,800 churches. In 2019 the MCGB had some 4,200 churches across England, Wales and Scotland, with membership of 170,000.

In terms of church buildings, it is the second largest denomination in England, second only to the Church of England (with 15,500 churches). There are 30 Districts currently (equivalent to Dioceses) which are sub-divided into Circuits, on average 12 Circuits in each District, but some have just one, like the Welsh-speaking churches, or those on the Isle of Man and Shetlands. The largest is London with 35. Each Circuit has on average 12 churches, or 140 per District (the Church of England has 380 churches per Diocese).

Numerically, Methodist attendance is not very dissimilar to its membership. In 2019 attendance was about 164,000, all but 20,000 attending. As with Anglican churches, they find Sunday attendance declining faster than weekday attendance, and children and young people attendance declining roughly twice as fast as adult attendance.

Individual churches naturally vary in size. A list of all 4,200 churches gave an interesting overview: Methodist churches are quite small, with two-fifths, 38%, having under 20 members per church and a further two-fifths, 39%, having between 20 and 59 members, leaving just under a quarter, 23%, with 60 members or over. The median size is 28, meaning that half the churches have 28 or fewer members while the other half have more.

The two largest Methodist churches, by congregational size, are Swan Bank, Stoke-on-Trent (465 members) and Wesley's Chapel, in City Road (464 members). Two others are over 400: Bournemouth Methodist Church (429 members) and Methodist Central Hall in Westminster (422 members).

Services from Swan Bank can be found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYNwI_EIBLfbqOhoz9cy6Dg and Central Hall at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn9TkFzl-gk--V3JapCS0sQ>

From ParishPump

Dr Peter Brierley may be contacted on peter@brierleyres.com.

God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Wonders of the Living World

What are the best metaphors we could use to describe biological things? You might be used to hearing phrases like “your genetic blueprint” or “survival of the fittest”, but are they helpful or even accurate? Some of these words fail to capture the wonder and joy of understanding something new about the nature of living organisms.

I learned that one researcher was using the phrase ‘The Snuggle for Existence’ as a way to convey the idea, familiar to biologists, that cooperation is at the heart of the living world. For example, every cell more complex than a bacterium contains minute energy factories, each one containing their own piece of DNA – which makes them a sort of miniature cell, hidden away inside the larger host cell. These ‘mitochondria’, as biologists call them, turn raw materials from the host into chemical energy. In this way, everyone benefits: the mitochondria now have a safe a place to live, and the host receives the energy it needs. There are many more examples of organisms working together to produce something that is more than the sum of its parts, where often the individual parts could not survive on their own.

‘The Map of Life’ is a way of describing the regularities we see in biological processes. Eyes, legs and wings have emerged in the living world again and again, and why not? If the properties of light and gravity remain constant, we should expect living things to find the same solutions to seeing or getting around. When we look at these organisms’ family trees, we see they share a common ancestor that had no eyes, or no wings. These structures have developed completely independently, or you could say that the paths of the living world have converged on the same solution. That’s not to say they had a conscious goal, but that the world has certain properties, and those properties have channelled biological processes in certain directions.

None of these stories give us definite evidence for God. Science simply provides data, which can often be interpreted in several different ways. Perhaps the world just happens to be full of mathematical regularities, maybe there’s an overarching physical law we don’t yet understand, or perhaps there are multiple universes and ours happens to be the one in which life has arisen.

But I believe that the observations scientists make about the living world are compatible with the existence of the God described by Christian faith.

More at wondersofthelivingworld.org

Smile Lines

Neighbourhood Watch

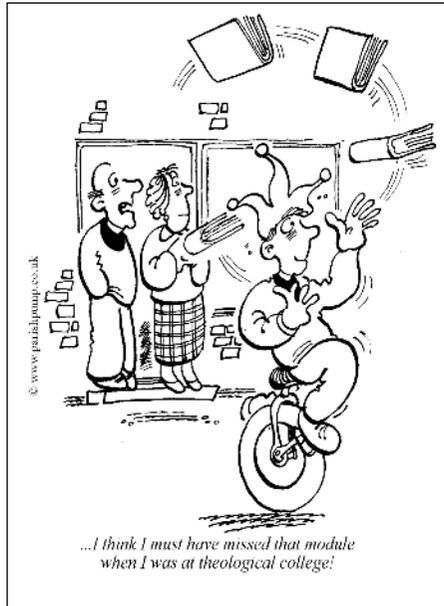
In one small rural village the local vet also led the local Neighbourhood Watch group. Late one night the phone rang, and his wife answered. An agitated voice inquired, "Is your husband there?"

"He is, but tell me, do you need him as the vet or the Neighbourhood Watch?" the wife asked.

"Both!" was the reply. "We can't get our dog's mouth open, and there's a burglar in it!"

Jump

A minister invited to preach at a local prison regretfully chose the text: 'With the help of my God, I will leap over the wall.'



Signs of Spring?

Last month, April, we had signs of spring.

I am afraid the picture below sums up May for me this year



On the bright side the sun is shining today and there are more berries forming on the blackcurrant bushes than for many years. I guess as the hymn says we need "the rain to swell the grain"

More on Langley Mill and Williams Terrace

The picture and following details of the early history of the Mill and Williams Terrace are from Thelma Whiston's book "Langley Now and Then" published in 2008. The book is now out of print but many people in the area have copies.



*Langley Mill 1972
©Langley Methodist Church*

Situated opposite the Village Hall and built in 1872 by William Hilton a smallware manufacture. After a variety of uses, Langley Manufacturing Company (Screens) Ltd. moved into the mill in 1964. They were commission engravers for the textile screen printing trade and made screen frames from both wood and tubular steel of all sizes, for customers throughout the British Isles

St James the Least of All

On getting to church at a social distance

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Since your parishioners mostly live in an area of half a square mile, where their only concern in getting to church is whether to take the underpass, or to risk a dash across the ring road, you may have little understanding of the problems our folk have in travelling our long country lanes to church, especially as we are keeping our social distance from each other.

Several parishioners have decided that they can't possibly share cars even with their own spouses, as in their 15-room homes they have successfully (and in some cases, happily) avoided each other for months. So, the lane outside the church has filled up each week with Mercedes nudging Audis, and Land Rovers easing in between Bentleys.

Others arrive on horseback. But they are careless about leaving their horses to graze in the churchyard, and I have had to remind them twice that flowers in memorial vases are not fodder. The horses do help to keep the grass down, but unfortunately our verger now objects to standing outside during Mattins, holding the reins of half a dozen horses. He says it is not part of his job description, which only confirms my view that there is entirely too much fuss these days about having job descriptions at all.

Major Crompton's devotion to his new sit-on lawnmower has inspired him to travel to church on it. Since he is unable to uncouple the mowing apparatus, the tarmac on his two-mile drive is acquiring interesting patterns. His drive at two miles per hour along narrow lanes means he arrives leading a procession of cars

with drivers given the opportunity to exercise the Christian virtue of patience.

Mrs Pendleton, on the other hand, leads a small but select group from the Mothers' Union who are all keen cyclists. They all arrive on a whoosh of fresh air, their hair in total disarray, but with pink cheeks glowing with health. Nobody in church minds sitting near them, as anyone who can manage to peddle an old three-gear bicycle up the hill to our church is most unlikely to be sickening for anything.

Finally, of course, the majority arrive on foot, having negotiated fields, stiles and assorted cattle on the way. The countryside may well praise God, but one does wish they wouldn't bring quite so much of it into church.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



Sutton Parish Council

The **Annual Parish Meeting** of Sutton Parish Council commenced at 7.30 pm with the Chairman's report of his Civic Year for May 2019 to May 2021 (available on our website). The meeting was attended by ten Councillors, Cheshire East Ward Councillor A Gregory, the Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

There were no questions from Members of the Public and the meeting closed at 19.47 p.m. The next Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 12th May 2022.

The meeting was followed by the **Annual Council Meeting**, which was attended by ten Councillors, one member of the public, Ward Councillor A Gregory, PCSO Jim Newns, United Utilities Land Agent and the Parish Clerk.

First order of business was the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Cllr D Fosbrook was elected Chairman and Cllr G Barber elected Vice Chairman.

The Minutes of the Meeting held in April were confirmed as a true record by the Council and signed.

Members agreed to the appointment of Parish Council Committees and representatives for Local Forums.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

United Utilities (UU), Estates & Land Manager, addressed the meeting and gave an overview of the various issues in and around Macclesfield Forest that have been affecting the public and residents.

MEMBERS REPORTS

The Cheshire East Ward Member:

- The Ward Councillor thanked Cllr Waller for his kind words and support over the past few years.
- Macclesfield Forest has quietened down during the last six weeks.
- Development Lyme Green Settlement – still no date for application to go to committee.
- Robin Lane Playground – Reported poor behaviour by some young people in the park. PCSO Newns is making regular visits to the park.
- Ansa have arranged a site meeting to review options for moving the playground equipment. Positive messages have been received regarding the playground.

The Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team:

- 6/4 - damage to pig shed at Gurnett Farm – no CCTV but there has been a spate of vandalism.
- 7/4 - Robin Lane four youths kicking daffodil heads off.

- Issues in the park Robin Lane around language and behaviour of young people. Patrols are ongoing.
- 16/4 break-in in Langley – cutting hedges has exposed the rear of properties where foliage has been cut away. Nothing taken but will keep observation on area.
- 25/4 – damage to shed in playground. Sign put up to say nothing of value in shed.
- 26/4 Coalpit Lane - response officer found person taking drugs in vehicle.
- General patrolling regarding school parking and linking in with Hollinhey school. Hopes to be able to go into school very soon.
- Trucam – still using on Byrons Lane. Not heard yet whether he can use on Hall Lane.
- Working closely with stakeholders regarding Macclesfield forest including working together with Peak Park Ranger on engagement with bikers.
- Working with United Utilities who are doing excellent job helping with parking.
- There has been a marked reduction in the numbers going into the forest.

Sunflower Competition Update

- Seventy-eight entries received from school children.
- 24th May – seeds and instructions are to be delivered to school (before half term).
- September – to measure sunflowers.

Website

- The website is progressing and is up and running.

Highways Matters Raised

- Whistons Lane (going towards Bollinhead Lane) - road is still in bad condition (down to foundations in places). To raise issue again with Cheshire East Highways.
- Byrons Lane, Sutton - danger of head on crash as cars having to weave around pot-holes.
- Withenshaw Lane, Sutton - large hole half-way down.

REPORTS FROM PARK 4ALL@LYME GREEN

- The accessible children's play area was installed at the end of March. The location of the play area was changed at a late stage (without discussion with Park 4all) by ANSA bringing it closer to some residents' gardens.
- ANSA have been in discussions with the affected residents and considering the possible options for relocating some of the play equipment. ANSA will then hold consultations with the residents to finalise the location and will also advise the Parish Council of the suggestions.

- Once the relocation is finalised the lead in time of 4-6 weeks will allow for the installation of the game top picnic tables, the Multi Use Games Area game markings and the footpath markings for children's games e.g. hopscotch. The Welcome entrance will also be installed.
- The planned initial fundraising is almost complete. The outstanding items are the sides of the MUGA. Currently Trustees are obtaining costings for sides which will "deaden" the noise of balls hitting them.
- The Trustees are hoping to organise an opening ceremony for the park in July/August (Covid 19 restrictions allowing).

FINANCE

Receipts – Allotment holder rents received for plot 4B.

Payments Included – S Giller (Clerk's salary and expenses), EON (Lighting for April), Community Heartbeat Trust (Annual support for Ranger Station), JDH Business Services Ltd (Internal audit for year ended 31/3/21) and Cheshire Association of Local Councils (Affiliation fee 2021/22).

Annual Audit 2020/21

The year-end Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statement for 2020/21 were signed off. The internal audit report is available on the Council website.

Each year the Councils Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) is reviewed by an external auditor. Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates. For the year ended 31 March 2021 these documents are available at reasonable notice by application to the Parish Clerk between 14th June to 23rd July. Residents also have the opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the records. For more details, please read the Notice of Public Rights on our website.

PLANNING

Members **agreed** comments for return to the relevant authority for these applications during May 2021:

No Objection – Applications 21/1631M (Ridge Hill Farm, RIDGE HILL, SUTTON, SK11 0LU. Alterations to existing garage/store and enclosure of existing lean-to), 21/1962M (6, Brighton Crescent, Langley, SK11 0DL. Single storey rear extension) and 21/1853M (St James House, CHURCH LANE, SUTTON, SK11 0DS. New porch, new store roof and extension, new attic roof space).

Objections - Application 21/1913M (Moss Lea Farm, Cock Hall Lane, SUTTON, Langley, Cheshire East, SK11 0NA. Change of use of redundant stables to dwelling house (Class C3)).

Members were unable to comment on application 21/1756M (5, CLARKE LANE, LANGLEY, CHESHIRE, SK11 0NE. First floor rear bathroom extension).

Details of our comments regarding these planning applications can be found using the following link:

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning/view_a_planning_application.aspx

INFORMATION

Meeting agendas, minutes and financial information are all available on our website or from the Parish Clerk.

Attending Parish Council Meetings

We are now unable to legally hold on-line meetings however, Council business continues through delegated powers so **please contact us if you have any concerns or issues to raise.** We are unable to confirm when our next meeting will take place however, please contact the Parish Clerk or check on our website for details.

Contact details:

Parish Clerk & RFO - Mrs S Giller

Tel: 01625 850532

Email address: suttonparish@aol.com

Website: <http://suttonparish.co.uk/>

Sarah Giller – Clerk to Sutton Parish Council

STREET LIGHTING

If you notice any lighting issues, please do report the

LOCATION and COLUMN NUMBER

to our Parish Clerk who can arrange repairs.

suttonparish@aol.com

KEEPING IN TOUCH

- Church Stewards are contacting members of the congregation on a weekly basis.
- Our Minister together with the members of the Circuit Staff are producing worship services on line and producing a weekly newsletter. The services can be accessed on YouTube at “Macclesfield Methodist Circuit”.
- An Evening service via ZOOM at 6:30 p.m. Every Sunday - please contact a Church Steward for sign on details.

Church Stewards

Alan Chapman (01260 252745), Julia Fenton (01260 252891)
Margaret Robinson (01625 619837) Heather Self (01260 253480)
Paula Spray (01625 434742)

NEXT ISSUE

Items for the July/August 2021 Issue should be given to Alan Chapman by lunch time on **Monday 28th June 2021.** Items accepted as follows: paper copy, disc or email.

Please copy emails to both alan01.chapman@gmail.com & derek1.mcbryde@gmail.com

Articles in Langley Methodist News represent the views of individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Church Council or the Editorial team.

LANGLEY METHODIST WEBSITE

URL: <http://langleymethodist.co.uk>

Email: minister@langleymethodist.co.uk