



MINI MACCLESFIELD MESSENGER

47th Issue: June 2021

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

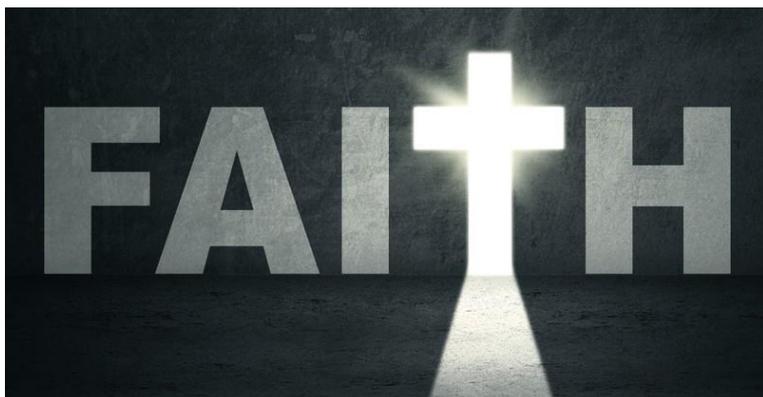
A message from the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

I have always been a fan of chairs. Big chairs, small chairs, leather chairs, cloth chairs – I am fond of all kinds! In all sorts of places, chairs are a welcome sight! However, I have spent the last two days sitting on a chair that I did not get on with ... It looked ok, it wasn't too low or too narrow! It was just uncomfortable! No matter what I did I couldn't find a position where I could sit still and be comfortable, I sat forward, I sat back, I hovered somewhere in the middle but nothing I did worked... that chair had failed me! So, what is it I'm looking for in a chair? I'm looking for a chair that supports me, in which I can rest my whole weight and feel secure that 1, it's not going to fall apart and leave me sprawled on the floor, and 2, I won't be trapped in it forever unable to rise! Sometimes I want a chair that I can fall asleep in, sometimes I want a chair that will keep me awake and alert, sometimes I want a chair that I can relax in and ponder the mysteries of life and sometimes I want a chair from which I can talk to others as we think and share and pray. When I sit in a chair, my ... nether regions tell me what kind of chair it is!



You might wonder why I'm writing about chairs ... well, as I was sat on my unpleasant chair I was reminded of a story of the missionary John Paton. He was translating the Bible for a South Pacific Island tribe and found they had no word in their language for trust or faith. One day a local who had been running came into the missionary's house, sat down in a large chair and said, "It's good to rest my whole



weight on this chair." "That's it!" exclaimed Paton. "I'll translate faith as resting one's whole weight on God." Faith is, I think, a bit like a chair! Or more specifically it's like an ever-changing chair! Sometimes it's a chair

in which we can rest, sometimes a chair in which we are kept alert, sometimes a chair in which we reflect on God and his call upon us, sometimes it's a chair in which we seek God in prayer and worship – but always it is a chair on which we can rest our whole weight. Wherever we find ourselves in life, through God's grace and hope and love, faith holds and supports us. Whatever happens to us, through grace and hope and love, faith allows us to trust all we are to God – secure in the knowledge that God can, and will, hold us. "Faith" says Martin Luther "is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times". Knowing that through faith, we can rest our whole weight on God has the power to transform us, and in transforming us, to transform the world around us – as we live out the love, hope, justice, and peace of God in our lives.

Wesley's great hymn begins with the prayer:

*Give me the faith which can remove
And sink the mountain to a plain;
Give me the childlike praying love,
Which longs to build thy house again;
Thy love, let it my heart o'er-power,
And all my simple soul devour.*

That kind of faith begins with the trusting, resting, committing all our weight on to God – and allowing faith to shape and re-shape us in God's image.

Trust in God, rest all your weight on God, but like when you sit in a chair - explore what you feel! what is God saying to me? Is this 'chair' offering comfort or challenge? Is it calling me to prayer and worship? Is it driving me to listen to the one who calls and equips? When you know what faith is asking of you, let it transform you – because by some miracle of grace, this is how we begin to know the riches of the life God has for us!

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.

Please keep collecting!

Please don't forget other ways of giving! Church finances continue to be stretched, 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!!!

Children & Families

For those missing Sunday School, or if you know other children who may be interested, for this week's focus we will be exploring together, **the story of Samuel anointing David – 1 Samuel 15 v.34-16v.13**. Resources are attached.

Messy Pentecost

We held our first face to face Messy Church event 'Messy Pentecost' on Sunday 23rd May at Prestbury Methodist Church. The original plan was to hold the event outside, but due to the unpredictable British weather, we had to move the event inside the church. We only had a few families join us, but it was a really good event. We had a story from Helen and of course magic from Graham (the video is on our Facebook pages). The children also made a Pentecost spinner and a paper plate dove at the event, as well as extra activities and crafts to do at home. The families that attended really enjoyed themselves. It is nice when we have small numbers as we can interact with the children more. Here are some pictures of the crafts from the event.



Holiday Club – Wonder Zone

Next project is our in-person circuit holiday club 27th – 29th July @ Macclesfield Methodist Church. The holiday club is for children aged 5-11 years (we will take children aged 4 if they have just finished their reception year at school).

If you would like to volunteer at the event and haven't already spoken to your church children's work contact (see list below) please do so or email me at methodistfamilies@gmail.com.

Broken Cross – Ruth
Gawsworth – Sheila
Langley – Brenda
Macclesfield – Alison
Prestbury – Heather

We are also looking for young leaders to help at the holiday club (teenagers). They will help the group leaders with the children when doing craft, challenges, and games. They could also be involved in the upfront bits of the holiday club, getting the kids ready for the day, and be involved in dramas. If you know a teenager who would be interested, please let us know.

Kids Holiday Club
Wonder Zone
27th - 29th July
9:30am-1pm
@ Macclesfield Methodist Church

*£8 per day or £20 for all 3

5-11 years

Challenges, Games, Crafts, & Snacks

*concessions are available contact 07901777506
@MaccMethodistKids To book email: maccmethodistchurch@gmail.com by the 16th July

Angela

**Prayer – in our Circuit Prayer Cycle we remember Broken Cross this week.
This prayer has been provided by Anne Fielding.**

We thank you Lord God for the progress made during the pandemic, but we realise it is not over yet, and still we hear about people being taken to hospital unable to breathe properly. Breathing is so vital to life, it is almost impossible for us to imagine what such difficulty would be like. We thank you for the way the medics can treat the condition and we pray for them as well as their patients now.

We have just celebrated Pentecost when we remember the Holy Spirit coming on the disciples like fire and wind. So, we ask for a new awakening of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Breathe in, and realise the breath of the Spirit; breathe out, and move to the rhythm of life within.

Springwatch tonight showed a photo of one of the birds they worried might have died for there was no movement - but wait - see he is breathing, his little body moving up and down with each breath. Panic over, life is there. Let us allow the Holy Spirit to breathe new life into us, individually and as a Church.

Breathe in, and realise the breath of the Spirit; breathe out, and move to the rhythm of life within. And be ready to follow where the Spirit leads.

Amen.

Members' voice - by Rev Sheila Bishop

BACK AT CHURCH AT LAST

It is Sunday and we're gathering, our God, to worship You.
and we're thinking of the others, who would want to be here too.
Those who must still isolate, and miss the fellowship here,
who have to watch or listen at home, until the way is clear-
for all to come to church, and sing your praises without fear.

Then I am praying for the ones, who no longer wish to come,
Who've lost the sense of You Lord, and do not know your Son.
And for all who don't feel welcome, because of what they do or say,
who still don't know Your endless grace, that loves them anyway!

Please help us reach your children, may our lives reflect your grace
with everyone we know or meet. Lord, help us share our faith!
For faith makes life so rich and true, with You Lord as our guide,
You gave Your life that we might live, when on the cross You died.

And we can trust you with our lives, now and for eternal days,
Your presence always with us, for whatever comes our way.
Held captive by your love, we're free, to reflect your shining light
until this earthly life is done and faith is realised in sight.

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

YouTube

Our subscribers will now automatically get an alert when services have been put onto the YouTube channel.

If you haven't already subscribed, please do so at.....

<https://www.youtube.com/c/macclesfieldmethodistcircuit>

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'.

Subscribing doesn't cost anything as this is a free channel.

There's a Subscribe button under any YouTube video or on a channel's page.

Tell your relatives, friends, neighbours and ask them to subscribe too!!

Subscribing will mean you don't miss any services!!

Community

Many thanks to all who supported Mission in Britain this year. So far, we have raised, in donations boxes and gift aid £543.70, and begonia and marmalade sales made £222.50.

I will continue to have marmalade for sale until Christmas, there will be some in Macclesfield church each week, I can also deliver if you contact me on 01625 421188. Again thanks,

Ann Moss - Macclesfield

Volunteering at Andrews Pharmacy, Kennedy Avenue, Macclesfield

Over 75% of the adult population have now received a Covid vaccination. We have all seen the many volunteers (registering, directing, wiping chairs, monitoring etc etc) who have helped at vaccination centres. As more people are returning to work or taking holidays the number of volunteers is reducing. I volunteer at Andrews Pharmacy on Kennedy Avenue and we need more volunteers. There are three shifts each day: 8.00 - 12.00, 12.00 - 4.00, 4.00- 8.00, six days a week, 8 volunteers needed for each shift, so a lot of people.

If you are thinking of volunteering, you can do as much or as little as you choose. You decide which shift and which 'job'. You get a brief induction. It's busy. You are

on your feet most of the time. You work with lovely people and the recipients of the vaccine are every grateful..... oh! and there's cake!

For more information e-mail volvacbookandrews@gmail.com

Thanks Ann Eden



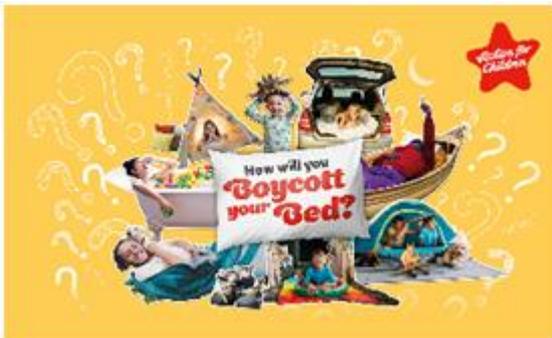
MHA Sunday 2021 – 13 June 2021

MHA Sunday is an opportunity to give thanks and celebrate our specialist care and support, enabling people in later life to live well across Britain.

MHA Sunday Live with Pam Rhodes will be broadcast on YouTube at 4pm on Sunday 13 June. The event is hosted by Pam Rhodes and will feature clips from across MHA, songs and some special MHA guests.

See the trailer here at:- [MHA Sunday 2021: Trailer - YouTube](#)

Boycott Your Bed: Help Action For Children raise money for vulnerable children in the UK



Steve & Lynn Oliver participating in 2020

Action For Children's Boycott your Bed is back. On **Friday 9 July**, raise money by spending the night in the most unusual place you can think of.

Where will you sleep to challenge yourself? Will you camp out under the stars or under the stairs? Bunk down in the bathroom or the back garden? Wherever you choose to lay your head, you'll be helping vulnerable children and families in desperate need.

Before you settle in for the night, join friends, family and colleagues for a star-studded evening of virtual entertainment with guests Nadia Sawalha, Jessica Hynes and many more. Register at <https://boycottyourbed.actionforchildren.org.uk/>

Boycott your Bed and bring hope to vulnerable UK children hit hardest by the pandemic.

For further info contact **Steve Oliver**, District Advocate for Action For Children at steve.oliver3@ntlworld.com or on 07801 715572



Praying for Our Planet

Seven climate and environmental scientists talk about their science and their faith



Praying for Our Planet is a thought provoking programme of seven weekday evening talks on zoom. At each a scientist whose work relates to the current climate and ecological emergency, and who is also a Christian, will speak about their area of interest and how their scientific understanding affects the way they pray – what they pray for and how they express those prayers. Following the talk, the audience will be invited to divide into breakout rooms to reflect and respond to what the speaker has said.

The sessions are free, open to all and do not require any pre-existing knowledge of the topics. They are being hosted by Bramhall Methodist Church as part of their Climate Year and in partnership with Greater Manchester Churches Together. They will be at 7:30pm (until 9:15) on weekday evenings through May and June 2021.

Friday 18th June Steph Bryant, Youth and Schools Programme Co-Director,
The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge
Supporting and engaging with young people

Wednesday 23rd June Dr Cecilia Medupin, Dept Earth & Environmental Sciences,
University of Manchester
We're all in this together

Thursday 1st July Dr Admos Chimhowu, Global Development Unit,
University of Manchester

For further details, including an abstract for each talk, and to book tickets please visit <https://bmethods.link/pfop>. Use #pfoplanet for social media.

Lockdown easing thoughts...

Does anyone use cash anymore??

When did you last put fuel in the car??

Spontaneity – new dictionary definition...

Being able to pop out of the house, having not had to:-

- book days in advance for where you're going;
- make sure you go to the toilet because there are no facilities;

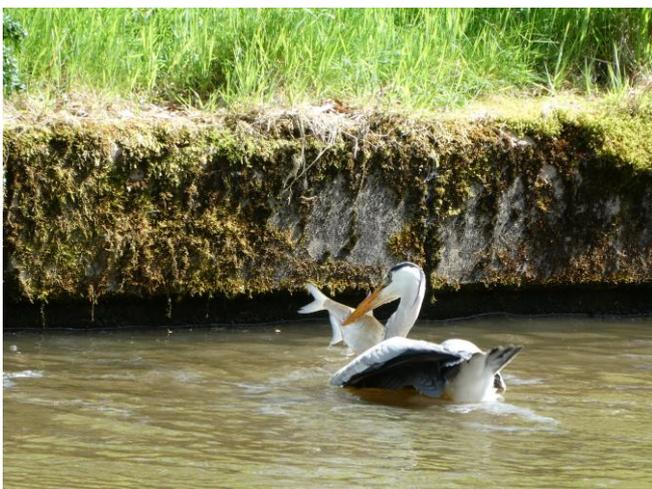
- fill your pockets/handbag with face masks, hand sanitiser, drinks, snacks, etc...
- sign in when you get there
- keep away from everyone else while you're there
- come home, wash your hands and cross your fingers no one from track and trace contacts you! Ahh, but at least it's some freedom!!

Some advantages

Staggered school drop off – less traffic

Kids going to school in PE kit – two days a week off ironing!

Wildlife is thriving (unless you're the fish below!!) and we can enjoy it. See pictures of a hunting heron from Alan Chapman, Langley....





AND THEN THEY CAMETO STAY!

Their car drew up onto our drive, and with smiles of joy the family, and Jack their dog spilled out- My daughter clutching tulips and a bottle of bubbles to be enjoyed later! It had been last August when they, socially distanced in our garden, had travelled for a hasty lunch before they had had to leave again. But now, the welcome we had so longed to give over the months, was really happening- and they were here at lastto stay a night or two.

And we could eat together around the table and wake each morning to sounds of movement in our, long neglected spare bedroom.

And there was precious, unrestricted time, to catch up with the grandchildren who seemed to have grown in stature, and matured in confidence and understanding in their absence. Time to share, to walk and shop, to laugh and play, time to be quiet together. It was all such a blessing!

And we knew of a certainty that nothing of our togetherness was beyond recall and from now on could be enjoyed againand againand again

Sheila Bishop



**Social Justice
Discussion Group**
(online via zoom)

Starts
Mon 14th June

Ever **wanted to make change** but don't feel like you know enough to try?

Perhaps you've **recognised the biblical call to social justice** but aren't sure how to put it into action?

Been involved in campaigns in the past but are **keen to be more effective** going forward?

Join in these sessions to discuss the who, the what, the when, the where and the how of **making change happen.**

Click Here to Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/98064892536>

Or open the 'Zoom' app and enter **Meeting ID: 980 6489 2536**

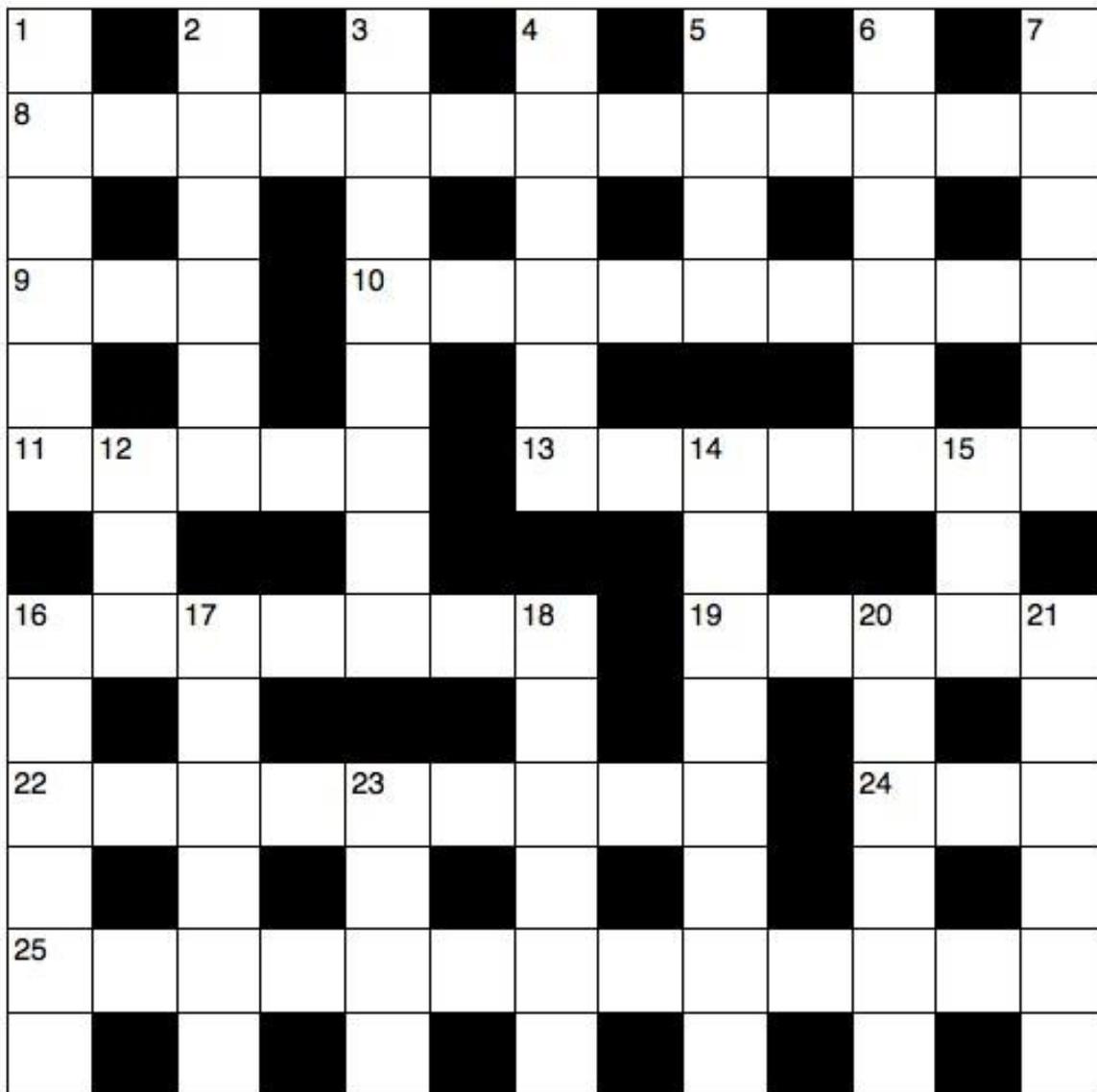


Mondays 7.30pm, (1hr)

led by Revd Helen Byrne

***Dates: June 14th, 21st, 28th;
July 5th, 12th, 26th***

Just for fun!



Parish Pump

Across

- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- 9 In favour of (3)
- 10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- 13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22 Holy Communion (9)
- 24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
- 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
- 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God & men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
- 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)
- 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
- 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — '
- (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
- 12 Ate (anag.) (3)
- 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
- 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
- 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
- 17 'Yet to all who received him.. he gave the right to—children of God' (John 1:12)(6)
- 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
- 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
- 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
- 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

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Face to face services

2021	JUNE				JULY			
	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25
		MHA SUNDAY				AfC		
READINGS:	1 Sam 8:4-20, 2 Cor 4:13-5:1, Mk 3:20-35	1 Sam 15:34-16:13, 2 Cor 5:6-17, Mk 4:26-34	1 Sam 17:32-49, 2 Cor 6:1-13, Mk 4:35-41	2 Sam 1:1, 17-27, 2 Cor 8:7-15, Mk 5:21-43	1 Sam 8:4-20, 2 Cor 4:13-5:1, Mk 3:20-35	2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19, Eph 1:3-14, Mk 6:14-29	2 Sam 7:1-14a, Eph 2:11-22, Mk 6:30-34, 53-56	2 Sam 11:1-15, Eph 3:14-21, Jn 6:1-21
BROKEN CROSS 10.30	Byrne		Bird		Byrne		D Jones	
GAWSWORTH 10.30	Oliver	D Jones	Edwards	OA	Oliver	OA	Edwards	OA
GREEN CLOSE 14.30	NO SERVICES PLANNED FOR THE TIME BEING							
LANGLEY 10.30		Edwards		Nicholls		F Bishop		Edwards
MACCLESFIELD 10.30	Edwards	Rashleigh	Byrne	Oliver	Fielding T	Edwards	Ward T	Byrne
POYNTON 10.30	F Bishop	Byrne	S Bishop	Hawkyard	Edwards	Rashleigh	Hawkyard	S Bishop
PRESTBURY 10.30		Nicholls		Byrne LU		Byrne		Oliver
WALKER BARN 18.30	NO SERVICES PLANNED FOR THE TIME BEING							
WOODLANDS MHA 11.00	NO SERVICES PLANNED FOR THE TIME BEING							
PRAYER CYCLE:	Walker Barn	Broken Cross	Gawsworth	Langley	Poynton	Green Close	Macc	Prestbury

Please remember: You may need to book to attend - check with your church. Each church will have their own procedures for attendance and you will be notified at the time, but please also note the following:

- **Do not attend if you or someone in your household is feeling unwell in any way**
- **You will need to wear a face covering, please bring one with you**
- **You will be required to maintain social distancing rules**

SERVICE LINKS & CONTACTS

Sunday 13 June – MHA Sunday

AM – Morning worship led by Helen

WATCH ONLINE : <http://tiny.cc/trinity-2>

The Reading is Philippians 2

The hymns are StF: 132 / 736 / 470

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

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

YOUTUBE..... <https://www.youtube.com/c/macclesfieldmethodistcircuit>

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

Online Services coming up.....

20 June – Graham

27 June – Helen

4 July – Graham

11 July – Helen

18 July - Helen

25 July - Graham

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

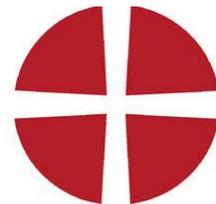


FREE phone lines for prayers and news from the Methodist Church

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>

Contact Details

For Children & Families

Angela Bourne

Tel: 07901 777506

Email: methodistfamilies@gmail.com

Ministers

Rev Graham Edwards

Tel: 01625 426051

Email: graham.edwards@methodist.org.uk

Rev Helen Byrne

Tel: 01625 572259

Email: helenmethodist@gmail.com

Rev Ros Watson

On sabbatical

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS:

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN:

1, Egypt's. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.