



e-MESSENGER

58th Issue: March 2024

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

A message from the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

While I have lived in Macclesfield, I have tried to grow fruit and vegetables in the garden. Some years have been better than others, but I have been successful with tomatoes, oddly shaped carrots, courgettes, rhubarb, and even the occasional strawberry. When I was in my previous appointment in West Yorkshire, I was less successful overall, but I did manage to grow some potatoes.



One year, I planted them, I watered them, I waited until the green shoots appeared, and I continued to care for them until the plants were grown. When the right time came, I dug around the plant, and found lots and lots of potatoes. They were duly cooked and eaten and they were, of course, delicious. There were more potatoes left in the ground, and they may well remain there to this very day. You see, I kept telling myself



to get out there and dig them up, knowing that when cooked they would be lovely, but I never managed to get around to it, and then I moved away from that manse – leaving those treasures buried in the earth!



I wonder if we can sometimes treat God a little bit like buried potatoes. We know that being close to God would be a wonderful thing, but we never quite get around to unearthing the treasures of God's grace that are offered to us. We have had a bit, we have had a taste, but we forget that there is more than we could ever imagine waiting for us. The problem is, of course, that unearthing anything – potatoes or the riches of God's grace – takes a bit of work!



We are fast approaching Easter, we will remember the remarkable story, we may break open a chocolate egg and devour its contents, we will sing the great hymns and gaze at the glory of the resurrection, and we will wonder at the God who defeats death to offer us life. But the truth is that before we know it, Easter

will have come and gone for another year - and then, perhaps, everything goes back to normal.

The heart of Easter calls us to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, to see the horror of the cross but to know he did not stay in the tomb dead, but that he was raised to life. Through his resurrection we are offered new life, and a glorious relationship with God. Easter gives us an assurance that we are loved by the God who created all things, loved so much that He would send his Son to die for us., so that we might catch a glimpse of the depth of Gods love. And yet it is easy to forget that there is more for us to find in this great mystery, too easy to go through the motions and not dig into Easter to find the treasure waiting to be unearthed.

St Augustine wrote: *“the joyful news that He is Risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice.”*

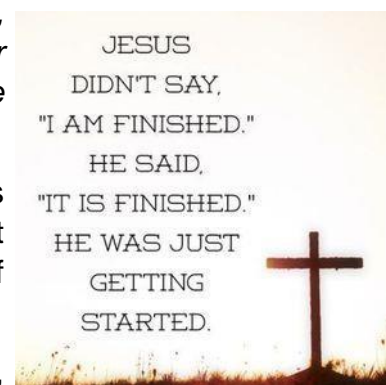
The glory of Easter enables us to fulfil our calling as disciples of Christ, to do the work that we are called – but in doing that, by the grace of God we find the riches of God, and a new vision of God’s love for us.

In his book *The Hidden Resurrection*, Henri Nouwen, reflecting on the first Easter writes: “To the women and men who had committed themselves to him, he revealed that his mission had been fulfilled. To those who shared in his ministry, he gave the sacred task to call all people into the new life with him.” That same task is given to us – to hold out the grace and love of God to all the world.

As we travel through Easter this year, let us dig deeply, in the scriptures, in hymns, in prayer and meditation – in all that we do, for a word, a moment, an image, or whatever it might be for each of us, that opens our eyes to God again. Let us live in this new life which He has brought us, let us grow closer to him and know his love and his presence. Whatever you do, do not simply wander through Easter – let us dig, and dig deeply that we might unearth the unimaginable riches of the living, death defeating, world transforming God!

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all!*

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.



Methodist Families Together

We have been busy since the last time we spoke. Our weekly events are going well, and we are interacting with new families. We had another successful Christmas programme, it started early last year in November and this is what we got up to in December!!!!

Schools We went into Broken Cross School with our Story and craft session. We engaged with reception, years 1, 2 & 3 which was approximately 100 children. As it was during the first week of December our theme was 'Advent.' We enjoyed interacting with the children to tell them all about the season of 'Advent' and the real meaning behind advent calendars.



Messy Christmas was different this year as we were unable to put on a holiday club due to the school holidays. Instead, we ran an open session to run alongside Macclesfield's 25th anniversary celebration knitted Bible exhibition – 'Journey to Christmas.' The children enjoyed completing their Jessie Tree and quiz as they followed the journey from creation to birth. There was then the opportunity to get Messy with different crafts to complete.



Sunday School Christmas Party

Macclesfield is the only church that still has a Sunday School in the circuit and annually holds a Christmas Party. We decided that it would become a MFT event, and we invited families connected to other churches in our circuit to celebrate and have fun together. We had a wonderful day and the children really enjoyed themselves and the families from other churches really appreciated the invite. Thank you to Susan and her team who organised the event as there were more mouths to feed this time!



Toddler Groups Held Christmas parties and some even held a Nativity. The Nativity's I attended were brilliant. I even played Mary in one as none of the children wanted to, for some reason they wanted the sparkly outfits!!!!

Christingle We held 3 on Christmas Eve at Macclesfield, Langley & Broken Cross. This year 'Chris Tingle' was extremely excited to attend Langley for the first time for a proper performance. All three venues were well attended and there were a lot of unfamiliar faces, so that was brilliant. Thank you to all the volunteers who help prepare the oranges and the Christingle packs.



Pancake Mania Prestbury hosted a Pancake Mania event on Shrove Tuesday where families came together to have fun. They made and decorated pancakes, a pancake Valentine's card, a Mardi gras mask and pancake flipping. We gave everyone who attended a Lent booklet to take home with several fun and alternative activities to do during the season of Lent.





Schools - We were delighted to welcome year 3 (60 children) from Parkroyal Community School to Macclesfield Methodist Church and years 3 & 4 (90 children) from Prestbury CE School to Prestbury Methodist Church. Both school visits were part of their RE lesson to see what happens in the Methodist Church. We had great fun with the schools we showed them what happens in our churches. We made the visit fun and interactive, we had mock baptisms and weddings. We told them all about John Wesley and his horse Gospel, made a craft and

served them with a drink and biscuits as food and fellowship goes hand in hand in a Methodist Church. We are now making more connections with local schools and hope to make more in the coming months.

Easter Events



Messy Easter

Sat 23rd March 2-4pm
**@Macclesfield Methodist
 Church SK10 1BX**

Story

MUSIC



Food

crafts

Fun for all the family, suitable from age 0+. Parents/carers to stay with children



Book via Facebook
@MaccMethodistKids

£2 per child
 Suggested donation

Experience Easter

Saturday 30th March 11-2:30pm

@ St Michael's Church, Macclesfield Marketplace

After the success of last year's event the churches of Macclesfield and Hope in NE Cheshire will be celebrating Easter alongside the Macclesfield Town Council event. We need people to come along and help interact with families. Please let Angela or your children's contact in your church know if you can attend or just turn up at whatever time suits you on the day. If you are in the town centre on that day, please come along and say hi!



Breakfast Church 9-10am @Macclesfield Methodist Church & Poynton Methodist Church

Sunday 7th April at **MACCLESFIELD ONLY**

Sunday 5th May

Sunday 2nd June

Chippy Church 4-5:30pm @Broken Cross Methodist Church

Saturday 9th March

Saturday 13th April

Saturday 11th May

Messy Church 2-4pm

Saturday 23rd March @ Macclesfield Methodist Church

Saturday 27th April @ Gawsworth Methodist Church

Youth Group YR6+ 5-7pm @ Presbury Methodist Church

Sunday 24th March

Sunday 21st April - Amplified time and place TBC

Prayer Cycle – this Sunday (10 March) in our Circuit Prayer cycle we will be praying for Broken Cross church. We thank Anne Fielding from Broken Cross for contributing this prayer for us.

Heavenly Father, you call your people to come and journey with you, yet some of us are afraid to move from what is familiar in order to venture where you lead. May we learn not to be so fearful, but to put our complete trust in you as we are challenged to serve you in different ways in today's world. Remind us Lord that even in a changing world, your perfect love remains constant and never fails.

We thank you for the sunshine we have enjoyed recently and for the new growth the sun encourages in our gardens and parks. We give thanks for the colours of springtime and the beauty and joy the flowers bring. We appreciate the whole of creation and pray that we might not take the earth for granted or waste its resources. Remind us that the earth is ours on lease and it is our duty to look after it for future generations.

We thank you for our church family and for all who offer their gifts in worship. - Our ministers Graham and Ros, our youth worker and local preachers, all the musicians and IT facilitators, readers, welcomers and tea makers. Thank you for the sense of belonging together and we pray that just as in the early church, neighbours might remark: 'See how these Christians love one another' and so will bring glory to you.

Amen



Members' voice....

REFUGEES a reverse poem

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are born there
do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

(NOW READ FROM BOTTOM TO TOP)

A friend gave me this 'Refugees' poem and as I read it I was shocked by its apparent sentiments - until I reached the end and followed the instructions. It was written by Brian Bilston born 1970 real name Brian Millicheap and is a great example of a reverse poem. As you can see the sentiments expressed are the opposite of those when read in reverse. Not a great deal is known about him, (he's known as the Banksy of the poetry world) but his poems are often very humorous and are well worth seeking out. This one certainly makes one think long and hard!

Sheila Bishop

Dementia Cafe

Two years ago, church council at Broken Cross accepted a proposal to open a dementia cafe/club as a community resource and as part of our church's mission towards vulnerable people in the Macclesfield area. At that church meeting 12 members of our congregation volunteered to help establish and run the club. However, the volunteers themselves asked if some form of training could be provided so they had a "working understanding" of dementia. After a bit of searching, we partnered with East Cheshire Hospice where we all undertook a 3 hour training session on Dementia Awareness, an excellent and informative course.

Prior to us opening, I also visited three other clubs (Tytherington, Poynton and Wilmslow) to introduce ourselves and to take advice on how they operated. We have maintained contact with Tytherington and Poynton since.

So, in June 2022, we opened our doors for the first time to the ABCD (A Broken Cross Dementia) Club. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. We employ a Session Leader, Julia, who leads the first half, with reminiscence therapy, movement and music, armchair exercises, dance, games, quizzes and picture bingo. The second half we enjoy tea/coffee and cake. This gives carers and volunteers the chance to talk, network, swap experiences, and has proved especially valuable to the carers.

We are funded by our church, we make no charge, but we have received donations and bequests since we opened, and a grant from Macclesfield Town Council. We currently have 8 or 9 couples, and the same number of volunteers, attending each session and are receiving new enquiries each week.

I am happy to report that Prestbury Methodist Church has now opened a similar cafe/club at their church. They meet on the first Wednesday of each month, from 1.30pm to 3.30pm, and we are very glad to welcome their contribution to help in what is a growing area of need.

No referrals are required to attend either club, we run on a drop-in basis. For further information contact John on 07915252535.

John Morrell (Broken Cross Methodist Church)



**Church weekend away (organised by Prestbury Methodist/Heather Cann)
1st – 3rd March 2024 at the Thornleigh Christian Hotel, Grange over Sands.**

This was an extremely successful weekend, filled with fun, fellowship and, of course, food, and a great encouragement to us all as we explored in faith the deeper meanings and unanswered questions in a couple of well-known Bible passages. The theme of the weekend was “Living Water” and the first Bible passage which we studied was from John Chapter 4 about Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well (led by Rev. Ros). We do not know the woman’s name, her age or whether she had any children, but she became the first female evangelist as she told many other Samaritans in her town that Jesus told her everything she ever did, and the others also believed in Jesus, now knowing that He was the Saviour of the world.

On the Saturday session just before the evening meal Rev. Graham shared insights into the passage from Exodus Chapter 17 where God told Moses to strike the rock, so that water would come out of it for the thirsty Israelites to drink.

On the Friday evening after the meal, we shared pictures of water, still or flowing as in a river, which we had brought along with us, and we had dingbats and a quiz, to which the answers were all water-related. At the end of both evenings we shared “Examen”, a meditation for close of day from Lectio 365 relating to that particular evening.

I was fortunate to stay in the same very comfortable room which I had the previous year, albeit in the “Hideaway” at the back of the main hotel building, thus braving the rain on several occasions on the way to the hotel lounge! The Friday and Saturday afternoons were quite wet, although I managed to fit in a walk along the promenade at Arnside (one train stop away from Grange) between showers.

We had the best weather on the Sunday, when most of us managed to fit in at least one walk in Grange before our communion service led by our ministers. I was fortunate to have a short walk along the prom before breakfast on the Saturday while the weather was still dry.

The Saturday entertainment “Opportunity Knocks” was hilarious and well received by the audience! It included songs, magic tricks from Rev. Graham, jokes, stand-up comedy, poems, a brilliant rendition of “There’s a hole in my bucket” by Heather and Jo from Prestbury and 2 great songs from Peter Jones (Broken Cross) accompanied by him on guitar and harmonica. I joined 3 men from Prestbury (Roger, Geoff and Rob) in a barbershop quartet number.

Altogether a most enjoyable and uplifting weekend. Many thanks to all who organised and took part in it, and in all 5 churches in our Circuit were represented.

Well done everybody!

Ian Wardle

Here is a prayer/ poem I used last Sunday and have been asked to share....

The Gift of Love

Sweetest word in all creation
precious gift from heaven above
richest source of inspiration
is the perfect gift of love



Love is not a fleeting pleasure
coming only to depart
but it is a priceless treasure
to be cherished in the heart



All our sorrow and resentment
melts before its radiant glow
and we find a warm contentment
such as lovers only know



Skies that were so dark and dreary
change at once to summer blue
and the heart that once was weary
thrills again to life anew



Love is patient, trusting, caring
never faithless, ever true
and the love beyond comparing
is my love dear one for you



Ruth Gunning, Macclesfield

Could you write an article?

We love to feature contributions from members 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

Community & Church News

Broken Cross

Thursday 25th April 10am - 12noon - Age UK are at pop up cafe, talking about Scam Awareness.

Gawsworth

Charity Coffee mornings... Coffee mornings start at 10.00am and finish just before midday. Each coffee morning is different and special. Stalls and a raffle and the contributions for hot drinks raises an amazing amount of money for the charity as we have a grant which helps with heating lighting and cleaning and so all monies taken go to the charity. We are grateful to the John Upton charity for the grant which makes this possible.

We invite you to come and enjoy time spent with friendly people and find a bargain at Gawsworth Methodist Community Hall Thursdays each week except the third Thursday, when it's Lunch club. A team of people prepare and cook a two course meal followed by a hot drink. The cost is £6 per person and there are a few spaces so if you would like to come regularly phone Sheila on 01625 433239 by the second Thursday.

FORTHCOMING COFFEE MORNING DETAILS....

March 7th	- Martyn Donaldson Trust
March 14th	- Young carers locally
March 21st	- Lunch club with Quiet space at midday - booking essential
March 28th	- East Cheshire Hospice
April 4th	- RSPB
April 11th	- Bosley WI
April 18th	- Lunch club with Quiet space at midday - booking essential
April 25th	- To be arranged
May 2nd	- North Rode WI
May 9th	- Gawsworth WI
May 16th	- Lunch club with Quiet space at midday - booking essential
May 23rd	- we are raising money with a coffee morning for 'Embrace' formerly ' Bible Lands' which is celebrating 170 years of work making the Bible accessible to everyone. In the church there will be an exhibition of knitted Biblical figures telling the story of Jesus life. This will be on all morning and also the afternoon for those who would like to visit. More details later on a poster to each church.

Hope you will come!

Langley

Saturday 27 April 7.00pm – The Chanterelles concert in aid of Langley Methodist Church funds to be held at Macclesfield Methodist Church. Tickets £10 from Alan or Brenda Chapman 01260 252745 or email alan01.chapman@gmail.com

The Chanterelles



The Chanterelles, an international award winning choir, with their Musical Director Dr Shirley Court BEM, their accompanist Carolyn Earle together with acclaimed soloists will be in concert at:

Macclesfield Methodist Church

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 2024
7:00 PM

Tickets available from Alan/Brenda Chapman
Tel: 01260 252745 email: alan01.chapman@gmail.com
Everyone is welcome. All proceeds to Langley Chapel Funds. Admission **£10**
Includes Tea/Coffee/Biscuits

Macclesfield

Knitted Bible Exhibition at Macclesfield Methodist Church Part 2!

Our Knitted Bible Exhibition Part 2- Journey to Easter will be open from **10 am to 2 pm on Friday 22nd March, Saturday 23rd March, Good Friday 29th March, Friday 5th April and Saturday 6th April.**

Drinks and hot cross buns/cake will be available, at each session, and on the 2 Saturdays we will also be serving bacon baps and breakfast items.



All are welcome to attend and support us in this venture as part of our celebration of the 25th anniversary of the opening of our church building in December 1998. Admission is free although donations in aid of our Boiler Fund appeal will be gratefully received.

JOURNEY TO EASTER & BEYOND

Knitted Bible Exhibition @ Macclesfield Methodist Church SK10 1BX

Journey through the New Testament of the Bible with unique displays of knitted figures. Starting from the birth of Jesus to the resurrection and beyond.

March Opening Times:
Friday 22nd, Saturday* 23rd & Friday 29th 10-2pm

April Opening Times
Friday 5th & Saturday* 6th 10-2pm

Refreshments available
*light breakfast available to purchase

@MacclesfieldMethodistChurch Celebrating our 25th Anniversary

Good Friday evening 29th March at 7.30pm Macclesfield Methodist Community Choir with orchestra, organ and soloists will be singing the SOLEMN VESPERS OF CONFESSION by Mozart. This is Mozart's choral music at its most accessible best!

Do come along on Good Friday evening and share together in a time of meditation on this most sacred of days. You will not be disappointed! A retiring collection will be taken for a local charity and an international charity.

Online Church

Sunday Services

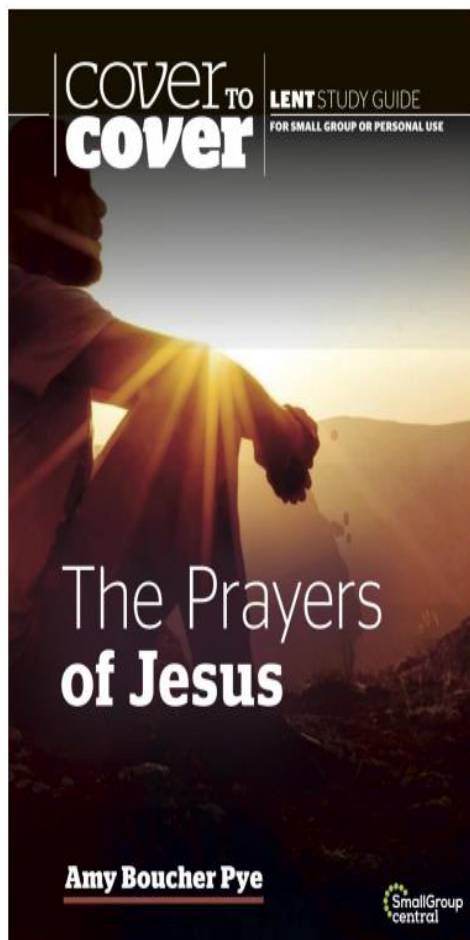
Easter Sunday 31 March – Graham

14 April – Ros

5 May - Graham

26 May - Graham

Lent Study Group – Cover to Cover



You are invited to join our

LENT STUDY GROUP

on Wednesdays from 14th February

for 6 weeks

at Prestbury Methodist Church

10.30-11.30am

Or

via Zoom 7.30-8.30pm

All are welcome

Based on Cover to Cover Study Guide 'The Prayers of Jesus' by Amy Boucher Pye, published by CWR. The Group will be led by Rev Ros.

The Zoom link is below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89077634397?pwd=YzVLWHVrcHM4Z3IRMVFaNTZlbnZz09>

Passcode 970134

LENT REFLECTIONS

Lent Study Groups are running at the moment, no need to book, just turn up, you don't need to be able to make every week, come to what you can!

In person, Tuesdays at Gawsworth with Graham or Wednesdays at Prestbury or via zoom with Ros.

Christ and the Chocolaterie

A Lent Course



Based on the film 'Chocolat'

Tuesday 20th February

Tuesday 27th February

Tuesday 5th March

Tuesday 12th March

Tuesday 19 March

Gawsworth Methodist Church 1pm

EASTER SERVICES across the circuit churches



Broken Cross

Good Friday Service 9.30am
Easter Sunday Easter breakfast 9am
Communion Service 10.30am

Gawsworth

Good Friday Service 11.00am
Easter Sunday Communion service 10.30am

Langley

Good Friday Service 9.30am
Easter Sunday Communion service 10.30am

Macclesfield

Good Friday Macclesfield Methodist Community Choir will be singing
Mozart's Solemn Vespers of Confession with orchestra, organ
and soloists 7.30pm
Easter Sunday Easter breakfast with communion 9am
Service 10.30am

Poynton

Maundy Thursday Service 10.30am
Good Friday Service 10.30am
Easter Sunday Easter breakfast with communion 9am
Service 10.30am

Prestbury

Maundy Thursday Service 6.30pm
Easter Sunday Communion service 10.30am

MWiB Easter Offering 2024

Sunday 14th April - 6.30pm

This is a **circuit** service at Langley Methodist Church preceded by light refreshments from 17.45pm

MWiB Area president Eva will be joining us and **all** are warmly invited

Ruth Gunning

COMMUNITY

Saturday March 16th at 7pm

The Mayor of Macclesfield, Councillor Chris Wilcock, wishes to promote his forthcoming charity dinner.



Hopefully it will raise lots of money for two very worthy local causes. All money raised on the evening goes to:

East Cheshire Hospice

East Cheshire Eye Society

Mayor's Charity Dinner & Auction, Macclesfield Town Hall, £30 per ticket

A dark blue poster with white and yellow text. The text is centered and reads: "Join the Mayor of Macclesfield for a Charity DINNER & AUCTION SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2024 19:00 - 00:30 Macclesfield Town Hall £30 which includes welcome drink, 3 course meal, auction and live band Dress to Impress All money raised on the evening will be going to the Mayor's chosen charities. Email: civic@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk for more information and to book your place." At the bottom, there are three logos: East Cheshire Eye Society (blue magnifying glass), a blue figure holding a torch, and East Cheshire Hospice (yellow sun) with the tagline "Where people love to live".

Join the Mayor of Macclesfield
for a
Charity
DINNER & AUCTION
SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2024
19:00 - 00:30
Macclesfield Town Hall
£30 which includes welcome drink,
3 course meal, auction and live band
Dress to Impress
All money raised on the evening will be going to the
Mayor's chosen charities.
Email: civic@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk for more information and to book your place.

East Cheshire
Eye Society

East Cheshire
Hospice
Where people love to live

DISTRICT NEWS

Save the Date!

On the afternoon of **Saturday 13th July 2024** we will be hosting an Manchester & Stockport District Farewell Tea Party, at a venue to be confirmed.

At the party we will be celebrating the life and the work of the District, before we merge into the North West England District from September 1st. We will also be celebrating the retirement of District Chair, Revd. Dr. Andrew Lunn.

We hope this will be a collaborative venture with you all and a lot of fun. So please save the date in your diaries and we will be in touch with more details soon.

Blackburn Cathedral Exhibition



Let's End Poverty – Write to your MP

Tackling poverty has to be a key issue at the next general election. With 1 in 5 people across the UK struggling against poverty, we urgently need change for our communities. That's why the Methodist Church is a founding partner of the new Let's End Poverty movement, bringing people together in a movement for a UK where poverty can't hold anyone down.

Could you get involved by writing to your MP? Our political leaders need to know that we want tackling and ultimately ending poverty to be one of the top priorities for the next government. Use our online action to send a letter to your MP asking them to make sure the next general election marks the beginning of the end for poverty in the UK.

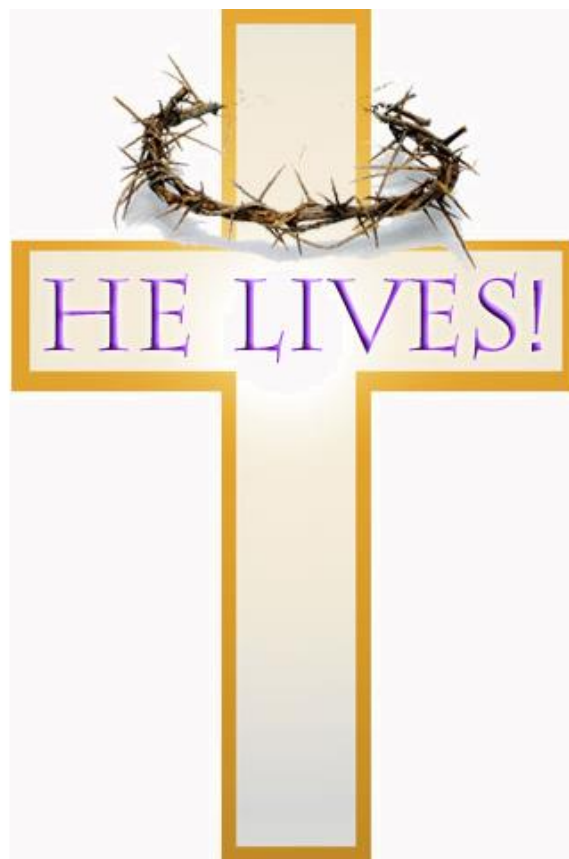
Click [here](#) to find your MP and send them an email.

Could you get a group together in your church to write to your MP? Order a set of postcards to use as a group to write your messages to your MP. Find everything [here](#).

If your church would like to get more involved with Let's End Poverty, we'd love to have you involved. You can sign up as a Church [here](#) or email [Hannah Fremont-Brown](#) if you want to talk about getting more involved.

**WRITE
TO YOUR
MP** ▶ **ASK YOUR MP TO
MAKE TACKLING
POVERTY A PRIORITY
AHEAD OF THE
GENERAL ELECTION.**

VISIT [LETSENDPOVERTY.CO.UK/ACTION](https://letsendpoverty.co.uk/action)





**Methodist Women
in Britain**

for women, for justice, for Christ The British Unit of the World Federation

of Methodist & Uniting Church Women



Prayer Diary March to May 2024

*Join us in praying for Methodist Women in Britain Trustees & Ambassadors,
World Federation Officers and Methodist Women in Ireland Officers as well as the work of
Methodist Women in Britain across our Districts.*

Our prayer diary can be used alongside the Methodist Church Prayer Handbook.

Day 1	Methodist Women in Britain Co-chair North: Ruth Parrott & Co-chair South: Maggie Woods
Day 2	Helen Kim Scholars Britain & Ireland: Madeleine Reed & Heidi Hogan
Day 3	WFM&UCW World President: Sipiwe Chisvo & WFM&UCW President Emerita: Alison Judd
Day 4	London, Beds, Essex & Herts and South East MWiB Area Trustee: Linda King
Day 5	Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury, Birmingham, Mid Wales MWiB Area Trustee: Diana Bosman
Day 6	Bolton & Rochdale and Lancashire MWiB Area Trustee: Philippa Hill
Day 7	Methodist Women in Ireland All Ireland President: Olive Rowe
Day 8	Bristol and South Wales MWiB Area Trustee: Gillian Pengelly
Day 9	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Sandra Goodwin, Helen Cornick, Cynthia Bonds, Gillian Womersley, Viv Lowe
Day 10	Methodist Women in Ireland Southern District Vice President: Wanda Hogan
Day 11	Liverpool, Chester & Stoke, North Wales, Manchester & Stockport MWiB Area Trustee: Margaret Lindley
Day 12	Methodist Women in Britain Communications Officer: Bronwen Braidell
Day 13	Darlington, Newcastle and Cumbria MWiB Area Trustee: Debs Coggrave
Day 14	World Day of Prayer Representative: Charity Madenyika
Day 15	Methodist Women in Ireland North Eastern District Vice President: Audrey Burrows
Day 16	World Federation Ireland Unit Correspondent: Moira McMurray
Day 17	Lincolnshire and East Anglia MWiB Area Trustee: Rita Rowe
Day 18	North Eastern & North Western District (Ireland) World Federation Reps: Sally Rock & Ruth Wilson
Day 19	Methodist Women in Britain Digital Media Coordinator: Ruth Dawson
Day 20	WFM&UCW Area President & Vice President: Barbara Easton & Wanda Hogan
Day 21	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Mary Sachikonye, Elizabeth Colley, Di Smart, Sue Smith, Jackie Hartrey, Jacky Woor
Day 22	Methodist Women in Britain Finance Officer: Nina Rawlins
Day 23	Notts & Derby and Northampton MWiB Area Trustee: Mary Gill
Day 24	Cornwall and Plymouth & Exeter MWiB Area Trustee: Elaine Banks
Day 25	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Ann Taylor, Janet Thompson, Pam Gidney, Sue Clarke, Margaret Johnson
Day 26	Southampton and Channel Islands MWiB Area Trustee: Liz Chick
Day 27	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Judith Oldroyd, Claire Middleton, Pamela Stenson, Barbara Rumfitt, Glenda Sidding
Day 28	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Gwenda Humphries, Susan Murrell, Ruth Dawson, Naledi Phaladi, Jo Richards
Day 29	Yorkshire West, Yorkshire North & East and Sheffield MWiB Area Trustee: Janice Clark
Day 30	Scotland and Shetland MWiB Area Trustee: Barbara Harrison
Day 31	Your local officers, activities and projects

***What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer
Could I bring you all my hopes and dreams, my moments of despair?
Could you take what I'm thinking and find that it's a prayer?***

(Joy Webb Singing The Faith 522)

8 th March	Maggie is keynote speaker at Romford ‘Come fly with me’ event 9th ; Executive meeting 11th This is an important week for women: International Women’s Day, Mothering Sunday and International Barbie Day(!). And 2024 marks 50 years of the ordination of women in the Methodist Church. Give thanks for those who have changed the role of women and pray for all those for whom change is slow in coming.
15 th March	Today is Red Nose Day – you probably know that! Red Nose Day attracts huge support and publicity – and money. Sometimes it can all get a little bit much! But let’s celebrate people being moved to care and be generous – celebrities and ordinary people, rich and poor trying to do their little bit of good. And pray for those whose stories of need will be made public, and those whose stories will remain unknown.
22 nd March	Finance Task Group 25th We are beginning Holy Week. And so we pray: Lord Jesus, as you go into this week, give us the courage to stay alongside you and to be known as your disciples.
29 th March	Easter 31st Scripture promises us, ‘A crown of beauty instead of ashes’. Easter is the assurance of God’s promise. Sometimes it seems we dwell in the ashes and don’t savour the crown of beauty! Pray for a week of love and light where you can see, and maybe be, the beauty of the resurrection in the life of the world.
5 th April	Executive meeting 8th ; Swanwick Task Group 10th On the Sunday after Easter, people often remember how Jesus walked alongside 2 disciples as they went home after the resurrection and was recognised as he sat and ate with them. Where do you find God in your home life? Sit and think about each room in your house and the doors where people go in and out. The British Methodist Church doesn’t have a ‘home blessing’ service, but the United Methodists have one here: https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/book-of-worship/a-service-for-the-blessing-of-a-home
12 th April	Easter Offering service 14th Great Bentley, Essex – contact Maggie for zoom details It is very likely that this weekend sees the end of Ramadan. Our Muslim sisters and brothers will end their fasting with celebrations, visiting family and special food. It’s also ‘Siblings Day’ and ‘Pets Day’. Pray for those who share our lives as neighbours, family, friends and our beloved pets. Be thankful for the companionship we share and commit to build bridges where we find distance or difference.
19 th April	Epworth Old Rectory Trustees 18th – Ruth & Maggie; Swanwick Conference 19th – 21st Whether you are able to join the gathering of Methodist Women in Derbyshire this weekend or not, pray for all the women of the Methodist Church under our banner, ‘For Women, For Justice, for Christ’.
26 th April	Ruth at Broomhall and Sound service 28th New ministers (presbyters and deacons) are looking towards moving from training at Queens into their first ministerial appointments. We pray for them as they embark on their journey.
3 rd May	Ruth at Alsager Peace & Justice Group 8th The ‘Walking with Micah’ materials from the Methodist Church encourage us to consider challenges that face us as we seek to be part of a justice-seeking church. Pray for all who: tackle inequality & poverty; enable a flourishing environment; seek justice for refugees; oppose discrimination and pursue peace.
10 th May	Easter Offering service Calvert Memorial church 12th zoom details from Maggie; Trustees & Ambassadors zoom meeting 13th ; Maggie keynote speaker at Cornwall District Day Penzance 14th As we continue to move forward and embrace changes as MWiB pray for all who serve as Trustees and Ambassadors; and all who organise local groups providing such valuable support to women of all ages.
17 th May	Garden Party at Epworth Old Rectory 18th ; Ruth at Easter Offering service Sandbach 19th We give thanks for generations of Methodist women who have served and witnessed to the faith, some of whom are celebrated and remembered within the Methodist Women’s Collection at Epworth. Pray for all the women who serve and witness today both in the UK and across the world, our WFMUCW sisters.
24 th May	Wesley Day 24th Today we remember John Wesley’s special experience of God at a meeting he wasn’t looking forward to(!). Wesley was already very religious but now heart was warmed as he understood that God was about love and not more striving. We give thanks for the Wesley brothers and for a warm-hearted, whole hearted pattern of our Methodist life. Pray for our worldwide Methodist family and your local church.

Just for fun

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Parish Pump

This quarter's services

2024	MARCH					APRIL				MAY			
	3 LENT 3	10 LENT 4	17 LENT 5	24 LENT 6	31 EASTER DAY	7	14	21	28	5 VOCATIONS SUNDAY	12	19 PENTECOST	26
READINGS:	Ex 20:1-17, 1 Cor 1:18-25, Jn 2:13-22	Num 21:4-9, Eph 2:1-10, Jn 3:14-21	Jer 31:31-34, Heb 5:5-10, Jn 12:20-33	Is 50:4-9a, Phil 2:5-11, Mk 14:1-15:47	Acts 10:34-43, 1 Cor 15:1-11, Jn 20:1-18	Acts 4:32-35, 1 Jn 1:1-2:2, Jn 20:19-31	Acts 3:12-19, 1 Jn 3:1-7, Lk 24:36b-48	Acts 4:5-12, 1 Jn 3:16-24, Jn 10:11-18	Acts 8:26-40, 1 Jn 4:7-21, Jn 15:1-8	Acts 10:44-48, 1 Jn 5:1-6, Jn 15:9-17	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, 1 Jn 5:9-13, Jn 17:6-19	Acts 2:1-21, Rom 8:22-27, Jn 15:26-27;16:4b-15	Is 6:1-8, Rom 8:12-17, Jn 3:1-17
BROKEN CROSS 10.30	Baker Cf	Rashleigh	OA	Oliver	Watson HC	CCT	Morrell Cf	OA	Watson HC	Watson Cf	F Bishop HC	OA	Halstead T
GAWSWORTH 10.30	S Bishop HC	Halstead P T	S Edwards	Rashleigh	F Bishop HC	CCT	Edwards	Watson	OA	Ward T	Edwards HC	Edwards P	OA
LANGLEY 10.30	Rashleigh	Edwards	OA	Ward T	Edwards HC	CCT	Halstead T	Edwards HC	S Edwards	OA	S Bishop HC T	Coverdale CA	S Bishop
18.30							EO						
MACCLESFIELD 9.00					HC	OA Bf				OA Bf			
10.30	F Bishop	Watson HC	Edwards AAW B	OA	Fielding T	Edwards CCT	Lunn	S Bishop AAW	Edwards HC	Oliver	Bradley	Hawkyard AAW	OA
POYNTON 9.30	OA Bf Bradley	Baker Cf	Watson HC Pv	OA	HC Hawkyard	OA Bf CCT		S Bishop Cf	Fielding T	Wakelin	OA Bf OA	Ward Cf T	Oliver
10.30			Watson						Watson HC				Rashleigh
14.30													Edwards HC
PRESTBURY 10.30	No service	OA	Oliver	Watson Cf	S Bishop HC	CCT	Watson HC	Halstead T	Baker Cf	LU @ St Peters Watson	Hawkyard	F Bishop HC	Fielding T
16:00													
WOODLANDS MHA 14.30					Ogier					Rashleigh			Rashleigh
ZOOM 18.30													
VIDEO		Watson			Edwards		Watson			Edwards			Edwards
PRAYER CYCLE:	Prestbury	Broken Cross	Gawsworth	MFT	Langley	Poynton	Woodl'ds	Macclesfield	Prestbury	Broken Cross	Gawsw'th	MFT	Langley

AAW All Age Worship; **AfC** Action for Children Sunday; **AwC** All we Can; **B** Baptism; **Bf** Breakfast; **Blue** Blue Christmas; **C** Carols; **CA** Church Anniversary; **CB** Christmas Box; **CCT** Circuit; **Cf** Cafe; **Cn** Compassion; **CON** Contemporary Worship; **CONF** Methodist Conference; **CS** Covenant; **CT** Christingle; **Blue** Blue Christmas; **E** Emmaus; **EO** Easter Offering; **F** Family Service; **G** Gift; **GCM** General Church Meeting; **H** Healing; **HC** Holy Communion; **HF** Harvest Festival; **HM** Home Missions; **IO** Iona; **L** Faith Lunch; **LP** Local Preacher Recognition; **LS** Ladies' Sunday; **LU** Local United; **M** Memorial; **M&M** Music & Meditation; **MHA** Methodist Homes for the Aged; **N** Nativity; **OA** Own Arrangement; **OM** Overseas Missions; **P** Parade; **Pr** Proclaim; **Ps** Pulpit Swap; **Pv** Pastoral Visitors Dedication; **SOP** Songs of Praise; **T** Please Provide Transport; **Th** Thanksgiving; **Trad** Traditional; **TS** Toy Service; **TR** Time to Remember; **Tz** Taize; **WBC** Wellbeing Church.

SERVICE LINKS & CONTACTS

Sunday 10 March 2024 – Mothering Sunday

AM – Morning worship led by Ros

WATCH ONLINE : <http://tiny.cc/lent4-24>

The reading is: Matthew 23: 37-39

The hymns are: StF 20 / 59

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

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

Circuit Facebook page

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

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

Circuit Website

We also now have the Circuit website and the service link is on this, see

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

the page with the links etc on is

<https://www.macclesfieldmethodistcircuit.com/about-3>

You can use these pages every week to see the latest service.

Daily Hope (see below)

This service is currently being updated but still includes messages and a daily hymn.

 <p>0800 804 8044 DailyHOPE A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers</p>	<p>Are you in need of some daily hope? The Church of England have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.</p>
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Other important links

<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 Ros Watson

Tel: 01625 872060

Email: ros.watson@methodist.org.uk
