



THE HERALD



The Methodist Church in Poynton

MAY 2018

Delivered by
your pastoral visitor, who can be contacted on.....

Our Church Family encourages everyone...

- **To come to worship God who loves us**
- **To follow Jesus Christ our Saviour**
- **To grow in fellowship, joy and love, and**
- **To go out, share the Good News and serve in the world.**

EDITORIAL

May 2018

Rev John is having a well-earned holiday at the time he usually produces his mumblings, and his wanderings are there for all to read on his daily blog 'Grace Under Pressure'.

<http://revjwise.blogspot.co.uk/> So this is a rare editorial to read while you wait for his return in next month's pages.

Last year, all office holders in the church were asked to produce a job description. Because I usually do as I am asked (more frequently than I do as I am told) I set to work.

The section that is headed 'Purpose of job' reads as follows:

Within the context of the Church Mission Statement printed on the inside front cover of each edition,

- *to produce for the church community and beyond information relating to services and events taking place at Poynton and Green Close Methodist Churches and significant events in the wider Poynton and Hazel Grove Circuit*
- *to provide a platform for members of the church family to make contributions, pass on information and express opinions about matters of faith and organisation consistent with the doctrines of the Methodist Church*
- *to encourage and publish contributions of personal testimony*
- *to encourage and publish contributions aimed at promoting our fellowship*
- *to support church charities*
- *to give news of church social events*
- *to promote the recognition that we belong to a national Connexion, a world-wide movement and have an ecumenical vision*
- *to present to Poynton residents a welcoming, open, encouraging and vibrant impression that may draw them closer.*

Take a few minutes to study the above list and think about these aims. I would like to think that they contribute to the vital 'Go, tell' that is our mission and to the equally important cohesion of the

people in this place. Have I missed out anything I should have included? Tell me. And you can see that although I may from time to time contribute an article myself, I am heavily reliant on the efforts of others to provide the material that goes into every Herald.

At this juncture I wish to thank all our many writers for their continuing contributions over the years and since my own items are few, I can say with all humility that it is you who have made The Herald such a consistently good read and so well regarded in our own church and further afield. Alongside these thanks, comes a word of encouragement to please continue to provide me with more of the same (or different!) so that our purpose may continue to be achieved.

A further word of encouragement is extended to all our readers who have not yet contributed to these pages. If you are one of this 'silent majority' please be aware that you are welcome inside these covers and that all eight of the 'bullets' contained in the 'Purpose of job' quoted earlier are an open invitation for you contribute. Would-be writers sometimes demur because they feel that although they have something to say, they are not very good at expressing themselves on paper. Don't let that put you off! We can help!

We are particularly short of articles in the categories described by the 2nd and 3rd bullet points. While we would not publish destructive controversy, there is a place for the Christian expression of different opinions and I have long hoped for a lively letters page moderated with a light and tolerant but firm touch.

Another section where we sometimes fall short is our Church Family News page. We ask our contributors to obtain permission if sending news about other people, but we do rely on them to help us celebrate or commiserate within our church family. We probably miss reporting on some life events that should be shared, because nobody told us, and this can lead to people feeling hurt or left out.

You, may have further observations and suggestions. Please let me know. We all want to make The Herald as good as it can possibly be and your feedback will be very welcome.

Arnold Samuels (Editor)

**Our Church Family encourages everyone to
Come to worship God who loves us...**

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT POYNTON
IN MAY**

Date	10.30am UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED	
6 th May	9.00am Med	Phil Maltby
13 th	Richard Baker	
20 th	9.00am Rev John Payne HC	Rev John Wiseman Café
27 th	Rev John Payne	
27 th	6.00pm Circuit Service at Hazel Grove Taizé	

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT GREEN CLOSE
IN MAY**

Date	2.30 pm
6 th May	Chris Hawkyard
13 th	Rev John Wiseman CA HC
20 th	Adrian Law
27 th	Rev John Wiseman
27 th	6.00pm Circuit Service at Hazel Grove Taizé

HC Holy Communion
CA Chapel Anniversary

Woodlands **11.00am.** **13th May** **Alan Rashleigh**

DISCUSSING CIRCUIT BOUNDARY CHANGES

As indicated on the letter that I hope you have all read and have been discussing, I will hold a meeting after the morning service on **Sunday 29th April** to attempt to clarify any questions you might have about these proposals so that we can formulate a response at the Church Council on 24th May and the Circuit Meeting on 20th June.

Rev John

PRAYER



There are many opportunities for prayer in our church and you will be very welcome to join any of the following groups: -

Midday prayers are said every weekday in the church prayer corner at 12.00 noon. There is a prayer list on the cupboard door near the front entrance. Jean Drinkwater would be happy to add your name to our rota.

MEDITATION

There will be a time of silent meditation on the first Sunday in each month at 9.00am. After 30 minutes of reflection, we share our thoughts if we feel able. We invite you to come along to a different experience of God's presence. All are welcome. Next time it is on **6th May**.



WEEKDAY WORSHIP



The first Tuesday in **May is 1st**. There will be a service at noon on that day followed by a simple lunch. All are very welcome to this 30min service that caters for shoppers, passers-by and everyone who is available and wishes to take this extra opportunity to worship.

THURSDAY COMMUNION

This is always on the **third** Thursday of the month at midday followed by a light lunch. See you there on **17th May**.



PRAYER GROUP



Meets every Tuesday morning at 9.45am and on the third Tuesday (**15th May**) at 9.00am in the Kingfisher where we hold a prayer breakfast. This group is growing - why not join us?

THY KINGDOM COME #PLEDGE2PRAY



#PLEDGE2PRAY

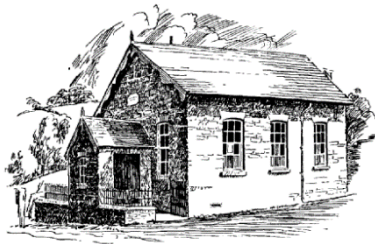
Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement and the Methodist Church is a major partner in this initiative. It invites all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to know Jesus.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, and the Secretary of the Methodist Conference, the Rev Canon Gareth J Powell, are inviting people around the world to join with this campaign.

There will be a prayer activity at 9.30am every morning from Ascension Day 10th May until Pentecost Sunday in the prayer corner in Church, when we are encouraged to pray for 5 people to come to faith. You will find a bookmark with the Herald to remind you.

If you cannot join us at this time please Google 'Thy Kingdom Come' and join in at a time that suits you but it is always encouraging to pray together. We think we will all agree that these prayers are a vital part of our evangelism.

Catharine Hughes and Mandy Hawkyard



GREEN CLOSE ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

SUNDAY 13th MAY 2018 2:30pm

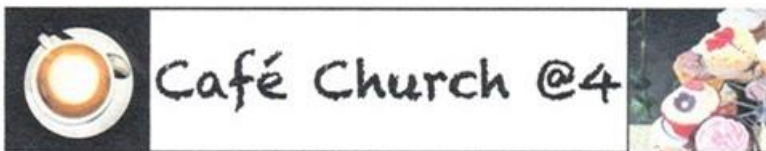
Preacher:

Rev John Wiseman

The service will include a celebration of Holy Communion

A warm welcome is extended to everyone

Tea available after the Service



3rd June 2018

TELLING

How do we communicate our faith to wider society?

Is it really about telling, or more about living?

What impression do we give of our faith, either individually or corporately as a church?

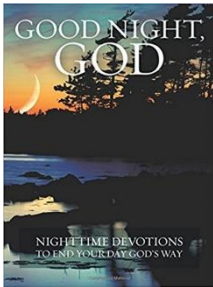
**Join us for some modern worship
in a relaxed and discursive style, with tea, coffee and cakes.**

MEMORIES OF EASTER...



**EASTER 2018
POYNTON
METHODIST
CHURCH**

**Our Church Family encourages everyone to
Follow Jesus Christ Our Saviour...**



'Good Night, God' by David C. Cook. Published by the author. £9.28.

The book starts with hope and a suggestion to look at the sky when it is clear at night. God showed Abraham the stars and asked him to count them. He was giving him hope that the promise He had made to him that he would have a son, was coming. The stars are a picture of hope for us too, just as they were for Abraham.

The idea behind the book is to help you end your day with God. There are short, encouraging reflections and each one ends with a verse (or sometimes, two) of inspiring scripture.

'Goodnight, God' is just the way to switch off from all the stresses and strains of the day – the demands of work, family, friends etc. and discover calm rest in God as you prepare for sleep.

HYMNOLOGY ON A MONDAY MORNING - 31

'And can it be' HP 216; MP 33 Charles Wesley

On 24th May 1738, the Princess of Wales gave birth to a son. That baby was destined to be King George III.

On the same day, a young curate attended a service in the new St. Paul's Cathedral, rebuilt after the Great Fire of London in 1666 reduced it to ashes. There, he heard the choir sing Psalm 130,

beginning with the solo. "Out of the deep have I called unto thee O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice."

But as John Wesley, that same curate records, what followed at the Bible Meeting 'at a quarter to nine that same evening, was far more mysterious than the sound of the choir earlier in the great cathedral. Recalling the words of the psalm he felt 'strangely warmed.' It was a moment of personal conversion that was to influence the course of Christianity around the world.

Even more so because his younger brother, Charles, also a priest in the Church of England had experienced a similar feeling of 'strange warmth', which had led to his own conversion only three days earlier. As a result, a small group of Christians called the 'Holy Club' became the founding fathers of the Methodist movement.

A year after Charles' conversion "And can it be" was published. It began as a poem called 'Free Grace' and the verses describe his own conversion experience.

References:

Verse 1 lines 1&2: Matthew 26.28. Lines3-6: Romans 5.6-8

Verse 2 lines 3-6: 1Peter 1.12

Verse 3 lines 1-4: Philippians 2.5-8

Verse 4 Acts 12.7, Acts 16.23-32: It is the lines in verse 4 that for many people are so important in a personal conversion, and Charles saw his own experience of being 'strangely warmed' as reminiscent of the story in Acts.

Verse 5 line 1: Romans 8.1

Theo Eaves

This article contains extracts from 'The Nation's Favourite Hymns' 2004 by Andrew Barr published by Lion Publishing. Used with permission of Lion Hudson plc

CLIFF COLLEGE FESTIVAL

Welcome to the Cliff Festival pages, on the Cliff College website.
<http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/festival/>



We are really excited about Festival 2018 and look forward to you joining us this May for a really wonderful weekend with an amazing title:

Ablaze

Theme – our theme for this year's Festival is *Ablaze*, and we will be looking at

the work of the Holy Spirit. The theme *Ablaze* comes from a book written by Samuel Chadwick, former Principal of the college, called 'The Way to Pentecost', in which he said, *Spirit filled souls are ablaze for God...* So, our title is *Ablaze*, and we will be focussing on 'Life in The Spirit', and what the Spirit can do in our lives today.



Joining us will be a great list of speakers and contributors! Who are the Big Tent preachers at Festival 2018, you ask? We are excited to welcome President of the Methodist Conference **Lorraine Mellor**, Exec Director of Hope Together **Roy Crowne**, President of the Girl's Brigade England & Wales **Rachel Gardner**, General Director of the Evangelical Alliance **Steve Clifford**, and our own **Ian**

White, who kicks us off on the Friday evening. The Word will be **on Fire!**

Who is to be leading our Bible Studies in the sparkly Big Tent this year? Yes, it's our very own new Principal **Rev Ashley Cooper!** Delighted that he is going to be exploring the '**Ablaze**' theme of the Spirit over the three mornings.



After Hours at Festival '18 welcomes the highly talented **Daughters of Davis** to Cliff for the first time, our good friends **Play it by Ear** drama company to take the stage by storm, the brilliant **Harry Baker and Chris Read** rap and play and the amazing **EAGA gospel choir**, who were so popular that they filled the place last year, just had to be invited back – which is why After Hours moves to the

Big Tent @ 9.30 pm!

And of course, there's our old storytelling friend **Bob Hartman**, the ever-popular Funky Sunday, the Storytelling Tent and lots of seminars and workshops all over the site for children, young people and adults too! Look out for the programme with all the timetable details.



Talking of friends.... we are delighted that **Roy Searle**, and other members of the **Northumbria Community** are again joining us in the college Chapel to lead Bible studies and seminars and share their rhythm of daily prayer. Look out for a Northumbrian fire to gather around in the newly decorated chapel!

New for the Festival this year – a new venue in the Orchard – **The Orchard stage** and canopy! A new age stream – the 18-30's will be able to share in the new **Radiate** programme! A new name for the 15-18's work – welcome to **Furnace**! New venues for the **Awesome** children's work, and **Ignite** youth work (don't worry, the map will get you there!). We are also launching a book linked to the theme – edited by our old friend **Howard Mellor**, and some on-line study materials linked to the Big Top Bible Studies by **Ashley Cooper**. And we haven't even mentioned the pizza van yet....

Dates – Festival 2018 is Friday 25 – Monday 28 May. Hilary Parry and friends will be going on Monday 28th May. Contact her on 873674 if you are interested in joining the trip.

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Grow in Fellowship, joy and love...**

THANK YOU LETTERS



Thank you very much for the lovely cards, flowers and messages which friends have sent for me whilst I was unwell recently. They were a big comfort and reassurance to me. It is great to belong to such a loving church family. I am glad to say that I am feeling better now.

Marjorie Harrop

*What a lovely surprise when Julie arrived with some beautiful flowers.
Thanks to all of you.*

Nadia Garner

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Happy Birthday to **Kate Horobin**, who will be 12 on 18th May

FLOWER MINISTRY

Thank you to the new donors who have signed on our calendar for a special Sunday, for dates from **1st July - 30th December**.

We still have a few dates left; please have a look at the calendar to see if your date is free for either a birthday, a memorial or even a celebration. Our flower arrangers will be very happy to arrange the flowers for you.

These are the people who will be taking out the flowers each Sunday in May.

Flower distributors.

6th May. N. Garner & M. Moran.

13th May. C Hughes & A. Court.

20th May. P & M Burgess & M & K Downing.

27th May. H Banks. & J Robson.

Many thanks.

Sandra Townsend

TRANSITION: CHURCH ADVERTISING AND EVENT PROMOTIONS

Rev John will be leaving us in just a few months. We are all aware that he has taken the lead in promoting many of the events held at and run by PMC by emails, posters and use of the social media. We need to prepare for change whilst he is still able to offer guidance.

Betty Law is in our church office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in her role as Administrator/Secretary and will now be your contact not only for items for the Weekly Notices but for all other promotion and advertising. Messages can be sent to Betty using the email: **office@poyntonmethodist.org** at any time and she will pick them up when she is working. Betty will need to have all relevant details and collect information regarding events which need to be promoted. She will have a list of individuals who should know about upcoming events and will make regular contact, but if you have something to be publicised, let Betty know. She will then be able to produce, display and circulate information to the Church via the email list, posters and social media.

To help Betty to be prepared and keep up to date there will also be an Events Diary in the Office and you can add anything to it BUT this is NOT for room bookings which will continue to be arranged by Helen Ives. The Office is open at various times to access the book but usually Tuesday and Thursday mornings and of course when Stewards are present at times of worship. You can add anything to the Events diary but, REMEMBER, IT IS NOT FOR ROOM BOOKINGS.

Entries in the book/diary must include:

Your name and contact details

The name, date and time of the event

Confirmation that Helen has agreed the room booking

The room(s) booked.

N.B. NO EVENT WHICH REQUIRES A ROOM BOOKING SHOULD BE ENTERED UNLESS FIRST BOOKED VIA HELEN AS USUAL

We will see how this scheme works, and we are starting now so that we have time to make adjustments if necessary. No doubt our new Minister will have her own thoughts, but that time is almost twelve months away. For the "interregnum" Betty will be the focal point for our church promotions. Please share information with her and use the diary scheme to help her.

Judy Gibbons

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

On 5th April, we had a very good evening listening to **John Ramsbottom** playing the organ and hearing his interesting comments about Organs and Organists. Thank you to all who attended.

As I write, we look forward to **Annie Truman's** talk on 19th April. The meeting will be led by Anne Hindle.

Rev. John will deliver his chosen title "Don Quixote and Sancho Panza revisited" on **3rd May**. Barbara Dixon will be leading the meeting.

On **17th May** we will be having our A.G.M., chaired by Rev. John. All of our meetings start at 7.45pm.

The A.G.M. will be the last meeting on our programme for 2017/2018, apart from our Social Evening, which is to be held on **21st June** in the foyer. There will also be a faith supper, and the Church will be open from 7.00pm to receive your donations.

Sandra Townsend

HAVE SCISSORS, WILL OPEN

Theo opens the Heritage Garden

The belated coming of Spring weather encouraged a large crowd to gather on Saturday 14th April to celebrate the official opening of the Heritage Garden. The area between the Library and Civic Hall on one side and Priorslegh Medical centre on the other has been transformed into a beautiful garden featuring raised beds, planters, insect house, bird box and a number of wall mounted silhouettes that celebrate Poynton's rich heritage.

Theo Eaves was commissioned to give the opening speech which he did with his usual panache. He included mention of an illustration made 2,000 years ago by Jesus about wild flowers outshining Solomon in all his glory and added anecdotes from his own large collection. Accompanied by the Mayor, Cllr Mrs Sara -Jane Gilmore he then cut the ribbon and declared the garden open. Do take a look at it.

Chris Hawkyard

POYNTON HERITAGE GARDEN

The following organisations kindly contributed to this project

Poynton Horticultural and Agricultural Society	Tesco
Poynton and District Rotary Club	Cheshire East Council
People's Postcode Lottery	Poynton Town Council
Waitrose	Rotary District 1285
Memorial Benches UK	Rhubarb Garden Services
Zap Graffiti Arts	Poynton Round Table

Thank you to those many individuals who assisted in other ways

Completed April 2018 by Projects4Poynton






**Our thanks to
Kevin Bell for
permission to use
his photographs**

- a few days earlier... (Image <https://www.visitlincoln.com/>)



On 12th April, Theo was in Lincoln alongside about 300 other survivors of Bomber Command and their relatives and friends from all over the world for the opening of The International Bomber Command Centre. The memorial commemorating all

their colleagues who gave their lives during World War II takes the form of a **Spire** surrounded by **The Walls of Names**.

The Spire is now recognised as the UK's tallest war memorial. It was awarded the 2016 Structural Steel Design Award.

The Walls of Names remember almost 58,000 men and women who lost their lives serving or supporting Bomber Command during WW II. The Walls of Names surround the Memorial Spire in a series of circles framing the view of the City and the Cathedral. There are 270 individual panels. Each one is formed from engraved sheets of Corten Weathering Steel.

Every life lost in Bomber Command was equal in sacrifice and as a result the walls do not recognise rank or medals awarded.

At the ribbon cutting, the 300 survivors all held the long ribbon which snaked from row to row and having made their cut at the same time, each person was left holding a length of the ribbon which they retained as a keepsake.



(images <https://www.lincolnshirelive.co.uk/>)

A PLACE FOR THE PULPIT

Recently the pulpit has moved! It seems the reasons for this were that it blocked the line of sight from the seats near the fire door to the screen, and to ensure it was not in the same area as the young children in Church, who found it a space they liked to explore. Somewhat surprisingly, both the area set aside for our youngsters and the pulpit finished up again in close proximity to one another.

Answers to enquiries as to the future location of the pulpit have been rather vague. It seems no decision has yet been made.

There are ideas that the pulpit takes up too much space, is not used by preachers and could be described as surplus to requirements. It is true that it is not used very often, but perhaps that may be partly because it has not been easily accessible and its floor is used for storage. (Originally the pulpit was part of the worship area.)

Please, as well as these issues, can consideration be given to the fact that the pulpit, communion table and font represent the Word and Sacraments we hold dear. They confirm that we are in a "special place" as we enter Church.

A number of Members have shared their concerns, and we ask that this matter can be prayerfully considered with open discussion, perhaps at the Church General Meeting on 8th July, before any decisions are made about the future location of the pulpit.

Many thanks.

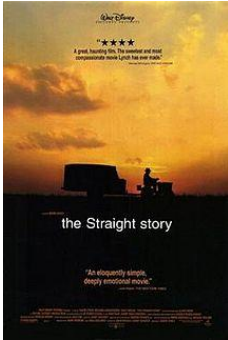
Anne Hindle

SEASONS OF MY SOUL: Forgiveness and Reconciliation

The next sessions will take place at **Windlehurst Methodist Church** on **Friday 18th May** and the repeat at **Poynton Methodist Church** on **Wednesday 23rd May**; both sessions from 10.30am – 2.00pm.

Rev John

SEASONS OF MY SOUL: THE STRAIGHT STORY



Based on the true story of 73-year-old retired farmer and widower, Alvin Straight.

Upon learning one day that his distant brother Lyle has suffered a stroke and may not recover, he is determined to make things right with Lyle while he still can.

The trouble is, his brother lives in Wisconsin, while Alvin is stuck in Iowa with no car, no driver's licence and a fear of flying.

How will he be able to make the journey to reconcile with his brother before it's too late?

Come along and join Alvin on his picturesque and at times deeply spiritual odyssey to reconcile with his lost brother.

See the film Saturday 19th May

Discuss the film Monday 21st May

Rev John

*Now bury with the dead years conflicts dead
And with fresh days let all begin anew.
Why longer amid shrivelled leaf-drifts tread,
When buds are swelling, flower-sheaths peeping through?
Seen through the vista of the vanished years,
How trivial seem the struggle and the crown,
How vain past feuds, when reconciling tears
Course down the channel worn by vanished frown.
How few mean half the bitterness they speak!
Words more than feelings keep us still apart,
And, in the heat of passion or of pique,
The tongue is far more cruel than the heart.
Since love alone makes it worth while to live,
Let all be now forgiven, and forgive.*

– Alfred Austin (30 May 1835 – 2 June 1913. Poet laureate from 1896)

Women's Quiet Day



Come
Step away
from daily life
and be still
in the company of God
and a host of biblical women

Open to all women across the Hazel Grove & Poynton Circuit

Saturday 9 June at Green Close Methodist Church

Meet from 9.30am for tea/coffee, ready to start at 10.00am

Share a simple lunch together

End with Communion led by Rev Amanda Boon

Expected finish time: 3.30pm

Parking space is limited at Green Close so please share transport where you can. A gift of £5 is suggested to cover the food and other costs of the day.

For catering purposes, please let Catharine Hughes know of your intention to attend by Tuesday 5 June

07925 144681 or **email hughes@silverflame.co.uk**

SEMI-CIRCUIT WALK SATURDAY 12th MAY
or
BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKING PART II
Poynton – Green Close – Windlehurst – Poynton

There are three stages to the walk:

Leaving Poynton Methodist Church at 9.00am, the first stage up to Green Close Methodist Church is 4.6km with an estimated time of 1hr 22mins. Coffee will be served from 10.30am till 11.00am. If anyone does not want to walk but wishes to join us for fellowship at Green Close PLEASE feel to do so.

The second stage is from Green Close to Windlehurst. There will be two possible routes, the first heading up via Lyme Park which will be 5.9km and take an estimated 1hr 35mins. A flatter, shorter, alternative walk along the Macclesfield Canal is possible. A light lunch of rolls etc. will be available at Windlehurst from 12.30pm until 2.00pm. If anyone does not want to walk but wishes to join us for lunch and fellowship at Windlehurst, PLEASE feel free to do so. Can you please let Rev. John Wiseman or Judy Gibbons know in advance, or sign the sheet on the notice board, so that enough food will be available?

It would also be helpful to have an indication of those who are intending to start to walk from Poynton so we don't set off without you. Again, let Rev. John or Judy know.

Everyone is invited to do some or all of the walk and we have arranged for there to be cars at both Green Close and Windlehurst to offer lifts back to Poynton for anyone who has had enough.

We have planned this to be a day out for us and for the Circuit. We hope friends from other churches will join us. Not everyone is able to walk but please do join together with those of us who do for coffee and/or lunch.

Judy Gibbons

PROPERTY UPDATE

- * Repairs to light over security gate ongoing.
- * Repair to light fitting in Room 4.
- * All emergency lights in the hall and church tested.
- * Hook for arts group fitted in Room 3 cupboard.
- * Carpet in Room 2 cleaned.
- * Pine cladding in lobby area cleaned.
- * Thermostats reset for spring.

QUINQENNIAL INSPECTION

This was carried out by outside surveyors between December 2017 and April 2018 for PMC. We have now received the report which is mainly satisfactory. There are some issues for attention in the future which will be addressed 'progressively'.

FIRE/ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

A report was presented to the last Church Council meeting in February 2018 on the above matters which was accepted and introduced into the Minutes. More detail is available via the Church Office if required. The conclusion is: 'we are safe', but it is an issue for constant monitoring.

HALL LIGHTING

The original lighting fitted when the hall was first built is now getting old and inefficient. It is intended to replace all the old fluorescent twin units with LED strip lights which are more efficient and economical at some point in 2018.

PLASTICS/ENVIRONMENT/WASTE

The church currently has to pay for two large wheelie bins to deal with general waste and cardboard/paper. This is NOT catered for within the commercial council tax paid by the Church. It would not be cost effective to pay also for a separate bin for waste plastics. A small purple bin has been placed in the church kitchen for plastics. By all means use it. However, this is not a case of 'dump the plastic' and someone else will sort it out. ALL are encouraged to take home any waste plastics and use your own grey bins. ALSO, if you can help

by taking some of the used plastics in the purple bin, this would be a great help. Many may not even half fill a home grey bin, so think if you can help. As you are all aware, this has now become a major issue; we can also keep church costs down by not putting these items in the general waste bin, making sure they go to the correct recycling facility.

Derek Garner for PMC Property Committee

DIARY DATES (Page numbers refer to this Herald)

Every weekday at Midday:

Prayers in church at 12.00 noon p 5

- 3rd **May** Ladies' Fellowship p 15
- 6th Meditation p 5
- 12th Semi-Circuit Expedition p 21
- 13th Green Close Anniversary p 7
- 13th Christian Aid Week commences p 24
- 15th Prayer breakfast p 6
- 17th Thursday communion p 5
- 17th Ladies' Fellowship AGM p 15
- 18th Seasons of my Soul session (repeat on 23rd) p 18
- 19th Seasons of my Soul film p 19
- 21st Seasons of my Soul film discussion p 19
- 24th Church Council p 4
- 28th Trip to Cliff College p 12
- 3rd **Jun** Café Church p 7
- 9th Women's Quiet Day p 20
- 20th Circuit Meeting p 4
- 21st Ladies' Fellowship Social evening p 15

**Our Church Family encourages everyone
To go out, share the Good News and serve in the world.**

ACTION for CHILDREN



Home Collecting Boxes

It is time for our Home Collecting Boxes to be emptied and I would be grateful if box holders would let me have them as soon as possible.

If you are donating by cheque, please make it payable to 'Action for Children'.

Please contact me on 877820 if there is a problem.

Brenda Oakley



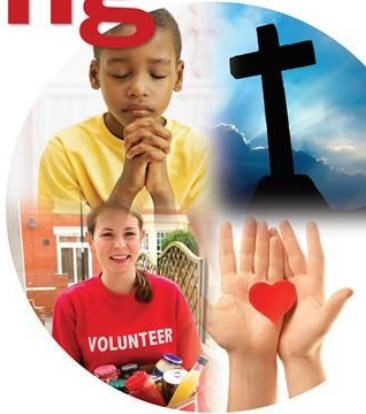
Thank you to all who have responded to my plea for collectors. The response has been heart-warming. If you have never collected before there are a few roads as yet uncovered. Please will you help? I know its not the easiest job of the year but you would be joining 50,000 other Christians of all denominations to help the poorest of the poor during this week.

Mandy Hawkyard

THE METHODIST CHURCH - 1

Our Calling

The **calling** of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in **Christ** and to live out its discipleship in **worship and mission**



It does this through



Worship



Learning and Caring



Service



Evangelism

The **Methodist** Church 

www.methodist.org.uk

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The Methodist Church is still organised in a methodical way using many of the structures introduced by its founder, John Wesley. However, the Church is quite pragmatic, and is willing to make changes where they seem desirable.

Structures are there to enable decision making that takes account of all concerns and views within the Church. No one is given supreme authority - consultation is vital. At the same time, churches cannot

simply arrange their own affairs, but have some shared disciplines and ways of working.

The Connexion

Methodists belong to local churches or ecumenical partnerships, but also feel part of a larger connected community, the Connexion.

This sense of being connected makes a difference to how the Methodist Church as a whole is structured. At its heart is an understanding of the Christian community as the 'body of Christ'.

Just as a human body contains different limbs and organs that depend on each other, so we should be close and caring enough to feel each other's pain and delight. We should put the good of the whole body before our own individual needs.

When ministers or deacons are ordained in the Methodist Church, they are also 'received into full Connexion.'

The promise of mutual support is a strength of Methodism. If you become a member of the Methodist Church, a pastoral visitor is responsible for visiting you and offering spiritual support, encouragement and challenge.

In the Methodist Church decisions are made as openly as possible, giving opportunities for all to contribute. It is important for all views to be heard and taken seriously, especially where Christians disagree.

Note

Included in the British Methodist Connexion are all the districts of Scotland, Wales and England, along with the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands and Shetland.

"Do not allow yourself one thought of separating from your brothers and sisters, whether their opinions agree with yours or not."

John Wesley

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/structure/the-connexion/>

* "We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as white, but it was more yellow." (**Complaint**)

* Hollywood must be the only place on earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap.

Steve Martin

THE JUNE HERALD

Closing date for submissions will be **16th May (or earlier if possible)**. Please place articles in the Herald pigeonhole or preferably send them by e-mail to: **arnoldsamuels@btinternet.com** (marketing spam automatically deleted).

TO ALL HERALD DISTRIBUTORS

The **June** Herald will be available for you to pick up from **25th May**. There are events taking place in the first week of each new magazine and we hope that as many readers as possible receive the details in time.

To all those who are listed as contacts on our back page

Please tell us via a note in the Herald pigeonhole whenever there are changes to times or contacts. We only know when we are told.

Copyright

Many thanks once again to all our contributors. We have no problem with those that are the work of the sender, but sometimes we receive pieces for inclusion that have appeared elsewhere. These too are welcome. If you wish to contribute in this way, please obtain permission and let us know the source so that due acknowledgement can be made.

The back page contains a list of useful contacts. You will find others in the Church Contact List, the Circuit Plan and the Circuit Directory. Our website is: <http://www.poyntonmethodist.org>, find us on Twitter by searching for @PoyntonMC or on Facebook via facebook.com/poyntonmethodist

The connexional website: <http://www.methodist.org.uk> contains a wealth of useful and interesting information including President and Vice-President blogs about the visits they are making.

To donate furniture or arrange a house clearance and help Romania and other countries, contact Jeff Stoker, LIM Distribution Manager on 0796 7751494.

Our Minister, Rev John Wiseman, is available in the church office (871592) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The light by the door shows red when he is engaged. You can leave messages for him in the Minister's pigeonhole, or please call him or leave a message at home on 261769 or via his email jwiserev@hotmail.co.uk If there is no reply and there is an immediate emergency, phone Rev John Payne 0161 483 4952. The church office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.00am until 1.00pm. For Church Notices and office queries please contact: office@poyntonmethodist.org Our Children and Young People's Worker, Annie Truman may be in the office between 9.00am and 3.00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday and her email is annie@poyntonmethodist.org

EVERY WEEKDAY

8.30am-3.00pm Preschool. Varying sessions also available. (Sarah Parker 871115 and pmcpreschool@hotmail.co.uk) Extended hours available 7.30am - 5.30pm
 #Kids Zone - (Pam Dowd 07717 003 322, kidszonepoynton@btinternet.com)
 7.30am and 3.00pm - Before & after school club
 7.30am to 6.00pm - Holiday care
 10.00am to 12.30pm #Open Hands Room 4 (878589) Coffee in the Lounge

MONDAY

10.00-11.00am Discussion Group/Bible Study (Theo Eaves 875162)
 7.30pm - *+ House group at the Dawson's led by Catharine Hughes

TUESDAY

9.45am-10.45am Meeting for Prayer (Mandy Hawkyard 875032) Third Tuesday
 9.00am Prayer Breakfast at the Kingfisher.
 12.00 noon *Service and Lunch 1st First Tuesday (Mandy Hawkyard 875032)
 7.30-9.00pm 3rd Poynton Guides and Rangers (Lyndsay Lamb 07950 187 480)

WEDNESDAY

5-6.00pm #2nd Poynton Rainbows (Sue Dyson 07515 883 585)
 6.00-7.30pm #2nd Poynton Brownies (Catherine Potts 07979 955 804)
 7.30-9.00pm #4th Poynton Guides (Alison Southern 07905 133 073)

THURSDAY

9.30-11.30am Parents & Toddlers (Judy Gibbons 878016/Margaret Martin 874883)
 12.00 noon *Communion and lunch 3rd Thursday (Rev J Wiseman 871592)
 7.30-9.00pm #1st Poynton Guides (Georgia Eyre 07989 360 850)
 7.30-9.30pm *Ladies' Fellowship (Sandra Townsend 878563)

SATURDAY

9.00-11.00am Who let the Dads out? 4th Sat. (Rev John Wiseman 871592)
 7.30pm *Exploring Faith through film (Discussion on Monday - Rev John Wiseman))

SUNDAY

10.30am Crèche - 0-3 years (Denise Reid 871961)
 10.30am Young Church - 3-11 years (Rachel/Ian Hall 872062)
 10.30am Evolve - 11-18 years (Sally Holmes 260451/Jane Robson 879998)
 4.00pm *Café Church First Sunday (Helen Holmes 260451)

All the activities listed here take place weekly on Church premises except for:

*fortnightly or monthly +not on Church premises #not PMC organised
 (Please see the weekly notices or the notice board in the corridor for details).

ROOM BOOKING APPLICATIONS – Helen Ives (872465) 14 days notice requested if possible.