



THE HERALD



The Methodist Church in Poynton

OCTOBER 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.**

SUPER CHARGE

October 2018

Dear friends

As I begin my time with the circuit let me introduce myself to you. I have been a Methodist minister since 1990. I retired or, as the peculiar Methodist term has it, 'sat down' four years ago. My last appointment was in Brighouse, but I served for nine years close to here in Bramhall. We chose to retire to Marple where we have a pleasant bungalow on the top of Marple Ridge looking out over the Goyt valley.

That should have been a quiet retirement, but things did not work out that way. When Stockport failed to get a replacement superintendent last year I stepped in as part-time superintendent. This year Hazel Grove & Poynton face the same problem, so I have been asked to look after your circuit as well.

This year is a year of transition for your circuit. Mandy Boone and John Wiseman have already moved on and come next summer John Payne will be 'sitting down'. Wesley Loane will be working with you for the next six months and then Ros Watson joins you. If all goes to plan, then the circuit itself will be moving on with Hazel Grove, Dialstone Lane and Windlehurst joining the Stockport churches and Poynton and Green Close joining Macclesfield. So, a large part of my task as superintendent for this year will be to help these changes be as smooth as possible.

I do realise that change can often feel threatening. As I know only too well, life rarely works out exactly as we planned. However, whatever we face we face it with God walking beside us.

It also helps, of course, if we know what is going on. So, if you are not sure what is happening do please just ask. I should be leading worship with you each quarter and I can be phoned on 0161 637 4326 or emailed on ian.coverdale@methodist.org.uk

Yours in Christ

Ian Coverdale

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY AND DISCUSSION GROUP

We are nearing the close of our study of the biblical background of Handel's "Messiah". The choice of scriptures by Jennens for Handel drew upon a wide range of texts from the Gospels, the Psalms, Isaiah, Job, Haggai and Zechariah.

Our next study will be the book of Ruth. It seems to throw a gleam of sunlight backwards over the dark pages of Judges and shows that the humble virtues could flourish even then, a story which begins with a famine and ends with the birth of a baby. It is read at the Jewish Festival of Weeks, the Harvest.

We meet at 10.00am and everyone is welcome to join us, whether for the regular study or the occasional morning.

Theo Eaves 01625 875162



*Woodcut by Jacob Steinhardt
(German-born Israeli painter and
woodcut artist)*

HAZEL GROVE & POYNTON CIRCUIT MEETING

Our Circuit meeting keeps its members busy on our behalf to ensure that the Circuit is being run properly (that is, in accordance with the law of the land and the rules of the Methodist Church).

The technical work is done by its appointed officers – 16 of them – (like the Circuit Safeguarding Officer, the Circuit Treasurer, the Circuit Secretary, the Circuit Stewards and so on). The ordinary members of the Circuit Meeting – 22 of them – are elected by the Church Councils of the Local churches from among their own members.

The appointed officers are responsible in the first instance to the Circuit Meeting as a whole for the work they do.

There is always a lot to do to keep the Circuit running smoothly, things of which many in the local churches are completely unaware and sadly uninterested. Indeed, that goes too for the organisation of the local church itself – until something goes wrong!

This year is a particularly busy year for the officials and members of the Circuit Meeting of this Circuit. They are preparing for all the legal and organisational changes that have to be made to split the circuit into two parts. PMC and Green Close are moving into the Macclesfield Circuit and a new circuit will be formed comprising the churches of the existing Stockport Circuit, Windlehurst, Hazel Grove and Dialstone Lane. The new circuit will be called Stockport United.

Routine matters like making sure preachers are appointed for each of the services in the five churches and seeing to it that we fulfil our financial obligations will go on at the same time.

So when the Circuit Meeting met on 13th September, it dealt among other things with items like:

- Responsibilities of trusteeship and data protection
- Sale of Offerton Church (continuing)
- Working towards appointing a lay-worker at Dialstone Lane

- Canvassing the views of the Circuit Meetings and Church Councils of the Local Churches in each of the three Circuits involved.
- Appointment of a Circuit Safeguarding Officer (HG&P)
- Staffing considerations and appointments for three ministers including one superintendent to the enlarged Stockport Circuit for September 2019.
- Considerations of Finance
- Manses
- Local Preachers
- Green Close Management
- Methodist Women in Britain
- Action for Children
- Methodist Homes
- Circuit Safeguarding Policy

One of the above items, 'Staffing considerations and appointments...' is already well underway. It may come as a surprise to some to discover that the work involved in appointing a new minister can start about 18 months before the appointment takes effect. It involves a large body of work which is undertaken by a sub-committee of the Circuit Meeting called the Circuit Invitation Committee. There are 10 members of the committee in this instance, 3 ministerial and 7 lay.

It is unusual for a Circuit Invitation Committee to have to handle three appointments in the same year. A 15-page document has already been produced describing the characteristics of the churches to which each appointee will minister, details of the locality, type, location and description of the manses and a person specification for the vacancy.

Hopefully this article will provide some insight into the work of the Circuit Meeting. Although seemingly daunting, the burden is carried by a number of able people and we can all become skilled by serving an apprenticeship on a church committee and the Church Council.

THE METHODIST CHURCH – 5

The Conference

The Methodist Conference meets annually in June or July.

It first met in 1744 under John Wesley, who gathered together his assistants (both ordained ministers and itinerant lay preachers) to confer together about 'what to teach, how to teach, and what to do, i.e. how to regulate our doctrine, discipline and practice.'

The contemporary Conference is a gathering of representatives from each Methodist district, along with some who have been elected by the Conference and some ex officio members and representatives of the Youth Assembly.

There is a mixture of lay people, ordained presbyters and deacons. Presbyters and deacons also have their own separate gatherings before the main, decision-making session.

The Conference is the body that agrees policy for the Methodist Church.

Business for the Conference to decide upon is prepared by the Methodist Council, an elected body that meets regularly. Memorials to Conference may be sent by districts ahead of time, and representatives to Conference may introduce Notices of Motion.

Further information is available about this year's Conference, for both elected representatives and the general public. You can listen to the debates and watch many videos of the proceedings online.

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

This concludes our series about the Methodist Church. Do please visit the website which is full of information on numerous topics.

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

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT POYNTON
IN OCTOBER**

Date	10.30am UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED	
7th October	9.00am Med	Rev Wesley Loane HC
14th	Pat Wilson (Emmanuel) HF	
21st	9.00am HC Rev Ian Coverdale	Mandy Hawkyard Café
28th	Phil Maltby	
4th November	9.00am Med	Rev Wesley Loane HC

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT GREEN CLOSE
IN OCTOBER**

Date	2.30 pm
7th October	Rev Wesley Loane HC
14th	Richard Baker
21st	Rev John Payne
28th	Rev Wesley Loane
4th November	Rev Wesley Loane HC

HC Holy Communion

HF Harvest Festival

Woodlands 11.00am. 14th October Chris Hawkyard

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus,
His the sceptre, his the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
Has redeemed us by his blood. StF 568.1*

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 **7th October**.



WEEKDAY WORSHIP



The first Tuesday **in October is 2nd**. 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 an 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 **18th October**.



PRAYER GROUP



Meets every Tuesday morning at 9.45am and on the third Tuesday (**16th October**) at 9.00am in the Kingfisher where we hold a prayer breakfast. This group is growing - why not join us?

EXTENDED COMMUNION

This is just to remind you of the note on page 28 of last month's Herald:

Three of our church members – Alan Rashleigh, Phil Maltby and Catharine Hughes – have been trained and appointed by Church Council to share Extended Communion. This is to bring the bread and wine, already consecrated during a Communion service, to people at home.

Particularly while we are in the interregnum before Ros arrives, this may be a useful service to the housebound and those in care homes.

If you wish to receive Communion at home, please let your pastoral visitor know, so that arrangements can be made in advance of a communion service.

FLOWER MINISTRY ROTA

November 2018

4th P & M Burgess & M & K Downing
 11th H Banks & J Robson
 18th B Oakley & N Hood
 25th H Clare & M Moncaster

December 2018

2nd M Wilson & C Clarke
 9th L Baker & B Whittaker
 16th P & M Burgess
 23rd D Reid & E Bottrill
 30th N Garner & B Dixon

Flower Distributors please note that flowers will be in Church, to distribute during December.

Sandra Townsend

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2018 SUNDAY 14th OCTOBER



This year's celebration will be led by Pat and Ronnie Wilson, the ceremonial Mayoress and Mayor of Salford. They are members of Emmanuel Church Salford and will receive and distribute our gifts.

We have supported the Emmanuel Church and it's work for some years.

It will be very stimulating to hear first-hand about the challenging work of this church as it endeavours to support its needy community. Changes in benefits, homelessness, unemployment etc have increased the number of people asking for help with food.

We know that the need is great and we have been asked to donate mainly food products.

- dried foods such as sugar, pasta, rice, tea, coffee,
- tinned foods such as baked beans, fruit, veg, fish, meat, soup (*ring pull please*)
- jars of jam, peanut butter, sausages etc
- Some treats for children would also be welcome e.g. chocolate biscuits.



They have also asked for sanitary towels which are not seen as a priority if children need feeding.



Coffee morning at Emmanuel

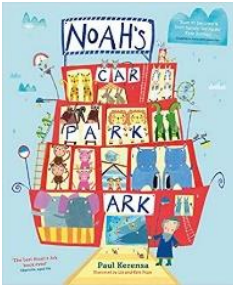
**We have hired a van!
Please help us fill it.
The need is great!**

Erica Evans and Nadia Garner

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



'Noah's Ark Car Park' by Paul Kerensa published by SPCK at £4.99



According to Charlotte aged 5½, "this is the best Noah's Ark book **ever!**"

It is a multi-story story. How will Noah fit all the animals into the Ark? Is packing them in tightly, car-park style the only way?

Kate Bottley, Gogglebox ex-presenter says that the book is sure to become a firm family favourite.

I agree.

I love the cover with its four-storied Ark and I love the illustrations by Liz and Kate Pope and the rhyming re-telling of the Noah story.

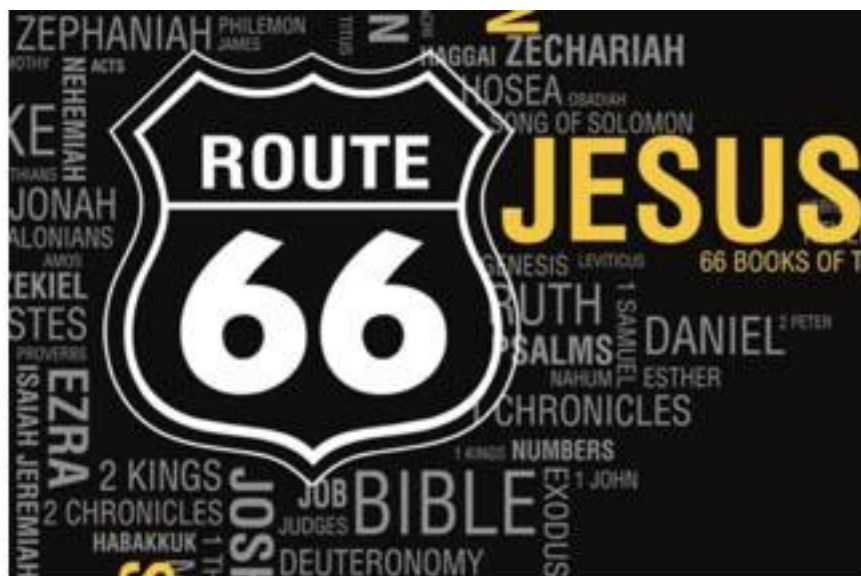
This is a delightful book suitable for children aged 3 – 6.

DIFFICULTY READING THE HERALD?

Please don't struggle and/or give up!

Contact your Herald deliverer (Pastoral visitor) or John Turner to arrange to receive a **Large Print** version in future!





Title	Subtitle	Bible book	Wednesday @ 7.30pm, Room 3
Introduction			12 Sep
Living faithfully	the narrative literature	Judges	3 Oct
Living distinctively	the law	Deut & Leviticus	17 Oct
Living poetically	the psalms	Psalms	7 Nov
Living discerningly	the wisdom literature	Proverbs	21 Nov
Living prophetically	the prophets	Malachi	5 Dec
Living infectiously	the gospels	Luke	16 Jan
Living purposefully	the epistles	Philemon	30 Jan
Living hopefully	the apocalyptic literature	Revelation	13 Feb
	<i>Reserve date:</i>		27 Feb

EVOLVE



Having had a lovely summer break, we have returned to Evolve (our teenagers' group) and started a discussion group in Room 3 around the Pixar Short films (if you've watched a Disney film recently at the cinemas then you may have seen one of these before the feature film starts). Annie found 'Pix-a-Zing' which are a set of questions with a Christian base to accompany the Pixar films and we started with 'Jack-Jack Attack'.

We would love to encourage some of the congregation to come out and join us in the discussions, just as some of you did when we went across to the Acoustic Lounge. Please join us for a cuppa and a chat to encourage our young people.

As we are encouraging the teenagers to attend the Café Church and Mosaic Church services, as well as 'special' services such as Harvest and Remembrance Sunday, these sessions will only be run on the following dates;

23rd September, 25th November, 2nd December, 9th December

YOUNG CHURCH



We are very blessed to have Rachel and Ian, with help from Hilary Banks and Annie, to prepare sessions for the younger end of our church family. They provide cover for most services throughout the year with breaks for half term / term holidays and would love you to offer help to take some of these sessions. If you feel that you could take a group, following the guidance of the activity sheets provided, please speak to Rachel / Ian Hall or Annie who would be happy to welcome you to our little team!

Please continue to pray for all the children, young people and 'staff' in our church family and pray for new families to come and join us.

Sally Holmes

HYMNOLOGY ON A MONDAY MORNING - 35

“Be still, for the presence of the Lord” StF 20; MP 50.

David Evans's song, inspired by the words of the Bible, seems to touch people where they are. Just singing it seems to give us a sense of God's presence. Evans, a Hampshire-based piano teacher (1957-2013), said that the core message of his hymn came from a phrase in the Old Testament, “Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the Lord is in this place and I did not know it.’” (Genesis 28.16)

The hymn created a sacred moment for presenter Pam Rhodes and other members of the ‘Songs of Praise’ team. They were in St. Paul’s Cathedral clearing away their equipment after a special live broadcast on the Sunday following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Somehow a microphone had been left connected. The sound of an unknown young woman gently singing Be Still helped the television team, together with thousands of others milling sadly in the Cathedral, to stop, be still and remember that ‘the power of the Lord was moving in this place.’

References: Exodus 3.5; Hebrews 12.28; 1 John 3.5; Revelation 1.12-18

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

SEEING THE LIGHT!



Pop into the preschool and see what a difference the new light fittings have made. We owe a debt of gratitude to Derick Garner, John Lunt, David Dippie, Stephen Hughes, and Chris Hawkyard for spending two Saturdays replacing the old fittings – not an easy task as you can imagine. They have saved us thousands! Many **many** thanks.

Hilary Clare

**Our Church Family encourages everyone to
Grow in Fellowship, joy and love...**

THANK YOU LETTERS



To all my friends at Poynton Methodist Church – I would like to thank you all for your thoughts and best wishes and for the flowers following my recent fall. Lots of love from

Maureen Downing

Now that Rev Peter Went is moving on from his pastoral work at PMC, I would like to thank him so much for all the visiting he has done over the last 10 years to me and to others and for the times we have received the Sacrament at my kitchen table. It has meant so much to me especially when I had breast cancer. At the age of 92, I have known a number of ministers and many have become friends. I also thank Ann Stephenson for bringing me The Herald each month. God bless,

Gwenda Hope

It was lovely to receive flowers yet again from church. My thanks to all the ladies who arrange, organise and distribute the flowers: on this occasion it was Marie who called. The flowers were yellow chrysanthemums and very cheerful. They have lasted ages.

Thank you again, Pat Musgrave

I would like to thank the church for thinking of us at a difficult time for our family and to thank Lorna for bringing the flowers yesterday. It is so good to know that people are thinking of us. **Margaret & Keven Martin**

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Dear friends,

We are deeply saddened to tell you that our granddaughter Emma died on 22ND August. As you know, this wretched disease has controlled her life for 15 years, and the last years she has been in

and out of hospital, in great mental anguish, and latterly in physical pain as her vital organs have shut down.

We spent a week with her recently, really saying our goodbyes, and talking to her, with Simon, about life and death. She showed remarkable spirit, and tried very hard to live. But she just could not conquer the illness, which eventually overwhelmed her spirit, and destroyed her frail body.

Our consolation is that her anguish and pain are over, and after fifteen years she has at last found peace.

We know that you have held Emma in your thoughts and prayers over the years, and we are grateful to you.

With love, and in faith and hope,

Yours,

Barbara and Raymond Brown

We were very sorry to hear this sad news and send our sincere condolences to Barbara and Ray. No doubt the prayers and sympathy of all their friends at PMC will surround them at this difficult time.

Email from Rev Dr Peter Ensor

Many thanks for the September Herald.

I thought the inclusion of the Conference Digest was a very good idea, and was impressed with the pastoral arrangements made to manage with the interregnum. I was also pleased to hear of Catharine Hughes' Bible study group and interested in the Haiti fund raising project.

At our recent Mission Partners' retreat in Uganda, we had our Mission Partners from Haiti present (John and Sharon Harbottle, whom I know very well from their time in Kenya in the 1980-90s), and they were telling us of the dire needs of that poverty-stricken country.

Just now at KEMU we are in the middle of our break between the 2nd and 3rd trimesters of the academic year, and teaching will begin in the middle of September.

Thank you for your prayers as I prepare for retirement next year. I shall certainly continue to remember all at PMC in my prayers especially during this time of transition.

Every blessing, **Peter Ensor**

Happy Birthday to:

William Garrett, who will be 17 on 4th October.

Thomas Horobin, who will be 15 on 7th October.

Eleanor Hughes, who will be 16 on 27th October.

Golden Times

Our heartiest Congratulations to three couples celebrating their Golden Weddings at this time!

Bernie and Phil Maltby married 31st August 1968 at St David's Parish Church, Merthyr Tydfil.

Nadia and Derek Garner married 7th September 1968 at Tiviot Dale Methodist Church, Stockport by Rev. Arthur Connop.

Jean (nee McQuillan) and Roger Drinkwater married 12th October 1968 at Southville Methodist Church.

ARE THE RUMOURS TRUE?

I was greeted by this question after the circuit service on 16th September, so before everyone falls into the sin of gossiping, I thought I'd share the news here.

After a lot of thought and prayerful consideration I have decided to candidate for ministry with the Methodist Church. The decision has been a long time coming, and a long time denying, and will still be a long time to confirm.

One of the problems with being a local preacher is that you have to listen to what you preach. There I was, at the front of church, saying that we should all act on the call of God, test the waters, yet I knew that I had had a calling over ten years ago and was happily ignoring it. It is fair to say that I view the idea of being a minister as (a) ridiculous and (b) RIDICULOUS!

The Methodist Church doesn't make it easy. In my ideal world I'd just fill in a few forms at home and carry on as normal, slipping quietly away when someone rubber-stamped a document in a dusty office in London. Instead I am in a goldfish bowl for six months. I have to do 'work experience' in another circuit, have two services assessed (one in a church that is new to me), read lots of books and write an essay on issues affecting the Methodist Church today ... and that's just before December! I will also be ~~interrogated~~ interviewed by both the

Circuit and District, and then by Connexion towards the end of March.

It is all designed to discern whether the calling is right – both for me and for the Methodist Church. It might not be. After all, six months ago, when I began to put some balls in motion, I knew it was right; now I'm not so certain. It will be a rollercoaster ride.

How can you help? Pray! (Lots!!) Tell me - kindly - if I shouldn't be doing it. Offer to support Stephen, Matthew and Eleanor, who have to live with me throughout this process and face a change to their lives too.

Above all, smile and remind me that it is God's work we're all doing, whether or not we take a formal role within a church denomination.

Catharine Hughes

PMC PRESCHOOL HAS SHOW SUCCESS



I am very happy to report that we won a 'Very Highly Commended' Award and a 'Well Done' rosette at Poynton Show for a display of our beetroot and carrots, grown in our garden from seed by the children. The display depicted "4 Aliens on their Flying Saucers".

New starters

We are very happy to welcome our new starters, Matilda c, Archie, Dante, Rory, Lottie m, Robbie, Milo, Joe and Scott, and our new staff, Bekki, Naomi and Kate. Everyone is settling in well!

Looking ahead

Looking ahead to the end of term, we have decided to hold a Family Christmas Hotpot Party on Wednesday 19th December from 4.30 – 6.00pm for our families and church members. This will involve hotpot, singing, and, hopefully a visit from FC. Put the date in your diaries!

Sarah Parker

CHURCH CARDS AND SECOND-HAND BOOKS



Thank you for your support during our financial year (September 17 – August 18) when we raised £864.83 for church funds from the sale of handmade cards and second-hand books.

As in past years we are currently busily creating Christmas cards which will be available at the Charity Market and thereafter in the coffee area. This year we have two different sizes but again we have been able to keep the price to £1.00 per card or 5 for £3.00.

We still love to receive old greeting and Christmas cards, some of which we are able to recycle into new cards, whilst the blank areas of others are used to make the base of toppers for our cards and others again are used for our creative play as we explore different techniques.

Our second-hand book shelf remains popular at 50p per book. The money is put into the card box (along with any copper found on the floor from time to time) so we are unable to say how many books find new homes, but we are always pleased to receive additional fiction books for the shelf.

If you have any ideas for future cards please leave your thoughts in the cards comment book or tell one of us.

Hilary King and **Linda Grant**

PROPERTY UPDATE

- The vertical upvc cover on the end wall of the church, which provides the utility services to the hall has been re secured.
- The church alarm systems and fire extinguishers were tested and certified by outside contractors on 22.8.18.
- A new smoke alarm has been fitted in the plant room.
- We believe we have now fixed the recurrent leak under the No.1. sink in the church kitchen.
- The third drawer in the filing cabinet in the office is defective. Do not use please.
- The hall lighting has been upgraded with 12 new LED twin lights. (Note the difference!)
- A new LINCAT water boiler has been fitted in the church kitchen.

HALL LIGHTS

On two Saturdays in September a small team of 'willing' church volunteers, working at great height and personal risk (just a joke, in case any H&S officials read this) removed all the old six-foot fluorescent light fittings from the hall ceiling area. Twelve new LED (Light Emitting Diode) units were fitted in their place. They have improved massively the illumination of the hall space. They should also reduce running costs by a considerable amount and last longer. It has been recent evolved policy to replace any 'old' fitting requiring replacement, with an LED unit. (Note: Turning off unnecessary lights will always help to keep down costs).

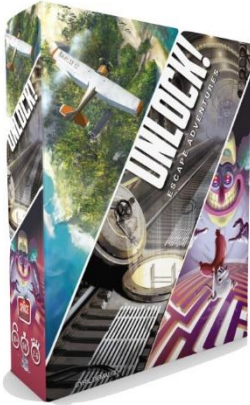
LINCAT WATER BOILER

Many will be aware of the ups and downs of this much-used unit over the years. It finally expired and was replaced with a new one on 17.9.18. After liaising with LINCAT, it was commissioned on 20.9.18 after the rectification of a factory fault and is now in operation.

ROOF LEAKS

The roof is leaking in two places into the entrance area above the second light from the main door and near to the adjacent fire extinguisher. Please empty the buckets if you notice they are full.

D Garner PMC PROPERTY COMMITTEE



Poynton Board Game Day

Saturday
13 October
2-10pm



www.facebook.com/PoyntonBoardGameDay

Awesome games and fabulous cakes

The **Methodist Church** 
in Poynton
Civic Centre Car Park
Park Lane
SK12 1RB



In September we restarted our monthly film nights with a possible follow-up chat on the Monday evening. Lights are dimmed at 7.30pm and we meet in Room 3. There is a £1 cover charge per person and tea and coffee is available.

The following further dates have been booked and details will be advertised in the foyer each month.

Saturdays: **27th October**

17th November

8th December with a 2.30 viewing

Judith Ridgway

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

We had a fantastic meeting on 6th September. Lots of members turned up to take part in "Who Do You Think I Am?)" Much guessing was needed, and many thanks go to Marie for all her hard work in arranging the evening.

On 20th September Emma Owen came to give us a talk on "Knowing my True Identity", I will report on this in the next Herald.

As mentioned in the last Herald, on **4th October** the **Stockport Ukulele Band** are coming to entertain us. This is an **Open Evening**, please come along to support us for our Charity, **Golden Memories**. Barbara Dixon will be leading the meeting and our subscription is £3.

18th October is the date when the speaker will be Victor Crawford from the "North West Air Ambulance" team, Julie Hallworth will be leading the meeting,

Then on 1st **November** our speaker will be Jane Hadfield, and her subject will be "Creative Crafting". Brenda Oakley will be leading the meeting, and we will again commence at 7.45pm.

Sandra Townsend

APPROPRIATE ANAGRAMS

PRESBYTERIAN > BEST IN PRAYER

ASTRONOMER > MOON STARER

THE EYES > THEY SEE

THE MORSE CODE > HERE COME DOTS

SLOT MACHINES > CASH LOST IN ME

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

A HOUSE FOR HAITI

Our project was born on 24th June. The Church Council, acting as midwife, delivered a resounding approval to a proposal to raise money for Christian Aid's fund to build houses in Haiti.

We all know about the problems that Haiti has had in the recent past with earthquake, floods and landslides. Roads and flimsy houses have been damaged or swept away. A desperately poor community beyond our imagining has been living on the brink of despair for so long!

Christian Aid and other NGOs have been doing what they can, but all this work needs money and they are reliant on the generosity of people like us.

Our contribution may be a drop in the ocean, but the combined contribution of many communities like ours can make a difference. So we resolved to help by raising money to build a house – just one house! – and it will cost £7500 including training a builder who can go on to build other houses with other people's funds.

A small group appointed by the Church Council has set about the planning and organising of fund-raising events to bring in the money and also contact other organisations and local churches to enlist their financial contributions. We are pleased to acknowledge generous contributions from Michael Hart and Company, Green Close and Poynton Christian Fellowship. Our room hirers are also considering how they might help by arranging an event.

The group are well on their way to realising a full programme stretching from September to end of March 2019 that will achieve this aim. A concert on 9th March will mark our Church Anniversary.

The time period coincides with the gap between the two full-time ministries of Rev John Wiseman and Rev Ros Watson, during which

Rev Ian Coverdale and Rev Wesley Loane will stand in to look after our administrative and Pastoral needs.

This church family has reacted magnificently! There was an almost impulsive response of goodwill and practical giving from many and a secondary surge as the project was publicised, explained more fully and understood by many who were initially more cautious.

We had our first fund-raising Sunday lunch at the beginning of September and are already advertising our second, timed for the beginning of October. Our fund now stands at over £5,000!

The cardboard house representing our project is installed in church and we are adding and decorating sold bricks as the funds roll in. We look forward to handing the completed house to our Preschool at the end of the project.

Our next big event will be the visit of Springs Dance Company at the very beginning of December. They will present 'Journey of the Magi' and you will have already seen some publicity for the event. We need to emphasise that we have taken a risk that the show will be well supported if we are to make a profit for our House. The Dance Company is a professional company and wages have to be paid and the participants and their gear have to be transported and fed. We need a full house to pay our way and then add more bricks.

What we can guarantee is a wonderful evening's entertainment as well as a contribution to our Christmas preparation, if all the comments from previous audiences are anything to go by. So please do come along and enjoy the evening remembering that our ticket prices (which we think are fair for the quality of what we are presenting) is pitched to contribute to the fund.

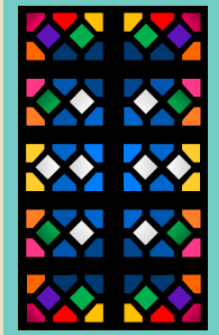
Meanwhile, Mandy is planning Alternative Cards for the Charity Christmas Market and has enlisted the aid of four talented people to design them.

So thank you everybody for the zest with which you have reacted and answered the question, "And who is my neighbour?"

Arnold Samuels

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET - SATURDAY 10th NOVEMBER

A House of Hope



for Haiti

I shall be supporting A House for Haiti at the market. I will have 4 different cards to sell, priced at £10, £20, £25 and £38 for an actual brick.

One of the cards is suitable for any event where you would like to give an alternative gift to someone instead of an actual gift. This has been designed by Beth, the daughter of Judy Gibbons. I hope you like it. These are available any time from me.

Mandy Hawkyard

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN POYNTON PRESENTS RIDING LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY



Saturday 20th October at St George's Church
Poynton at 6.30pm.

Tickets £5/High School age young people £3.

Tickets available from Mandy Hawkyard

Gospel Street is a powerful mix of theatre, comedy and spoken word – a breath-taking ride through all the important issues of life, through the eyes of a rich young executive, an angry gang leader, religious fanatics, baristas, professors, You Tubers, activists, a refugee and

the pizza delivery bloke.

Despite their differences everyone on the street wants to meet one extraordinary person. Who could that be?

News from Evelyn Shepherd

Thank you very much for the Herald. Much appreciated, A little bit of home. I can't believe how the time is flying. Things are supposed to be laid back and relaxed in this corner of the world but not when you have to find somewhere to rent and then furnish completely. I am very familiar with the local mall but can now start to enjoy walking and exploring.

I am in Melbourne, which is in the south east. Weather is very changeable but on the whole very pleasant. Winter/spring suits me. I hope everyone is well. I am still hopping between 2 churches, an Anglian which is pretty high church and a Baptist which is very much the other way but both are welcoming and I make my own quiet time. I don't have internet so use cafes or my son's when I visit. Life is pretty good. I am fortunate.

Evelyn

DIARY DATES (Page numbers refer to the October Herald)

Every weekday at Midday:

Prayers in church at 12.00 noon p 8

- 2nd **Oct** Weekday Worship p 8
- 3rd Route 66 p 12
- 4th Happy Birthday Will p 16
- 4th Ladies' Fellowship OPEN MEETING p 22
- 7th Happy Birthday Thomas p 16
- 7th Sunday morning Meditation p 8
- 7th Church lunch
- 12th Happy Anniversary to Jean & Roger p 17
- 13th Board Game Day p 21
- 14th Harvest Festival p 7, 10
- 16th Prayer Breakfast p 9
- 18th Thursday Communion p 8
- 18th Ladies' Fellowship p 22
- 20th 'Gospel Street' p 25
- 24th November Herald deadline p 27
- 27th Happy Birthday Eleanor p 16
- 27th Saturday Night at the movies p 21
- 1st **Nov** Ladies' Fellowship p 22
- 10th Charity Christmas Market p 25

"We went to a water park but no-one told us to take our own swimsuits and towels. We thought it would be in the price." (Holiday complaint)

"It is your duty as a tour operator to advise us of noisy and unruly guests before we travel" (Another complaint)

THE NOVEMBER HERALD

Closing date for submissions will be **24th October (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 **November** Herald will be available for you to pick up from **1st November** afternoon. 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.

Until our new minister arrives in March/April 2019, interim pastoral arrangements will operate (see p 27). Contacts are John Turner, Noreen Hood, Helen Ives or Jean Drinkwater A copy of these details is also on the notice board near Room 4. Non-pastoral comments and queries may as usual be directed to the stewards either in person or by email to office@poyntonmethodist.org or the church office telephone (871592) both of which the stewards are monitoring. For Church Notices and office queries please use these same contacts. 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)
- 9.00am Prayer Breakfast at the Kingfisher, Third Tuesday
- 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 (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. (871592)
- 7.30pm *Exploring Faith through film (Discussion on Mondayn)

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.