



THE HERALD



The Methodist Church in Poynton

March 2019

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.**

March 2018

JUST TO SAY ... From the Steward Team

It is nearly six months since Rev John moved to Nottingham and our time of 'home alone' is nearly over, so we are in a period of reflection and anticipation. It felt a daunting challenge in September but with prayer, faith and tremendous support we have survived ...and there is a feeling that we are even stronger as a church family.

We would like to say "thank you" to John Payne and Ian Coverdale for taking on additional duties to the roles they already hold and for their contribution to our faith life and pastoral support. In particular we are grateful to Wesley Loane who was officially retired from local ministry but offered to return temporarily. He has helped lead our services, especially our communion services and has also been very active in visiting our sick and housebound church members. As a result, over the last six months we have come to know even better all who have helped and consider them very much our friends. Tremendous support has also been given to the church by many members of our own congregation and as a consequence, our various activities and projects have flourished and not faded and, in some cases, even exceeded our expectations. Working together towards and beyond our Haiti target has given us a focus and we have shared much fellowship as a result. We have fictitiously murdered, solved a crime, read books, consumed calories, enjoyed concerts, brought the Big Screen into church and drunk gallons of coffee and tea as well as worshipping together on a regular basis at our various services.

In March the Rev Ros Watson will move to Poynton to lead us on the next stage of our journey and we shall officially welcome her on

Sunday 17th March when she will take up her role with us. Ros is leaving her current church six months early to come to PMC and so we should include the Altrincham circuit in our thanks and prayers for they will be in a similar position to us. All of us at PMC extend a very warm welcome to Ros and Chris and their son Tim and hope that they will soon feel at home in Poynton, in the church, the village and the community. As it says in the song: "All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place."

We are excited by the new beginnings that will unfold and, no doubt, challenge us, but that will be a good thing – we need to keep moving forward. We have covered many literal miles over the years but we are still the traveling, wandering people of God – wanting to learn more.

The Steward Team

Help us, O Lord to learn
the truths your word imparts,
to study that your laws may be
inscribed upon our hearts.

Help us, O Lord, to live
the faith which we proclaim,
that all our thoughts and words and deeds
may glorify your name.

Help us, O Lord, to teach
the beauty of your ways,
that all who seek may find the Christ,
and make a life of praise.

Singing the Faith No. 501
William Watkins Reid (1923-2009)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As I write this, my first Minister's letter for the Herald, I do so sitting in my old manse amongst packed-up boxes of belongings and the, as yet, still not packed belongings! When you read it, I will be sitting in my new manse surrounded, no doubt, by some unpacked but many still packed-up belongings! I have lived in my current manse for five years and, knowing that sooner or later as is the way of Methodism I would be moving, I have deliberately kept things to a minimum...or so I thought! It is amazing the quantity of 'stuff' that you almost accidentally accumulate. I can't believe how many boxes have been filled, how much has been disposed of and yet how much there is still to pack!

The accumulation of 'stuff' knowingly and unknowingly and the stress and distraction that this can cause is not only a household phenomenon is it? The same can happen in our spiritual life can't it? We can become distracted by all sorts of church matters and politics and can lose sight of our first Love amongst it all. We can accumulate scars and hurts that we don't deal with prayerfully and carefully that come to dominate us and rob us of our joy. We can be so certain that we are right that we can miss the prompting of the Spirit. We can be so concerned with raising our own voice that we drown out the still, small voice of God. We can be so intent on our plans that we can forget that we are called to join in with what God is already doing in the world and the Church.

Just as packing up a house can give us pause to look at the 'stuff' and make decisions on which is good and which is not helpful or necessary, so Lent, beginning this month, is a gift, a season, when we are encouraged to pause and to examine our lives honestly under the gaze of our loving God. Not so that we can feel despair and beat ourselves up but so that we take time to ask God to prune us, cleanse us and help us by the Spirit to become all that we are called to be in Christ and to continue on our path of transformation into the very likeness of Christ. If we find that we have lost our way at all we can get back on the right path and once again make God's priorities our priorities, so that the work that we undertake together is the mission that God has for us to do at this time in this place.

I wonder how much 'stuff' you and I have accumulated since Lent last year? I wonder how freeing it would be for us to be rid of it? I wonder how much more effective agents of the Kingdom we could become if we do?

I wonder how much more joyous our Easter Day celebrations will be if we have made the most of the journey of Lent?

I am really looking forward to meeting you and joining with you all on this Lenten journey as we make space to hear God's voice and to be sensitive to the promptings of the Spirit so that we can discern God's call on our lives, individually and together, as we seek to be good and faithful servants of God.

Every blessing,

Ros

WELCOME SERVICE – REV ROS WATSON

Following the article in last month's Herald, the Family Committee is arranging a lunch following the 11.00am service on 17th March.

We intend to serve a finger buffet lunch and would welcome donations of cake suitable for this type of event.

Donations should be brought to the church on Saturday 16th March between 2.00pm and 4.00pm and we would ask that all containers are clearly marked with the owner's name.

We aim to do as much lunch preparation on the afternoon of the 16th so that the committee members can fully participate in the service on the following day.

Any offers of help would also be appreciated at this event. Please see Hilary King or any other member of the Family Committee.

Family Committee

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

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT POYNTON
IN MARCH**

Date	10.30am UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED	
3rd March	9.00am Med	Rev Wesley Loane HC
10th	Mandy Hawkyard Church Anniversary	
17th	9.00am HC Rev John Payne	11.00am Circuit Welcome Service Rev Graham Edwards
24th	Rev Ros Watson	
31st	Mothering Sunday Alan Rashleigh	
7th April	9.00am Med	Passion Sunday Rev Ros Watson HC

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT GREEN CLOSE
IN MARCH**

Date	2.30 pm
3rd March	Rev Wesley Loane HC
10th	Rev John Payne
17th	11.00am Circuit Welcome Service Rev Graham Edwards
24th	Rev Ros Watson
31st	Mothering Sunday Theo Eaves
7th April	Passion Sunday Rev Ros Watson HC

HC Holy Communion

Woodlands MHA 11.00am 10th March Chris Hawkyard



See February's
Herald for
details

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 **3rd March**.



WEEKDAY WORSHIP



The first Tuesday **in March is 5th**. 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 **21st March**.



PRAYER GROUP



Meets every Tuesday morning at 9.45am and on the third Tuesday (**19th March**) at 9.00am in the Kingfisher where we hold a prayer breakfast. This informal, welcoming group encourages you to try us out.

RECAP ON connect@4

On 3rd February we held our very first connect@4 afternoon service. Our aim was for this to be a short informal service where all ages could worship together. The theme was building God's church/kingdom.

We began with an activity that we could all work on together – to build a church using only cocktail sticks and marshmallows... and many a marshmallow was consumed in the process! We also sang a few worship songs, had a prayer and listened to the parable of the mustard seed.

All in all, it went well. We had six children, two of whom wouldn't normally attend church and one young person, Eleanor.

On the back of this we will be trying a similar format again on 3rd March, so please keep your eyes peeled for information and come and join us.

After some feedback, there will be fewer songs this time and a shorter service on the whole.

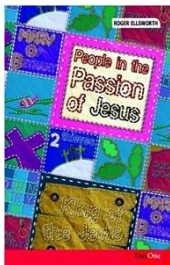
Do come and support this and help our young families to feel welcomed and valued.

Annie Truman

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



'People in the Passion of Jesus' by Roger Ellsworth, published by Day One at £5.00.



This book looks at the Passion through the eyes of the people most closely associated with it. It is intended for two types of readers – non-Christians with the prayer that they will look at what Jesus did and come to Christ, and believers that they will be pointed to the Passion and spurred onwards in their Christian life.

At the start of the book, the term 'Passion', and where it comes from is explained. The first person in the book is Satan. He was definitely involved! The last person in the book is the most important person associated with the passion – Jesus himself.

Each of the thirteen chapters lists the appropriate Bible passage or passages at the start. These devotional studies are challenging and make you think.

CHURCH ENVELOPES

Our new church envelopes will be available for collection at the back of the Church from Sunday 24th March. The envelope scheme has contracted over the years as there are now different options for giving, if you could, please let Jane Robson know if you find that you are able to gift aid your donations – which can significantly increase your contribution.

Carole Clarke

HYMNOLOGY ON A MONDAY MORNING - 39

'And did those feet in ancient time?'

Words by William Blake. Music by G H Parry

In a corner of St. James's, Piccadilly, near Piccadilly Circus is a beautiful font carved by Grinling Gibbons who, after the great fire of 1666, worked with Christopher Wren to rebuild London's churches.

The shaft on which it rests is carved as the Tree of Life, and in relief is sculpted Adam and Eve, the Ark, and Christ's baptism. William Blake was baptised here

Blake grew up in a London of great contrasts, from elegant new terraces to the appalling squalor of the streets. From his window Blake could just see the Thames and the Surrey countryside. "That is heaven" he would say to his friends.

'Jerusalem' first appeared as a preface to a long poem called 'Milton'; Blake's attempt to correct "Paradise Lost". The hymn part of the poem was written about 1804, and explores the legend that Joseph of Arimathea, a secret disciple of Jesus, came to England with the Holy Grail; Joseph was associated with the 'countenance divine' which shone on the 'clouded hills' (the new thinkers of the 18th century coffee houses, who despised belief in the divine).

The 'dark satanic mills' seemingly describing Hell, were for Blake the new humanism, science and false religion of the day. The 'bow of burning gold' (human intelligence) would uncover the ultimate truth, and all peoples would live for ever safe in God's love.

This poem, sometimes described as England's second national anthem became a popular song during the darkest days of the First World War. Strangely, it first appeared in July 1915 in a Scottish magazine and the last line was altered to "in Scotland's green and pleasant land".

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

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

NEW FROM OLD

A huge thank-you to everyone for all the cards that have been kindly donated. Your cards have, and are being put to good use:

- ◆ Recycled into new greeting cards of various sorts
- ◆ The inside front blank covers are being used for 'toppers' that is to say, we decorate the blank cover and mount it onto the greeting card
- ◆ Fish, Butterflies and Crosses to decorate Park Lane on Easter Sunday as part of our witness.

Offers of help to decorate Park Lane on Easter Sunday morning (leaving church 8.00am) would be appreciated.

Hilary King & Linda Grant

FILM NIGHTS

Saturday 23 March at 7.30pm and **6th April** at 7.30pm - films to be announced.

For any more information or queries speak to **Judith Ridgway**

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION ROTA

April

7th N Garner & M Moran
14th C Hughes & A Court
21st P & M Burgess
28th H Banks & J Robson

May

5th B Oakley & N Hood
12th H Clare & M Moncaster
19th M Wilson & C Clarke
26th L Baker & B Whittaker

Sandra Townsend

SHARING OUR STORIES

I am really looking forward to meeting everyone, getting to know you and hearing your story. I thought that I would share a just a bit about myself with you to start us off.

My family are all from Liverpool and I too was born there. My Father was a civil engineer and consequently my Mum, Dad, Sister and I moved around Britain depending on the project that my Dad was working on.

I started school in Leigh, went to middle school in Nuneaton and went to secondary school in South Wales. From there I went to Sheffield University and gained a degree in Prehistory and Archaeology.

By the time I had finished at university, my family had moved 'homeward' and had settled in Southport. I went to live in Southport with my family which was 'home' because they were there but it was a new place to me. I went to Edge Hill College, as it was then, to train as a primary school teacher and began teaching in Everton, Liverpool.



At my local Methodist Church, I met Chris who became my husband. In time we had our son, Tim, who is currently at university.

My hobbies include birdwatching (I am looking forward to seeing which birds we get in the manse garden!), reading, visiting places of interest, gardening and garden centres and cafes with tea and cake.

I will write about how I moved from primary school teacher to Methodist Minister next time...

Every blessing,

Ros Watson

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

A note from the editor: Church Family News is one way we have of keeping in touch with each other. We love to hear how you are going on, particularly if you have been ill; to receive your words of thanks for kindnesses received, to celebrate your special days with you; to hear about something or someone you have especially appreciated; to share a family event or milestone. You may also wish to write about someone else in these regards. Please ensure that you have their permission first.

Thank you for this latest edition of the Herald. I trust the ministry of Ros Watson will be blessed and will continue praying for you all.

You may be interested to know that during the Christmas break members of the University Christian Fellowship went on mission to Uganda for open air evangelism in the Methodist circuit to which one of our Ugandan Methodist students belongs, as a result of which about 150 people made a public response to the gospel call, including about 30 Moslems!

I am well and already preparing for my return to UK for my final furlough and retirement at the end of April.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Peter Ensor

Thank you so much for The Herald. I do appreciate it. Time seems to be passing even more quickly than usual; I am trying not to think about the end of my wonderful holiday but the end is in sight (unless I can extend my visa). Christmas was obviously different here. The goodwill was normal but sundresses and shorts just don't seem real. I am still enjoying myself and have settled on a church after trying 3 others. I enjoyed reading the article about Mary Beck. She sounds an amazing woman and has had a very full life. As regards World Day of Prayer – I shall be travelling up the train line a couple of stops and will join in about 11 hours before Poynton. I will remember all of you and feel a little to home.

Regards

Evelyn Shepherd

THE LAST LEG (Candidating Part 4)

At Herald Deadline Day last month, I had no new news to share, but January has flown past and the wheels of Methodist Candidacy are still turning.

My psychological assessment was fine. I got to talk about Mum a bit (not something I often get the chance to do) and I noticed the raised eyebrow when I admitted to drinking the odd G&T. (I'm not a perfect Methodist!)

Then January brought the report on my portfolio and the District Candidates Committee. The former was good; the latter much more hair-raising. I had to prepare a 10-minute Creative Presentation on 'The Radical Nature of God's Grace'. (I used choc chip cookies to illustrate, in case you're interested.) The committee of 13 then asked follow-up questions; then I had two 'small group' interviews (3 interrogators in each); then back to the full group for more questioning. Three-and-a-half hours of being on my best behaviour...

Anyway, I got through with only one vote against. It was recommended that I spent some time with a Deacon so that I can better answer the questions about what the difference is between the different orders of ordained ministry, and why I am called to Presbyteral ministry. I therefore meet with Deacon Pru Cahill at Methodist Central Hall soon. On a more positive note, one lay member of the committee commended me for speaking in a language she understood, without highly complex theology and long Latin words.

Onwards and upwards... Next is the Connexional Candidates' Selection Committee. (We're Methodist: love committees...) I am writing this having just received the email invitation. I thought 3½ hours was bad: this is a full day! I'm to arrive at 3pm on Monday 25th March, and leave roughly the same time on Tuesday. And there is another presentation – this time only 5 minutes, entitled: 'Your undistinguishing regard was cast on Adam's fallen race' (Charles Wesley, StF 320) What does this verse mean in Britain today? (I might need some complex theology here! Your reflections on this are welcome.)

The final outcome is shared in early April.

This whole process has been a rollercoaster. I have gone from feeling utterly convinced this is the right route to take on one day, to being utterly convinced I should give it all up immediately the next. So far, the former has won out, but I gave myself a Quiet Day at Chapel in the Fields to allow some proper space for God to speak. In the afternoon I did their 'Psalm Walk': a short walk around the fields with Psalms to read at given spots. I shouted them to God and the four winds, and then was brought up short by the last verse of the final psalm of the walk:

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.
(Psalm 116.11)

Maybe - just maybe - I'm doing the right thing.

Catharine Hughes

A HOUSE FOR HAITI - THE END OF OUR PROJECT



Amazingly the total money collected stands at £12,731 (as we go to press)

As promised, our fund-raising ends on **Sunday 10th March** (Church Anniversary), before Ros arrives.

Unfortunately, Margaret Lodge from Macclesfield Methodist Church now cannot join us for the occasion, but the Area Representative for Christian Aid, Jude Limb will be able to revisit us and accept our cheque.

Thank you to all who have supported our fund-raising efforts since Christmas - the Sunday lunches, the Murder Mystery play (special thanks to Helen Holmes for writing it and the family committee for providing the food) and the concert by Poynton Male Voice Choir.

Disley Methodist Church have sent us £100 in response to an alternative gift card one of their members received from Janet Roger. The Warr family very kindly gave us money in remembrance of their mother after her funeral was held in our Church. Add to this some very, very generous personal donations.

And so to our final fund-raising event, "**HAITIAN FINALE**" a musical evening led by David Garrett and friends on Saturday 9th March at 7.00pm. Tickets are free but that silver bucket will get shaken again after the event! Tea/coffee and cake will be served in the interval.

But we need your help. If anyone has any photographs of any of our events for Haiti please will you send them to me as soon as possible, mandy.hawkyard@btinternet.com – did you photograph the meals, the stall at the Charity Market, the visit of the Springs Dance Company, and the ever-growing house? I hope to make a PowerPoint presentation to show at the Finale, to relive the fun we've had.

We also need help to set up the room – John Lunt will be moving the Church furniture during the day – please tell him if you can help. I am asking for home-made cakes; large or individual ones and Chris Hawkyard needs help with teas and coffees. There are sign-up sheets on the Haiti Notice Board.

WE ARE CLOSING OUR APPEAL AFTER THIS CONCERT. IF YOU WISH TO DONATE PERSONALLY, PLEASE DO SO BEFORE THIS DATE. THANK YOU TO THE PEOPLE ON THE WEEKLY COUNT AND TO JANE ROBSON FOR SO ABLY KEEPING OUR HAITI ACCOUNTS UP TO DATE.

The service on the following day will be a celebration of our Church Anniversary and our Haitian House, a time to look back over the years and a time to look forward to welcoming our new Minister Rev Ros Watson and her husband Chris **on 17th March**.

See you there!

Mandy Hawkyard

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

7th February was our visit to Ciao for lunch. 24 ladies enjoyed a very good lunch and fellowship, but unfortunately, we were nearly involved with the evening diners!!!, the service was quite slow, and our lunch was from 1.00pm to 3-30pm, but we did enjoy the fellowship and had many laughs.

On **21st February** Janet Burton is coming along to talk about 'Poynton in Bloom' A report will be included next time.

We have two meetings in March. The first is **7th March**, when our guest speaker will be Richard Baker, who will be speaking about 'Living life to the full with God, Christianity and Mental Health'. Barbara Dixon will be leading the meeting which will start as usual at 7.45pm.

The second is on **21st March**, when Mari Hemsley from Morrisons is coming to give us a talk about the store. Julie Hallworth will be leading the meeting.

Sandra Townsend

PROPERTY SUPPORT GROUP REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

Members: Helen Ives, Nadia Gardner, Derek Gardner, Chris Hawkyard, Dave Holmes (Chairman), John Lunt (Secretary), Judith Ridgway (Steward).

Derek Garner ably reports each month in The Herald about ongoing work and repairs. This present report covers the whole of the period between Church Councils.

In recent months the group has been involved in the replacement of all light units in the Hall (where the Pre-school meets). We decided to

make use of LED strip lights which consume much less energy and should give a longer life. The work was carried out by a team of 'willing helpers' over 2 weekends.

Other work such as routine inspections and servicing of various equipment has proceeded as in previous years and has been reported by Derek for Herald readers.

The leaks in the church and foyer area have been repaired since Christmas and we hope the recent heavy rain has tested them adequately. Some internal decoration is now needed to restore the finish in the church ceiling in 3 areas.

Concerns regarding the poor/outdated state of the toilets, also mentioned in the quinquennial last year, were voiced and we would welcome help/ideas for possible sources of funding before getting estimates. Also noted that this is not a job we could sensibly tackle ourselves.

We feel a simple survey of the roof material (synthetic slates) is worth carrying out in case of risks due to deterioration.

We have one proposal to Church Council for carpet tiles to foyer and corridors as these are in need of replacement now.

If users of our premises find any problem in any of our buildings, please record it in the property book in the foyer almost opposite the coffee hatch. If it's urgent let one of the committee members know.

We are not a closed group and would welcome any help you feel able to give. Normally, this involves only 2 meetings a year and of course any practical skills you can employ in the maintenance of our premises. Just contact a committee member or any of the Church Stewards.

John Lunt Property Committee Secretary

PROPERTY UPDATE

- * A new LED twin light unit was fitted in the small corridor near to the kitchen.
- *The defective doorstep in the church kitchen was removed (it was scoring the flooring).
- *A new fire safety/recording book commenced January 2019.
- *Four high areas of the church ceiling/woodwork were repainted after water ingress in preceding months by intrepid, (or stupid) members of the Property Committee aerial acrobatic team.
- *The three church boilers were serviced by outside contractors.
- *There was a meeting of the Property Committee on 7th February. Various items were discussed and copies of the agenda/minutes are available via the church office. We welcomed Judith Ridgeway to the meeting.

Derek Garner PMC Property Committee

The **Methodist** Church 
in Poynton

Poynton Board Game Evening



Tea, coffee, cake and
Card, dice, board games

Old and new games, including Gloomhaven

4th Saturday every month, from 7pm

23 March 2019

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



World Day of Prayer

(formally known as Women's World Day of Prayer)

Poynton Baptist Church

Friday March 1st 2pm

**Written by the women of
Slovenia**

*Haitian Finale
Saturday 9th March at 7 pm
Music, fun, fellowship
Coffee and Cake
Above all - a celebration!*



All inspired by this amazing lady!

WEALTH FOR ALL

As it says on the inside back page, “The connexional website: <http://www.methodist.org.uk> contains a wealth of useful and interesting information” and I browse it regularly to bring you titbits that might encourage you to seek out the rest of the banquet for yourselves.

Yesterday I came across news of two short courses suitable for house groups to undertake, one in five sessions and the other in six. (If you don't go to a house group, why not either find one or start one of your own? In this church there is abundant experience available about how to run one.)

Both courses are practical help in how to talk about our faith to others – something from which I am sure all of us can benefit. Their descriptions follow:

NEW VIDEO-BASED 6-WEEK COURSE

Talking Jesus

“ I'm thrilled to have been able to send every circuit several free course packs of Talking Jesus, an excellent new video-based resource that helps us share our faith in practical and authentic ways. In both DVD and USB formats, it includes “short films, inspirational testimonies, real-life examples from people on the journey, and an easy-to-follow course book.” Talking Jesus joins Talking of God Together in our growing evangelism toolkit for diverse people across the theological continuum. ”

Trey Hall, Director of Evangelism & Growth



<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/evangelism-growth/talking-jesus/>

TALKING OF GOD TOGETHER



Talking of God Together is a new resource which encourages and equips Christians to speak comfortably about their experience of God and the Christian life.

It helps people to take part in conversations with others, both inside and outside the church, about what really matters to them.

The material can be used by small groups and in other settings, including local arrangements for services when no preacher is available.

The material has four sessions, plus a bonus one:

- A present God
- A listening God
- A caring God
- A speaking God
- Jesus as our teacher and model
-

Using questions, activities and stories, each session is structured using the four w's:

- Welcome
- Worship
- Word
- Witness

“We need to provide safe and loving spaces in which to share honestly the deepest concerns and questions of our lives, to become vulnerable to one another, supportive of one another and challenging of one another”

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/learning/discipleship/journeying-with-others/small-groups/resourcing-your-small-group/talking-of-god-together/>

"The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone." (George Roberts)

"I have kleptomania, but when it gets bad, I take something for it."
(Robert Benchley)

THE APRIL HERALD

Closing date for submissions will be **20th March (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 **April** Herald will be available for you to pick up from **29th Mar.** 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](https://www.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 establishes her routine, she will be available in the church office (871592) from time to time. The light by the door shows red when she is engaged. Messages can be left in the minister's pigeonhole in the foyer, on her answerphone (261769) or by email ros.watson@methodist.org.uk In an emergency, phone Rev John Payne 0161 483 4952. For Church Notices and office queries please use 871592. The church office is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings until 1.00pm. 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 ()
 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. ()
 7.30pm *Exploring Faith through film (Discuss on Monday Judith Ridgway 875912)

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.