



THE HERALD



The Methodist Church in Poynton

OCTOBER 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.**

October 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Judge or Witness?

A couple of Saturdays ago I went to Poynton Baptist Church for the welcome service for their new pastor, Reuben. The preacher at the service was his brother, Carl. During the sermon Carl made the point that you can't be both judge and witness at the same time.

This has been going around my mind ever since.

It is said that we make up our minds about people within a few seconds of meeting them and it can then be very difficult for that decision to be altered. No doubt that kind of rapid 'judgement' was necessary in our distant past when deciding quickly if someone was friend or foe was a matter of life and death.

But what about nowadays? And what about nowadays in a Christian context?

As we can't be both judge and witness, then which do we want to be? More importantly, which does God want us to be, which are we *called* to be? Which do we appear to be to our neighbours and to the community around us?

Psalm 130 reminds us that we all rely on God's grace, every single one of us, saying,

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;
 Lord, hear my voice.
 Let your ears be attentive
 to my cry for mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
 LORD, who could stand?
 But with you there is forgiveness,
 so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
 and in his word I put my hope.
 I wait for the LORD
 more than watchmen wait for the morning,
 more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Israel, put your hope in the LORD,
 for with the LORD is unfailing love
 and with him is full redemption.
 He himself will redeem Israel
 from all their sins.

I wonder how different things would be if, knowing our own need of God's constant forgiveness and grace, we all concentrated on our calling to being witnesses to God's 'unfailing love' and to God's offer of 'full redemption' to a world crying out for love and mercy and left judgement to God, the only One in a position to judge?

You know what? I think that we would really enjoy having the burden of judging lifted from us and being free instead to live to express God's love, joy and grace. I also think that it would be winsome.

Every blessing

Ros

GREEN CLOSE

* Did you know that our website <http://www.poyntonmethodist.org> contains details of Green Close Methodist Church and the surrounding area and its use as a District Day Retreat Centre?

Just click on **About us** and then on **Green Close Methodist Church** and read all about us.

**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	
6th October	9.00am Med	Rev Sheila Bishop HC
13th	Rev Ros Watson Harvest Festival	
20th One World Week	9.00am HC Rev Helen Byrne	Mandy Hawkyard Café Church
27th	Rev Ros Watson	
3rd November	Rev Frank Bishop HC	

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT GREEN CLOSE
IN OCTOBER**

Date	2.30 pm
6th October	Rev Helen Byrne
13th	Rev Ros Watson HC
20th	Stephen Oliver
27th	Stephan Rudolfer
3rd November	Rev Sheila Bishop

HC Holy Communion

Woodlands MHA 13th Oct 11.00am Alan Rashleigh HF

Please pray for all our preachers who faithfully conduct our worship week by week and especially for those new friends from the Macclesfield Circuit who will be preaching at our services for the first time and getting to know our faces and our friendly and encouraging smiles.

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 October**.



WEEKDAY WORSHIP



The first Tuesday in **October 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 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 **17th October**.



PRAYER GROUP



Meets every Tuesday morning at 9.45am in church and on the third Tuesday (**15th October**) at 9.00am in the Kingfisher where we hold a prayer breakfast. This informal, welcoming group encourages you to join us at either venue for a time of fellowship and prayer.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Worship Committee is to take place on Wednesday 16th October at 7.30pm in Room 3. This time it is open to anybody to attend. This is your chance to have your say on the most important activity for our church. One item on the agenda will be Christmas services, but if you have any others please let me know.

I have taken over as Secretary from Catharine Hughes: many thanks to her for her sterling and efficient service.

Chris Hawkyard (email cjhawkyard@gmail.com Tel. 01625 875032)

RECORDINGS OF OUR SUNDAY SERVICES

Did you know that our website carries recordings of our Sunday morning Services since 1st January 2017?

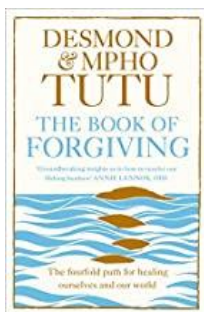
Just go to <http://www.poyntonmethodist.org> and click on **Worship** and then on **Recordings** and choose the service to which you want to listen.

We hope that this facility will enable you to be reminded of a service you attended when you felt especially blessed, or hear a service you could not attend, or join in from afar and be reminded of friends and fellowship you experienced from your time in Poynton.

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



'The Book of Forgiving' – the fourfold path for healing ourselves and our world by Desmond and Mpho Tutu. Published by Collins at £8.99



Desmond Tutu was prominent in the quest for justice and racial conciliation in South Africa. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and President Mandela appointed him to chair the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. His daughter Mpho, an Episcopal priest, is the executive director of the Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation as well as being an experienced preacher, teacher and public speaker. At the time the book was published (2014) she was pursuing a doctorate on the question of forgiveness.

The book is a response to the question Desmond is often asked, "What have you learned about forgiveness from the South African experience and many places visited where there has been suffering, from Northern Ireland to Rwanda?" it is written for those who need forgiveness, whether they want to forgive or to be forgiven.

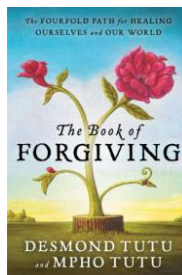
We need to remember that there is nothing that cannot be forgiven and there is no-one undeserving of forgiveness. In the last chapter of the book we see how we can create a world of peace by making a world of forgiveness.

In the book, each aspect of the four-fold path of forgiving is explored: telling the story, naming the hurt, granting forgiveness and renewing or releasing the relationship.

If you are wanting to forgive it works best if you are able to stand in front of your abuser as this is the quickest way to find peace and forgive. However, this is not always possible. If you are wanting forgiveness but the person you need to apologise to is no longer alive or there is no possible way to speak to them directly, there are things that you can do. You can write a letter to them that you then bury or burn. I was amazed to discover you can participate in a number of anonymous apology websites or even an apology hotline number and leave your apology as an anonymous voicemail message!

As a child, Desmond saw his father verbally and physically abuse mother. One day, after Desmond had driven for ten hours, his father said that he wanted to talk to him but Desmond said that he was tired and needed sleep and would talk next day. The following morning his niece woke him with the news that his father was dead. He realised that not only would he have to forgive his father for what he had done to his mother but that he would have to forgive himself for not talking to his father when asked.

Another occasion he mentions is when his family had left home before dawn and were driving across an expanse of semi-desert in the middle of South Africa. After several hours of driving they saw a Walls Ice-Cream sign and decided to stop. He and his wife and four children clambered out of the car and he pushed open the door of a small store, only to be told "Kaffirs must go to the window". He felt anger swell inside him and he told everyone to get back in the car and drove away. He later realised that he had to forgive consciously the young boy who had called him a Kaffir.



Macclesfield Methodist Circuit Prayer Walk
Poynton and Green Close Churches
Saturday 19th October 2019

We invite you to join us on our annual Circuit Prayer Walk. This year we will be walking around Poynton with a view to visiting the Poynton Churches. We hope members from all the churches in the circuit will get involved by either joining in the walk (at the beginning or from a point on route) or by visiting the churches at the times listed below to share in refreshments and meet others from around the circuit. There will be times of prayer around the walk, including at each church visited.

THERE IS NO NEED TO BOOK - JUST TURN UP AT THE TIMES SHOWN BELOW.

[For more details please contact Victor or Dorothy Crawford on 01625 424727]

Poynton Pool

Meet at 10.15 at the Anglesey Drive Car Park.
 (From Macclesfield drive through Poynton.
 Anglesey Drive is the second turning on the right
 off the main road after the Sports field.)
 Leave at 10.30.
 Walk to Poynton Methodist Church – 1 mile



Poynton Methodist Church

Arrive at 11.00 for short service and refreshments
 (There is good parking here behind Waitrose supermarket though it has a 2 hour restriction)
 Leave 11.45.
 Walk to Green Close – 4 miles

Green Close Methodist Church

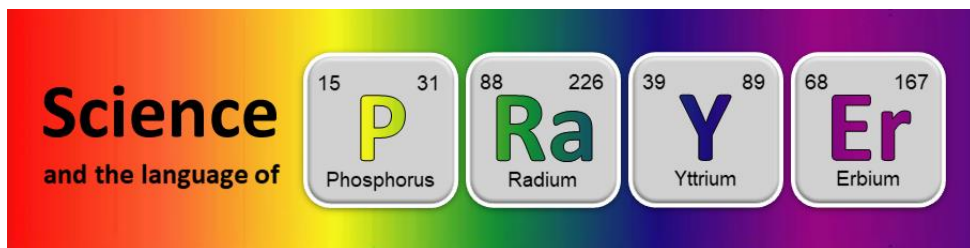
Arrive 14.00 for short service and refreshments.
 We expect to finish by 15.00
 (There is limited parking here. Please make your own arrangements to return to the start by car or if you wish join me to walk back by a different route.)



General Disclaimer

Everybody who attends the walk does so at their own risk. The outdoors can be challenging and hazardous and the leader of the day cannot take responsibility for everyone who attends the walk. Please ensure that you are prepared, wearing suitable footwear and clothing appropriate to the weather conditions. Note we will be walking along some roads and crossing major roads so please ensure young people under your responsibility are properly controlled at these points.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 19th October 2019.



Science and the Language of Prayer is a series of five seminars to be held at Bramhall Methodist Church in the autumn of 2019. These will explore how a modern understanding of Science might influence the way we think about God and the language we use to express our prayers:

28th September

Dr Ruth Armstrong

Co-Director of 'Learning Together', Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge.

'Lost in wonder, love and praise': prayer and the road from crime.

Ruth is a criminologist who has researched the role of faith and faith communities both within and after prison. More recently she has pioneered *Learning Together*, a prize-winning initiative linking universities and prisons to study alongside each other in inclusive and transformative learning communities.

5th October

Dr Ruth Bancewicz

Church Engagement Director, Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge

All Creation Praises God! – Science and worship in action

Ruth is a geneticist who will explore how our knowledge of the diversity and complexity of life might affect the way we express our prayers of adoration.

19th October

Revd Canon Dr Joanna Collicutt

Karl Jaspers Lecturer Psychology of Religion and Spirituality, Ripon College, Oxford

The psychology and neuroscience of prayer

Joanna is a chartered clinical psychologist and specialist neuropsychologist. Her research papers span cognitive behaviour

therapy, brain and behaviour, natural theology, and the spirituality of children and people with special needs. She is author of several books and currently editing another on neurology and religion. She is an associate priest in a local parish and honorary canon of Christ Church Cathedral.

2nd November

Professor Peter D Howdle

Emeritus Professor of Clinical Medicine, The University of Leeds.

Healthy Intercessions

Peter's clinical and research interest was in diseases of the small intestine resulted in over 100 articles and 3 books. For four years he served as Chair of Guideline Development Committees for the National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). He is a past Vice-President of Methodist Conference and an active Lay Preacher.

16th November

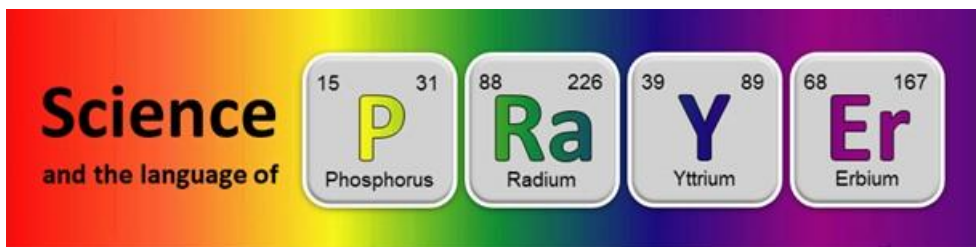
Revd Prof David Chester

Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Liverpool Hope University

Earthquakes, Volcanoes and God: Praying in response to Natural Disasters

David is Head of Environmental Sciences at Liverpool Hope University. His research has focussed on natural hazards, particularly earthquakes and volcanoes, and their impacts. His recent research has concentrated on religious responses to disasters. He is also an ordained Anglican priest.

Further details are available on the Bramhall Methodist Church website at <https://bramhallmethodists.org.uk/scienceandprayer/>



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

THANK YOU LETTERS



We would like to thank everyone for the tremendous farewell that was offered to us in July. The special events, cards and gifts meant we left with very warm memories of our time with you and the friendship and support that you offered us.

We are settling in well here and the house is now sorted out nicely. We do however still have a number of boxes to unpack but can, of course, take our time to get this done. The local church seems quite friendly and the local minister is a nice guy. He has asked me to take the first service in September at Porthcawl, partially so they can welcome us. I am happy to do that but he appreciates I will not be doing anything else this calendar year.

If any of you are ever in South Wales, we would be glad to see you in Porthcawl.

John and Anne Payne

We would like to say a very big 'thank you' for the beautiful flowers that we recently received. It is good to know that people are thinking about us after Ian's Mum's recent fall, surgery and now rehabilitation. We do appreciate it.

Many thanks, Rachel and Ian Hall

Thank you all for the flowers and the phone call I received from Gill - much appreciated when I was low with a chest infection and also had to have a cataract operation cancelled - now hoping it will be the end of October.

Anne Horrocks

We regret to report the sudden death of **Vernice Baker** on 26th August and extend our sincere sympathy to her husband George, daughter Kathryn and all Vernice's family. Following a service at Macclesfield Crematorium on 17th September, there was a celebration of her life with a wider group of family and friends at Poynton Methodist Church.

We send our **Birthday Greetings** to three of our young people:
William Garrett, who will be 18 on 4th October,
Thomas Horobin, who will be 16 on 7th October, and
Eleanor Hughes, who will be 17 on 27th October

Lois Dawson's thanksgiving and dedication service took place here on 8th October 2017 and we send her our love on the second anniversary.

Theo Eaves has been discharged from Stepping Hill Hospital and is now residing in Woodlands MHA. He is happy to receive visitors and sends us all his good wishes.

FLOWER MINISTRY

If you are unable to distribute flowers on your given date, please arrange your own substitute in good time, alter the rota sheet on the notice board and also inform Fiona in the church office.

November

3 rd	C Hughes & A Court
10 th	H Banks & J Robinson
17 th	D Reid & E Bottrill
24 th	N Garner & B Dixon

December

1 st	E Shepherd & C&K Thompson
8 th	B Oakley & N Hood
15 th	H Clare & M Moncaster
22 nd	M Wilson & C Clarke
29 th	L Baker & B Whittaker

Many thanks, **Pat Burgess 875322**

FEEDBACK FROM SYNOD HELD ON SATURDAY. 7th SEPTEMBER 2019

Synod – the representative body of each District's churches, is held twice a year; in Spring in time to prepare for the Methodist Conference and in Autumn, in time to receive and act upon Conference discussions and decisions.

- The District Partnership Fund has funds (£10,000,000) some of which may be available for helping churches across the District. It has helped a church with dry rot, and funded advice on dealing with P11D for ministers.
- Haughton Green Church in the Hyde and Denton Circuit is being closed due to dwindling numbers, but the building will be retained for functions.
- In the last 6 years, 13 churches have closed across the District, and 14 new Initiatives have commenced.
- On 20th September. a climate action meeting was held in St. Peter's Square, Manchester. Methodists carried a banner supporting climate groups.
- Manchester has built 400 new affordable homes. The provision of a 'bed for the night' initiative for the homeless has been very successful and phase 2 has been started.
- The Methodist Conference is debating 'Marriage and Relationships' and has developed a number of provisional resolutions. Feedback from individual churches will be taken back to the Spring Synod.
- Issues being considered as part of the Ministry of the Methodist Church include housing, people trafficking, climate change, gang and knife culture, refugees, discrimination, hate, stationing, and dealing with equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Richard Baker was elected as a lay representative to Conference in 2020 at Telford.
- A District Mission Forum including 24 hours of prayer is being planned for 21-24 May 2020.

David Dippie

SHARING OUR STORIES Part 3

What happened was that, while I was preaching and continued to preach, I saw a vision. In this vision I saw lots of different pieces of a jigsaw coming in from all directions towards me. Some were large pieces, some were small. On each one was written or pictured an event from my life, from childhood to the present. Some were big events and some were very small, everyday minor events, some were things that I had forgotten about.

All of these pieces flooded towards me, joining together as they moved until they reached me standing there in that pulpit preaching, the final piece.

It was as though I was being shown how everything that had ever happened to me in my life, however large or small the occurrence, however happy or unhappy, had all been moving me towards that moment in the pulpit; preparing me for it. That, unbeknown to me, that was the path that I had always been on, I had always been heading towards that day.

It was a very powerful and profound moment.

I was glad, and yet very surprised, that no one else had noticed any of this and that I had kept on speaking throughout!

I knew then that preaching was my calling. It didn't mean that my preaching was perfect and that I didn't still have a lot to learn, it doesn't mean that my preaching is perfect now... but it does mean that it is my calling.

God doesn't call any of us because we are perfect already, rather God forms us with gifts, talents and experiences that God can then use and develop in us for God's purposes. We are always a work in progress.

So, after this I stayed on the Faith and Worship course and completed it, thoroughly enjoying the study.

Throughout this time Chris and Tim and I were chugging along together with our different careers and school. We were happy as we were and had no reason to expect things to change much in our

circumstances and that was fine... we were extremely blessed to be as we were.

But then..... I began to feel as though, very possibly, I may be being called to ordained ministry! This was a shock! It was not expected or wanted. I felt a bit like John McEnroe at Wimbledon shouting to God, 'You cannot be serious!'

More in November!

Ros Watson

IT'S A SOLAR RECORD!

The best quarter for our solar panels is always the one that ends on about 21st August. This summer we generated 3251kWh of electricity for the quarter. The best previously was 1600kWh last year so this year we generated more than twice as much energy than in any previous summer quarter.

I was so surprised I went back to make sure I hadn't misread the meter! We are unlikely to see this eclipsed.

Chris Hawkyard

FILM MATINEE



Saturday 12th October at 2.30 in Room 3 at PMC - All Welcome:

'THE BOOK CLUB' - the lives of four ladies who have been lifelong friends are turned upside down after reading '50 Shades of Grey' in their monthly Book Club. From discovering new romances to rekindling old flames their lives are changed and for the better. Starring Jane Fonda, Diane Keaton, Candice Bergen (and some very handsome men). Come along and learn more ...

"SOME GO TO CHURCH."

"The following undated press cutting was found while rummaging through an old box recently. The date is unknown but it would appear (from an advert) that undervests were then costing 1/11½d each (just under 10p)."

Some go to church just for a walk,
 Some go to stare and laugh and talk,
 Some go there to meet a friend,
 Some their idle time to spend,
 Some for general observation,
 Some for private speculation,
 Some to seek or find a lover,
 Some a courtship to discover,
 Some go there to use their eyes,
 And newest fashions criticise,
 Some to show their own smart dress,
 Some their neighbours to assess;
 Some to scan a robe or bonnet,
 Some to price the trimming on it,
 Some to learn the latest news,
 That friends at home they may amuse,
 Some to gossip false and true,
 Safe within the sheltering pew,
 Some go there to please the squire,
 Some his daughter to admire,
 Some the parson go to fawn,
 Some to lounge and some to yawn,
 Some to claim the parish doles,
 Some for bread and some for coals,
 Some because it's thought genteel,
 Some to vaunt their pious zeal,
 Some to show how sweet they sing,
 Some how loud their voices ring,
 Some the preacher go to hear,
 His style of voice to praise or jeer,
 Some their sins to vanish o'er,
 Some to sit and doze and nod,
 But few to kneel and worship God

Rev. J. S. Boughier. With thanks to Alison Sharpe
 (From <http://www.kirkstyle.org/localhistory/2010.shtml>)

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. CUTHBERT (well, almost)

Have you ever been on a pilgrimage, a journey to some sacred place? Or perhaps it was a journey recreating another journey made in another time? Which place do you consider sacred, or where you might go to feel closer to God?

One of the “Holy” places in England where pilgrims have journeyed for centuries is Lindisfarne, also known as Holy Island off the Northumbrian Coast. You may have gone there by car, or perhaps on a coach. You only have a limited time each day to cross on the causeway, as the tide covers the road to a considerable depth for many hours in the day. Many people have been stranded half way across because they did not heed the warning signs.



Lindisfarne may be called the cradle of Christianity in England, through its association with St. Cuthbert. Cuthbert was born near Melrose, now in Scotland, in or around 635 AD, and was known for his piety, and his dedication to a life of solitude and contemplation. He became Bishop of Lindisfarne, but soon returned to his life of contemplation on the island of Inner Farne where he died.

The Pilgrims' Way to Lindisfarne is almost two miles long. It is marked by tall posts across the sands. In August I was leading a family walking holiday based at Alnmouth on the Northumbrian Coast, and one of our walks was to follow the Pilgrims' way “barefoot to Lindisfarne.” I was quite excited at the prospect – walking where perhaps the saint had trod. Would I feel it as a religious experience? Would my association with Cuthbert bring me nearer to God?



It did not go well. We had a mixed group of adults and children, and had to get off the coach before the designated spot and walk across the bridge as there were cars parked in our layby. We had 3 leaders, and guests were asked to assemble with the leader designated to their length of walk. The leaders had details on where to avoid the deepest mud, but whilst we were sorting out our rucksacks, and then removing our boots, several guests had ignored our instructions and set off across the sands.



We had started at the earliest time we could on a receding tide, but the water was still almost knee deep in places, and swirling round our legs as the tide rushed out. The sand was like clinging mud, pulling at our feet, so every step was an effort. I could see families in front of me heading for the deepest mud as I tried to catch up

and draw them away from the line of poles – but all in vain. I was shouting to no avail against the wind, and then the inevitable happened. My feet went from under me and I fell flat on my back in the mud. I had to roll onto my front, and get up onto my knees in order to stand up.

By now I had given up trying to shepherd my flock – it was like trying to herd cats. By the time I arrived “safe on Canaan’s side”, most of the group had decided to sit on a sand dune and open their packed lunches. It was mutiny – I normally decide where and when we have our lunch!

Was it a spiritual experience? Well, like Cuthbert I was often in prayer, “Lord give me strength” was frequently repeated. And at that moment, a life of solitude and contemplation felt like a good idea.

Stewart Bradley

HOW DO WE SHARE OUR VALUES WITH OUR CHILDREN?



My friend Durk holds three nationalities, speaks seven languages and knows that the ability to communicate effectively is a key skill, certainly for his life and work on the political fringes of the European Union in Brussels. Although he's not a Christian, he's convinced that his children should hear the Bible stories

and ultimately make up their own minds about such things, so when they were young, he read the Bible to them regularly.

Durk's example has been both a challenge and an inspiration for me in my role as a father to my daughter Laura. What are the values and beliefs that I want to pass on? And how can I do that well?

Here are two stereotypical views of how a father may be:

- Dad has strong views and will brook no argument in communicating those views to his children.
- Dad sees both sides to every issue and tends to abdicate large chunks of his parenting role to his wife/partner.

These are the extremes, and the reality for most of us as dads is that we try to navigate the middle ground between these positions. If we can, then there is a reasonable chance that our children will not become completely monosyllabic towards us when they hit their teens, and that they might come to accept and own for themselves some of our core values and beliefs.

Looking ahead to the upcoming Homegrown Conference, here are three tips that I've learnt myself or gathered from chatting with other dads:

1. Express yourself – younger children love to tell you what they've been doing, and also to hear what you've been up to,

however mundane it may appear. Emotions are important so be willing to tell your children how you feel and how it relates to your faith.

2. Pray together – try to establish one simple prayer routine into your family life. Even if it's simply thanking God by saying grace over the main meal of the day, or a short prayer at bedtime.

3. Have one to one time with each of your children – OK, so it's easy for me to say this as a dad of one child. But from the rough-and-tumble play that helps us bond with our toddler, through the times when you teach them to ride a bike, and on into the time when they are finding their own way, just being available on a regular and reliable basis will nurture the love between you and your child, one to one.

And rest assured, you don't need to master seven languages to be a great dad!

Tony Sharp, Project Manager of Who Let the Dads Out? at Care for the Family

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/children-youth-family-ministry/upcoming-events/homegrown-8-october-2019/blog/how-do-we-share-our-values-with-our-children/>

DAILY DEVOTION

Did you know that we have a tab on our website

<http://www.poyntonmethodist.org> called Daily Devotion?

Just click on the tab to display the daily prayer linked to the Methodist Church in Britain website. The Methodist Church in Britain website also contains a daily bible study called 'A Word in Time' which you can reach through another link.

We say prayers in Church every weekday and you can find information about this too.

UPDATE FROM MHA WOODLANDS

We enjoy music at Woodlands, but September had particular riches on offer! We welcomed singers, a relative who gave a piano recital and also had extra sing-alongs as we marked BBC Music Day in addition to our regular volunteer-led weekend sing-alongs and our weekly music therapy sessions. You might have seen information about MHA being involved with BBC music day elsewhere – it fits well with MHA's commitment to music therapy throughout the organisation. Most weeks we are visited by Michaela, our music therapist, who offers both one to one and group music therapy to some of our residents who are living with dementia.

Music is a vital part of our programme of worship too. Our monthly "Songs of Praise" service consists of favourite hymns combined with one or two short scripture readings and ending with a prayer, and hymns and songs are a favourite element of all our services, whether led 'in-house' or by visiting churches.

In October, we look forward to welcoming back a group of volunteers from Poynton Methodist Church to lead us in worship on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in months when there are 5 Tuesdays. Together with services led by Tytherington Family Worship on the last Tuesday and Poynton Christian Fellowship on the penultimate Tuesday, this will give us weekday worship every week of the month!

Our other services are a reflective service on a particular theme on the first Monday and a Songs of Praise service the second week of each month. We are grateful too for the continued ministry of local preachers providing a Sunday morning service on the second Sunday of most months. Worship and music are two ways in which people can often make connections regardless of what medical conditions they are living with – connections with one another, with the past and with God.

Please continue to hold Woodlands, all those who live here and work here, in your prayers.

Abby, Chaplain, MHA Woodlands (Abigail.ogier@mha.org.uk)

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

Our first meeting of the new session was held on 5th September, when our Minister **Rev. Ros Watson** conducted a well-attended Communion Service.

On 19th September, The **Offerton Methodist Choir** under their conductor Linda Houston entertained us with an enjoyable and well-received programme. Brenda Oakley chaired this meeting which began at our usual time of 7.45pm.

Then on **3rd October, Phil Maltby** will be coming along to ask "Who am I" Where am I". We hope to help him find out at this meeting to be chaired by Sandra Townsend.

We will be welcoming **Helen Holmes** on **17th October** who will be coming to talk about Fairtrade Products, with Christina Thompson chairing the meeting.

In **November**, we will be giving a warm welcome to '**Fatma**' who is giving us an insight into "Oriental Delights" on **7th**. Barbara Dixon will be chairing the meeting. Please come along and support her, and find out what the "Oriental Delights" are (maybe we will have a demonstration of oriental dancing).

We hope that this varied programme will arouse the interest of any ladies who have not yet attended our Fellowship and they can rest assured that a warm welcome will greet them if they decide to join us.

Sandra Townsend

ANNIE TRUMAN

Did you know that Annie Truman, our children and families worker has a page on our website <http://www.poyntonmethodist.org>? Just click on **About us** and then on **Annie Truman** and you'll see a charming photograph and a write-up.

PROPERTY UPDATE

- * All the church/hall fire extinguishers were given their annual test (3 replaced). The church fire alarm system was given its annual test. Both performed by outside contractors.
- * Light repaired in small corridor.
- * Repair to lock on cleaning cupboard in Church kitchen.
- * New teaspoons supplied in kitchen.
- * Plastic protectors/glidors fitted to feet of the easy chairs in the lobby area to protect carpet.
- * Two grids in the church play area cleared. (They were completely blocked by children putting down foreign objects.)
- * Simple surface water drain fitted to corner of play area (see large cone in place).
- * Thermostats in Church adjusted for autumn temperatures.

FLOODING

As previously reported, we are looking at remedies. As part of this a simple drain has been created in the corner of the rear play area to prevent any back up of water towards the Preschool garden. A large cone has been placed over it. It would help if this is kept in position.

BLOCKED GRIDS

One of the main issues is that children in their innocence put all sorts of items down the grids. Some new covers will be put in place but do not provide a complete solution. If you have care of children in this area please monitor what children may be doing. A separate message has been sent to KIDZONE and Preschool.

ROOM BOOKING DISPLAY SHEET

This is under review. The present print-out is small and hard to read.

Derek Garner for PMC Property Committee.





Manchester & Stockport District
Methodist Women in Britain

AUTUMN MEETING

Buxton Methodist Church

Chapel Street, Buxton SK17 6HX

Wednesday, 2nd October

11.00 am - 3.30 pm

Speaker: Gavin Murray

**'The Joy of Ice Cream for
the Joy of Freedom'**

Bring and Share Lunch

All Welcome!



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

A DOUBLE HARVEST THIS YEAR!

Wouldn't it be great if indeed there was a double harvest this year and all the hungry people in the world could be fed and clothed? Wishful thinking? Well let's put it another way:

Wouldn't it be great if at harvest time this year we all redoubled our efforts so that we provided food and clothing for twice as many as we usually do and everybody else followed our example?

In order to contribute to our own effort, please re-read page 12 of last month's Herald which gave full details of our annual appeal in support of International Aid Trust, and respond.

In addition, page 26 of the same edition contained news from Alan Rashleigh describing our new link-up with the Salvation Army food bank in Macclesfield and their work among hungry people there. While you are at it, please re-read that article too.

On 8th September we were pleased to host Green Close's Harvest Service at PMC while the Green Close Chapel was drying out after the recent floods. Harvest comes a month later in downtown Poynton as we celebrate our PMC Harvest on 13th September, so we will have had two harvest celebrations in this church this year.

Is it too much to hope for a double yield in clothing and food on 13th September so that this year and subsequent years can see a doubling of our response to the needs of the people of our world and to the command of our Lord to love one another?



Arnold Samuels

ONE WORLD WEEK



Our celebration is on the weekend of 19/20th October. We begin with a social event on the Saturday evening when we simply rejoice in the amazing world God has given to us with a sketch, quizzes, music and of course, food. Tickets are £10, profits going to Church funds.

“Celebrating Our Wonderful World”
Saturday 19th October 7.00pm

Food, A Humorous Sketch by Helen Holmes, Short Quizzes, Music from David & Hilary Garrett, Fun guaranteed!

Tickets - £10 - book the date!

On the following day at Café Church, we turn to the serious nature of the week and ask questions about our response to make this a fairer world for all to live in, a world where we take climate change seriously.

Arranged by the
 Church Family
 Committee



Saturday 9th November



*Poynton
Methodist
Church*



Charity Christmas Market

10.00am – 12.30pm

*Christmas Gifts, Cards,
Alternative Gifts, cakes and pastries.*

***Supporting** Belarus, British Red Cross,
Children On The Edge, Church cards,
Cifundo UK, East Cheshire Hospice,
Embrace the Middle East, Francis House,
Green Close, Mangotrees, Open Hands,
Osteoporosis Society, RSPB,
Poynton Methodist Preschool,
Save The Children, Traidcraft, and the WI*

***Bacon Butties on sale all morning in aid of our
Preschool***

Embrace the Middle East

There will be a stall at the Charity Market where you can buy a variety of alternative gift cards for Embrace from £8 - £20 in value. Can I bring two different gifts to your attention?

1: A children's advent calendar with a difference



Open each window with your children or grandchildren, and follow the story of Sami, a real refugee child from Syria.

Follow his Christmas story, with colour images and text, and with pictures of life-changing items - woolly hats, food, fuel - that you've helped supply when buying this calendar.

Your pack includes:

'The story behind the story' a day-by-day guide for adults to help children understand Sami's story, and engaging activity ideas.

'A postcard of friendship' to colour and send to Embrace. We'll take it to a school in Lebanon to show refugee children that children across the world are thinking of them. **Suitable for 5 years & over.**

2: Plant a tree for peace in Palestine.



The perfect gift for people who feel strongly about peace and justice. By planting saplings on fields at risk of confiscation you are preserving the farmer's rights to tend their own land. Planting an olive tree means you are helping the Palestinian people maintain their ancient ties to the land, preserving an important source of income and sustenance.

Your tree will also produce a harvest of fruit and pruned branches that can be used for oil, soap and hand carved gifts helping Palestinian families make money.

Planting costs £15 and covers the cost of the olive sapling, planting and classes for farmers on the best techniques for olive tree care and production improvement, as well as some project implementation costs.



Once the tree is planted and registered, the person who registers the tree will receive a Planting Certificate and the story of the farmer on whose land the sapling has been planted.

Please speak to Mandy if you are interested in either of these and then she can be sure she has enough of them at the market.

Cultivation of Olive trees

Olive trees (*Olea europaea*) can grow in various types of soils, from sand to clay. They perform best in fairly coarse, averagely fertile soils about 4 feet in depth. They require good drainage and are tolerant of mildly acid to mildly alkaline conditions.

In their native climates, they grow about 3 feet in both height and width each year and reach a height of 25 to 30 feet.

Plant the trees in full sun, where they can get at least six to eight hours of direct light daily. Water the trees once a week for their first year. They then require almost no additional watering and tolerate drought and extreme heat successfully.

Anagram of ELEVEN PLUS TWO – TWELVE PLUS ONE.

Gravestone humour, London: Here lies Anne Mann, who lived an old maid but died an old Mann. 8th December 1767.

THE NOVEMBER HERALD

Closing date for submissions will be **16th 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 **October** Herald will be available for you to pick up from **27th October**. 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.

Our Minister is Rev Ros Watson. You can leave messages for her in the Minister's pigeonhole, or please call her or leave a message on 872060 or 07923044709 or via her email ros.watson@methodist.org.uk Her day off is Friday. If there is no reply and there is an immediate emergency, phone Rev Graham Edwards 01625 426051 or Rev Helen Byrne 01625 572259. The church office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.30am until 1.30pm. For Church Notices and office queries please contact Fiona Carmichael: office@poyntonmethodist.org or 871592. Our Children and Young People's Worker, Annie Truman is often 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. (John Lunt 874099)
- 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 ENQUIRIES – roombookings@poyntonmethodist.org