

# CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH

*The Gateway*



**July and August 2019**

*Loving God  
Serving People  
Changing Lives*

**Minister: Rev. Barbara Pettitt**

**Tel (07784) 791287  
www.centralmethodist.org.uk**

<b>Worship at Central</b>	
July Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	Lynne Watson 10.30 All Age Worship
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	John North 10.30 SPACE Christ Church, Longridge 4 pm
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	Denise Johnson 10.30 Circuit Service Bamber Bridge Methodists @ 6.30 pm
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	John Maiden 10.30 Holy Communion 
Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
August Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>	Stephen Gregory 10.30 All Age Worship
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	Jenny Berrill 10.30
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	Zoe Ainsworth 10.30
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	Rachel Atkinson 10.30
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Roger Stubbings

This Month's exclusive offer: 2 for the price of 1!

It has been pretty hectic editing out & making up the 2 months of the newsletter, especially as I have had to do it before a circumnavigation of the Irish Sea for Rosemere Cancer Foundation. I wish you all the best for the next two months and again give you full permission to play 'Spot the error' in this edition. Enjoy and thanks in advance for any support!

Simon

### Circuit News

Blue Sky + Discussions about marriage and relationships. What does it mean to: be Bisexual (14th July); be transgender? (28th July); be an Inclusive Church? (4th Aug.).

All sessions will begin at 7:30pm at Ingol Methodist Church.

Calling all singers: We need a choir for the Circuit Welcome Service on Sunday 1st Sept at Penwortham. Rehearsals are on Tuesday at Penwortham Methodist: at 7.30 on 2nd, 9th, 23th and 30th of July.

Details from Jason McMahon 07871 273721 [jason.mcmahon@live.co.uk](mailto:jason.mcmahon@live.co.uk)

Preston Night Church has been open for almost 6 months, bearing witness to many who have entered church for the first time & providing them with a safe and sacred place in the City Centre where we can build relations and explore conversations about faith and the modern world. We need to increase the number of volunteers, and welcome novel ideas since we are too new to have got stuck in any old habits yet. We are experimenting with music and would love to welcome local musicians who would like a space to perform in for an evening in the centre of town. Please contact Rachel if you are interested at [rorackley@msn.com](mailto:rorackley@msn.com)



### Have you been treated badly?

When you've feel badly treated, always ask yourself, 'What can I learn from this experience? How do I respond in a more Christ like manner? Am I willing to acknowledge my mistakes? How

can I grow wiser and handle similar experiences better in the future?' When all is said and done, the answer to misunderstanding is forgiveness. Forgiveness doesn't mean you necessarily agree with or want a close relationship with the person who mistreated you. But it does mean that you let it go. When you bury the hatchet, don't leave the handle sticking up! In other words, don't just forgive – choose to forget! 'To be greater is to forgive the one who has treated you badly.' Paul refers to the Christian life as 'the high calling of God' (Philippians 3:14 KJV). So take the high road! What does that road look like? Jesus tells us: 'Count yourself blessed every time someone cuts you down or throws you out, every time someone smears or blackens your name to discredit me. What it means is...the truth is too close for comfort and that that person is uncomfortable...be glad when that happens...all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company; my...witnesses have always been treated like this' (Philippians 3:22-23 MSG). By living this way, you also take back your power by refusing to let another person dictate your mood and your outlook, and you keep your joy.

Would you like us to pray for you?

Leave your prayer on a card in the Prayer tree corner

### Prayer



At Central, its ok to worship in whatever way you feel comfortable with. We are all different and God loves us all!

Times of worship are for keeping in touch with God, not your social network. So please, be considerate and switch your phone to silent! Thank you!



Rev Barbara Pettitt, Central Methodist Church, Lune Street Preston PR1 2NL  
07784 791287 (Mobile) or 01772 881851 (Church)

Stewards: Ruth Millward-Hopkins, Sue Higham and Julia Blackett  
Safeguarding Officers: Sarah Steele, Maureen Abson & Ann Curtis



Wifi password: Ezekiel37

The Gateway Newsletter is published 10 times a year, monthly except for January and August. Notices for inclusion should be received by the last Sunday of the month  
[editor@centralmethodist.org.uk](mailto:editor@centralmethodist.org.uk)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen

Call in and experience Night Church.

Night Church is a sacred place in the city centre where you can find peace, talk with others, listen to music, maybe light a candle or pray - late at night. It's not a service, so stay as long as you want. We welcome people of all faiths and those who have none.

Could you help on the night?

Night Church will be held on Saturday July

6th and August 3rd 9pm to Midnight.



@nightchurchpreston  
Central Methodist Church,

First Saturday of the month  
Lune Street, Preston, PR1 2NL

<b>July</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>
<i>Front Door Steward</i>	Ruth Millward--Hopkins	Sue Higham	Ruth Millward--Hopkins	Sue Higham
<i>Inside Door &amp; Offertory Stewards</i>	Simon Millward-Hopkins Geoff Tyson	Ron Bosworth Dawn Robinson Angela Parker	Stella Swift Bill Manning	Valerie & Andrew Waterhouse Bill Swindlehurst
<i>Coffee served today by....</i>	Sue Higham & Sheena Rhodes	Andrew & Valerie Waterhouse Ron Bosworth	Bill & Olwen Swindlehurst	Julia & Sarah Blackett, Stella Swift, Rachel Rackley
<i>Today the flowers have been given by...</i>		Bill Manning for Maureen and Joe and Edith Wilson	Angel Parker	Tony Strong
<b>August</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>
<i>Front Door Steward</i>	Ruth Millward--Hopkins	Sue Higham	Ruth Millward--Hopkins	Sue Higham
<i>Inside Door &amp; Offertory Stewards</i>	Simon Millward-Hopkins Geoff Tyson	Ron Bosworth Dawn Robinson Angela Parker	Stella Swift Bill Manning	Valerie & Andrew Waterhouse Bill Swindlehurst
<i>Coffee served today by....</i>	Pete & Kate Johnstone	Sue Higham & Sheena Rhodes	Andrew & Valerie Waterhouse Ron Bosworth	Bill & Olwen Swindlehurst
<i>Today the flowers have been given by...</i>		Bill & Olwen Swindlehurst	Mary Neary	Sue Higham

## Glenthorne

I did have another article in mind to provide for our Gateway Magazine. However, I must prioritise, and tell you about one of the most enjoyable weekends that I have ever been so privileged to have experienced... Along with a dozen or so other fellow Lune Street Methodists personnel, we all attended the Glenthorne Guest house, near to Grasmere, in the Lake District. We stayed for three days together in a most beautiful and relaxing area.

The food, liquid refreshment, and the entertainment that we all enjoyed were absolutely first class.

We all had the choice of staying indoors in the hotel or seeking a more active undertaking by going for walks and admiring the full beauty of the area outdoors. We managed to combine all activities, and everyone enjoyed every single aspect in what we all collectively undertook to do.

Great credit indeed though must be afforded to Ruth M.H. and her husband Simon M.H., but EVERYONE contributed to the whole enjoyment of the adventure in equal measures.

It was a wonderful occasion to welcome Paul B (and family) who surprisingly turned up on the second day after temporary interrupting his current pilgrimage across Italy to join us.

There is not enough space to cover ALL the features of our weekend as it would fill up EVERY single page of our Gateway Magazine, so I'll just simply mention a FEW aspects...

Party games, singing, prayers, group discussions, etc were all conducted in a most perfect manner by all of us. I admit to being quite an emotional person, and I had my moments when I could not help my tears of joy (and the odd moments of reflective sadness) from trickling down my cheeks. I have now learnt a great deal from my great friends from Lune Street Methodists..... OH ROLL ON NEXT YEAR!

Editor's note: Paul tried to book the same time for our visit next year, and was unsuccessful as there was no meeting room available so has to make the date later in the year. He has however booked the same weekend for June 2021! That leaves plenty of time to save up for it.

*Peter Bonage*

## More News - Circuit



- This year **New Longton Methodist Church Holiday Bible Club** is Rocky's Plaice – a café church Fish and Chip Shop. It took just 15 hours before we were full - 100 children/young people booked to come & learn about Jesus & his friends! If you are available & willing to help for 1 or more days from **Mon 29th July to Fri 2nd Aug from 8.45am to 12.45pm**, please get in touch: [alisonwallwork@talktalk.net](mailto:alisonwallwork@talktalk.net), **01772 611389, 07817 940898, 01772 612804** Also if you would like to be a prayer partner for one of the leaders please contact Alison using the above information.
- The **Circuit Leadership Team** would like to invite you to a meeting to celebrate and review the **Following Jesus, Loving Communities** mission at **Ingol on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of July at 7.30 pm**. Please confirm your attendance to Elspeth at the Circuit Office. If you are unable to attend, please send someone to represent you...
- **The Church, Youth and Family Mission Team** are advertising for volunteers to be part of the **3Generate delivery team**. **3Generate** will be in **Southport again from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of September**. **Volunteering:** The learning Network teams also have volunteering packs to hand out if needed. Contact **Penny Fuller, Team co-ordinator - fullerp@methodistchurch.org.uk** if you would like any further information.

## Other News

- Join the churches of the city of Preston every **Tuesday 7.30 am to 8.30 am at Landmark, Crossgate church, St Mary's Street North, PR1 5LG to pray for Preston** - or pray at home!
- On **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> of September**, the **Preston Pride** event will be held on the Flag Market. We hope to have a Christ at Pride presence and to be able to offer radical hospitality and build bridges between the Church and the community. If anyone is interested in helping with this planning, would like to be involved during the day, or has contacts with someone who identifies as LGBTQI, family or supporters, then please contact Rachel Rackley [[rorackley@msn.com](mailto:rorackley@msn.com)] for further information.
- For further notices about **Action for Children sponsored walks to Hilbre Island or a Morecambe Bay Walk**, a conference on the 'Mother of Methodism' **Susanna Wesley** or **Autumn Encounters with the Iona Community**, then please see the Notice Board at the back of church.
- **Foodbank for the Salvation Army:** They are short of sugar, coffee, tinned potatoes, packets [instant noodles, pasta in sauce, pot noodles, savoury rice] tinned fruit and tinned spaghetti. In April, they issued 793 food/toiletry bags after 162 referrals of both individuals and families.

## IN THE PRESS.....

### Grenfell Fire - Two Years On

The catastrophic fire at Grenfell Tower started in the early hours of 14th June 2017. To mark the second anniversary, Notting Hill Methodist Church will be open for quiet reflection from midnight on Friday. The Rev. Mike Long, whose church sits below the tower, said:

“We want people to know they have somewhere to come if they need or wish to be together, not out of some duty, but if they feel it would help in some small way.”

Over the last two years the Church and Rev. Long have responded to the tragedy, offering pastoral and practical support and have hosted many community meetings and agencies supporting the people affected by the fire.

“Major urgent building works more recently mean we have had less resource available but from the Autumn with new community spaces including a kitchen, we hope to focus on young people and children as well as the wide spread challenge of loneliness amongst older people”, said Revd Long.

Since the first anniversary, a new foodbank has opened in the Church. “It was planned before the fire”, said Revd Long. Operated with the Trussell Trust, the foodbank offers support for the local community to which Universal Credit was rolled out last December.

Speaking about what has changed for people since the first anniversary, Revd Long, said: “Everyone knows there will be a long wait for answers and decisions to be made about the future for the tower. Patience is about actively sticking it out, enduring the limbo. This is hard for many, especially those worried about for example, the long term impact of the fire on the environment.”

Revd Long and other faith leaders will take part in a vigil in the evening of 14th June before what has become a monthly silent walk starting and ending at Notting Hill Methodist Church. “Faith can help people connect with their feelings and give expression to them”, said Revd Long. 13 June 2019 [[Methodist.org.uk](http://Methodist.org.uk)]