

Worship at Central this month

Wed 3rd June	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm	Carolyn Hothersall
Sun 7th	Morning Worship 10:30	Rebecca Ainsworth
Wed 10th	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm	Rev Barbara Pettitt
Sun 14th	Circuit Service at Fulwood. (No Service at Central today)	
Wed 17th	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm	Carol Rose
Sun 21st	Morning Worship 10:30	Harry Duckett
Wed 24th	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm	Rev Sharon Thraves
Sun 28th	Morning Worship 10:30	Rev Sharon Thraves
	Holy Communion	
Wed 1st July	Lunchtime Worship at 1pm	Rev Mike Grimsley

The Lords Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

Amen

*Times of worship are for keeping in touch with God, not your social network
So please, refrain from using your mobile during the service! Thankyou!*



Stewards: Ruth Millward-Hopkins, Julia Blackett, Sue Burgess, Roberta Malone and Alison Pettitt
Safeguarding Officers: Sarah O'Halloran & Geoff Tyson
Coffee Shop Tel (01772) 881851



CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH

The Gateway



June 2026

*Loving God, Serving People,
Changing Lives*

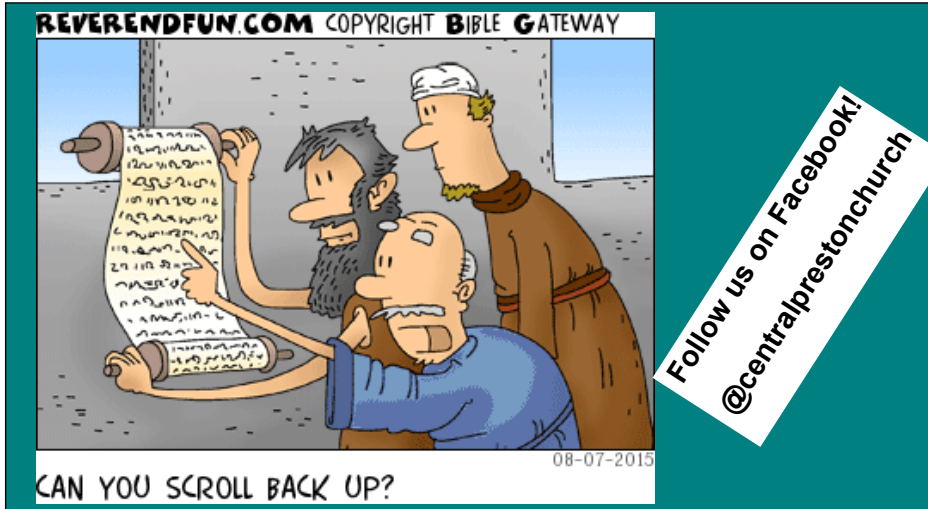
www.centralmethodist.org.uk

Central's Diary Dates...

Sunday 14th June is a joint Circuit service at Fulwood Methodist Church 10:30am - No service at Central!

Wednesday 24th June 1:30pm Pastoral Meeting at Church

Church Council is due to meet this month but dates have not been fixed yet. This will be announced asap.



The Zoom meeting ID and passcode for Sunday Worship at Central are:
Meeting ID: 992 4189 3207
Passcode:

Let us
WORSHIP
Together
On Zoom

The Treasurer Reports...



Last month (April) our Sunday and bank transfer collections totalled £1,332.

A new water heater needed to be purchased for the Kitchen, and both the Gas boiler and fire alarm needed servicing. We gave £673 as our annual Connexional grant and £1,135 was paid out for our security guard. Adding gas, electric and water bills and cleaning made our total expenditure £7,381.

Thank you to all who contribute.

'This is not political': Why thousands of Christians took to London's streets for Jesus March

Thousands of Christians gathered in central London over the bank holiday weekend for the return of the Jesus March, reviving a historic movement that first began in the capital nearly four decades ago.



The event, which started near Marble Arch and ended with worship and prayer in Trafalgar Square, brought together churches, ministries and believers from a range of denominations and cultures. Organisers described it as a joyful public celebration of faith during Pentecost weekend, with worship music, prayer and testimonies filling the streets.

The march marked a revival of the original March for Jesus movement, first launched in London in 1987 before growing into a global movement spanning cities across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Henry George, one of the organisers, said Saturday's march reflected a Church in London that is alive, growing and increasingly diverse.

"London's church is alive, it is growing, it is diverse," he told Premier. "There are different ages coming to know Jesus, different races, people of different backgrounds, and it is a beautiful, wonderful time to be a Christian in London."

"We want to celebrate that together. We want to do that out loud and invite others to celebrate that joy as well — to come and join us, to taste and see that the Lord is good."

George said now felt like the right moment to revive the movement because of a growing openness towards public worship and a rising confidence among younger Christians.

"There is a real courage about following Jesus in younger generations," he said. Organisers wanted to connect those who remembered the original marches with "this fresh and exciting zeal" among Gen Z Christians.

Among the speakers was Andy Frost, director of Share Jesus International. He said the march aimed to offer a different message at a time of increasing social and political division.


"We live in a very political atmosphere," he said. "As Christians, we want to be good news in these places... our job is to be peacemakers."

Frost also said he had seen signs of growing confidence among younger Christians. Earlier in the day, he said he had spent time in Trafalgar Square with "many Gen Zs" publicly reading scripture and sharing their faith.

"There's a real openness in London today," he said. "These Gen Zs who are passionate about sharing their faith are stepping into these moments with a real sense of confidence that God is still in the business of transforming and changing lives."

Premierchristian.news



	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
Today the flowers have been given by... 	Ruth and Simon	Andrew and Valerie Waterhouse	Sarah and Steve O'Halloran	Beryl Duckworth



Do you have WhatsApp on your phone?

Why not join the Church Chat to keep in touch during the week!
Please let a Steward know and they can arrange for you to be added

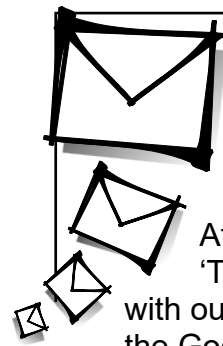
Go on a complaining fast

James 5:9 NCV

Whatever you keep doing becomes a habit. That's why James says, 'do not complain'. Author Jon Gordon says, 'A complaining fast won't just make everyone around you happier...you'll experience more joy, peace, success and positive relationships.' So instead of complaining when things go wrong:



- 1) Practise gratitude. Giving thanks for three blessings every day energises you and makes you feel happier. It's impossible to be grateful and negative at the same time.
- 2) Encourage others. Instead of complaining about what people do wrong, focus on what they're doing right. 'Encourage the people who are afraid. Help those who are weak. Be patient with everyone' (1 Thessalonians 5:14 NCV). It's okay to criticise people's weaknesses as long as you balance it with three times more praise.
- 3) Focus on your success. Start a success journal. Every night before you go to bed, write down something great about your day. It could be an uplifting conversation...or an accomplishment you're proud of. There's truth to the old saying, 'Nothing succeeds like success.' When you focus on success you set the stage for more to follow.
- 4) Learn to let go. Instead of obsessing about what you can't change, focus on what you can influence. When you stop trying to control everything and place your life in God's hands, things have a way of working out.
- 5) Use the power of prayer. Paul says, 'Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.' (Ephesians 6:18 NIV). Prayer reduces stress, boosts positive energy, and promotes health. When you're under pressure, instead of complaining, plug in to God's power and recharge your batteries. www.ucb.co.uk



Dear friends

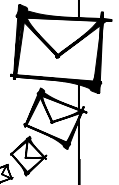
When Synod met in April this year, our keynote speaker, former Vice President, Deacon Eunice Attwood, led us in fruitful discussions around the theme of 'The Goodness of God.' We were encouraged to share with our nearest neighbours, instances where we have seen the Goodness of

God recently. I wonder, if you'd been in that conversation, what stories you might have shared about where you have recently seen the Goodness of God? Might it have been through an answer to prayer, the kindness of a neighbour, an unexpected visit from someone who had been on your mind? Perhaps you might spend a moment reflecting on how you would respond?

Eunice shared a humorous story about a time when she proudly managed to reverse park into a space at the local supermarket, only to find as she tried to get out, that her car door was banging up against something and she couldn't get out. On closer inspection it turned out she'd managed to reverse park, ever so carefully...into the trolley bay!!! So, there she was, stuck fast with no way to get out of her car to go to the shop. What could she do, she asked her husband on the phone? He suggested she tried putting in a £1 coin. But the reality of her situation was that she could only get out of that stuck situation by moving the car forwards again and trying a different space.

Sometimes we reach those situations in life when we find ourselves stuck. And, as Eunice explained, there are times when our churches become stuck too. Getting stuck is easy, as she'd found with the car. But sometimes there's a need to make a move and try something differently.

The next question posed built on the first – What is the good news of Jesus, and what difference does that make to your life? I wonder too, how we might respond to that question. Timothy wrote that we should always be ready to give an account of the hope we have within us.



Especially in this year of 'Our Story Our Song' – How will we speak of God's Goodness, the difference Jesus makes in our lives, and give an account of the hope within us?

Carolyn Hothersall

From John Wesley's Journal 24th May 1738:

In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to (his commentary) on Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

Revive us, Lord, in all we do.

Reach into our hearts, through Spirit, wind and flame.

Renew us, Lord, in word and deed.

In us build a new creation.

May our hearts be strangely warmed, that we might grow and change together.

We pray your spirit come, that it might be on earth as in heaven; that we might be bold to speak and pray, that your church might grow again.

Father, revive your church.

Help us share your love with others.

Enable us to teach your word.

May we be alive to you.

Help us be alert to each other's needs; disciplined in prayer and deed.

Build in us a vision for your kingdom, received in grace, peace and wisdom.

Amen. (Rosie Bryant, methodist.org.uk)

IN THE PRESS.....

Arsenal's Christian stars make bold faith statement after title victory

A group of Arsenal footballers, affectionately known by fans as the "Bible Brothers", have celebrated their recent Premier League title win while openly dedicating the moment to God.

The group of players, including Gabriel Martinelli, Miles Lewis-Skelly, Gabriel Magalhães, Piero Hincapié, Eberechi Eze, Gabriel Jesus and Max Dowman, recently posed for a celebratory photo displaying their medals and trophy while several made the sign of the cross.

Meanwhile, Cristian Mosquera wore a shirt reading: "Made for God, by His glory." Piero Hincapié also held up a white shirt with the words: "I belong to Jesus."

Many of the players have previously spoken publicly about their faith and have not shied away from sharing how their relationship with God influences both their personal lives and football careers.

Noni Madueke previously told the Premier League in December 2025 that a number of players regularly pray together before matches and take part in Bible studies while staying at team hotels. He said their shared faith creates a deeper sense of connection and support, adding: "We believe that we have God fighting for us... it just brings us closer together."

Jurrien Timber, who fans have nicknamed "Pastor Timber", has also spoken openly about the importance of Christianity in his life. In an interview with The Athletic, he described faith as more than a belief system, calling it "a way of life" that brings "unity and understanding".

Timber has also shared Bible verses on social media before matches, saying the passages often come to mind naturally through conversations with teammates, family and friends.

Meanwhile, Bukayo Saka told GQ in 2022 that faith plays a significant role in his everyday life. He said he tries to carry biblical messages into how he lives, adding that the Bible given to him by his father remains one of his most treasured possessions.

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta has also acknowledged the role faith plays within the squad, suggesting it positively contributes to players' wellbeing and strengthens relationships within the team.

Arsenal's Premier League champion title is the first for the team in 22 years.

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Egypt legalises 191 churches in major move for Christian communities

The Egyptian government has granted legal status to 191 churches and affiliated Christian service buildings, in a move welcomed by campaigners as part of ongoing efforts to address challenges facing Christian communities.

The executive order was issued on 19 May following a cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Mustafa Madbouli. It brings the total number of churches and buildings approved since a government committee was established in 2016 to 3,804.

The legalisation programme was introduced to resolve the status of thousands of unlicensed places of worship built over previous decades. Under Egypt's Church Construction Law, passed in 2016, authority over church construction and renovations was transferred from security agencies to provincial governors.

While many Christians have welcomed the reforms, concerns remain over unequal treatment. The same legal requirements do not apply to Sunni Muslim places of worship, and other minority groups, including Ahmadi, Baha'i and Shia communities, are not covered by the law. Religious freedom watchdog CSW praised the move but called for broader protections.

The charity's founder and president Mervyn Thomas said: "CSW welcomes the news that the Egyptian government has granted 191 churches and service buildings legal status, and we encourage the government to continue with this process to resolve the situation of the large number of places of worship built over past decades.

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