

Worship at Central this month

Wed 2nd Sept Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Rev Mike Grimsley

Sat 5th Welcome Service at Hope Methodist Church, New Longton to celebrate Revd Sharon Thraves becoming our new superintendent, and to welcome Katharine Phillips as our new lay worker.

Sun 6th Morning Worship 10:30 Carolyn Hothersall

Wed 9th Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Carol Rose

Sun 13th Morning Worship 10:30 Andrew Bennett

Wed 16th Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Rev Sharon Thraves

Sun 20th Morning Worship 10:30 Rev Paul Davis

Harvest Festival and Holy Communion



Wed 23rd Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Rev Mike Grimsley

Sun 27th Morning Worship 10:30 Jennie Lockett

Wed 30th Lunchtime Worship at 1pm Rev Paul Davis

Sun 4th Oct Morning Worship at 10:30 David Evans

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

WiFi Password Ezekiel37



CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH

The Gateway

September 2026

HARVEST

*Loving God, Serving People,
Changing Lives*

www.centralmethodist.org.uk

Central's Diary Dates....

September 2nd Olive Grove Coffee Shop reopens

Sunday 20th September is our Harvest Festival

Wednesday October 7th 1:30pm Pastoral Meeting at Church

Tuesday October 13th Church Council 7:30pm

Harvest Festival & Lunch together!

Join us for a traditional Harvest this month!

We will be collecting donations for the Salvation Army Food Bank, (and mars bars for Street Pastors). The Food Bank need: all types of toiletries, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Jam, biscuits, tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding, tinned tomatoes, packets of instant noodles & Jars of pasta sauce

You are then invited to join us for a lunch out nearby.

**Harvest Festival is on 20th September,
10:30am**



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...



In July and August our Sunday and Bank Transfer giving totalled £3,982.

Floor repairs cost £900, and our fire alarm system was serviced. The hygiene contract was paid and £1,213 was paid out for our security guard. Adding gas, electric and water bills and cleaning made our total expenditure £.5,596

Thank you to all who contribute.

Paper Cranes

It's almost two years now since we completed the challenge of making 1,000 paper cranes as a prayer for peace. You may remember this is an ancient Japanese tradition brought to the forefront when Sadako, a young Japanese girl caught up in the Hiroshima nuclear attacks,

tried to make 1,000 paper cranes before she died as a result of the radiation poisoning.



The cranes hanging in the coffee shop look spectacular but are starting to gather dust so we have been contemplating what to do with them. There is a Peace Park in Hiroshima which includes

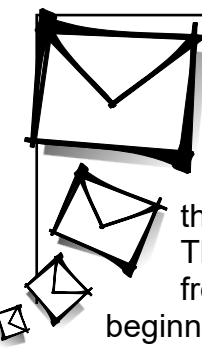
the Children's Peace Memorial where there is statue of Sadako holding a wire crane, surrounding her are glass cases filled with millions of paper cranes that have been made as a prayer for peace, these have been brought and sent from around the world. The cranes are made into strings of 100 cranes and placed at the foot of the peace memorial as a prayer.

All things being equal in world politics, Pete and I are due to visit Hiroshima at the end of October. Having discussed it with Resources we will take with us the cranes from the coffee shop and add these cranes, and the prayers for peace that went into them, to those from around the world, prayerfully leaving them at the memorial to become part of that forever.

If you can help hang the cranes into tight strings of 100 please let me know, we will take pictures when they are laid. The prayer for peace inscribed in the memorial says "This is our cry, this is our prayer: for building peace in the world". It seemed like a really fitting place for our cranes to land.

Maureen Abson

	6 th	13 ^h	20 th	27 th
<i>Today the flowers have been given by...</i> 	Bill and Olwen Swindlehurst in memory of Peter and Pat Sue Hardman and family in memory of Joan Cookson	Paul and Julia Blackett	Sheena Rhodes in loving memory of Nichol and Joyce Rhodes	Janice Atkinson



Dear friends

Before I moved into my first manse I had never seen the inside. I remember two things about that moving day. The beautiful blue hyacinths at the door and the clean fresh painted magnolia walls as I walked in. At the beginning of full-time active ministry, it reminded me of the blue covered exercise books from my September schooldays.

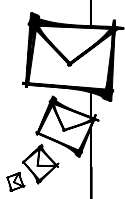
At School, there was always a freshness to September, with all the prospect of what lay ahead. In 1982 there was a freshness to the beginning of ministry with the anticipation of what was to follow. Forty years on I still look for the hyacinths in August and anticipate a new year beginning the following month.

This year has been no exception. In August, some of us from Central met to look back on the work of the past and to plan for our mission for the future. This month we begin another round of church events and look forward to welcoming returning and new students coming into our city and to Central. All being well as we begin the new year the new gates will be fitted to the front of the Building.

We start this new Methodist year at Central with a rearranged staff, a differently formed Mission Group. We are now called Mission Group North and lots of hope for what we can do going Forward.

I have listened to (and for many years preached) sermons at the change or beginning of a new ministry. It is always a time of hope, and expectation and I am looking forward at the opportunities that lie before us.

You know this better than I, but the opportunities presented by being a gathered church in the city centre are far different from those in the villages or even the suburbs but it is worth restating.



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

God has given you seed to sow

‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.’

Matthew 13:31 NIV

Jesus said: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches’ (vv. 31-32 NIV). A mustard seed is only one to two millimetres in diameter and comes in three primary varieties: yellow, black, and white. Within that seed is a remarkable nutritional profile, including vitamin A, B6, B12, C, E, and K. It’s also a source of calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, and zinc. It has anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer properties. Jesus pointed out that when it’s planted, it can grow up and become one of the largest trees in the garden, blessing the birds of the air by providing them with a home. Paul wrote: ‘Now may He who supplies seed to the sower...multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness’ (2 Corinthians 9:10 NKJV). Who does God give ‘seed’ to? Sowers, not hoarders! What does God do with your seed when you sow it? He multiplies it! The seed you sow can be in the form of time, service, wisdom, money, compassion, etc. And God promises that when you sow, you will reap His blessing. ‘God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work’ (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV). God has given you seed – sow it!

www.ucb.co.uk



Firstly, we have the opportunity of presence. Simply by being here we have a witness to the gospel. In the midst of rush bustle and commercialism we are here. We need to be sure people are aware we are here a Christian presence and not just another building.

Secondly we have the opportunity of meeting people who come into the city. Many come for work, many come to shop, some are lonely, some with needs, some come simply to get out. What can we offer that is different but also easy to access?

I've lived and worked in and around this city for almost a quarter of a century. In my interactions with those in shops and offices, those I meet are almost always wanting to move on to the next person. We have an opportunity to do something different.

I think I would like us to look at the opportunities of conversation. We have the greatest of opportunities of being a place for conversation. Not just about the weather, although that always crops up but about important things that are affecting people.

I am more and more convinced that the Christian gospel is shared more by personal conversation than by anything else.

Central has a long tradition of caring for the poor and needy in this city, I hope we can continue to do this in new circumstances. We also have a calling to work with those who need the attention of a listener and not rush on to the next person.

My prayer for us as we begin a new year is that we can take the time to speak and listen to those we meet so they feel valued as an individual and if that means they feel a child of God we will have done even better.

Rev Paul Davis



What's On @ LIVE GROVE

SEPTEMBER

2nd Macular Society Meeting - 10.30am to 12.30pm

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Positive Futures Peer Support Group - 10.00am to 12.00pm

Peer Talk Support Group - 7.30pm to 9.00pm

14th Preston Historical Society – 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Chaplin, Cowboys and Cotton: Preston Film Service & Early Lancashire Cinema

16th Hard of Hearing Support Group – 10.30am to 12.30pm

Meet, laugh and share moments over coffee

CITY CENTRE

11th - 20th Heritage Open Days – Various Places

visit www.prestonheritageopendays.org

13th Preston Makers Market – Flag Market

19th Encounter Festival – Harris Quarter

Performances, installations and workshops followed by a Torchlight Parade, 7.00pm from Moor Park to the Flag Market

26th Preston Pride – Flag Market

Live music, guest appearances, stands and stalls

Preston Makers Market – Friargate

*For room bookings, events and catering
contact Sarah O'Halloran 07934 511707*

The Olive Grove Coffee Shop is open Monday,
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10-1