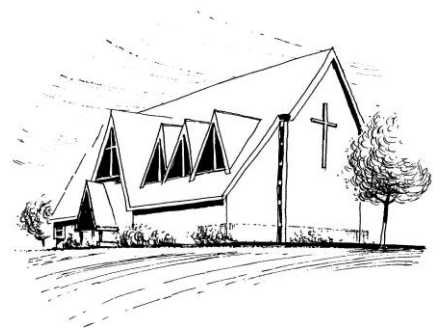


Prestbury Methodist Church

*Contact
June 2025*



Holy Spirit,
sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children
with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with
the breath of love, and
renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

Paul Judson

We extend a very warm welcome to you and invite you to join us for worship. If you are just visiting we will be happy to greet you, and hope that we may meet you again on your next visit. If you have recently come to live in the area, we hope that you will feel at home amongst us and that we may have the opportunity in the future to welcome you to our services and other events in the Church programme.

Our Services are usually held weekly at 10.30am, although occasional Circuit Services elsewhere will mean we do not have a service at Prestbury on those days. *See the back page of this edition of Contact or our Church website for current details plus lots more at*

www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

The occasional Circuit On-line services can be found on the YouTube Channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/MacclesfieldMethodistCircuit/featured>

Church website www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Email: admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Minister: Revd Dr Graham Edwards

Tel: 01625 426051

e-mail: graham.edwards@methodist.org.uk

**Enquiries for funerals, baptisms and weddings
to the Minister please.**

Minister's Letter



Dear Friends,

I saw it in a church in Liverpool; I think it was the strangest thing I had ever seen in a pulpit. I've seen glasses of water, with various green things growing in them. I've seen hymn books and Bibles that look as if they haven't been used for years. I've seen clocks, conveniently placed for preachers to ignore, but I'd never seen a fire extinguisher in a pulpit before! I couldn't help but smile thinking of the people discussing where to put it *"I think it should go in the pulpit. If a member of the congregation were to spontaneously combust, it would be the preacher who would be in the best place to extinguish them with minimal disruption!"*

But really, the last thing we want in our churches are fire extinguishers - now I'm not suggesting we remove difficult buildings with a gentle bonfire! Rather, we don't want anything in our churches that can extinguish the flames of faith. It's all too easy for those flames to be put out. Lots of people in the world want to be fire extinguishers, and sadly there are people in our churches that want to be fire extinguishers too.

The Christian faith isn't about extinguishing fires - it's about lighting them, and keeping them fuelled when they're lit, letting the flames be seen, not only from the pulpit, but from all of us. We need to let the flames escape through the doors of the church, from our mouths, from our eyes, from our hands, from all that we are! The fire of the gospel. The fire of the Spirit. The fire of fellowship. As we come towards a point of significant change in the Macclesfield circuit, with new minsters and new opportunities - we don't need fire extinguishers; in fact, we need some pyromaniacs! Wesley wrote a hymn that sums up what I think I'm trying to say.

*O thou who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart;
Kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of
my heart.
There let it for thy glory burn, with
inextinguishable blaze.*

*With every blessing,
Graham*

The **Methodist** Church



Prayers for June 2025



Pentecost 8th June

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. (Ezekiel 36:27)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Holy Spirit, may we pay attention to the wonderful things you are doing around us and in us. May we love boldly and generously, and may we live out our faith bravely, treading faithfully in the footsteps of Jesus, our friend and redeemer.

Peace-loving God, soften the hearts of all leaders who have turned to war and oppression, and embolden all the organisations that are working for reconciliation and an end to needless suffering.

For Compassion. We pray for all the children in Ghana that we sponsor through Compassion – may the bond between them and their carers, their teachers and sponsors grow ever deeper, and so reveal Your purpose and vision for the lives of these precious children.

Compassionate and Healing God, we thank you for our families and our friends, and ask for your touch on all who are suffering through anxiety, sickness or bereavement. We pray for all those who feel they are drowning in the problems of daily life. May we play our part in making your tender, comforting presence be felt by those around us.

For Bible Month. May our mid-week Study Group and Sunday Services give us new insights into your call to live a life of extravagant love.

And finally, we celebrate with all those who have birthdays this month; **may God richly bless each one of them:**



8th June

Day of Pentecost, Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of First Fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter.



A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those

who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.



Hope in North East Cheshire's 'Experience Easter'

This annual event took place in the Market Place on Easter Saturday. About ten different local churches took part, including ourselves at Prestbury.





Thursday Morning House Group



The group meets on alternate Thursdays. We meet at 10.30am for cake and a cuppa, followed by a time of fellowship, usually finishing around 12 Noon. Venues vary.

Next month is slightly different. We will meet on 5th June at the home of Norman Leather and our topic will be:
"What does The Bible mean to me?"

For any further details about the group, including venues, please contact Roger Bolton, either directly, or via the church email. All are warmly welcome to join us for any of the sessions. Please bring a Bible.

During June we shall be following the Methodist Church scheme for Bible month, looking this year at **John's Gospel**. There will be four Sundays of themed preaching & worship and these will be linked to informal study groups meeting in the Chapel meeting Room as follows at 10:30am:

June 12th John:1 "Embracing God and all reality"

June 19th John:2-12 "Signs, conversations and controversy"

June 26th John:13-17 "Jesus' discipleship course"

July 3rd John 18-21 "The hour", the resurrection and drama"

Coffee will be served. Each session will close before 12:00
We hope that these study sessions will enrich the corresponding worship service. No special knowledge is required, all are welcome!

Action for Children

It is the time of year for me to collect in your boxes. So can I ask you to let me have your box by the end of this month - June. Leave your box in the vestry if you don't see me. Thank you for your generosity. All the money you raise goes to help the children and families you support.

God Bless,

Joan Pritchard (Action for Children Secretary)

The Methodist Church
Manchester & Stockport Area



MWiB Summer Gathering & Induction of New President

Ruth Gunning

At Macclesfield Methodist Church

2- 5pm Saturday 14th June

(There will be a Retiring Collection)

Speaker: Rev Su McClellan

from 'Embrace the Middle East'

followed by a Buffet Tea

All Welcome



Outdoor United Service (HOPE in NEC)

in Macclesfield Market Place

10:30 - 11:45 am on June 22nd

Many local churches involved.

All welcome - chairs will be provided

Live band.



THE BIG FOODBANK DROP-OFF RETURNS

Saturday 7th June 10am-12:30pm

At TFW Church carpark

SILKLIFE
foodbank
MACCLESFIELD



**DONATE
INSTANTLY**
SCAN THE QR CODE NOW

WHATS BEST TO DONATE?

Foods Required

Breakfast Cereals: UHT Milk and Jams
Tea, Coffee & Biscuits
Rice, Pasta and Sauces
'Free From' Products including Gluten, Lactose and Vegan
Tinned Meat, Fish, Vegetables, Potatoes
Tinned Hotdogs, Meatballs and Macaroni Cheese
Tinned Fruit and Rice Pudding

We also accept Toiletries, Nappies, Fem-Care Products
and Toilet Rolls

**We are unable to accept fresh and frozen foods*

Bring your donations to TFW Church Carpark, Dorchester Way Tytherington.
THANK YOU FOR 'HELPING US TO HELP OTHERS'

A performance of Mark's Gospel

This performance will be given by Matt Britton on Friday **20th June** at **Holy Trinity Church**, Hurdsfield Road, SK10 2PX, 6:30 pm for a 7:00 pm start.

<https://holytrinityhurdsfield.churchsuite.com/events/3lsf9qci>

Mark's Gospel will be presented as a high-octane eye-witness account. Memorised from scripture, word for word, and told with urgency, excitement, and good old northern grit, this is a compelling ninety-minute rollercoaster of a ride through the speediest of gospels! Tickets are £6 per person with 50% of funds going to supporting Matt's ministry and 50% donated to the work of Tearfund.



Treacle Market Outreach

The Treacle Market Outreach team will be in Macclesfield Market Place again on Sunday **June 29th** and **July 27th** between 11am and 3.30 pm, with Christian crafts for kids, chatting, sharing the Good News, and offering prayer with passers-by. More volunteers are required (to chat, pray over the event and do crafts), training is provided - even an hour is appreciated. If interested or just curious please contact Michelle Mason, masonmichelle111@yahoo.com.

THE HOPE CENTRE IN NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

ANNOUNCEMENT

The HOPE CENTRE was established in May 2011 Its key purpose to 'Serve Others' . For 14 years it has provided a space where the love of God can be clearly demonstrated to meet the needs of everyone in the community

The Hope Centre is now moving to further develop its activities and moving into a challenging but exciting time in seeking to meet identified needs within our community, as a result changes will be taking place in the Management structure.

Hazel will be moving to a new role :

Job Club Manager

The Hope Centre has entered into a partnership with the Salvation Army to establish a CAP(Christians Against Poverty Job Club) Its key purpose working closely with the DWP(Department of Works & Pensions) is to support people back into employment. Hazel has started her training and the courses are planned to commence in early September 2025.

Homeless People

Hazel has had an increasing amount of her time supporting the growing need of the homeless in our community In addition to her role as Job Club Manager, she will seek to develop a strategy of how best to meet and support the Homeless, drawing on the significant experience within the Salvation Army.

Hope Centre Manager

We are pleased to announce that the role of 'Hope Centre Manager' will be taken over by Ruth Corn,' who will join us in the last week of May. Ruth will take over Hazel's existing responsibilities and the transition and hand over from Hazel to Ruth will take place during June as Hazel also takes on her new role and responsibilities

Joe Jackson, will assume the responsibility of Kitchen Manager. We are also pleased to announce that Joe will be leading a course in Cooking Classes to help those in our community to develop skills in cooking to a budget. It is hoped these will start in July.

The Hope Centre Trustees

20th May

Wilmslow Wells for Africa Gardens Day

Saturday June 28th 10.30am to 4.30pm.

As summer arrives why not have a day exploring 18 beautiful gardens across Wilmslow, Alderley Edge, Mobberley and Mottram St Andrew. Some will serve refreshments, whilst others will have plant sales.

At the same time, help to raise money that makes an enormous difference to the lives of many people who can't do something we simply take for granted - the luxury of being able to turn on a tap whenever we want some water.

Tickets, giving access to all 18 gardens, are available on the day for £15 from the first garden visited, or in advance for £12 from Chelsea Flowers (Chapel Lane, Wilmslow), The Potting Shed (Alderley Edge), Primrose Cottage Nursery (Styal Village), Jenny Morris Bridge (Mobberley) or from Shan (01625 520193). Children welcome for free and no dogs please.



What's On in June

Every Tues	10:00am	Cancer Help Centre
Every Weds	7:30pm	Prestbury Choral Society
Sat 31 st May	10:00am -12 Noon	<i>Coffee Morning in the Village Hall supporting Christian Aid</i>
Sun 1 st June	10:30am	<i>Own Arrangement Service - 'Songs of Praise'</i>
Mon 2 nd June	12 Noon	Faith Lunch
Thurs 5 th June	10:30am	Thursday Morning House Group at the home of Norman Leather "What does The Bible mean to me?"
Thurs 5 th June	7:00pm	Women's Wellbeing
Sun 8 th June	10:30am	<i>Circuit Service at Poynton</i>
Thurs 12 th June	10.30am	Bible Month - St John (Session 1)
Sun 15 th June	10:30am	<i>Sunday Worship led by Revd Frank Bishop [Embracing God and Reality - John Ch 1]</i>
Wed 18 th June	2:00pm	Reading Group at the home of Anne Hooley
Thurs 19 th June	10.30am	Bible Month - St John (Session 2)
Sun 22 nd June	10:30am	<i>Sunday Worship led by Revd Graham Edwards [Signs, Conversations and Controversy - John Chs 2-12]</i>
Thurs 26 th June	10.30am	Bible Month - St John (Session 3)
Sun 29 th June	10:30am	<i>Sunday Worship led by Alan Rashleigh [Jesus' Discipleship Course - John Chs 18-21]</i>

Items for July's edition of Contact should be sent to Rob Ayerst by Tuesday 17th June, or c/o the church e-mailbox admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Please remember to visit the website regularly to find out more, and for updates