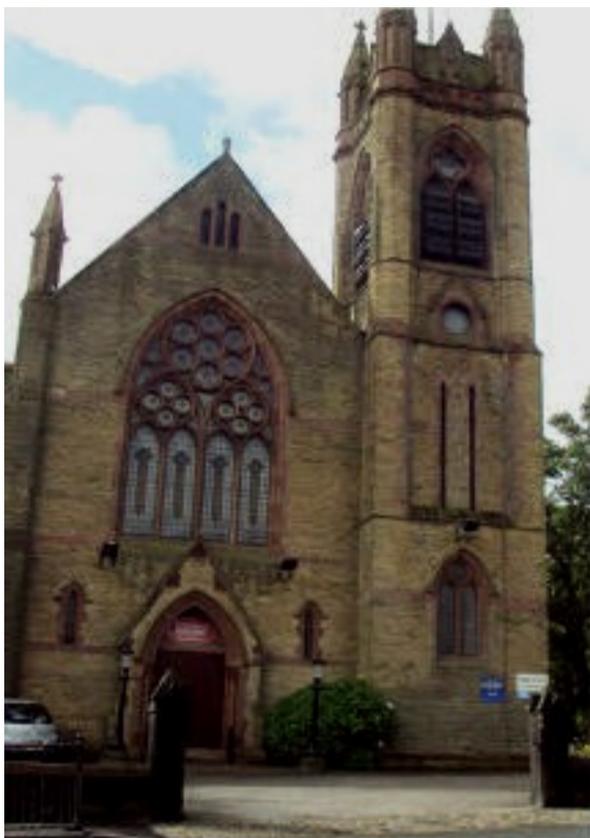




IN TOUCH

APRIL 2018



EMMANUEL METHODIST UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH, DERBY ST.
ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE, L39 2DE
www.emmanuelormskirk.org.uk



Message from our Minister

Dear Friends,

This summer there should be an extra splash of colour in the gardens of West Lancashire and Chorley, courtesy of Cross Factor. Over five days in mid-March the Circuit ran the Easter Hope Journey, “Cross Factor”; sharing the Holy Week/Easter story with around three hundred children from fifteen schools. One of the workshops –“Death to Life”- gave the children the opportunity to plant sunflower seeds, to demonstrate how life can come out of something that is apparently lifeless. The children took the planted seeds back to their Schools, and hopefully with a bit of tlc the seeds will germinate and the new life of the Sunflower will begin.

“Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies it bears much fruit.”

John 12 v24

In his book “Speaking of God”, Trevor Dennis tells the story of a derelict bombsite that is totally barren until one spring a sunflower, defying all the odds, starts to grow. When the flower head matures and opens, its colour brightens up the whole dreary neighbourhood and people’s lives are changed. Sadly there were others who can’t cope with the brightness of the flower and they gather together and destroy it, returning the bombsite to its former bleakness. The following Spring the neighbourhood receives a surprise, far from destroying the Sunflower by stamping on its head they succeeded in scattering seeds over the whole site, and from one solitary flower the whole area has now become a mass of vibrant colour.

At Easter time we celebrate the seeds of New Life that the Crucifixion scattered, as Jesus burst out of the tomb and filled the World with the resurrection glory. My hope is that when the Children see their Sunflowers growing and flowering, they will remember the message of Easter Hope that we shared with them, and that when we see a Sunflower we will be reminded of God’s love shining on in the World.

Yours in His Service

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ormskirk Methodist United Reformed Church exists to promote the worship of Almighty God, to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and, in the power of the Spirit, to serve neighbours in Christ at home and abroad. It seeks to play a part in transforming the unjust structures of society and promoting strong communities based on Christian values. As part of the World Church, it will strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain the life on earth.

‘O God, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all those who need human love and heavenly Father’s care, and narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and hatred. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children or straying feet, but rugged enough to turn back the tempter’s power. Make it



Taped Services

If you would like to receive a taped copy of the Sunday morning service, then please contact Ynyr Jones on 423474.

GLADYS PILKINGTON

It was, indeed, with sad and heavy hearts that we learned of Gladys' death on 7th March 2018 following a short stay in hospital.

Gladys was one of those “special” people through whom God's light shone so gently, so richly, so beautifully! She possessed a lively mind and a passion for life that, despite her 90-years, she openly shared with everyone.

On coming to live in Ormskirk she joined Emmanuel some 25-years ago where she found warmth and friendship and quickly settled into the life of the Church. Over the years she has contributed to and supported Church activities, from Christmas Fayres to the Prayer Circle! Indeed, only a short time ago she formed a new Choir for everyone who loved music, as she did.

Of course, her talents stretched far beyond the boundaries of Emmanuel – The Trefoil Guild, the WI, U3A etc., She also enjoyed walking, and spent many happy hours walking with her dear friends, Irene and Stuart Anderson, with the “Select Group” Walking Club.

With such a lively mind, it was not surprising therefore, that, after retirement, she undertook a BA (Hons) in “Womens History” with her thesis being on “Bessie Braddock”! Gladys was a remarkable woman indeed! She was an avid writer and her beautiful poems were given to friends and family to mark special occasions for them – what a lovely gesture!

Gladys will be sadly missed by all of us who knew her and our deepest sympathy and prayers are with her loving and adored family at this time.

We pray that God will take care of her for us until we meet with her again.

Noreen

SUPPORTING CHARITIES THROUGH RECYCLING

STAMPS - for Methodist Homes. This is an ongoing collection. Stamps should be trimmed 1/4 inch (not from the postcards) and can be given to Elizabeth at anytime.

Thank you



Advanced Notice - Schools Outreach

In May we will be taking 'Life Journey' workshops into our Methodist Primary schools. This is a project that runs in conjunction with Scripture Union and offers the children the opportunity to look at the life journey of John Wesley. Through art and craft, drama and prayer the children will be given the opportunity to reflect upon God and how they can develop their own personal relationship walking alongside Jesus as their friend.

Provisional dates (to be confirmed) are May 8th and 22nd. We will need many volunteers to help us engage in meaningful and fruitful conversation with the children. So, if you are able to assist with one or both days, please contact Sue (sueguenault@methodist.org.uk 07468 518260) and save the date in your diary. Thank you, Sue

IN TOUCH, APRIL 2018

Finding Friends and Food at Emmanuel

(From a member of the Lunch Club)

“Missing twice monthly lunches?
A warm welcome awaits you
at the Saturday Coffee Shop, 10.30 – 12 noon
to meet friends old and new.
My favourite is a pot of tea
and a lovely toasted tea-cake.
Come along and I bet you'll agree “.

Our next Soup Lunches are on Wednesdays, 28th March and 25th April,
at 12.45 pm
The Coffee Shop is weekly.

Emmanuel Fellowship

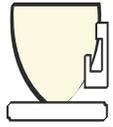
Tuesday, 10th April, 7.30 - “Flying for Life” - M.A.F.
Stan and Anne Chedgzoy from Liverpool, our area reps, are bringing up
to date news of the work of the Missionary Aviation Fellowship.

Easter Offering 2018

Throughout Methodism in the UK envelopes for the Methodist Church
Mission Fund will be in the pews at Easter. We ask for your generous
giving to this offering organised by Methodist Women in Britain. The
accompanying bookmark gives the details.

Thank you

TEA SERVICE



SORRY

NO

Informal Tea Service

IN APRIL



AT EMMANUEL CHURCH

Luncheon Club

On the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12.45 p.m .
Soup lunch with bread and cakes and tea or coffee
£2.00 each

This provides an opportunity to enjoy the company of friends and share food. We welcome any Church friends to join us.

For further information or if you would like to help in any way please contact Elizabeth (573372).





Our monthly Messy Church sessions continue to bring great joy and fellowship as we celebrate the Gospel message through celebration and being messy. Our Sessions have included a welcome, a long creative time to explore the biblical theme through getting messy; a short celebration time involving stories, prayers, songs and film clips, and a sit-down meal together. So far we have explored 'Messy Creation' , 'Who Is Jesus?' , 'A new start-the Story of Noah' and 'God is Love'.

Our next session will be on April 28th from 4.30-6.30pm.

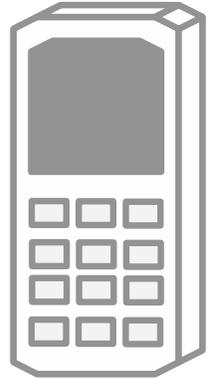
Please come and join us in fun and fellowship. Sue



Boys Brigade recycling

Used printer cartridges and old mobile phones. **Original manufactured cartridges only** but not copies or remanufactured.

Please pass your cartridges/phones to Ian Price or place them in the church porch recycle box.



For the weekly notices

Please e-mail me your notices at home, by 9 p.m. Wednesday evening to jackie.a.cann@gmail.com so that I can print on Thursdays. I am usually at home on Wednesday evenings (580270) if you would like to phone



©Visekart - IllustrationsOf.com/213227

Youth Week

Monday 16th April - Chess at Burscough

Tuesday 17th April - Quiz at Holmeswood (venue to be confirmed)

Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th, Friday 20th Sports nights at Emmanuel

Sunday 22nd April, 6.30pm Closing Service and Presentations at Emmanuel.

More details to follow in weekly notices

Guild

April 17 2.00 p.m. Get together at O'Brians for tea and chat

May 1st 2.00 p.m. Ruth Rushworth - "Pamper Afternoon"

KNIT AND NATTER

Every last Thursday of the month at 2.30p.m.

Naturally Tea and Cakes will be part of it.

Jean Whalley tel 576284

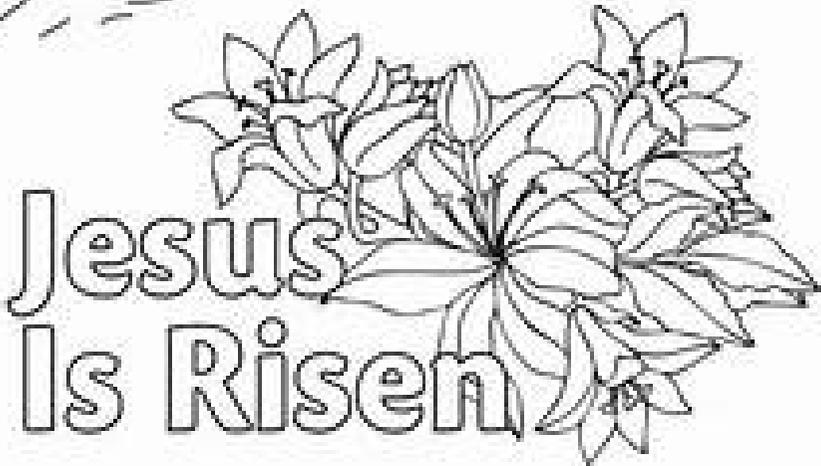
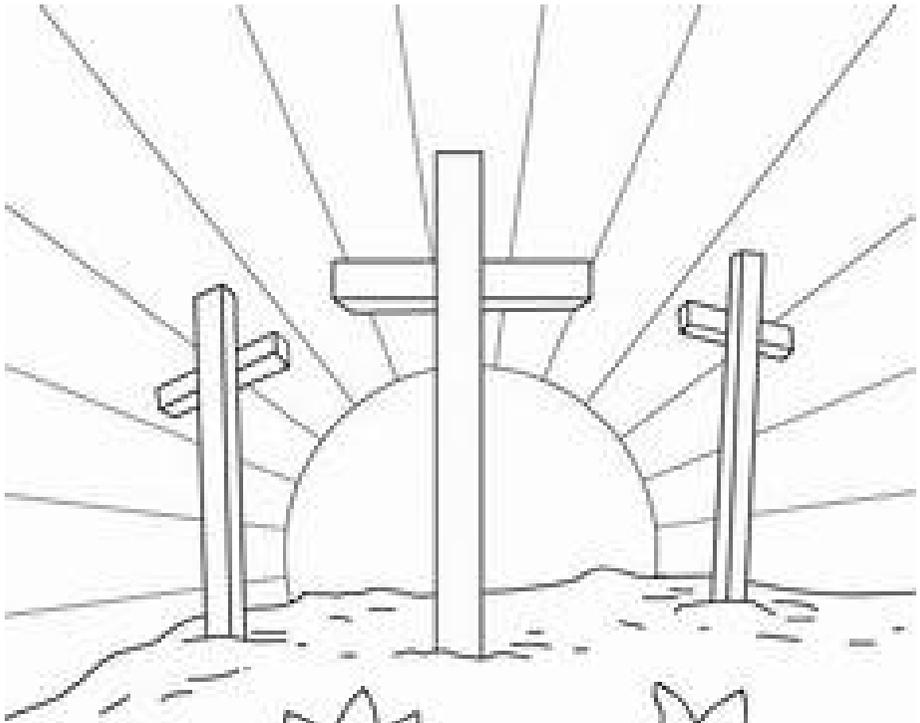


Hope Journey

On March 15th, we welcomed the year 5 pupils of Ormskirk C.E. and Mawdesley C.E. Primary Schools to take part in the Cross Factor, where we explored the Easter Story. Sue would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers who made the morning such a memorable experience for children and staff.



COLOUR ME IN



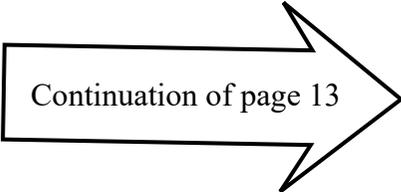
Finance News

Firstly just to bring you up to date on a couple of things at the end of last year over the Christmas Period we had a couple of retiring collections. These raised £55.50 for Action for Children, Bible Society £94 and back in November at our remembrance service £107.20 for Help for Heroes – thanks to all who have given so generously to these causes.

Recently at the Church Council meeting we were discussing our giving and I pointed out that many people do not realise the many calls upon our funds each year. On top of the expected payments such as Wages, assessment, Gas, electric and water. There were many other items such as Insurance – over £400 per MONTH, stationary, envelopes both weekly giving ones and for post etc, paper and copier cost for newsletters, notices etc, light bulbs, toilet rolls, soap, repairs to locks, windows, boilers, servicing all items, annual checks on all electrical items, boilers, gas equipment, lightening conductors, clearing of gutters, copyright licence, youth expenses, repairs and maintenance to the cottage and many more too numerous to mention. This means therefore that our monthly costs are in excess £7,500 or £1,750 per week. Therefore if you look at the weekly giving along with the monthly standing orders this can mean quite a juggling act needs to be done using our investment income, lettings income, donations and special events.



CONTINUED . PAGE 14



Continuation of page 13

One of the ways that makes life a bit easier for me as treasurer is giving by Standing Order as I know a set amount comes into our account each month, this along with weekly giving envelopes to encourage regular giving to support all that we do here at Emmanuel. The use of Standing orders also makes it less of a risk keeping cash in the building or carrying it to the bank during the week. I would ask that you consider both standing orders or weekly envelopes for your giving, also that if you give by either of these methods could you review the amount you give in view of constantly increasing costs? Don't forget that if you can Gift Aid this costs you nothing but gives us an extra 25% on your giving but has to be accountable and so Standing orders and weekly envelopes can fulfil this purpose.

If you need more details contact myself on 01695 722854, 07932 406696 (mob) or e mail - mamma.taylor@hotmail.com

Letter from Toby the Terrier.



Dear friends,

Thank you all my friends for asking after me when my Mum and Dad came to Ormskirk in February.

I was too busy to come ! I had to look after some lonely little dogs who were staying in the kennels.

We have had lots and lots of snow here .It was too deep for my short legs; so Dad cleared a path for me; Psalm 23 says that our Gentle Shepherd will lead us even when the path is difficult.

That's all for now. I have to chase a cat who is daring to look at my garden!

woof woof
Toby



WEG Theatre Trip

Would you like to come to the musical 'Anything Goes' on Wednesday April 25th at 7.30 pmat the Civic Hall?

Following the hilarious evening with the pantomine dame, Jim Briscoe from the Pleasure Folk, we are organising a block booking.

Tickets cost £8.00

If you would like to go contact Sharon Williams 01695 422481

ORDINATION

Dear Friends,

I would like to invite you all to two very special events as I continue my journey as a Methodist Minister.

Testimonial Service

On Sunday 6th May my testimonial service will take place at Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church at 6.30pm. There will be a Faith Tea provided beforehand at 5.00pm. Everyone is welcome to join us in this service of praise and thanksgiving.

Ordination

On Sunday 1st July I will be ordained in St Cuthbert's Chapel, Worksop College at 4.00pm. Admittance to the service is by ticket only (free of charge). If you wish to attend this service please contact Miriam Roxburgh on 01695 422013 by Friday 6th April. Miriam is kindly organising ticket allocations and potential transport arrangements.

Thank you for all your support and prayers,

Every Blessing,

Rev. Sue

A probationer minister's Testimony Service

is a part of the ordination process and dates back to the practice of the Primitive Methodists, whose probationers were accepted onto the Annual List of fully accredited ministers at the District Meeting in a simple service in which they gave an account of their Call.

Traditionally it is a preaching service. The Chair of the District, the Revd Dr Sheryl Anderson, will lead worship and 'give the charge', and Sue will give her testimony.

The service is an opportunity for the local churches, Circuits, and the District to affirm the probationers in their call and send them forward on the journey toward Reception into Full Connexion with the Conference and subsequent ordination.

Saturday Coffee Shop

10.30 to noon Except
August



Volunteers wanted for a Few Saturdays per year -
Please contact Lilian Graham 423119

Please - entries for the IN Touch in as:-

Standard text entries to arrive on my email for 5 p.m. on the 17th of the month preceding the due publication(as usual) and 48 hours prior to that for material with photographs (jpg format) and any material containing artwork/graphics (pdf format).

Nigel Cann, 24 Dyers Lane,
Ormskirk L39 4RW
Tel: 01695 580270
Email – nglcnn24@gmail.com

HALL / ROOM HIRE

AT

EMMANUEL

Langham Hall

Is multipurpose and available for hire plus has tables and chairs which can comfortably accommodate approximately 95 people **or** the tables and chairs can be packed away at one end of the hall giving a large clear area for other activities. In addition we have a wall projector screen ready for your talks and such like in the hall. There is also a kitchen which can be used by arrangement, next to the hall, that is well equipped and for many years has received the 5 star award for hygiene.

Lecture room

Has seats for some 40 people, is set up with a wall projector screen and is carpeted.

Lounge

24 seats are kept in the carpeted lounge which is ideal for a small meeting.

Enquiries to:-

Lyn Jenkins 01695 422573

Or

Bill Jones 01695 574268