



The Link



The Magazine of

Marshside Road Methodist Church Southport

www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk



Priceless, but donations gratefully received

September 2015



**Till the ground, remove the stone,
Plant the seed, that are your own,
Cultivate, motivate, water, feed,
Love unbound, solid ground, destined to succeed!**

Minister's Letter

I've been privileged this summer to see God at work in a variety of different places and in different ways. In the Knights hospitaller in Malta, seeking to help the sick, injured and the poor. In the thousands of young people who worshipped, prayed, got filled with the Holy Spirit, were healed and came to know Jesus for the first time at Soul Survivor. In the living room and the bread church where people who struggle with life generously shared all that they had with each other. Leading children in worship and being led by children in worship at holiday club. God was definitely leading me when I needed the words to say at several bedsides whilst covering the hospital chaplaincy and through the re – invitation process. It is good to know that God is still active in our world, through ordinary people just like us.

I remember listening to conversation between two people a long time ago, the first person was bemoaning the fact that God appeared to be absent in our world today whilst the second person insisted that God is still active we just need eyes to see it. Sound advice it seems to me as it can be easy to focus on what is wrong and completely miss what God is doing. I wonder where are the places in your world that you've seen God at work over the last months? It would be great to share those experiences with each other so that we could all be encouraged. Maybe you could start to keep a journal that records all such times and then share it someone you know needs encouraging.

This connexional year I pray that God would give us all eyes to see what God is up to and where God is working.

Blessings, Rev Jan

From the Southport Circuit

Congratulations to **Rev Jan** whose work with Messy Church has been recognised and who is now the Regional Coordinator, not just for the Methodist Churches in Southport but for all the other denominations as well. Messy Church is a great opportunity for outreach to families and young people who may not normally consider attending church.

On Sunday, 6th September, the welcome service will be held at St Philip & St Paul with Wesley for our new Superintendent Minister, **Rev. Marie-Anne Kent**. Marie Anne will be the Methodist Minister in charge of PPW & St Francis churches and will be living in the Manse in Falkland Road. We welcome Marie-Anne, husband David and their two sons, Josh and Sam to our circuit and look forward to a great time together.

Dorothy Simpkin (Circuit Steward)

Twinkle House, the new MWiB Charity

"To improve the quality of life of those with Disabilities living in West Lancashire and neighbouring areas"

Aims and objectives of the charity

Aims

Twinkle House was set up by parents in 2004 with an aim to improve the quality of life of children and young people with Disabilities and Additional Needs and their carers in West Lancashire and the surrounding areas, (currently accessed by many people from Liverpool and Sefton)

Objectives

Our objective is to provide a safe therapeutic learning environment and tailored support to address the needs of children and young people with Disabilities to ensure that they are given every possible chance to meet their full potential and to participate fully in society. We also aim to give those with Disabilities a safe place in which they can access leisure activities within their local community.

Our centre

Our new centre comprises of 4 Multi-sensory rooms, Hydrotherapy Pool, Specialist Resource Lending Library and Specialist parent/carer Book Library. Our Multi-sensory rooms offer a safe, calming space filled with visual stimuli, sounds, tactile objects and pleasant aromas. It is an extraordinary, environment where children and young people with physical or learning difficulties can come with their carers to interact, learn new skills and have fun using adaptable equipment to encourage interaction and communication at various levels and forms, including improving their educational targets and attainment. We provide strategies to help them positively cope with the child's difficulties We fully provide for these children and their families until they feel that they can self support without our intervention. Services to children and young people 0-19 are provided free.

On average, approximately 30 children attend our facility each week, and it is important to emphasise that our support is specifically tailored to each individual's needs. Following registration and assessment, we offer a programme which utilises individually tailored strategies and techniques that help relieve the child's and family's difficulties in an effective and meaningful way. Moreover, these strategies and techniques can be used at home or at school.

Strategies are tailored to enable individuals to achieve their potential; helping them understand and manage their own behaviour; arming them with skills having long lasting positive effect on their ability to get their needs met, remain in school and improve their overall well-being and quality of life.

Nature of the appeal

Twinkle House is in serious need of securing funds towards providing these free sessions for children and young people. It costs £30 per hour to provide an intensive support session. £6,000 would enable us to provide 200 sessions to children, young people and their families. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration of our appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Boardman, CEO

Missions Brunch

There is to be a **Missions Brunch in aid of 2 charities, our current Missions Charity CBM and the MWiB current project Twinkle House.**

Twinkle House was set up by parents in 2004 with an aim to improve the quality of life of children and young people with Disabilities and Additional Needs and their carers in West Lancashire and the surrounding areas, (currently accessed by many people from Liverpool and Sefton)

Please reserve the date **Saturday the 12th September 10-1pm in the lounge.**

Lin Mayor



Southport Marshside Road Methodist Church

Marshside Road
SOUTHPORT
Merseyside
PR9 9TL

14 July 2015

Dear Friends

Many thanks for your kind donation of £92.38 on 02 July 2015 towards the work of Christian Aid. Your response to our emergency appeal is greatly appreciated.

At a magnitude of 7.8, the earthquake that struck Nepal and parts of India on 25 April is the largest to do so in 81 years. This, along with the aftershocks and a second major earthquake on 12 May has meant that thousands of people died and millions have been displaced or affected in other ways. Our partners were already working in Nepal and were able to respond immediately that the emergency happened.

With your support and the expertise of our partners in Nepal, we are addressing the most urgent needs of clean water, food, shelter and medical care. Water filtration units have been distributed to make-shift camps and villages. Each filtration unit can provide 1,500 litres of purified water per hour. Water purification tablets and sachets are also being distributed to ensure a clean supply of water to affected people. In addition our partners are also providing food, shelter and medical supplies.

Your prayers and support for the people of Nepal are greatly appreciated. You can find out more about how your gift is helping us to respond to this emergency at christianaid.org.uk/nepal.

Once again, thank you so much for your continued support of our work with and for the poorest communities on earth. With your continued help, we can make a difference.

Yours sincerely

Robin Gurung

Financial Processing Assistant

Reference: OR804551:B244672/21

04 August 2015

Supporter Ref: 258746

the
overseas
disability
charity

cbm
together we can do more



Mrs L Mayor
Marshside Road Methodist Church
1c Marshside Road
SOUTHPORT
PR9 9TL

Dear Mrs Mayor

CBM – Local presence and global impact

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and gifts and for sharing our vision of an inclusive world for all. **I'd like to ask for your help** - would you make our enclosed quarterly newsletters '**Disability matters**' available in your church to encourage more members of your congregation to read about the inspiring stories they've made possible through generous gifts to CBM?

Of the billion people who have a disability, 80% live in low-income countries. CBM is the world's leading **Christian Overseas Disability Charity**, transforming lives and building futures for people who live with disabilities, and for those at risk of acquiring a disability, in some of the poorest areas of the world.

Last year we supported **672 projects in 65 countries** across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, **touching the lives of 32 million people** by providing medical training, preventative treatment, restorative surgery, medicine and rehabilitation, plus post-operative support.

At CBM we **celebrate diversity** and work to enable people with disability to be heard; we support them to tackle the stigma of disability; enable access to healthcare, education, livelihoods and ensure there is an opportunity to play an active role in their communities.

One person can change a life, but - together, we can change millions of lives.

So we'd like everyone to join us and to **help put God's love into action - please display our newsletters**, and you can help us build a world where everyone is loved, valued and accepted - as God intended, **create brighter futures** and make a life-time's difference to individuals and their families.

God Bless,

Jacqueline

Jacqueline Atkinson
Community Officer

If you'd like more copies of our newsletter please contact me by email at Jacquelinea@cbmuk.org.uk; or by phone on Tel: 01223 484700.

Hi Lyn,
I hope all is going well; please do
let me know if I can help with anything
Best wishes to everyone
Jacqueline



Melissa's Thought for the Month – September 2015

I was very interested in the July/August edition of this magazine, so many references to "Prayer". What an excellent topic for the Young People's Anniversary!

My first experience of prayer was when, at the age of 3½, I came to live with my aunt and my grandmother in Ainsdale. One of them always knelt by my bedside to say the prayer which ends with the words "Bless Thy little lamb tonight". It was only very recently that I discovered that this was a prayer regularly used in Victorian families. Of course, both of them were Victorian. They were born in 1850 and 1878 respectively.

Later I became familiar with the Pooh books by A.A. Milne. One verse I recall first from reading and later in singing class at school – "Hush, hush, whisper who dares : Christopher Robin is saying his prayers".

Prayers in church were also a regular part of life. We then used "Morning Prayer" from the Book of Common Prayer though we were always a Wesleyan Methodist Church here in Southport. I keep reminding myself that the Wesleys were and always remained Anglican. John and Charles never thought about starting a new "Methodist" denomination.

I would like this month to make two little offerings about prayer, which I have found helpful myself.

The acronym "ACTS" makes sure that my private prayers are balanced. Each day I know I should include Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication. Note that "Supplication" - asking for things – comes last. First consider the greatness of the God we worship. This puts into proportion all our best efforts and leads directly to confession of the "poverty and selfishness" even of much of my prayer we can though say a very big "Thank You" for the forgiveness so freely offered to us. Our God knows our very great weaknesses not only of body and mind, but also of spirit.

It is only then that I come to making requests for others as well as for myself. This leads naturally to thoughts of those about whom I care particularly and who care for me. Then the view widens to those whom I have read about in the newspaper or learned about via the television.

There are situations world-wide which we hold before our Heavenly Father. At the moment we think specially of the migrants crossing the Mediterranean in search of a better life for their families and those suffering as a result of earthquakes in the Far East.

It is not of course that the God of all the world does not know or care, but He chooses to work through frail humans like us.

"He has no feet on earth but our feet,
No hands but ours to do His bidding

No hearts but ours to share His love
The drum beats of His army are the heart beats of our love”

Melissa.

Parent, Carer and Toddler – Trip to Windmill Farm and Sponsored Toddle

Each year at Parent, Carer and Toddler we end up going to Windmill Farm before we break up for the summer.

On the 20th of July, in addition to the 42 parents, toddlers and babies, a number of other family members came along to enjoy this very happy day. The weather was kind to us in the morning. When it did rain a little in the afternoon, there was plenty to do and see undercover.

We all went on the train, it is so exciting, and a real joy, to see the smiles on everyone's faces. The children helped to feed the lambs, watched two sheep being sheared, and saw all the other animals.

As there is so much to do, we quickly found ourselves opening our picnics at lunch time before quickly getting back to all the activities. Some didn't leave until 5pm, so they obviously didn't want to go home.

What a privilege to share the day enjoying God's beauty with these families.

On the 8th of June, we held our annual sponsored toddle which this year had a pirate theme. We prayed for good weather and was blessed with a sunny morning.

Jan, our Minister, joined us toddling around the Church field! Some toddled, some pushed prams and others just had fun. We had a few little ones in pirate costumes, they looked adorable.

Jan presented each baby and child with their medals after completing the mammoth task of walking around the perimeter of our field.

We raised £242 for Barnado's. Thank you all SO MUCH for those who helped or took part and to friends and family who supported these precious little ones by sponsoring them.

A GREAT day was enjoyed by all

Thanks again,

Margaret Boston.



Church Family News

The last time I wrote this page the children had not even broken up from school and it seemed there were weeks and weeks of summer ahead of us. Now, all of a sudden, so it seems, the children are getting ready to go back to school. Our love and best wishes to **Emily Evans** and **Evan Gilchrist** who will be starting school. We hope they will be really happy. Best wishes to **Jensen Gilchrist** who will be moving on to secondary school and to all our children who will be moving classes and changing teachers. Hope you have a brilliant year at school this year.

Many congratulations to **Sam Owen, Millie Aspinall, Caitlin Barton & Megan Ryan** on their excellent GCSE results. This means that Sam, Millie & Megan can move on to college to follow the courses they have chosen & Caitlin will be adding to her impressive results in her final year at High School. Many, many congratulations to **Jake Owen** on his amazing A level results. Jake will be moving on to Lancaster University & we wish him every success in the future. As I write this, Jake & Sam are in Finland serenading the people there on their violins. What talented young people we have!

I am sorry that in my list of birthdays in the last edition, I missed our friend **Rev. Leon Cook** who celebrated his 95th birthday in July. Happy 96th birthday to **Kathy Walters** in September. Hope you have a lovely day Kathy. We not only have amazing young people, we have truly amazing seniors with so many well in the 90+ range. How blessed we are. Our dear friend **Melissa** has become a bit of a celebrity this week having been a patron of the Southport Flower Show for 90 years, this year being no exception and **Peter Proctor** who returned safely from his Norwegian cruise.

There has been sadness and difficulties for several of our church family over the past few weeks. We were so sorry that **Brian Flatt** passed away in July. This was a very upsetting time for all the family and our thoughts and prayers are particularly with his wife **Pam** who is currently receiving care in hospital. **George Phillips** had to have further treatment following his knee surgery. We hope it is well and truly on the mend now. It is good to know **Brenda** has made a good recovery and does not require further treatment. **Liz Tomkins** was in hospital recently but is now well. However, she is awaiting the result of tests and may require surgery. You don't have time to be ill, Liz. Good to see you bouncing around at Holiday Club!

Ron Rimmer has been unwell for several weeks and is currently in hospital. We do hope they get you sorted, Ron and that you will very soon feel better. Our thoughts and prayers are once again with **Marion Halpin** whose brother is very poorly. God bless you and your family Marion at this difficult time.

Wendy Pierce should have been amongst those received into membership last week, but unfortunately was in hospital. Our love and best wishes to you Wendy. We remember **Frances Thomas** in our prayers. Frances is at present a resident in a care home. We miss you Frances and send you our love. You are very much in our thoughts and prayers. **Natasha Simpkin- Watkinson** was admitted to Alder Hey with acute appendicitis and had her appendix removed. Thankfully, she made a very good recovery but that is not the best way to spend the school holidays! **Scarlett Aspinall** has had to attend hospital with back problems. Poor you, Scarlett. We know how painful that can be. Hope you feel better very soon. I believe you and your mum **Carmen** have been keeping the NHS busy this week!

Our love, thoughts and prayers are with **Jane Biggs & Margaret** on the loss of Jane's husband, Jim. Jim, who was blind, had been in residential care for several years and has recently been quite poorly. He died in hospital on 14th August at the age of 96. Jane is not able to get out as much these days and has been unable to attend church for some time but really values visits and phone calls from friends from church.

It was lovely to have 7 members of our congregation received into membership of the Methodist Church last week and we pray they will all now feel very much a part of our church here at Marshside Road. Best wishes to **Nancy, Julie, Kath, Stephanie, Scarlett, Isabelle and Lisa**. God bless you all.

Holiday Club was once again an amazing experience, not just for the children but for the great team of helpers as well. The children had a great time but it makes it even more special to hear stories of how the lives of children and their families have been touched by the love of God through Holiday Club. Thank you for praying for us. Please keep praying that the work begun in these lives will continue and grow.

God Bless you all,
Dorothy Simpkin.

Some thoughts from Facebook

I am in competition with no one.
I run my own race, I have no desire to play the game of being better than anyone, in any way, shape or form.
I just aim to improve, to be better than I was before.
That's me and I'm free.

When you judge another, you do not define them, you define yourself.
A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. I just blooms.
There's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.

Sefton Sports Awards

Reece Wells won the Richard McGrath Positive Futures Award at the recent Sefton Sports Awards, due to his involvement with Aiming High – a team providing social and leisure opportunities for disabled children and young people.



Reece has attended a number of sporting evenings and weekends, and helped organise the Aiming High sports day that all the staff and young people were able to get involved with. Reece (middle) is pictured on the night, looking very dapper in his bow tie and suit, with his family and friends. After winning, he said : “I am just so happy and excited. I am so proud of myself.”

Well done Reece, you are credit to your family, friends, your youth workers and everyone at Marshside Road Methodist Church.

Mike Owen

Next Issue

As I am away for Harvest Sunday, the 4th of October, the next edition of **The Link** will be published on the **Sunday the 11th of October 2015**. Therefore, items for inclusion in the next edition need to reach me by **Sunday the 4th of October**. Thanks, Mike (MikeOwen10@aol.com)

Marshside Road Methodist Church, Southport, PR9 9TL

www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk

Ministers : Revd. Jan Fraser

Tel : 01704 227296

Email : revjanfraser@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday Services

09:00 am. Holy Communion – first Sunday of each Month
10:30 am. Morning Worship – including Crèche, J Team and Teenscene
18:30 am. Evening Fellowship – see Weekly Notices

Weekly Programme

Day	Meeting	Time	Contact
Monday	Parent, Carer & Toddler Group	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Margaret Boston (211548)
	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Monday Evening Fellowship	20:00 –	Mrs Joan Owen (220436)
Tuesday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Bible Study Fellowship	10:45 –	Mrs Dorothy Taylor (211643)
	Prayer Fellowship	19:00 – 20:00	Mrs Pat Wright (213647)
	Knit & Craft Club, see website for details	13:00 – 16:00	Mrs Dorothy Mitchell (228430)
Wednesday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Brigade	18:30 – 21:30	Mrs Kay Owen (225126) Miss Heather Jackson (532977)
	Wednesday Group - every 4 th Wednesday		Mrs Sheila Jones (227661)
Thursday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Thought for the Day	10:15 –	Mr George Phillips (514795)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Choir Practice	19:30 – 21:00	Mr Glenn Howard (840485)
Friday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Chris Wright's School of Dance & Drama	16:00 – 19:15	Miss Alison Wright (0773 4305348)
Saturday	Chris Wright's School of Dance & Drama	09:15 – 15:00	Miss Alison Wright (0773 4305348)
	Monthly Messy Church (see Website)	16:00 – 18:00	See the Church Website for details
Other Contacts :	Church Notices	Mrs Dorothy Simpkin (229987)	
	Cradle Roll	Mrs Margaret Boston (211548)	
	Magazine/Website Editor	Mr Mike Owen (225126)	
	Action for Children Co-ordinator	Mrs Dorothy Taylor (211643)	
	Pastoral Committee	Mrs Joan Owen (220436)	
	Premises Letting Officer	Mr David Goldson (514390)	
	World Missions	Mrs Lin Mayor (212059)	

Disclaimer :

The views and opinions expressed in this Church Magazine are solely those of the author of the individual article and not necessarily the views of the Church, Leadership Team or Minister.