

"Methodist and United Reformed Church News in Darwen"

Working together to learn, live, love and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

October and November 2021

CENTRAL

BRIGHT STREET

SPRING VALE

TRINITY

TOCKHOLES

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URC Churches – Central URC, Tockholes URC and Trinity URC/Methodist
For baptisms, marriages and funerals and other enquires please contact the appropriate church secretary.

Central Website: www.centralurcdarwen.org.uk
Methodist Website: www.darwenmethodists.co.uk

This magazine is in a different format to our usual magazine, for email and printing purposes. If anyone does not receive a copy or knows of someone who hasn't received a copy, please contact Liz Rutherford 01254 774715 or email lizrutherford@live.co.uk

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Minister's letter

Dear Friends

Once again I would like to thank you all for your continued warm welcome, especially as I have now moved into the manse. It has been great to receive all your cards and flowers, chocolates and offers of help. I have now had the pleasure of having my first Lancashire Pie and Pea lunch with thanks to Revidge Fold URC, although I am still laughing at being invited to an event called "Tuesday at 2", starting at 1pm!

I am still surrounded by boxes and I think I will be for some time yet – but at least I have a place to call home and a study to work in.

As we come to September and October, it is a time many of us will be thinking about new starts. New schools for children or grandchildren, fresh starts at university or jobs and at church fresh starts as we continue to emerge from the pandemic slowly and cautiously.

Many of us will be thinking of how we are to move forward in this new world, how do we care for each other but also step into new ways of being church. I wonder how many of you have reconsidered like me what it means to come together to worship God? Over the last 18 months or so we have all tried new ways of worshipping God; this may have been on Zoom or following on TV or the radio. For some it has been following a written liturgy.

It is said that many came to church for the first time or returned to church over the pandemic via online services. I know many of the churches in East Lancashire are considering the way forward and there are some exciting things starting to develop.

I would like to leave you with a reminder of 1 Corinthians 12:12-13a (NRSV)

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body".

How do we carry out the mission we are called to in our communities ensuring a warm welcome into the One Body of Christ, The Church?

I look forward to journeying with you all as we go forward, building Christ's kingdom here in East Lancashire!

God Bless,

Adam Woodhouse

CENTRAL CHURCH NEWS

It is lovely that our church is now returning to normal and we are welcoming new people into our congregation, thinking especially of Shameem and her girls who have been reunited with the twins from Kabul. The Rev Adam Woodhouse conducted his first service at Central on the 14th August and it was lovely to be able to welcome him and meet all our church members. Our Harvest Festival service was conducted by Barbara and we received generous donations of canned goods which were taken up to the Food Larder the following day. The church was decorated with flowers and we were able to stand to sing our traditional Harvest hymns. We have celebrated two baptisms (Ada Elizabeth and Alfie Benjamin) with their families. On the 14th September we celebrated the life of Margaret Turner who sadly passed away on the 26th August. Margaret was a longstanding, hardworking and dedicated member of our church. The service was conducted by the Rev Adam Woodhouse and her son Michael gave a wonderful and witty eulogy about his mother's life and her visits to Barcelona.

Thank you to members of our DARE group, who have been picking up litter around the church, as their way of giving back something to the church.

Liz Rutherford

Birthday Celebrations - Barbara, Karen, Ann, Geoff, Beryl Slater, Lesley B, Dorothy C, Elsa, Janet P, Bert, Mary, Maria, Adebola and Abiola.

Wedding Anniversaries – Barbara and Harry, Gary and Eileen, Beryl and Ken, Bill and Paula.

Prayers – Every week in church we continue to mention people by name in need of our prayers.

Church Fellowship

14th October 2.15 pm in church, followed by refreshments

21st October 10.30 am Bible Study in the lounge

11th November 2.15 pm 'Remembering' in the hall

18th November 10.30 am Bible Study in the lounge

16th December 12.30 pm Fellowship Christmas Lunch in the hall

Communion Rota

October – Jean Yates (bread), Janet Goodship, Karen Narramore, Elsa Peacock

November – Karen Narramore, Eileen Pye, Beryl Shaw (bread), Ken Shaw

Dear Friends at Central URC & Tockholes URC,

On behalf of everyone at Darwen Food Larder, both clients and volunteers alike, many thanks indeed to you all for your kind and generous gifts this Harvest time. Your donations are very welcome and greatly appreciated, as are your donations throughout the year.

With best wishes,

Esther Shaw

TOCKHOLES URC

The summer months at Tockholes saw us open our doors once again for the first time in 18 months. It has been lovely to see friends throughout July and August within the safe environment of our Chapel.

On Sunday 2nd September we welcomed our new minister, Adam Woodhouse, to lead our Service. It was wonderful to 'meet and greet' in person rather than on Zoom – and to know that we now have permanent support for Chapel after being without a Minister for such a long time.

The following Saturday myself, Marion and Kathleen spent the afternoon in Chapel decorating in advance of our Harvest Service. It had been 2 years since we had done it, and thankfully I had taken a photo from that time so could remember all the wonderful things we place on our altar – not just Fruit and Vegetables but also Coal, Salt, Bread and Butter to remind us of the varied and wonderful gifts we receive from the Earth. Unfortunately I couldn't attend on the Sunday (another household covid scare – thankfully a false alarm), but was delighted to hear that the service was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. Our thanks extend to Rev. David Netherwood who

conducted the service on the day and to all those who brought gifts of food on both the Saturday and Sunday. These were distributed to our village friends and also to Darwen Food Larder.

Throughout Lockdown a number of our congregation and friends kept 'money jars', putting money aside each week that they would normally have put into our collection in Chapel. Thank you to all who did this and brought them along to our Harvest Service.

When I took my dog for a walk this morning, it was pretty frosty on the ground and it made me think that the colder months are coming. I hope and pray that we can continue opening Chapel over Winter – and that next time I write this Newsletter Contribution I'm inviting you to our Christmas Services.

Emma

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP NEWS

We start with the sad news of the deaths of two members of our fellowship. Firstly, Sylvia who passed away at home. Sylvia was an Elder and served as our treasurer for many years. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bill, Faith and the family at this time. Secondly, Edith, the oldest member of our congregation, who died at the age of 96 after a short illness. Again, our thoughts and prayers are with Edith's family.

For the past few years we have been praying for Helen's sister Sue, and it is with great sadness that we have to report that Sue passed away in August. We pray for her husband Steve at this time.

On a happier note, congratulations to Lauren on a tremendous set of GCSE results, obtained under difficult circumstances. Lauren has now started sixth form at St. Wilfrid's, and we wish her well with her studies.

A few members of our fellowship have had birthdays recently. These include Michael and Terry, and Sandra, who celebrated her 60th.

In our prayers we have remembered Jack, Angela, Tommy, Margaret, Lilian and Malcolm, and Terry, who is to have an operation on her eye.

Finally, we welcomed our new minister, Adam, to Trinity on 22nd August for his first service with us. We look forward to getting to know him better in the weeks and months to come.

Judith

NEWS FROM SPRING VALE METHODIST CHURCH

We hope you are all keeping well and perhaps returning to some normality in your churches.

At Spring Vale we have recently welcomed our new Minister Elizabeth and her family, and we are very much looking forward to getting to know one another. We hope that Elizabeth, her husband and children are settling into their new home and surroundings.

Over the last few weeks, and in the coming weeks we have a series of services based on the book of James. We have had so far a Local Arrangement service; our first worship led by Rev Elizabeth, and we also welcomed back Danny Wilson on the 2nd week. The remaining services will be led by David, Simon and Steven our local preachers. We look forward to their services.

Whilst we are talking of worship, we must say how we will miss our joint services with our friends at Bright Street as we now return to weekly services in our own buildings. However we look forward to seeing one another soon.

We are now busy making future plans, and have just held our first event - our quiz night. This was much enjoyed, the evening was a great success and we thank everyone for their support. A very big thank-you must go to David and Karimeh for organising the event, to everyone who helped on the evening and also to all our local businesses who kindly donated raffle prizes.

It was indeed a busy weekend at Spring Vale as we also had our Heritage weekend service; we shared coffee and cakes afterwards and enjoyed the Heritage material on display. The many photos and slides brought back some lovely memories. Thank you also to our Mayor Councillor Hardman and his wife for joining in worship with us.

Each Friday we have introduced a drop in 'brew time' to reach out to our local community and all are welcome. On Friday 24th September from 1.30pm - 3.00pm we will have a MacMillan event, and we do hope that you can join us, and perhaps bring along a cake to the sale.

We have also been able to restart our Stay and Play group, which now takes place each Tuesday from 10.30am till 12.00pm. It has been lovely to welcome back families old and new. Thank you to all our volunteers who help each week.

It is wonderful to once again be able to look to the future. We have formed a Mission Group to plan future events and look at ways of engaging our local community. We are now busy planning a Harvest Supper, and other events for later in the year.

Recently we have welcomed Duncan and Carol Turner as members of our Church, and we feel blessed that they have now joined our Church family.

Many of us have been attending the Fellowship Group at Bright Street on Monday evenings, and again it is wonderful to resume meetings in church. We are currently, as in our services, studying the book of James. This is a great group; we learn so much, have good discussions, and enjoy a special time together.

We think about our members who unfortunately are not able to attend Church; they are always in our thoughts and prayers, and we hope that in the future they will be able to join us again, but remain always a part of our Church family. We also think of those who are a little under the weather at the moment, and hope they are feeling better soon.

As always, a final note of thanks to everyone at Church who carry out a multitude of tasks each week, and we thank volunteers who have stepped forward to help, which is so much appreciated.

Until next time, take care, and God Bless from Spring Vale.

Irene

NEWS FROM DARWEN METHODIST CHURCH @ BRIGHT STREET

Wow! What a busy time it's been since I last wrote for the magazine. It certainly doesn't seem like two months ago.

On the 25th July Rev Louise conducted her final service with us. It was a joyful time, but tinged with sadness, as we prepared to say goodbye (or more "au revoir" for some of us, as we will keep in touch). The service was followed by a barbecue on the lawn, efficiently organised by Pam Greenhalgh and family, and we couldn't have asked for better weather. We were well and truly blessed. In the afternoon we were joined by friends from other churches in the West Pennines Circuit when we held the official circuit leaving service for Louise and Rev Rick from the Hyndburn section, who has also moved on to become the Superintendent in the Burnley area. The service was followed by tea and cakes and a lovely time catching up with Circuit friends who we hadn't seen for some time, due to Covid. We ask God's blessing on Louise as she settles in her new circuit in Lytham St Annes and also on Rev Rick in his new role. A big thank you to Pam and family, worship leaders from both Darwen

Churches, kitchen helpers and all who helped to make the day so special. Oh, and even though she won't be reading this, a big thank you to my daughter-in-law Shereen who very generously offered her time in making all the cakes.

We have, of course, since then welcomed our new minister Rev Elizabeth Kirova and her family at a welcome service held at Feniscowles Methodist Church, which is also one of Elizabeth's churches. We are very much looking forward to getting to know Elizabeth and I am sure she has some exciting plans for us.

September saw us restart our regular groups. I certainly didn't know what to expect from Stay & Play at Bright Street, as the majority of the children who were with us 18 months ago have now moved on to full time nursery or started school. Would it take off again? – well, I needn't have worried as on the first two weeks back we had 40 and 39 families respectively, come through the doors and register with us. I look forward to many happy weeks sharing with them. We have new kitchen volunteers for Stay and Play, and Elizabeth Foster continues to help with the children. I want to say a big thank you to them for all their help. I certainly couldn't do it without them.

The Friday afternoon well-being group "Time" has successfully restarted and we have welcomed some new faces. A full and varied programme has been arranged by Elizabeth Foster and I am sure this will be enjoyed by all.

We are continuing to hold our monthly lunch on the second Thursday of every month, when we offer a simple lunch with dessert and a brew. It's a great time to sit down and catch up with friends, old and new, whilst enjoying the food. If you haven't already, why not give us a try, you'll be very welcome and I'm sure you won't be disappointed. All we ask is that you let us know a few days in advance so we have an idea how many to cater for. Contact myself or Val Gregory, you'll find our phone numbers somewhere in this magazine.

Our joint fellowship group with Spring Vale is held every Monday at 7pm at Bright Street and is very ably led by Pam Greenhalgh, one of our members who is a local preacher. We have a lovely time of fellowship together and some lively discussions.

We have been studying the book of James, a real lesson on how we should be living our lives as disciples and followers of Christ. We will be following this with a look at Hebrews which I think will be just as much a challenge. Anyone is very welcome to come along and join us. Contact me for more details if you are interested.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service will be on the 10th October when Rev Elizabeth will lead All Age Worship. Dry goods for donation to Darwen Food larder will be gratefully accepted.

Details of upcoming services are as follows:

Sept 26 th	Local arrangement (led by worship leaders and stewards)
Oct 3 rd	David Foster
Oct 10 th	Rev Elizabeth (harvest)
Oct 17 th	Pam Greenhalgh
Oct 24 th	Rev Andrew Turner (Holy Communion)
Oct 31 st	John Venables
Nov 7 th	Steven Williams
Nov 14 th	Rev Elizabeth (Holy Communion)
Nov 21 st	David Foster
Nov 28 th	Bryan Lamb

I am sure we have much to look forward to as we continue our mission and explore new ideas and opportunities. Exciting and busy times ahead.

Love and blessings to you all
Karen

East Lancs worship services and events arranged by Mal Breeze

Please email malbreeze@me.com if you wish to join any of these events which will still be taking place on Zoom

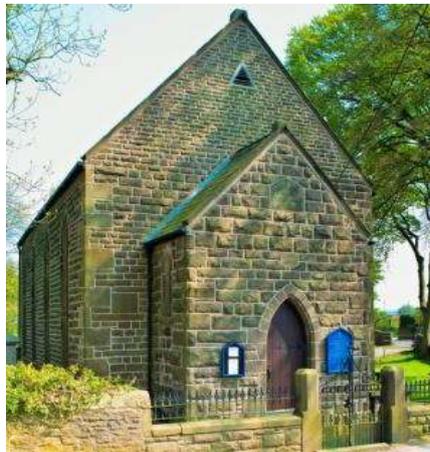
MORNING PRAYERS: These take place every Tuesday Morning at 9.30 am to 10 am.

PRAYER BREAKFASTS: These take place on the third Saturday of each month 10.30 am– 16th October, 20th November

QUIZ NIGHTS: 7.30pm – 9.00pm - Friday 8th October, 5th November

URC CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

Date	Central	Trinity
3 rd October	Barbara Duxbury	Rev Lena Talbot HC
10 th October	Doreen Goodship HC	John Venables
17 th October	Speakers on the Church in Taiwan	George Grime
24 th October	Danny Wilson	George Grime/C Young
31 st October	Elders – Gift Day	Rev Michele Jarmany
7 th November	George Grime	John East HC
14 th November	Barbara Duxbury HC – Remembrance Sunday	Rev Lena Talbot
21 st November	Rev Adam Woodhouse	Bryan Lamb
28 th November	Barbara Duxbury – Advent Sunday	Doreen Goodship



TOCKHOLES URC CHURCH

3 rd October	Rev Michelle Jarmany
10 th October	Barbara Duxbury
17 th October	George Grime HC
24 th October	Danny Wilson
31 st October	George Grime/C Young
7 th November	John East
14 th November	Rev Lena Talbot
21 st November	Rev Adam Woodhouse HC
28 th November	Barbara Duxbury

CHURCH GROUPS CENTAL URC

Day	Time	Name of Group
Monday	10.00 am to 11.00 am	Sweaty Mamas
	12.45pm to 1.30 pm	Mini Movers (Blackburn Borough Council)
	2.00 pm to 3.00 pm	Chair based exercise (as above)
	6.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Ballroom/sequence dancing
Tuesday	10.00 am to 11.00 am	Circuit/Balance Exercise (Borough Council)
	11.30 am to 12.15 pm	Movers and Shakers for mums and tots (as above)
	5.30 pm to 8.00 pm	Dance
Wednesday	10.00 am to 1.00 pm	DARE Refugee Drop-In and English Classes
	2.00 pm to 4.00 pm	Ashleigh Singers
	5.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Dancing
Thursday	9.00 am to 12.00 noon	P.R.O.B.U.S. (alternate weeks)
	2.15 pm to 4.00 pm	Church Fellowship (once a month)
	6.30 pm to 7.30 pm	Dance Fit
Saturday	8.00 am to 11.30 am	Slimming World
Sunday	5.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Jam Factory band (as required)

SPRING VALE

Sunday	10.45 am	Sunday Service
Monday	4.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Dancing – Rothwell Arts
Tuesday	10.30 am to 12.00 noon	Stay and Play Toddler Group
Tuesday	5.45 pm to 7.00 pm	Rainbows
Wednesday	1.00 pm to 2.00 pm	Beginners Pilates
Wednesday	5.00 pm to 7.30 pm	Brownies
Wednesday	7.30 pm to 9.00 pm	Guides
Thursday	9.30 am to 10.30 am	Baby Class – Rothwell Arts
Thursday	5.00 pm to 7.00 pm	Dancing – Rothwell Arts

DARWEN METHODIST CHURCH AT BRIGHT STREET

Sunday	10.30 am	Sunday service with Junior Church – multi-media Contact Karen Rowley 07941 881833 Karenliz1947@gmail.com
Monday	9.45 to 10.45 am	Baby Rhyme Time
	12.45 to 1.30 pm	Balancing Bikes for 2-4 year olds
	6 to 8 pm	Rainbows/Brownies
	7 to 8.30 pm	Fellowship Group
Tuesday	10.30 to 11.30 am	Tai Chi
	2 to 3 pm	Stay n Pray – Prayer Group
	6 to 7 pm	Fit n Funky
Wednesday	6 to 7 pm	Yoga (for menopausal women)
	7.30 to 9 pm	Trefoil Guild (monthly)
Thursday	10 am to 12 noon	Beading Group
	12 to 1.30 pm	Lunch (2nd Thursday of the month)
	1.30 to 3 pm	Making Memories
Friday	9.30 to 11 am	Stay & Play Toddler Group
	1 to 3 pm	“Time” wellbeing Group
Saturday	10 am to 4 pm	Darwen Textile Group

DARWEN METHODIST CHURCH AT BRIGHT STREET

TIME WELLBEING GROUP – AUTUMN TERM – Fridays 1 pm to 3 pm

October 1 st	Pebble Painting – making paperweights
October 8 th	Name that Tune and a Sing-Along to songs from the 40's and 50's
October 15 th	The Gideons – A talk by Fred Kershaw
October 22 nd	Beetle Drive
October 29 th	My visit to India – speaker Elizabeth
November 5 th	Lena 'A Lancashire Childhood'
November 12 th	Darts, bowls, dominoes – the person with the most wins will get a fantastic prize
November 19 th	Travel Assist – trips and days out
November 26 th	Play Your Cards Right
December 3 rd	Test your brain by solving anagrams (in groups)
December 10 th	Making Christmas Cards and decorating Christmas boxes (you will be given a small gift to wrap)
December 17 th	Time Group Christmas Party (games, buffet, Father Christmas and Carol Songs)

Wordsearch – David's 300



Abishai Zeruah, Adina, Ahijah, Ashel Joab, Benaiah Jehoiada, Eihanan, Eiam, Elika, Eliphelet, Hanan Maakah, Heleb, Hezro, Hurai, Ialiabel, Igal Zobah, Ira Lthrite, Ira Tekoa, Ithia Ribai, Ithma, Jedieael Shimri, Jeiel, Jeribai Elnaam, Joshaphat, Mahari, Mebunnai, Obed, Shama, Shammah Ben Agee, Sibbekai, Uriah the Hittite, Zabad, Zalom

Answer to last Wordsearch – Bartholomew

BIBLE READINGS

OCTOBER 2021

- 1 Mark 14.53-65
- 2 Mark 14.66-end
- 3 Psalm 26
- 4 Mark 15.1-15
- 5 Mark 15.16-32
- 6 Mark 15.33-41
- 7 Mark 15.42-end
- 8 Mark 16.1-8
- 9 Mark 16.9-end
- 10 Psalm 22.1-15
- 11 Philippians 1.1-11
- 12 Philippians 1. 12-end
- 13 Philippians 2.1-13
- 14 Philippians 2.14-end
- 15 Philippians 3.1-4.1
- 16 Philippians 4.2-end
- 17 Mark 10.35-45
- 18 1 Timothy 1.1-17
- 19 1 Timothy 1.18-2.26
- 20 1 Timothy 3
- 21 1 Timothy 4
- 22 1 Timothy 5.1-16
- 23 1 Timothy 5.17-end
- 24 Mark 10.46-end
- 25 1 Timothy 6.1-10
- 26 1 Timothy 6. 11-end
- 27 2.Timothy 1.1-14.
- 28 Jude 1-4,17-end
- 29 2 Timothy 2.14-end
- 30 2 Timothy 3
- 31 Mark 12.28-34

NOVEMBER 2021

- 1 Daniel 1
- 2 Daniel 2.1-24
- 3 Daniel 2.25-end
- 4 Daniel 3.1-18
- 5 Daniel 3.19-end
- 6 Daniel 4. 1-18
- 7 Mark 1. 14-20
- 8 Daniel 4.19-end
- 9 Daniel 5.1-12
- 10 Daniel 5.13-end
- 11 Daniel 6
- 12 Daniel 7.1-14
- 13 Daniel 7 15-end
- 14 Mark 13.1-8
- 15 Daniel 8.1-14
- 16 Daniel 8.15-end.
- 17 Daniel 9 1-19
- 18 Daniel 9 20-end
- 19 Daniel 10.1 -11.1
- 20 Daniel 12
- 21 John 18.33-37
- 22 Luke 21.1-4
- 23 Luke 21.5-11
- 24 Luke 21.12-19
- 25 Luke 21.20-28
- 26 Luke 21.29-33
- 27 Luke 21.34-38
- 28 Psalm 25.1-10
- 29 Luke 22.1-6
- 30 Luke 22. 7-16

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FORMAL YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Spring Vale: Guides, Brownies, Rainbows;

Methodist at Bright Street: Brownies, Rainbows

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUPS

Weekday Groups at Central, Spring Vale, Trinity and Bright Street

ENQUIRIES:

URC Churches – Central URC, Tockholes URC and Trinity URC/Methodist

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Methodist Churches—please contact the Minister or Stewards.