



SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS!

WELCOME TO ASPULL
METHODIST CHURCH



Notices



Sunday 18th April 2021

Service will be led by Rev Graham Smallman

Wigan Road, Aspull, Wigan, WN2 1PP

For enquiries contact Rev Richard Towle 01257 410376



There is a vacancy for the role of Cleaner / Caretaker of the Church. We are looking for a reliable person to work approximately 5-6 hours per week, keeping the Church building clean and tidy and opening / closing the premises for any groups that use the building.

A fee is payable to the postholder.

If you would like a Role Description or are interested, please speak to Lisa Brabrook on 07933 399900 or via lisabrabrook@virginmedia.com

Prayer Meeting will now begin again in church on Monday evenings, starting this Monday 19th April from 7pm till 8pm. Do come and join us as we seek God together in prayer, everyone is welcome.

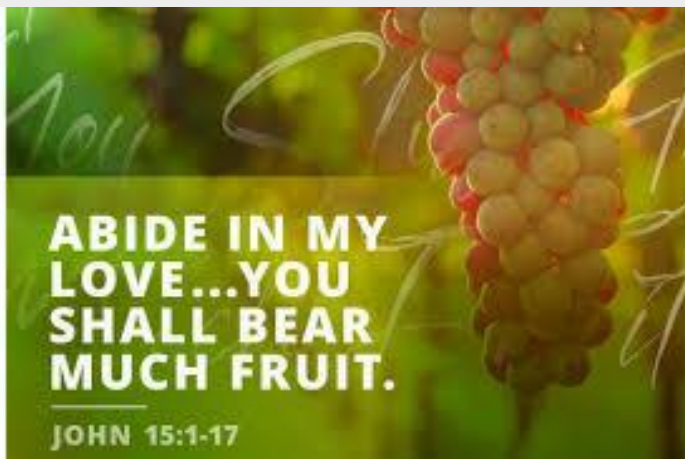


It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Deacon Margaret Hughes. Margaret ministered in the Wigan Circuit some years ago and was well loved. Please hold Neville and the family in your prayers.

Foundation Module Safeguarding Training Online has been arranged for Tuesday 27th April, 9:30am till 12:30pm. Places are limited to 20, allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. Delegates must self-register via the Bolton & Rochdale District Website <https://www.barmd.org.uk/> Further Courses are planned for the very near future and will be advertised as they are made available.


Not everyone needs to complete the Foundation Module, some will only need to complete Advanced Module. If you are not sure whether or not you need the Foundation Module, contact Agnes Houghton via agnes.houghton1@sky.com

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**



To read the latest edition of the North West & Mann Learning Network Region Newsletter, please click on the banner below

North West &
Mann Learning
Network Region

The Methodist Church 

If you, or someone you know, would like to receive the weekly Notices by email, please contact Lisa Brabrook on the following email link:

[Notices via email](#)

A Prayerful Reflection

Take time to sit quietly and ask Jesus to be present with you in a new way this week. As we prepare to pray, let's remember to praise and thank God for His love, joy and peace that he lavishes upon us.

CMP 456

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

*O, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled, as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

A WORD FROM SCRIPTURE - Ephesians 2:11-18 (NIV)

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)— ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Peace, perfect Peace - Paul describes how things were for Gentiles as they related to those who were Jewish. Becoming part of the Jewish community was very difficult, words like **'separate'** and **'excluded from citizenship'** and **'without hope'**, would perhaps leave many feeling downcast and worthless. But look at verse 13, look what Jesus has accomplished and we praise God, **'But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ'**.

Verse 14 'For Christ Himself has brought peace to us, He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in His own body on the cross, He broke down the wall of hostility that separated us'.

Jesus is our Peace and He brought these separate groups of Jews and Gentiles together into one, by removing the barriers that stood in the way. We have things dividing us, perhaps causing a sense of unrest and a lack of peace, conflicts can easily arise through **'personality clashes'**. In Jesus, we find the ability to live together in peace, His peace is showered on us all, through what He's done for us. In Paul's day these differences were much the same issues, racial and cultural clashes that Paul had to deal with in Ephesus. The secret of dealing with them is for both sides to recognize their unity in Christ. Through Jesus we have been reconciled to each other as well as to God.

We belong to Jesus Christ ... because He has made peace ... not because He merely teaches us about peace, or preaches peace, or encourages peace, but because in His own body He has made peace and broken down the enmity ... And the purpose of His life and death is to create a single new humanity in Christ – a humanity of peace ... but a humanity which is peace in Christ.

Prayer of Intercession

Let us pray:

Lord, you are the Lord of life, in Your presence is the fullness of joy.

- We give thanks for lively and vital communities. We pray for individuals that help to restore and hold together community life. We pray for people in areas where community has broken down, for down-town areas of fear and poverty, for those who have left home and have nowhere to go. We remember all who sleep rough and the organisations that care for them.

God of hope, **fill us with joy and peace in believing.**

- We pray for all those who preach the living word in areas where there seems to be no response. For all those who witness to You among opposition and violence. We pray and give thanks to all who celebrate Holy Communion and who minister the sacraments.

God of hope, **fill us with joy and peace in believing.**

- We give thanks for those who share their lives with us, our families, our friends and our neighbours. We pray for all who are finding life difficult or distressing, for those whose relationships are breaking down, for homes where there is sorrow and darkness.

God of hope, **fill us with joy and peace in believing.**

- We pray for the many in the medical profession who are actively involved in serving others, in hospitals, care homes, the emergency services, doctors, dentists, shopkeepers, especially in times of this pandemic.

God of hope, **fill us with joy and peace in believing.**

Lord God, You came down to lift us up, may those who serve in Governments and Local authorities all work together to bring a sense of purpose and togetherness for the benefit of all, especially through all these challenging times.

Pray the LORD'S Prayer

Peace

*The Lord seeks out and saves the lost,
He restores the fallen and rescues the perishing.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

A prayer of blessing

*The mighty God, who brought from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,
take you into His protection, enfold you with His love, direct you on
your journey; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father and the
Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.*

AMEN