



SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS!

WELCOME TO ASPULL
METHODIST CHURCH



Notices

Wigan Road, Aspull, Wigan, WN2 1PP
For enquiries contact Rev Richard Towle 01257 410376

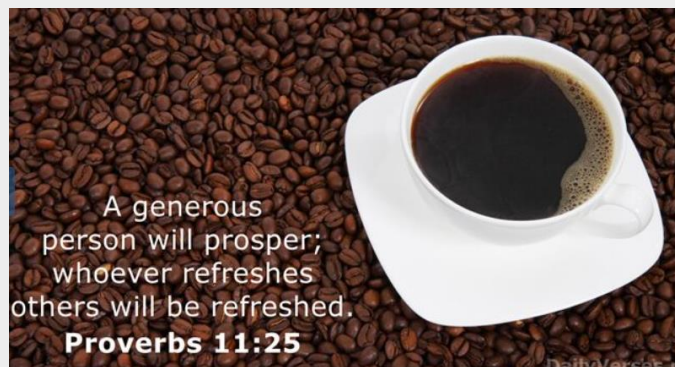
Sunday 18th July 2021

Service will be led by Rev Richard Towle

A Circuit service for the accreditation of Viv Lowe and Sandra Morris being recognised as Local Preachers in the Wigan Circuit will take place on Sunday 25th July, starting at 6pm, at Aspull Methodist Church



Collections are not currently taking place during the Service, due to the need for Social Distancing, however all ongoing costs must still be paid out. Therefore, there will be a collection plate in the Atrium and another at the door to the exit. Please consider giving generously to help ensure the continuing smooth running of the Church. Thankyou.



If you are able to, please help out by bringing Fairtrade coffee or teabags to be used in Church. These can be given to Denise Howarth

Rev John & Rev Sheila's Leaving Service

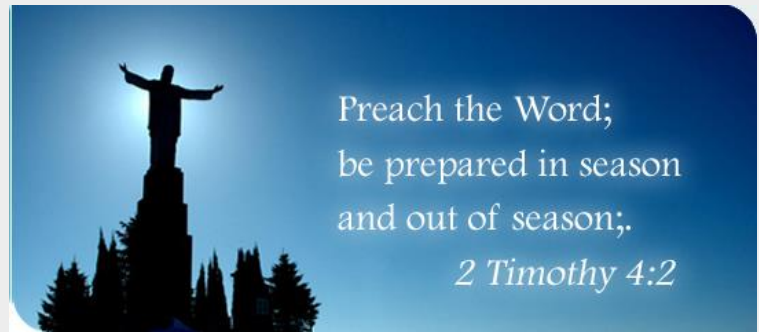
Please note: The date of Rev John and Rev Shaila's leaving service has been changed to:

**SUNDAY 1st AUGUST,
6:00pm at SHEVINGTON**

July Newsletter is now available. Click on the green banner below to read it

North West &
Mann Learning
Network Region

The **Methodist** Church 



There are currently vacancies for people to become a Church Steward and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who might be interested to serve in this way.

Please speak to Richard Baker or Alan Lowe if you would like to register your interest or find out more information

Taster Session for Worship: Leading & Preaching

Monday 20th September 7:30pm to 9pm via Zoom

Wondering if Worship Leading and/or Preaching is for you? Have you had a nudge from God (maybe via the people you know)? Come along to this taster session for conversation with accredited Worship Leaders and Local Preachers.

To book your place email Rob Glassonbury:

NWMannNetwork@gmail.com

For more information contact Jasmine Devadason:

devadasonj@methodistchurch.org.uk

If you, or someone you know, would like to receive the weekly Notices by email, please contact Allen Howarth 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 God for all His goodness in and through Christ Jesus our Lord.

CMP 1072 – In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.

This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.

My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

A WORD FROM SCRIPTURE - Ephesians 2:11-22

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. ¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Verses 11-13 Paul reminds the Ephesians that they once were separated from God. Most of them hadn't even belonged to Israel or believed in the Old Testament promises. They had lived in ignorance of the fact and without hope. There was animosity between Jew and Gentile, for the Jews, they 'looked down' on people who were not 'circumcised according to the law'.

Verses 14-18 – the Prince of Peace Jesus ,...came to reconcile man to man and do away with the hostilities and division that existed. Jesus came and preached '**Peace**' and died to achieve it, in order that Jew and Gentile are no longer divided, through the wonderful message of the cross.

Verses 19-22 Jesus has brought peace and reconciliation by uniting every believer into one single structure, because of the universal sacrifice – One Christ,... One sacrifice,...One temple – Oneness in Christ.

A word which so many people long for in our troubled world is the word ,...'**Peace**'. Every time we look at the news, the future seems increasingly uncertain. As more and more people are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, we may find it difficult to find peace in the midst of these distressing circumstances. Despite everyone's efforts to fight this illness, it's still not clear when things will get back to what some describe as,...'normal'. You know though, that throughout these trying times, we can't escape our problems, but we **CAN** experience the peace of God in the midst of them. The key is,... "**prayer and petition with thanksgiving.**" By turning our heart to contact God in our spirit through prayer, we commune with Him.

Prayer

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus"
(Philippians 4:6–7 NLT).

Prayer of Intercession

Let us pray:

- God, our Prince of Peace, we ask for Your presence in the streets and homes of our community. We pray for local law enforcement, for their safety and wisdom and compassion in all circumstances. We pray Your comfort for those who have experienced violence, and we ask Your protection for all our neighbours.

God of grace and goodness – **keep us in Your peace.**

- We pray for all those who teach in our schools, colleges, universities. Grant them wisdom and discernment as they teach and nurture our young people. We pray for school administrators, governors who work to further children's education. Lord Bless those who serve in this capacity.

God of grace and goodness – **keep us in Your peace.**

- We pray for peace upon all who feel isolated, lonely, distressed through the challenges of life. We pray for those who have been misused and abused by others, those who may have suffered traumatic events, or who have witnessed the loss of a loved one.

God of grace and goodness – **keep us in Your peace.**

- We pray and ask for peace upon all agitated and distressed peoples and communities. For all those who feel neglected or ignored, all lonely and troubled people. We pray for those who are finding life difficult and hard during this pandemic. We pray for our friends and loved ones who are ill, may they know and feel Your love and protection.

God of grace and goodness – **keep us in Your peace.**

- Finally....take time out to pray for loved ones, family,... friends or neighbours who are on your heart.

God of grace and goodness – **keep us in Your peace.**

Pray the LORD'S Prayer

Peace

*Be still and accept the peace that God's presence brings:
peace in your hearts,
peace in your minds,
peace in all your dealings.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

A prayer of blessing

*The peace of God the Father be about you.
The peace of Christ the Son be around you.
The peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.*

AMEN