

**"Be strong and courageous;
do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the LORD your God is with you
wherever you go" Joshua 1:9**

**Issue
119**

JULY/AUGUST 2021

WiganWire
circuit bulletin ... 'around & about, & inside!'



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The latest 'connexion' magazine is now available in your church or online from the Methodist website. This issue has messages from our new Conference President Revd Sonia Hicks and Vice President, Barbara Easton. There is much to encourage in its pages, the theme throughout is that is a time for us to **"Be Bold"** in our faith and calling, as 'church' and individuals in our communities.

LOCAL PREACHER NEWS

It is so good to report that **Sandra Morris** and **Viv Lowe** will have their **Circuit Service of Local Preacher Recognition at Aspull on Sunday, 25 July, 6pm**

PLEASE COME & SUPPORT.



Jesus said,

**"I have come that
they may have life,
and
have it to the full"**

John 10:10

'COMING AND GOING'

Revd Sheila's 'Valeté'

Dear Friends,

It is the nature of ministry that ministers come and ministers go! This is true of ALL ministry. Each one of us is here for a season and then we leave. We all play a part in the bringing of the gospel to those who yet walk in darkness. John Hilton and I are asking the Conference for permission to "sit down", in other words, to retire. John is staying in the community as this is where he lives, yet his work will change. I would like to thank you all for the way you welcomed me to the circuit five years ago, you have truly blessed me, and I could not have had a better appointment to finish this part of my journey with my Lord. When Jesus said in *John 10:10* "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" he was talking about the lost sheep of Israel but also about the lost sheep of every generation throughout the world. Ever since, those of faith have brought the kingdom of God to those who are lost. We, as Christians, are all called to witness and testify to this end.

In the Great Commission (*Matthew 28:16-20*) Jesus tells the disciples to **"go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**(v19-20).

In this present age, 2021, the ordained ministry is itinerant, we come and we go! The congregations stay – you stay. However, even this is not static for **we grow in faith and we are called to move from one work to another within the church.** I think of Local Preachers as an example, for they have heard the call to preach and followed it. Each one of us plays an important part in making disciples of all nations, you are doing so in Wigan. I Praise the Lord for your work. I give thanks for the privilege of walking with you for the last five years and I know that whatever the future is for each one of us as individuals, the churches, the circuit, the district or even Methodism as a whole, the work of faithful Christians will continue to Praise The Lord! Hallelujah!

"The Lord bless you and keep you," (Numbers 6:24-26.) Sheila

...And also with you, Sheila. With Love, Prayer & Thanks for your Ministry to us, and with us, over the past five years in our Wigan Methodist Circuit. (Ed.)



Revd Sheila Macnally

Our Circuit Farewell Service to give thanks for the ministries of Rev John and Rev Sheila and to pray that God will richly bless their 'retirement' is now at Shevington, 6pm on the evening of 1st August. Please support!

Margaret Sowerby (C. Steward)



Thinking about becoming a Circuit Steward?

- What does being a Circuit Steward entail?
- Do I have the skills and gifts to be a Circuit Steward?
- Is God asking me to take a role in the leadership of my Circuit?

An opportunity to explore the role of the Circuit Steward and ask questions. Monday 19th July 7.30pm-9pm

Facilitated by Brec Seaton (Learning Network) and experienced Circuit Stewards from the Kendal Circuit. -

Email Rob Glassonbury to book your online place on:

nwmannnetwork@gmail.com

or for information contact Brec Seaton

seatonb@methodistchurch.org.uk

Margaret Sowerby and Circuit Steward Team would also be pleased to hear from you.



The Methodist Church
North West & Mann

StF 611

"We are pilgrims
on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load."

"Thank You, Jim !" - Revd John Hilton:

'Tis the season for farewells at the moment ... and so, I want to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to Jim for being an important part of the ministry team across the four churches under our care and the wider circuit. The role of ministerial assistant was something of an experiment back in 2018 and in my opinion, has worked really well in what has been a challenging time.

His pastoral work and preaching ministry have been well received and valued by many people. His visits when possible and phone calls have been really appreciated. Just recently he has been able to begin home communions which have blessed those who have received.

I for one am going to miss his colleagueship as we both begin new chapters of our ministries. Many is the time we have met for coffee to discuss the needs of our people and plan for upcoming events.

Jim has been a great friend and I hope that will continue post retirement.

So, Jim on behalf of the circuit and also myself, thank you, and may the Lord continue to bless you in the days ahead.



Jim Whelan

John Hilton

"Other people help to shape us when they take the time to share words of wisdom, honest actions thro' our journey in God's care"

StF 619

Our Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District July Newsletter

This month's edition includes a considerable summer build-up of details about events, dates for diaries, training opportunities, vacancies, links and contacts and can be found under 'District News and Events': <https://barmd.org.uk/>

Come Along! Bring Your Family!

Artisan Market!

Many Stalls ...
Local & Handmade
Produce ... including ...

- Tasty Edibles ...
- Pamper Products
- Multi-Material Crafts
- Speciality Gifts ...

+ Café - BBQ - Games - Raffle

WN5 7DT
Bispham Methodist Church Grounds & Halls

10.30-3pm
Saturday 31st July!

Please Support Your Local Businesses!

THE BRICK PROJECT SHOP WORKS GIVING

RELIEF, RESTORATION and REFORMATION

The Brick is looking to increase its number of trustees, so Chair of Trustees, John Parker, is circulating information details with thanks for any help you can provide.

John Parker

Chair of Trustees

Please pray for good outcomes

... We are seeking trustees

who are passionate about our cause and want to use their skills and experience to help us make a difference to people's lives. Trustees are unpaid directors of the charity, who work together to oversee the strategy, direction and aims of the organisation. Previous trustee experience is not required. The charity is founded on Christian principles and suitable candidates will have values which align. Particularly desirable, is experience in: *financial control, legal framework, risk management, e-commerce, marketing, PR.*

What's Involved? Trustee meetings are every other month (2/3 hours) and one full day a year, which includes some training. Some additional time is required to read the papers prior to meetings and a willingness to give time to sub committees (ad hoc) would be appreciated. Trustees will get a full induction, ongoing training and can claim out of pocket expenses

How to apply

Application will be by letter. For an information pack email recruitment@thebrick.org.uk To arrange an informal chat with our CEO, Louise Green, email Louise@thebrick.org.uk

STAFF PRAYERS - An amendment to Circuit Plan for our prayer at Queen's Hall: It should read 17th August (not 11th). All are welcome to these.

Revd Simon Rose - Welcome!

Rev Paul Martin has agreed to join us for the **Welcome Service** for Revd Simon Rose and family at 6pm at **Spencer Road** on **29th August**.

Messengers!

It is good to hear this week that messages are going far and wide from Wigan. **Philip Sudworth** has been a finalist out of 3 selected in 'Preach' magazine's "Sermon of The Year 2021" challenge. The title set was "Cross the divide" and the 3 great sermons can be experienced on <https://www.preachweb.org/>.

Also, **Kathy Lamb** has been invited to write an article for "Methodist Recorder" that will be included in the Friday 2nd July issue. Ed.

Safeguarding - Notice from Central Office

If your church role before lockdown required you to have DBS clearance or safeguarding training – at any level, and you wish to resume your role once churches are fully open again, then please could you check with your church safeguarding officer that you are not overdue for DBS renewal or safeguarding training.

Wigan Wire Monthly

Next 'Wigan Wire' items, dates and info deadline for our proposed **SEPTEMBER** issue is: **SUNDAY 22nd AUGUST** to: prosser_alan@hotmail.com



Thank You