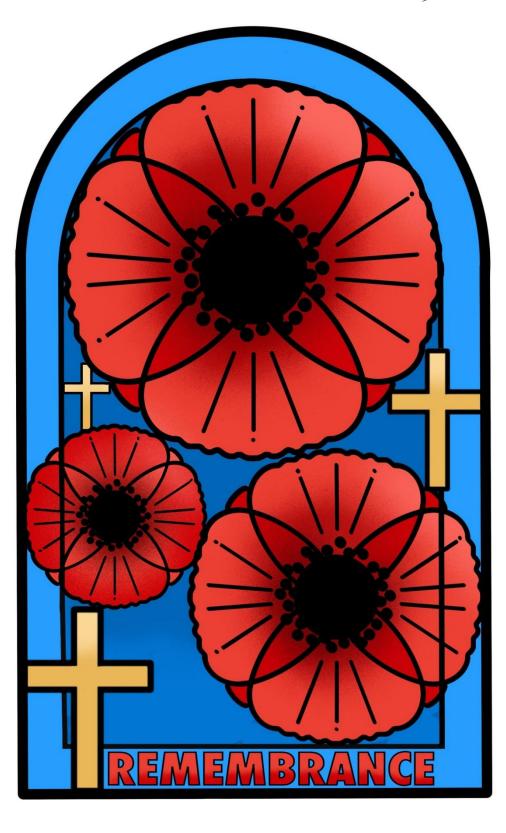
Prestbury Methodist Church

Contact November 2025





We extend a very warm welcome to you and invite you to join us for worship. If you are just visiting we will be happy to greet you, and hope that we may meet you again on your next visit. If you have recently come to live in the area, we hope that you will feel at home amongst us and that we may have the opportunity in the future to welcome you to our services and other events in the Church programme.

Our Services are usually held weekly at 10.30am, although occasional Circuit Services elsewhere will mean we do not have a service at Prestbury on those days. See the back page of this edition of Contact or our Church website for current details plus lots more at www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

The District On-line Services are normally held on the second Sunday of every month at 6.30pm.

For the zoom code (which remains the same), please email prayer @nwedmethodists.org.uk

Church website

<u>www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk</u> e-mail: <u>admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk</u>

Minister: Rev Stephen Dallin

Tel: 01625 872060

e-mail: stephendallin@yahoo.co.uk

Enquiries for funerals, baptisms and weddings to the Minister please.

From our Minister

Fireworks - I am the light of the World

I love this time of year, especially Guy Fawke's night with its bonfire and fireworks. What are your favourite fireworks? Catherine Wheel? Roman Candle? Whizzing



fireworks? Rockets? Sparklers? I love the way that fireworks light up the sky with colour and their different patterns. Sometimes the fireworks can be so bright that it is almost like being in daylight. You can see everything around you.

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Does that mean that he was a firework? No!...but he did light up many people's lives with hope as he taught them about God's love and His Kingdom and as he healed many. By his death and Resurrection, Jesus has lit up our lives with the offer of God's forgiveness and Life. And I believe that Jesus still lights up people's lives today with his love and compassion.

Jesus also said to his friends: "You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14), meaning that he thinks that we can also light up people lives with God's love and kindness. Through the way Jesus lived his life, He showed us the way to live our lives. Caring for people by helping and loving them.



But you may feel that you are like a little sparkler, that even when lit you will make little or no difference. But Jesus believes in you and me. His light can fill and guide us as we walk along life's path. He is to be trusted and if we allow his light to shine in our lives, he promises that we can experience

the light of His Life in our lives and that our lives can become shining beacons of hope to those around us. So, I pray that the light of God's love, in Jesus, may shine in your life.

God bless, Steve

Prayers for November 2025



May the picture of the poppy help us to pray that all war will cease and peace prevail

God of truth and justice, our refuge and dwelling place, in the year of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War 2 in Europe and the Pacific we pray for all who gave their lives in active service that we might live. As we honour their courage and cherish their memory may we put our faith in Your future, for You are the source of all life and hope.

We pray for all who are suffering at this time in ongoing conflicts throughout the World. The dead and injured and those who are displaced, homeless and hungry.

Help us remember Your words, Lord:- I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you. (John 13,34-35)

We pray for peace in our troubled World.

We thank You, Lord for all that is good, for food and water and clothing, for sunshine and rain, for trees and flowers, the beautiful scenery around us and for friendship and support.

We pray for and give thanks for the Community here in Prestbury and the surrounding area.

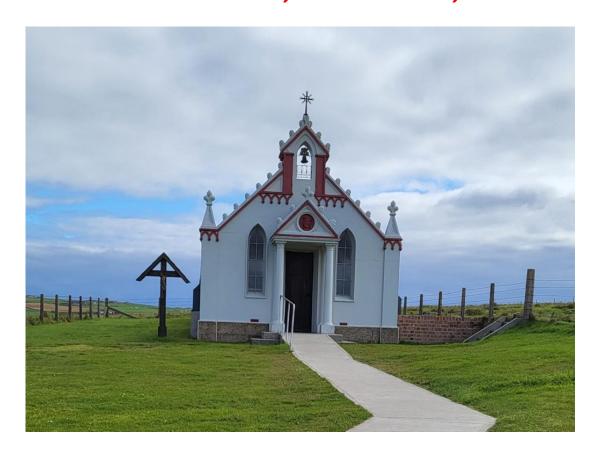
We remember the recently bereaved, the sick and the lonely. Hold them in your loving arms Lord and bring them peace.

We celebrate with those who have birthdays this month. Sian Oliver, Dorothy Smith, Roger Brownhill, Valerie Jones, Fiona Heron, Viv Jones and Ann Hooley.

May God bless them on their special day.

As November progresses and comes to its close we once again look forward to advent. We wait become watchful and alert for the coming of the Christchild. Help us to cast away the works of darkness and put upon us the mantle of light and fill our hearts with hope, joy, wisdom and with peace.

THE ITALIAN CHAPEL, LAMB HOLM, ORKNEY



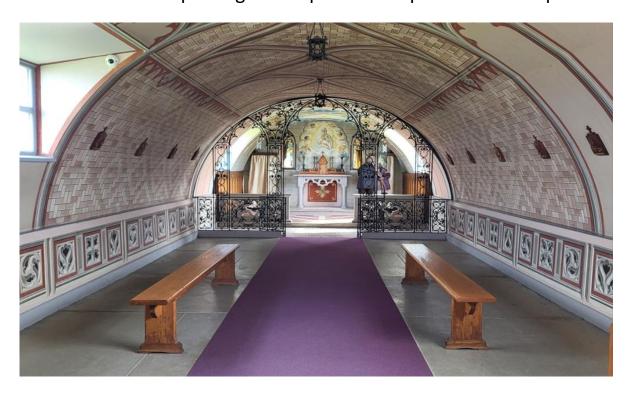
In August this year I was privileged to visit the Italian Chapel on the beautiful, but mainly uninhabited island of Lamb Holm, Orkney. This fulfilled a long standing ambition as my Father had witnessed the construction of the Chapel whilst serving on the Orkney Islands during World War 2. He had been part of the Battalion guarding the British Fleet and later guarding the Italian prisoners who were to build the Catholic Chapel.

The story:-

Scapa Flow is a body of water sheltered by some of the Orkney Islands. It became the main base to the British Naval Fleet during the $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$ and $\mathbf{2}^{\text{nd}}$ World Wars. In WW1 the German High Seas Fleet was interned there. Afraid of what the British may do to their ships, the German Rear Admiral gave orders for the scuttling of the ships just hours before the Armistice agreement.

In WW2, on 14th October 1939, a German submarine snuck past the Scapa Flow eastern defences and was able to torpedo the battle ship HMS Royal Oak. 834 crew members lost their lives. Following this tragedy Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, ordered the construction of 4 barriers (later known as the Churchill barriers) to link some of the islands and block the Eastern approaches to Scapa Flow. The barriers are 59 feet deep, and 250,000 tons of rock were used for their construction.

Italian prisoners, who had been captured in North Africa, were brought over to Orkney to assist with the construction. They were held in several camps. Camp 60, with 550 prisoners, was on Lamb Holm. Amongst the prisoners was a man called Domenico Chiocchette, a painter and decorator, and a man of vision. He persuaded the British command to give permission for the construction of a Chapel to give the prisoners a place of Worship.



The Chapel was constructed from two Nissan huts fastened together as the base and with reclaimed and recycled materials, including those from ships, to construct and decorate the Chapel. Domenico led the artistic creation, which included intricate murals and other decorative elements. He was



responsible for the use of plaster and paint used to simulate materials such as marble. Hundreds of prisoners contributed their skills including masonry, carving, and ironwork.

The Chapel is now a major tourist attraction but, as at 2021, Lamb Holm remains mainly uninhabited. People come from other areas of Orkney to attend a monthly service, and there remains a close bond between the Orcadians and Moena in Italy where Domineco lived.

The barriers now form causeways with roads linking the isles of Lamb Holm, Glimps Holm, Burray and South Ronaldsay to the Orkney Mainland.



Causeway from Lamb Holm to Orkney Mainland

Audrey Williams



Martyn Donaldson Music Trust Presents

Macclesfield Methodist Community Choir and the Occasional Musicians (leader Nicola Bright) in a choral and orchestral concert.

The concert opener is C.V Stanford's glorious hymn of praise in his setting of the Te Deum. Next is the sublime Clarinet Concerto K622 with former MDMT music volunteer Chris Walters as soloist. After the Interval our quartet of soloists sing Mendelssohn's 'O come all ye that thirsteth' from his oratorio Elijah and the concert ends with Mozart's Solemn Vespers of Confession K339 which are not solemn nor vespers nor confessions but in fact setting of Psalms 110-114 and ending with the Magnificat! Mozart at his choral best!

Macclesfield Methodist Church Saturday 22nd November at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 adults, children £5 from 01625433187 / 01625615298

Action for Children

Action for Children (AfC) is a national charity which has its origin in Methodism – in 1869 a Methodist minister, Rev Dr Thomas Bowman, when visiting London was very disturbed and unhappy when he saw children sheltering and sleeping under the railway arches near Waterloo station. Soon after that his ministry brought him to London and, as part of his ministry, he sought to do something to help such children. In 1871 he brought 2 boys into their home which soon increased until the need to house many more, became evident and soon, 'Methodist Children's Homes' were opened all over the country in order to provide safety and care for vulnerable children. Initially they were just 'Homes' but some then also sought to provide education – there was one in Congleton – called Danesford.

Some of us will remember 'Sunny Smiles' when once a year, children in Methodist Sunday schools were encouraged to sell photographs of smiling children who all lived in one of the homes – a penny a picture – in old money! We all competed to see how many we could sell!

As the years passed society changed and, quite rightly, the emphasis changed from the need to provide homes to the need to offer support for children and families in their own environment. This meant the name should change to reflect that – so in 2008 the old MCH charity was retitled to be called – Action for Children (AfC) – a dynamic title with emphasis on 'action'. (see the website for more information.)

There is an excellent team working at the centre but they are also supported by nationwide teams of volunteers. For us locally it includes all those who have boxes, those who run coffee mornings and those who are the AfC secretaries in each of our churches. As you are probably aware, I am the AfC secretary for Prestbury! We have a group of box holders who collected £330 last year — no mean feat these days when so many of us do not carry cash in our pockets! In addition to that our annual Coffee Morning raised over £200.

Until very recently Steve Oliver was the district representative for the Greater Manchester area but the new District covering the whole of the Northwest means that he no longer has a role. Hopefully we will soon find out who has taken on that role for our area. We will miss Steve's enthusiasm and hard work for AfC. He used to persuade us to rattle AfC boxes on Macclesfield station – on one occasion it was a bitter cold December morning! It was heartwarming to enjoy the generous giving by such a range of travellers – including school children out on a school journey on one occasion.

Many years ago, when I was the secretary at a church in Stockport, we were invited to visit a family centre in Wythenshawe where AfC worked with families and children who needed support. I was reminded of this when I read 'Sam's Story' in this year's AfC service booklet. It told the story of, not just Sam but also his mother and siblings. Despite the fact that so many of us live in reasonable comfort there are still too many stories of children and families in crisis.

Almost by default I have just taken on the role of Circuit AfC Secretary, so will try to carry on promoting the excellent and important work of this Methodist charity.

Joan Pritchard



NOVEMBER EVENTS

Sunday 2nd Nov 9-10am Breakfast Church at Macclesfield

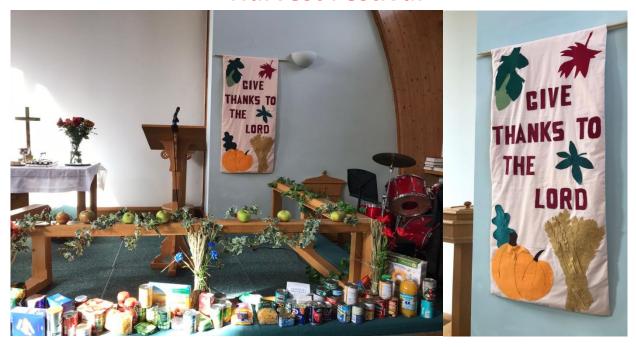
Saturday 8th Nov 4-5.30pm Chippy Church at Broken Cross

Sunday 16th Nov 10.30-11.30am Muddy Church – Toy Service at Poynton

Saturday 22nd Nov 2-4pm Messy Church at Prestbury

For more details and updates about these events, please visit our Facebook pages:-Broken Cross Children, Macc Methodist Kids, Prestbury Methodist Kids & Poynton Methodist Church or email: methodistfamilies@gmail.com

Harvest Festival



We were pleased to have our new minister with us for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service. The church was decorated by a small group of volunteers and the banner, designed by Heather, and made with help from Elspeth, was on show for the first time.

As usual members were very generous in their donations which were taken to the food bank at Upton Priory.

Our Next Social Event



22 NOVEMBER 2025 "PUDDINGS SPECIAL" EVENING

Share an evening of pure indulgence – and let your waistline look after itself!

Join us in an evening of pure indulgence as we delight in sharing a range of specially prepared puddings and desserts to cater for all tastes.

From cheesecakes to sponge and custard, fruit or chocolate, hot or cold, there will be something for everyone. Enjoy an evening of fellowship ad fun as we prepare for the cold winter months ahead.

Puddings Evening

Not to be missed – fellowship and fun with pure indulgence!

Wine and soft drinks included!

All tastes catered for

7:00 - 9:30 pm

THE JONESES

15 Birkdale Close

Tytherington

SK10 2UA

Advent Studies at Chapel

We are planning to run a series of Advent Studies at 10:30-12:00 on Thursdays 27th November, 4th December, 11th & 18th December led by Rev. Stephen, assisted by Steve & Roger. All are welcome to join these sessions which will be designed to further our appreciation of The Nativity. More details of the material we shall use will be available in due course through Pews News, for now please reserve the dates in your diary.



Thursday Morning House Group



The group meets on alternate Thursdays. We meet at 10.30am for cake and a cuppa, followed by a time of fellowship, usually finishing around 12 Noon. Venues vary.

We will meet on:

November 6th at Norman Leather's November 20th at Roger & Pat's

We shall be starting a study of Micah "What does God require of us?"

For any further details about the group, including venues, please contact Roger Bolton, either directly, or via the church email. All are warmly welcome to join us for any of the sessions. Please bring a Bible.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Our church coffee mornings are held in the Village Hall on the last Saturday of the month (excepting June and December), from 10am - 12 Noon. If you've not yet joined us you can be sure of a friendly welcome, a shared cuppa,



and plenty of stalls to browse. We ask just £2 entrance which includes your refreshments.

Our next Coffee Mornings are on 25th October when we shall be supporting the 'Home Missions', and then 'Just Drop In' on 29th November.

We hope to see you then!

What's On in November

Every Tues	10:00am	Cancer Help Centre
Every Wed	7.30pm	Prestbury Choral Society
Fri 31st Oct	2-4pm	Methodist Families Light Parade
Sun 2 nd Nov	10:30am	Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Rev Stephen Dallin
Mon 3 rd Nov	12.30pm	Faith Lunch
Thurs 6 th Nov	10.30am	Thursday Morning House Group at the home of Norman Leather
	7.00pm	Women's Wellbeing
Sun 9 th Nov	10:30am	Morning Worship led by Mandy Hawkyard
Sun 16 th Nov	10:30am	Morning Worship led by Michael Wakelin
Wed 19 th Nov	2pm	Reading Group at Sandra Bruce's home
Thurs 20 th Nov	10.30am	Thursday Morning House Group at the home of Roger & Pat
Sat 22 nd Nov	7-9.30pm	Puddings Special at the Joneses
Sun 23 rd Nov		Circuit Service at Macclesfield led by
	10.30am	Revs Deborah Lucas & Stephen Dallin
		No Service at Prestbury
Thurs 27 th Nov	10.30am	Advent Study at Prestbury
Sat 29 th Nov	10:00m -	Coffee Morning in the Village Hall
	12 Noon	supporting Just Drop In
Sun 30 th Nov	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Deborah Lucas

Please send items for the December/January edition of Contact to Rob Ayerst by Tuesday 25th November or c/o the church e-mailbox admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Please remember to visit the website regularly to find out more, and for updates