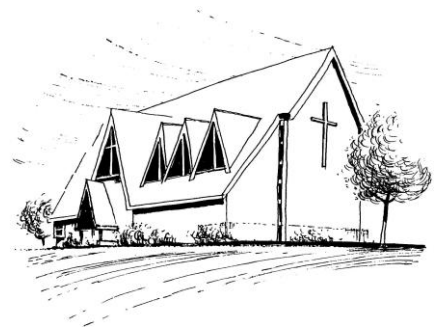
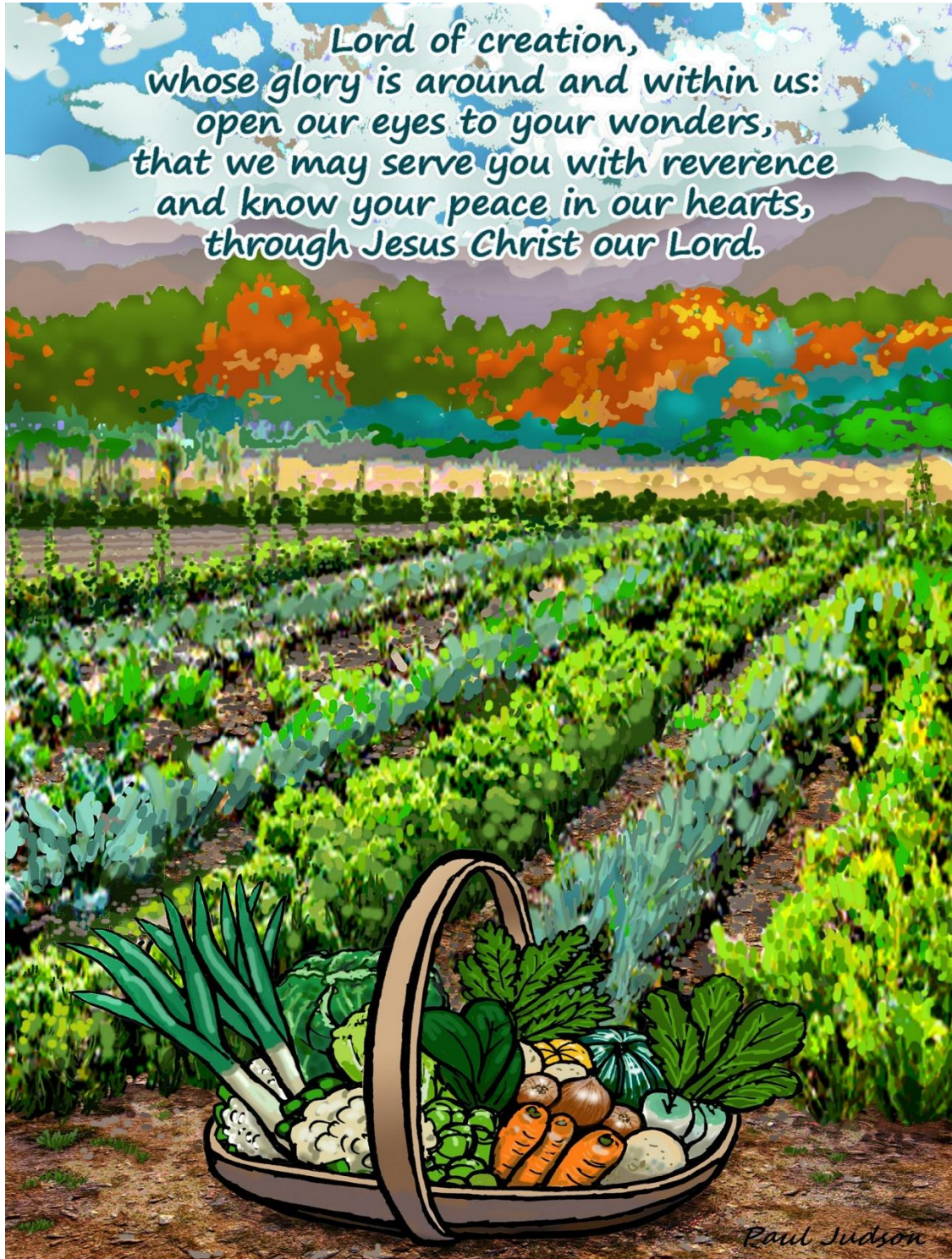


# Prestbury Methodist Church

*Contact*  
*Sept 2025*



Lord of creation,  
whose glory is around and within us:  
open our eyes to your wonders,  
that we may serve you with reverence  
and know your peace in our hearts,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Paul Judson

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](http://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](mailto:prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk)

Church website

[www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk)

e-mail: [admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk)

**Minister: Rev Stephen Dallin**

Tel: 07556296460 for now

e-mail: TBA. Please send messages for forwarding to

[admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk)

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

# Welcome to Reverend Stephen Dallin

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to welcome Reverend Stephen Dallin as our new year starts in September. He will have pastoral charge of Prestbury, as well as Poynton and Broken Cross churches.

Stephen has moved from the Guernsey circuit where he worked with our former superintendent Howard Stringer and David Stretton.

He is married to Gill, a secondary school teacher, and has two daughters, Rachel, who is working and will be staying on Guernsey and Ruth, who has finished her GCSEs and hopes to do A levels here.

Stephen has a degree in Biological Chemistry and worked as a research scientist for the UK Government for 5 years. He feels this background helps him in relating faith to people who do not have a church background as well as those who attend church.

He trained at Wesley College in Bristol for 3 years, attaining a BA in Theology and Ministry.

He has a passion for discipling small groups and values taking part in different forms of worship.

He enjoys working with youth and children's leaders and taking assemblies and lessons at Primary School.

He looks forward to developing outreach.

Stephen enjoys surfing, swimming, going to the gym and squash.

He supports Liverpool Football Club. (We are getting used to that in our presbyters aren't we?)

We hope Steve and his family will soon feel at home with us and we offer him a warm welcome.

There will be a circuit welcome service for both Rev Stephen and Rev Deborah Lucas, our new circuit superintendent, on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm at Macclesfield Methodist Church. We hope to see you there.





# Prayers for September

*I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart I will tell of all the wondrous things you have done. I will sing with joy because of you. I will sing praise to you, Almighty God.*

Help us to use the words of the psalmist to guide our prayers of praise, gratitude and intercession

## **Praise**

We are sorry that, too often, we take so much of your care and love for us and your world for granted. We ask you to forgive us and accept our thanks and praise for the beauty we find all around us --the beauty of nature, the scents of the earth, the sounds of the animals and insects, the sun, the wind and the rain. We also praise you for the love and care we see all around us in our community and across the world.

## **Gratitude**

We are grateful that you sent your Son into our world to save us and your Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us when we are in danger of letting you down. We ask you to help us as we seek to obey you and forgive us when we weaken and let you down.

## **Intercession**

In our prayers of intercession, we pray for all in positions of authority across your world – heads of state and those who are elected to govern nations and communities. Help them to show wisdom, compassion and fairness in all that they do.

We pray for those across the world who are devastated by war, natural disasters and climate change. We ask you to help us to fight for justice and compassion for all your people.

We pray for our local community, thinking particularly of those who are experiencing ill health, bereavement or are feeling lonely. Help us to extend loving arms around them in your name.



We ask your blessing on those who celebrated birthdays in August: Pauline Matthews, Muriel Adshead, Jacky Timms, David Lee, Chris Woods, and Alison Slater. We also ask your blessing on those having birthdays in September - Catherine Thornton West, Alison Jones, Katie Bower, Rita Mann, Jamie Hiscott. May they have a happy day.

Finally, we pray for ourselves that we never cease to try to do your will and tread the paths Jesus taught us to follow, walking humbly with our God.

Lord, we are your people. fill us with your grace, guide us with your truth, and by your Spirit send us out into your world in peace.

**Amen.**



## ***‘WHATEVER you do’***

September is the time of year when we get back to our routines after the summer break. As whole-life disciples (lit: *learners*) we are all called to learn from Jesus and live like Him. God wants us to make a difference in our workplaces and schools, and with family and friends. As Paul writes:

*‘And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.’* (Colossians 3:17).

***‘WHATEVER you do’***: God is at work in every aspect of our lives. He can use whatever we do to make a difference to those around. Do we believe this? Our lives shouldn’t be like an orange, segmented into the sacred and secular, but more like an apple, in which all of our lives are available to Him.

***‘Whatever YOU do’***: God wants to use us to share God’s love as we serve others around us, wherever we spend time. We can trust Him for the resources we need hour by hour, day by day, year by year. What do we need from Him?

***‘Whatever you DO’***: We work for God alone, in responding to God’s love for us. How does this perspective make a difference when what we do is hard, unrewarding, or even unappreciated by others?

A man standing on a train platform was asked one day: ***‘Who are you?’*** He replied, ***‘I am a Christian thinly disguised as an accountant.’*** If we were asked the same question ourselves, how would we respond? As disciples of Jesus Christ, our identity is rooted in God and His call upon our lives. For each of us, September means learning from Jesus about how we might live for Him in the different places we find ourselves.

# Our Next Social Event

## Cheese & Wine Evening



Continuing our programme of Social Events in members' homes there will be a Cheese & Wine Evening at the home of Tim & Karen Lane on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September starting at 7:00pm.

Soft drinks will, of course, be available and entertainment arranged.

Please sign up on the list in the vestibule and indicate any special dietary needs. The cost will be a voluntary donation of £10 per person. For more details or if you need transport please contact Roger Bolton directly or via the church mailbox.

We do hope you will join us.



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## ***Miscellaneous observations on life***

If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito in the room. - *Anita Koddick*

If you want to forget all your other troubles, wear too tight shoes. - *Anon*

Millions long for immortality who don't know what to do with themselves on a rainy Sunday afternoon. - *Susan Ertz*

Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind. - *Dr Seuss*

The only normal people are the ones you don't know very well. - *Foe Ancis*

Children are a great comfort in your old age, and they help you reach it faster too. - *Lionel Kauffman*

Experience is that marvellous thing that enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again. - *FP Jones*

*Parish Pump*



## 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 in September on:

**Sept 11<sup>th</sup> at Roger Hulme's**

**Sept 25<sup>th</sup> at Norman Leather's**

We shall be continuing our study of the book of Ruth in the Old Testament.

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.

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### 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. Proceeds from the last one on 26<sup>th</sup> July raised £263.99 for '**Overseas Missions**'. Our next Coffee Mornings are on 30<sup>th</sup> August when we shall be supporting the '**East Cheshire Hospice Bed Appeal**', and then on 27<sup>th</sup> September.



***We hope to see you then!***





## Afternoon Tea at Audrey's

To follow the Chinese Evening in March and the Italian Evening in May at Heather's we took advantage of a seasonally sunny afternoon in July to share in an Afternoon Tea in Audrey's lovely garden in Poynton. There were 18 of us took the risk of showers, with sadly two people who had to cancel.



We were welcomed into a paradise of cream scones, slices of cake, cup cakes and elegant sandwiches (with the crusts off of course). The elegant cake stands and china tea services added a further touch of class. There was the unexpected treat of strawberries and cream to follow. The conversation buzzed and we grappled with a very cryptic flower quiz whilst we drank our tea.



Ingenious deterrent devices were needed to keep away the wasps who really fancied our jam and cream – where did they all materialise from? Still, shared adversity helps breed good fellowship.



Afterwards there was a croquet hoop competition which was won by Tim in a record number of strokes.



Our thanks are due to Audrey and her helpers for all their hard work. It would be lovely to see participation in our Social Events Programme increase further. We have varied timing between Friday and Saturday evenings and Saturday afternoon so far. Our next event will be a Cheese and Wine Evening (soft drinks available) at Karen & Tim Lane's on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7:00, when we hope it will provide a chance for us to meet our new Minister Steven and his wife socially, if they are free. Do sign up on the list in the vestibule beforehand, and let me know if you need me to fix a lift for you.

Roger Bolton



## Well-Deserved Recognition for Jo

Readers will want to know that Jo Nadin has been recognised for her dedicated voluntary service to the East Cheshire Hospice with the award of a 15-year badge and a bouquet presented at a special ceremony at the Kings School in July.

Jo has actually now done over 18 years service, starting after losing her younger daughter Sally to cancer. She has loyally worked in the Hospice Shop in Macclesfield all that time and been an active member of the Hospice Support Group fundraising through coffee mornings, tombolas and other means.

We congratulate Jo for her dedication and service over such a long time. The Hospice is a true expression of the compassion we are called upon as Christians to show to those who are suffering. Well done Jo!

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## A Plea for Volunteers

The next **Messy Church** is on Saturday 20th September from 2pm to 4pm at Macclesfield Methodist Church. Heather would much appreciate hearing from you if you could help out on the day!



## Own Arrangements Services

It was a great delight to have an “Own Arrangements” service led by the band recently. Valerie and Graham shared with us many aspects of singing hymns in worship and we will have benefited from their insight in helping us to sing more meaningfully and expressively. With Tim (Neale) they were able to help us sing modern songs and older hymns which all proved to be favourites. We are so lucky to have talented musicians to lead our worship, including Tim (Lane), and Cath when available. This reminds us of the wealth of God-given talent we have in our fellowship, not just musical but with speech and drama as well. We’re grateful to all those of our own congregation who have contributed to our worship over the last year in so many ways.

Offering talents means that we can experience different styles of worship and varied content. We have had prayers specially written and short personal talks on elements of our faith and belief. Coming as they do from those we worship alongside every week, and coming from the heart, adds to the significance of what they have shared. Together we can grow in faith.

The fact that with the arrival of Stephen and Deborah we shall be blessed with two more ministers to lead our worship will hopefully not deter us from more experiments in congregational worship in the future. Any ideas or volunteers will be encouraged by the Worship & Fellowship committee.

I can’t end without recording the special debt we as a Circuit owe to the Circuit Local Preachers and to Sheila & Frank Bishop in going that extra mile in their leading of worship whilst we have had the time of only half a minister, Graham, over the last year. As a retired preacher myself I have seen that all of them have given extra for our benefit.

Thank you so much!

Roger Bolton



## Church Weekend 2026

We are returning to Thornleigh Christian Hotel in Grange-over-Sands again to enjoy their hospitality and good food from 10th to 12th April 2026.

The cost is £246 per person to cover from Friday evening meal to after Sunday lunch.

Please advise Heather ( [Heathercann0104@gmail.com](mailto:Heathercann0104@gmail.com) Tel 07801751516) if you wish to book and pay a £50 deposit to secure your place.

# The Season of Creation

Every year in September World Christian Churches celebrate Creationtide – a season when we give thanks for all God’s gifts in the natural world including Harvest. Macclesfield Churches have celebrated this season for over 10 years through the organisation of “Hope” with a month-long programme of events all over our area.

This year the festival will be held between Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October, St Francis’ Day. There will be eco events every day including the River Bollin Clean up on 20<sup>th</sup> September, a talk on “Brilliant Bees” at Macclesfield Methodist Church by the Beekeeper for Tatton Park on 30<sup>th</sup> September and a coach trip to RHS Bridgewater on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>. **There are leaflets with all the events available on the table in the vestibule.**



The organisers say “In 2025 the call from the Religious leaders around the world is for everyone to “create peace with creation”. The hope is that Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and be quiet, but instead to act and pray, change and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, repentance and solidarity.”

Events involving our neighbours at St Peter’s include a Parish Walk from Prestbury to St. John’s Adlington, and a reflective service to celebrate the Season of creation in the monastic garden behind the church at 4:30 on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

There are sessions of the Repair Café at the Community Centre in Duke Street and Care for Creation Bible Study series on Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings.



Within our own church we have invited Richard Baker to lead a Creationtide service on September 7<sup>th</sup> and will celebrate our own Harvest Festival later on October 5<sup>th</sup>.



Roger Bolton



# What's On in September

Every Tues	10:00am	Cancer Help Centre
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Aug	10:00am - 12 Noon	Coffee Morning in the Village Hall in aid of 'East Cheshire Hospice Bed Appeal'
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug	10.30am	Circuit Service at Macclesfield led by Rev Frank Bishop - No Service at Prestbury
	4pm	Season of Creation Prayer Service in the Orchard at Macclesfield Leisure Centre
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	12.30pm	Faith Lunch
Thur 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	7pm	Welcome Service for Revs Deborah Lucas & Stephen Dallin at Macclesfield
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10:30am	Creationtide Service led by Richard Baker
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10.30am	Thursday Morning House Group at the home of Roger Hulme
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	7pm	Social Wine & Cheese Evening at the home of Tim & Karen Lane
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10:30am	Circuit Service at Poynton led by Revs Deborah Lucas & Stephen Dallin No Service at Prestbury
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2pm	Reading Group at Anne Hooley's home
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	12 Noon	Memorial Service for David Tattersall
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10am-3pm	River Bollin Clean Up
	2 - 4pm	Messy Church at Macclesfield
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Stephen Dallin with Holy Communion
Thur 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10.30am	Thursday Morning House Group at the home of Norman Leather
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10:00m - 12 Noon	Coffee Morning in the Village Hall
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10:30am	Compassion Sunday - An OA Service

Please send items for October/November's edition of Contact to Rob Ayerst by Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, or c/o the church e-mailbox [admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk)

[www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk)

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