

Lancaster Methodist Church

www.LancasterMethodistChurch.org.uk

Minister: Revd Juliet Wriglesworth (01524 32717)

December 2011

Each Sunday morning worship takes place at 10.30 am at Scotforth Road while evening worship is at 6.30 pm at The Cornerstone.

December 4th

am Revd Juliet Wriglesworth
Holy Communion

pm Frank Picken

December 11th

am Alison Brophy

pm Revd Juliet Wriglesworth
Holy Communion

December 18th

am No service

3.00 pm Carol Service at Scotforth Road (Revd Juliet Wriglesworth)

6.30 pm Carol Service at The Cornerstone (Elaine Ringland)

December 25th : Christmas Day

9.30 am Revd Juliet Wriglesworth

pm No service at Cornerstone

Please stay after morning service and join us for a cup of tea, coffee or juice.

Our morning services are designed to be child-friendly. Junior Church and Youth Fellowship meet for children and young people. Pre-school children are welcome to use the play corner at the left-hand front corner of the church or the crèche area in the foyer.

The Cornerstone is now open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, as well as for Sunday evening worship, and is used throughout the week by a number of charities involved in working with people who suffer disadvantage, especially those with differing abilities. A coffee morning is held on Saturday mornings.

From our minister:

Dear Friends,

'Jesus is coming back– look busy!' The words I once read on a T-Shirt. I like the sentiment but I want to check out the motivation. Why do we want to 'look busy'? Is it for some future hope of our own salvation? Or is it because we want to join in Jesus' ministry to make a difference in the here and now? If it's the latter (and I hope it is!) we'll want to co-operate with God in helping to build heaven on earth.

The season of Advent is all about preparing for the coming of Jesus, Emmanuel - God with us. Being alert in every moment is important. As we enter this season of preparation, what will Jesus find in us? This meditation calls us to reflect on that question:

A life dedicated to his service,
continuing his ministry where he left off,
or an obsession about the future so strong
that you've forgotten about the present?

A life lived for others,
committed to bringing light where there is darkness,
joy where there is sorrow,
or a preoccupation with yourself,
with securing your salvation?

The time is coming
a day when we will be called to account,
made to answer for the way we've lived our lives.**
What business do you want Jesus to find you engaged in this Advent season?

Your sister in Christ, Juliet

** Nick Fawcett Reflective services for Advent (Kevin Mayhew 2001, p19)

Advent services this year will focus on preparation for Christmas under the heading **Advent - a time to think of ...**

... **Salvation.** Mark 13:24-37

Sunday 27th November. Lynne Blair

... **Reconciliation.** Matthew 5:23-24

Sunday 4th December. Juliet Wriglesworth

... **Proclamation.** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Sunday 11th December. Alison Brophy

... **Celebration.** Carol service.

Sunday 18th December. Juliet Wriglesworth

and on Christmas Day

... **Presence.** Juliet Wriglesworth

Singing the Faith This month we start using the new Methodist hymnbook, *Singing the Faith*. The new books will be dedicated at the morning service on 4th December and the evening service on 11th December. If you would like your own copy these can be purchased from Methodist Publishing (Tel: 01733 235962 or web orders at www.mph.org.uk). Discounted prices are available until the end of December (Music copies @ £25; Words @ £7.50; Large Print @ £12.50)

Little Pebbles is our parent & toddler group, meeting each Thursday morning at Scotforth Road – and continues to be a great success. Helen Bowden really, really needs help with running it, so please consider whether you could offer some of your time (not necessarily every week) for what must be one of our church's most worthwhile activities. Contact Helen on 01524-32941.

The Cornerstone as a mission priority for the new North Lancashire Circuit will be the subject of the Circuit Leadership Team's December meeting. Thank you to everyone who sent comments and came to the meetings about the briefing document they requested. Copies of the final version are available from Peter Brophy.

A short time of silence is being held each Tuesday in the Quiet Room at The Cornerstone at 11.00 am. A time simply to sit and be still. If this appeals to you, please join us.

Harvest Appeal Again, many thanks for all the generous donations towards the work of Stepping Stones Nigeria. We've raised an amazing £1,259.52 with tax relief still to be added in. Thank you all for your generosity

Church Christmas cards Once again we will be inviting you to place a greeting to other church members on our giant cardboard tree in the foyer at Scotforth Road – and give the money saved by not buying cards to the Homeless Shelter. The tree is now up and ready for your greetings.

Housegroups meet fortnightly on

- Mondays (contact Frances Chiasson 67669)
- Tuesdays (contact Paul Bowden 32941)
- Wednesdays (contact Chris Thomas 382682)
- Thursdays (contact Sally McCann 846010)

Dates for your diary

Sunday 27th November 6.30 pm Circuit Service, Torrisholme.

Monday 28th November 7.30 pm Worship Consultation, The Cornerstone.

Thursday 1st December 7.30 pm South Lancaster Churches Together Advent Service at Bowerham URC.

Monday 5th December 7.30 pm Monday Meeting Point Revd & Mrs Lear - 'Laurel & Hardy'.

Wednesday 7th December 11.30 am Prayer Tree, Cornerstone.

Friday 9th December 7.30 pm Country Dancing in Lower Room Jacob's Join.

Monday 12th December 8.00-9.15 pm Contemplation Group, Scotforth Road.

Tuesday 13th December 7.30 pm Local Preachers Meeting, Hollins Lane.

Thursday 15th December 1.30-2.30 pm Bible Checkpoint, Scotforth Road; 6.00-8.00 pm Churches Together Carols, Marketgate; 7.30 pm Church Council, Scotforth Road.

Sunday 18th December 3.00 pm Carol Service followed by party.

Monday 19th December 7.30 pm Monday Meeting Point Christmas Miscellany led by David Park.

Thursday 22nd December 7.00-8.00 pm Lancashire Sings Christmas, The Cornerstone and the Boot and Shoe.

Saturday 24th December 11.30 pm-12.15 am(ish) Midnight Communion, Scotforth Road.

Sunday 25th December 9.30 – 10.15 am(ish) Christmas Day All Age, Scotforth Road.

The notices are usually distributed on the last Sunday of the month, so the next issue will be out on December 25th. The deadline for contributions for these will be December 18th.

If possible please email notices to notices@LancasterMethodistChurch.org.uk Alternatively please send or give them to Peter Brophy (Tel: 01524-382301).

Lancaster Methodist Church

Scotforth Road, (corner of Kensington Road),
Lancaster LA1 4TE

The Cornerstone, Sulyard Street (off Dalton
Square), Lancaster LA1 1PX