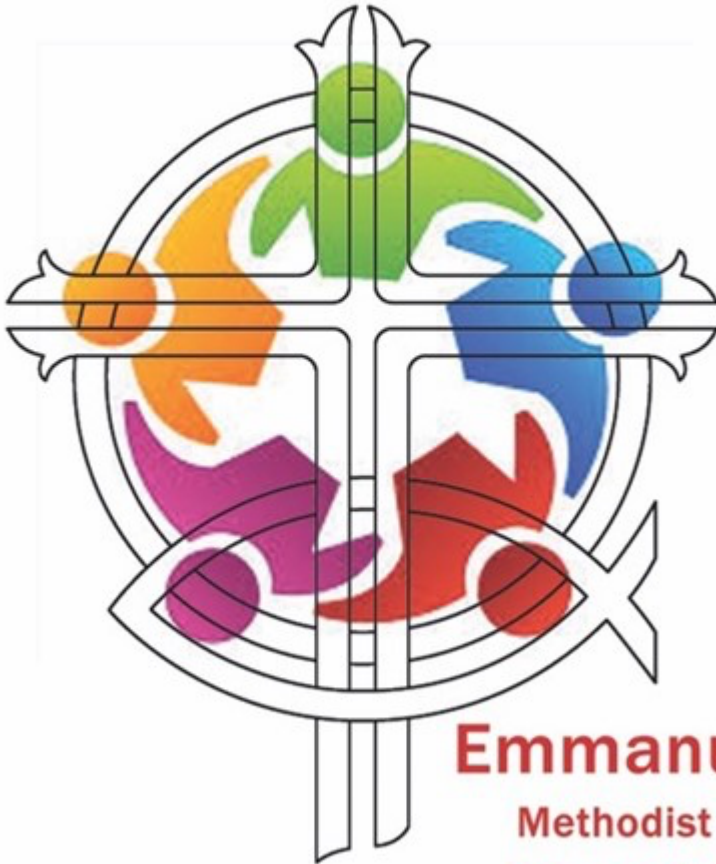


In Touch



Emmanuel
Methodist URC
Ormskirk

July & August 2025

Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church

Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DE

Message from Rev Sue

Dear Friends, as I write this letter, many folks will be In Telford for the Annual Methodist Conference, including Probationary Ministers and Deacons who will be welcomed into Full Connexion and Ordination. I can't believe it is 7 years since a number of you travelled by coach to share in my own ordination service- a precious day that I will never forget. The singing was awesome!

The Methodist Conference UK was established in 1774 by John Wesley, who brought together Ministers and Lay Preachers to discuss the doctrine, disciples and practices of the Church. And so, over the course of this week, representatives from each District, and from the Methodist Church Overseas will gather to review, discuss and vote upon issues from which our CPD (Constitutional Practice and Discipline) for 2025 will be published. The events of Conference can be found online and papers will be published for general circulation if anyone would like some light bedtime reading! But, of course, the workings of Conference are a very special and important process. John Wesley wanted to create a forum through which the very core values and the day-to-day life of the Church could be discussed by its people, both lay and ordained. The annual Conference reminds us that although we exist as a Methodist Church in Ormskirk, with our trustees, Mission Statement and Mission Plan, so too we are part of the 'Connexion' of Methodism which links us with all Methodist Churches across the world, united in worship and service.

The theme of this year's Conference is, "*Our Story, Our Song*," which reminds us that we are part of something far greater than ourselves. We are woven into the ongoing story of God's love in the world and invited to sing that story with our lives. I am continually blessed to play my small part in being a part of Emmanuel's Story, with you all, within the universal Church. And so, I pray that we will continue to 'sing' and praise God and share our story in our local community and in the wider world, as followers of Jesus Christ, loved by our Creator God. Every Blessing, Rev Sue

Mens Hub

A chance for our men to meet and connect, everyone is welcome to join, these meets take place the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Emmanuel. Next meetings – 16th July, there will be no meeting in August.

Prayer Breakfasts

Join us for a continental breakfast followed by a time of prayer before the Sunday Service at 10am on 6th July and 3rd August.

Cameo Ladies Group (Come And Meet Each Other)

A reminder that we have a break for July and August. Our program resumes on 12th September.

Have a lovely summer, everyone!

Messy Vintage

Messy Vintage (via Zoom) is an opportunity to share our faith through conversation, craft, and music. The next sessions take place on **15th July, please make sure you have sent your Hymn choices to Cheryl by 9th July. No sessions will take place in August over the summer break.**



Please contact Cheryl if you'd like to attend, family.schools@lanca-shirewest.org.uk

News from the Brigade



News from The Brigade

We have had a great year with many highlights including a trip to Alton Towers and one to Chester Zoo and a couple of canoe expeditions. We have a great staff who produce a varied programme every week.

We have just held our Awards Evening and it was good to see our young people celebrate their achievements. Congratulations to Kyle, Harry and Joe who have completed their Presidents Badge and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. Well done to Alfie, Ella, Amelie, Jenson, Max and Harry for gaining their trophies.

We have plenty of room in every section starting in September so if you know of any children or young people who would enjoy the things we do let them know.



Time to talk of God!

Our Thursday afternoon weekly study group will continue to meet with Rev Stephen throughout July and August. Sessions begin at 1.45pm and everyone is welcome. Our Wednesday evening group will now take a pause until September.

July and August Service Dates

Date	Service	Preacher
Sunday 6 th July 11am	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Guenault
Sunday 13 th July 11am		Liam Woods
Sunday 20 th July 11am	Parade Service	Rev Sue Guenault
Sunday 27 th July 11am		Rev Geoff Farthing
Sunday 3 rd August 11am	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Guenault
Sunday 10 th August 11am		Merle Farthing
Sunday 17 th August 11am		Own arrangement
Sunday 24 th August 11am		Rev Stephen Foster
Sunday 31 st August 11am		Rev Sue Guenault

Forest Church

We are delighted to be holding our first 'Forest Church' service at the Burscough Community Farm, Meadow Lane, Burscough, L40 4BB. The service will take place at **4.00pm on Sunday July 27th**.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and neighbours to worship with us in a new setting, as we reflect outdoors upon the beauty of the world God has created for us.

So, please support this new venture. As there is no formal seating, we suggest you bring a camping chair and an umbrella if the weather looks debatable!

Our Sunday morning worship will still take place in Church at 11.00am on the 27th.

Food Bank

Thank you to everyone for their continued support of the food-bank. Donations are always welcome, please place item in the foyer at the front of the Worship area. Thank you to Bill Jones for coordinating this.

Community Garden

As I know many of you are aware, as part of our Mission plan we have a vision to turn the very overgrown plot of land at the back of the Langham Hall into a community garden, where vegetables can be grown and the produce given to local families in need. We envisage that this will also be a place where folks can sit and find peace amidst the busyness of the town. Discussion between myself and the staff at the Scarisbrick mental health unit have taken place regarding creating a partnership, whereby residents of the unit can assist in cultivating the garden. Finance has obviously been a major concern as the land needs to be cleared professionally, and we are currently raising funds to cover the cost of recent Tower repairs. So, we are delighted to let you all know that the garden has been professionally cleared and the wall repointed by the Civil Engineering firm A E Yates, who have been working on the railway bridge repairs. This has come about as a thank you for any inconvenience we have experienced whilst the bridge repairs have been underway. All work has been completed on the garden free of charge and A E Yates will be donating two new benches. We are immensely grateful to Chris, Josh and the team for their support with our exciting project - a real answer to prayer.

There is much still to be done to create the Community Garden but we will keep you updated, and photos will follow in due course! We are looking for grants, but I hope that maybe we will be able to cover the cost of the raised beds through local firm sponsorship. Phil has kindly recommended that we have room for 4/5 beds at a cost of approximately £500 for each raised bed and soil. And so, if you know of any firms who may be willing to 'sponsor a vegetable bed' please let us know. Dedication plaques with the names of sponsors will be affixed to the beds. Thank you, Rev Sue

Move It or Lose It

If you're over 60 & looking to improve your fitness levels, then why not join our fun and friendly group at Emmanuel Church on Thursdays. The exercises have all been designed specifically for older adults and can be done seated, standing or with chair support, so everyone is welcome! We work on improving balance, strength, flexibility, and heart health besides playing fun games! Members can also enjoy a cuppa and chat afterwards in the community hub.

To book your FREE taster session contact: Lucy 07514 687354

Email: lucy.faulkner@moveitorloseit.co.uk

Pastoral Care

At a leadership team meeting recently, we discussed our response for providing pastoral care within the church. We are all of course responsible for caring for one another, but obviously concerns may need passing on to the pastoral team. So, if anyone has a worry, concern or just feel that they need to voice an issue of a pastoral nature, then please initially contact either Cheryl O'Connor on family.schools@lan-cashirewest.org.uk or 07553204364 or Mark Taylor on mammataylor124@gmail.com or 07832 406696. They will then ensure that the appropriate response is made. Thank you

Is it too early to mention the Christmas word!!

A date for your diary, Christmas Fair will be taking place **Saturday 29th November**. Get your crafts started and plans to get baking!

If you have any ideas about what you'd like to be included in the fair please get in touch with Mark 07932 406696.

Emmanuel Community Hubs

Our Thursday Hubs continue throughout the year, everyone is welcome for chat, crafts, drinks and cake! Join us from 10am – 1pm. We have lots of regulars now and new people joining us every week. Our banner has also attracted more visitors, keep spreading the word to your friends and family to join us and grow as a community. Also keep an eye out for our new name badges to see who our incredible volunteers are who make events like this possible, huge thanks to them! If you would like to volunteer, for every week or just an hour or two here and there, please let Mark Taylor know and he can help you further.

Our Saturday Hubs are also still taking place with Live Music, see details of our upcoming musicians below:

July 26th – Off Their Rockers, Ukulele Band

August 23rd – Cabin Hill Band, Tunesome Foursome

September 27th – Treble T, songs for everyone

If you have any articles you wish to go in the next In Touch these need to be received by **20th August to be published in the September & October issue.**

Please contact Meg Langton at meganjane124@gmail.com if you have any information to be included or speak to Mark Taylor on 07932406696.