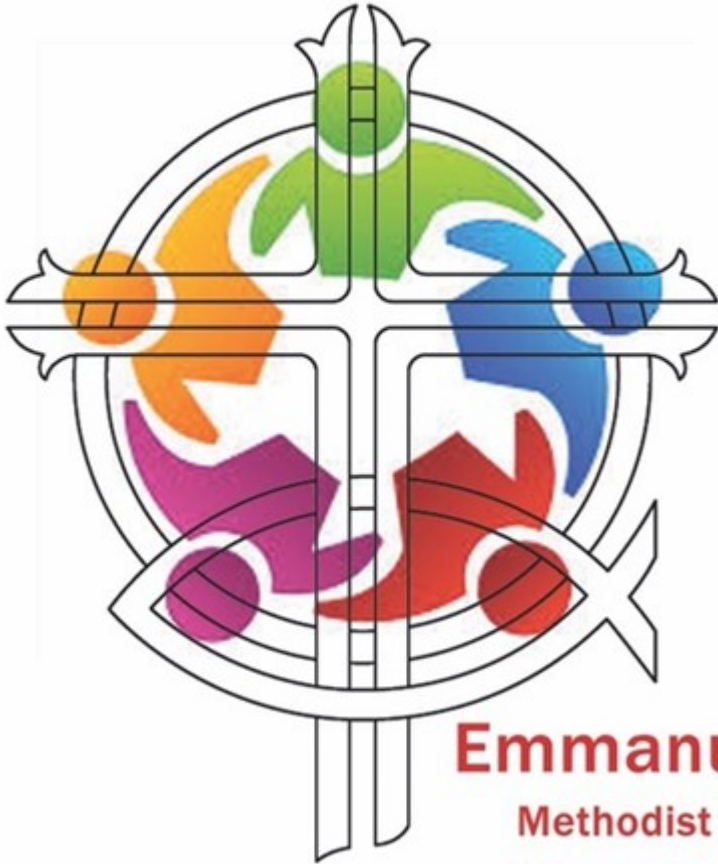


In Touch



Emmanuel
Methodist URC
Ormskirk

Autumn 2026

Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church

Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DE

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are approaching Autumn at speed as I compose this letter. The cycle of the Church calendar continues to move forward at pace, but this Autumn I'd like to offer us the opportunity as a Church family to reflect upon the day-to-day life of the Church, and our plans for the future. As I have now been your Minister for 10 years, I think it's a good time to do an audit and it is five years since we did the last one!

Our Mission Statement says that **'Together as a Church Family, we are striving to love God and all peoples. Our vision is to see lives, relationships and communities transformed by the love of God in Jesus Christ'**.

And so, we will be hosting three meetings for you to come along and discuss what we are doing well, how we might do things differently, and how we might explore new opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus, here in Ormskirk and in the wider community. **Please** come along to these meetings, this is a community of which you are all a part. And if you cannot make a meeting but have something to share, please also let me know.

On **Tuesday 22nd September at 7.00pm** we will look at Worship and ways of engaging with one another through Prayer and Scripture.

On **Tuesday 13th October at 7.00pm** we will look at our mission and outreach and explore new ways to reach out to the wider community, in particular young adults.

On **Tuesday 10th November at 7.00pm** we will look at our plans to apply for our Silver Eco Church Award.

This is not an exhaustive list but it's a start and if you think there are other areas of our Church Life that would value a discussion, please also let me know.

In addition, on **Monday 21st September at 1.30pm**, the District Communications team will be offering training in the use of social media platforms to advertise and report on Church Events. Everyone is welcome – you do not need to have technical skills already!

In this Autumn edition you will also see updates on the **Roots of Hope Community Garden**, notification of our Sunday morning sessions on the **‘Season of Creation’** and details of a **Church Away Day**. And please see the return of our Sunday afternoon **Tea Services!**

Maintaining the life of the Church obviously relies on volunteers and so please see our request for volunteers for different groups. If you feel that you could and would like to be involved with any of our groups, please come and talk to myself, Cheryl or Mark T.

We have an exciting new Church year ahead of us. There is much for you to be involved with, including our regular weekly events – ALL ARE WELCOME!! And if you are not able to get to the different events, please hold all these activities in your prayers. Your prayers are significant and greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would just like to formally welcome Rev Andrew Cheadle and his wife Lisbeth into the Circuit. Rev Andrew will be involved with Emmanuel for a few hours a week and we very much look forward to Rev Andrew and Lisbeth joining the Emmanuel family.

Every Blessing, Rev Sue

North West England District Lancashire West Circuit

Welcome service for Revd Dr. Andrew Cheadle and his wife Lisbeth who will be a Minister in the Lancashire West Circuit.

The service will take place on

Tuesday 8th September at 7pm

and will be followed by refreshments in the Langham Hall.

Offers of help to serve refreshments after the service would be gratefully received.

Please contact Miriam Roxborough on 07732 356 398

Mens Hub

A chance for our men to meet and connect, everyone is welcome to join, these meetings take place the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Emmanuel. Next meetings – September 16th, October 21st, November 18th, no meeting in December, January 20th

Prayer Breakfasts

Join us for a continental breakfast followed by a time of prayer before the Sunday Service at 10am, dates as follows:

- 13th September
- 11th October
- 8th November

Food Bank

Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting our Food Bank. As the need in our community continues, we kindly ask you to keep donating what you can—every item truly makes a difference. Please place any items in the foyer at the front of the Worship area.

Special thanks to Bill Jones for kindly coordinating this effort. **Our Harvest Festival Service will be on Sunday 20th September at 11.00am.**

Please bring additional items on this Sunday for the Food Bank. Sorry but we cannot accept fresh produce.

Messy Vintage

Messy Vintage (via Zoom) is an opportunity to share our faith through conversation, craft, and music. The next sessions take place on



September 15th, October 20th, November 17th 7.30-9.00pm

Please contact Cheryl if you'd like to attend,

family.schools@lancashirewest.org.uk

Community Garden Update

We have had an amazing start to the new life of our 'Roots of Hope Community Garden' with folks enjoying broad beans, beetroot and strawberries. There is much produce still to come! The garden belongs to everyone and if you would like to be involved in any way, planting, watering, weeding etc please speak to Rev Sue. It is also open for you just to go and sit in at any time.

As you know, we have partnered with the Scarisbrick Mental Health Unit at Ormskirk Hospital and it has been wonderful to build relationships with the staff and patients as they attend on a Thursday morning. Stephanie Cummings, an Occupational Therapist, wrote an article for the NHS and I'd like to share some of it with you:

"Patients from our Scarisbrick Unit are benefiting from a growing partnership between the Occupational Therapy Team and Emmanuel Church, helping them reconnect with their community and take part in meaningful activity.

As part of this, patients and members of the therapy team, Olivia, Pete and Zoe, have been attending the church's weekly Thursday hub, creating opportunities for social connection and engagement outside of the ward environment. Building on this relationship, the therapy team has collaborated with Reverend Sue and church volunteers to develop a small community therapy garden. The garden aims to support patients to develop meaningful roles, take part in purposeful activity, and contribute positively to their local community.

Engaging in shared, meaningful occupations not only supports patients' mental health and sense of identity, but also fosters connection, confidence, and a sense of belonging.

The project has also brought benefits to members of the church community, creating opportunities for inclusion, shared experiences, and mutual support. This project is about helping people reconnect with what matters to them. Being part of something in the community, contributing and building relationships can make a real difference to recovery and wellbeing.

This partnership highlights the power of community connections in supporting recovery and demonstrates how meaningful activity can positively impact both patients and the wider community”.



Please join us for the Dedication ceremony of the *‘Roots of Hope’ Community Garden* on Tuesday 1st September at 2.00pm, followed by refreshments in Church. We will gather in the worship area at 2.00pm.

Harvest Walk

You are welcome to join us for a Harvest Walk after church on Sunday 20th September, about 6 miles, with a shorter option available. Please dress for the weather, and bring a packed lunch. Accompanied children and well-behaved dogs welcome.

Tea Service

We are pleased to announce that we will be reinstating our monthly Sunday tea service at 4.00pm. This is a short, informal service incorporating the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are able to help providing/serving the tea of sandwiches and cakes, please see Lillian Graham.

Eco Church report

As a church we are committed to being good stewards of God's creation and the world around us.

As part of this we want to play our part in transforming the world around us and setting a good example for the local community.

To do this effectively we decided to use the Eco Church awards as a guide to measure how we shape up to our ambitions. Back in 2022 we were awarded the bronze award for our efforts and it is now time to take stock and look to see if we can go one more step and try for the Silver award.

As part of this I have carried out a survey (from the eco church website) to determine where our strengths and weaknesses are and to provide a guide as to our next steps.

I am pleased to say that of the 5 areas we have already reached the Silver point with our Worship and Teaching and our Buildings and Energy actions. The three areas we need to concentrate on if we want the Silver award are: Land and Nature, Community and Global Engagement, Lifestyle.

Areas for suggested action:

1. Community and Global Engagement
 - a. produce a plan or strategy to take action LOCALLY and/or NATIONALLY and/or GLOBALLY, with regard to climate and nature crisis.
 - b. have a policy/plan to reduce our waste
 - c. have an eco-champion/ambassador.
2. Land and Nature
 - a. establish a plan to manage our land for nature
 - b. provide things such as:
 - i. bird boxes
 - ii. bat boxes
 - iii. bug hotels
 - iv. hedgehog boxes
 - v. food for birds throughout the year
 - vi. pond or wetland area for wildlife
 - vii. wild, scrubby area (e.g. nettles, brambles, weeds in pavings)
 - viii. log pile(s)

- ix. composting and mulching as appropriate
 - x. source of water for wildlife all year round
 - c. be intentional about leaving 'untidy' areas during the autumn/winter that support over-wintering wildlife
 - d. actively engage in planting and/or managing trees and/or hedgerows for wildlife on our land or in the local community.
 - e. compost organic garden waste on site
 - f. use no dig/mulching and/or other soil-friendly cultivation methods
 - g. do not use horticultural products that contain peat
 - h. avoid the use of synthetic fertilisers, pesticides or herbicides.
 - i. undertake citizen science activities including wildlife surveys on our land to monitor changes
 - j. regularly take part in a community litter pick
3. Lifestyle
- a. have a strategy or plan to promote ethical and environmentally aware consumption patterns by individuals and households
 - b. actively encourage the whole congregation to take part in social or environmental campaigns the church support
 - c. encourage people to use locally sourced produce and eat less meat.
 - d. encourage people to reduce their carbon emissions

These are some of the areas from the survey we could tackle. Not quite as easy as the Bronze award but if we as a congregation form a plan to tackle these one by one with a realistic time scale it will put us in a better position.

Each of the areas highlighted above comes with advice and guidance sheets we can use to inform our conversations.

Rob Langdon

Church Community Away-Day

Saturday 3 October, 10.30am-4.30pm
St Joseph's Prayer and Retreat Centre
Blundell Avenue, Formby L37 1PH

As part of our Autumn celebrations of God's creation we will be hosting an away-day in Formby. The Centre has a lounge, activity room, chapel, garden and direct access to Formby sands.

During the day there will be an opportunity to come together in conversation, prayer and craft activities, a meal and a short Communion service. There will be activities for all ages so please come along! The cost of the day will be a voluntary donation of £15 per person to cover the meal and resources.

Please let Rev Sue or a Steward know if you would like to attend, and also let us know if you require transport.



Save the Date

In addition to our Church Away Day, we will be organising a Church weekend, also at St Joseph's 7th-9th May 2027. More details will follow but please save the date!

News from the Brigade

We are looking forward to our new term which starts on September 11th for all sections.

There are still places in all sections and we are particularly looking for Anchors (reception to year 2). Please help us by giving the leaflets out that we have in the stands at church and if possible, get your local corner shop or library to put one up. You can direct any parents who may be interested to our website 1ormskirk.boys-brigade.org.uk to see what we are about and I would recommend our Instagram and Facebook pages to see what we get up to.

Brigade Recycling update:

So far, we have recycled 55.2kg with Terracycle, during 2025/26 we have recycled 23.78kg (that is £23.78), this is great, thank you. The recycling of old mobile phones during 2025/26 worked out as £76.59.

Unfortunately, Terracycle have stopped their schemes at the moment but we are still collecting old phones, ipads and postage stamps.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Brigades recycling.

Here are some highlights from this summer term!



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

Quiet Space

We invite you to come and relax in the calm and peace of our beautiful church building. This is very informal time. You can just sit quietly and listen to music or choose one of the gentle activities that will be around the church.

The church will be open as quiet space on Tuesday 29th September from 6pm – 6.45pm. This is an opportunity for you to come, to take time out from the pressures and busyness of everyday life and relax. Please feel free to pop in at any point and stay for as long or as short a time as you would like - everyone is very welcome. We hope you will leave feeling refreshed in mind, body and spirit.

Ruth Rushworth and Miriam Roxburgh

Maintenance of Our Building and Health and Safety

We are committed to ensuring our church remains a safe, comfortable and well-maintained space for worship, fellowship and community activities. If you notice any health and safety concerns or issues with building maintenance please pass concerns to Cynthia, a vestry steward or a member of the leadership team.

Volunteers Needed!

Are you passionate about stewardship and helping our church thrive?

We're looking for dedicated volunteers in different areas.

Firstly, to join our Property and Finance Committee. Although it's great if you do, you do not need experience in finance or property. The committee oversees the stewardship of our buildings and financial resources, ensuring they are managed responsibly and in alignment with our mission. Please speak to our Chair Bill Jones or another member of the committee to explore further.

We also really need additional folks to act as Stewards on a Sunday morning, helping us to prepare for worship. If you could help on a Sunday morning, if only once every two or three months, please see our Senior Steward Miriam Roxburgh.

And finally, we also urgently need folks who are willing to act as 1. Fire Officers and 2. Health and Safety Officers. If you think you are able to help with these roles, PLEASE speak to Rev Sue.

Emmanuel's Christmas Appeal 2026

This year we are supporting a local charity, the Liberty Centre in Ormskirk. A wide range of services are provided to support individuals and families affected by domestic abuse. Specialist workers focus on recovery and empowerment through 1:1 sessions, group work and peer support groups.

* see www.thelibertycentre.co.uk

Donations of the following items are welcome and will be collected in November.

Baby clothes and toys

Games and toys for children

Games/books/toiletries for young people

Items which can be included in Christmas Hampers for women and men.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Thank you for your support.

Anne Baldwin

07725542253

Emmanuel Community Hubs

Our Thursday Hubs continue to thrive, and we're delighted to welcome everyone—whether you're joining us for a chat, crafts, a warm drink, or a slice of cake! We meet every Thursday from 10am–1pm, and it's been wonderful to see how our community has grown over the past few years. We now have a lovely mix of regulars and new faces each week, and our banner outside continues to attract even more visitors.

Please keep spreading the word to friends, neighbours, and family, there's always room for more! Our hub is only possible thanks to our incredible volunteers, we're so grateful for their time, kindness, and enthusiasm each week. If you'd like to join the volunteer team, whether weekly or just for the occasional hour or two—please speak to Mark Taylor, who will be happy to help you get involved.

Our Saturday Hubs, also 10am-1pm, are again taking place with Live Music, starting approximately 11.30am. See details of our upcoming musicians below:

26th September – Tom Dent

24th October – Wayfarers Chorus

21st November – The Wanderers

Prayer Diary

We are aware how much our prayer diaries are appreciated. It is very powerful when we all unite in prayer from our homes. And so, a new Prayer Diary will be published for 2027, but Cheryl has kindly produced a Diary to cover September-December this year. These will be available shortly so please look out for them. Please also visit our prayer corner in Church for Autumn, also beautifully prepared for us by Cheryl.

Prayer Reflections

Each week Ruth Rushworth writes a beautiful prayer reflection which we send out by email. If you would like to be added to the circulation list, please speak to Ruth or Rev Sue.

Time to Talk about God

On a Wednesday evening and a Thursday afternoon we offer the opportunity to come together in the worship area and talk about our faith, and look at scripture passages in a friendly, informal gathering. The Wednesday group will meet at 7.15pm on September 2nd, 16th and 30th, October 14th and 28th, November 11th and 25th. The Thursday group meets weekly at 1:30pm. Sessions begin on Thursday 3rd September. For more details, please see Cheryl O'Connor.

Love Beyond Our Shores Circuit Event

Sunday October 4th 2-4pm

Croston Methodist Church

Westhead Rd

PR26 9RQ

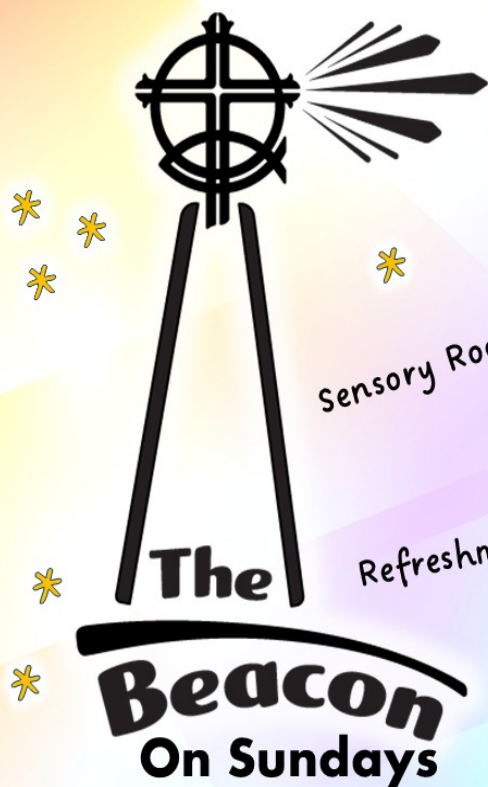
Moira Dunworth from The Mamie
Martin Fund will update everyone
on

**“Our Lancashire West Girls”
in Malawi**



***Do come along, present supporters, and all
those who would like to find out about this
important partnership.
There will be refreshments and time to chat.***

Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church
invites you to:



Messy Church
activities

Sensory Room

Board Games

Refreshments

* For all the
family

Inclusive and accessible for all ages, abilities and needs.

Come along and join us at our Family sessions on the
FIRST Sunday of each month

(6th Sept; 4th Oct; 1st Nov; 6th Dec; 3rd Jan; 7th Feb;
7th March; 4th April; 2nd May; 6th June; 4th July)

Starting 10.45am - 12.00pm (followed by tea, coffee, juice & biscuits)

Emmanuel Methodist UR Church, Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DE

Emmanuel Methodist UR Church,
Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DE

CAMEO

'Come And Meet Each Other'



Our Ladies' group meets on the second Friday of each month at 2pm in the Lecture Room at Emmanuel Church, Ormskirk.

Our program for the Autumn of 2026
is as follows:

September 11th: "Songs from the Shows"
(led by Cheryl)

October 9th: - "Rescues, Ripples & Remarkable
People" - RNLI speaker

November 13th: "Victorians Unbuttoned!"
with Fiona

Wednesday 9th December: Christmas lunch at
O'Briens (12.30pm)

We each pay £2 subs, and we usually have a raffle, with refreshments served before we go home. Please come and join us!

For further information, contact Cheryl:
family.schools@lancashirewest.org.uk



Wayward Wanderers

Do you enjoy walking, or popping into shops, or visiting a cafe, spending time with friends, or having time to just 'be'?

If you answered 'yes', have you thought about joining our ladies-only group for one of our weekends away?

In March/April and October we stay in a YHA hostel (shared dorms) from Friday to Sunday, and have a wonderful time of togetherness and fellowship.

If you'd like more information, speak to Barbara
on 07892 662552



Christmas Fair

Firstly, the date this year is Saturday 28th November, starting at 10.00am, so please keep this date free. We will also be setting up on the Friday, so again if you can help moving tables etc please also put that date in your diary. We will require helpers for all the usual jobs; manning stalls, door stewards, tidying up, so please consider what you can do to help. And as always, we will need items to stock our stalls so watch out for my regular updates. We do however need as much home baking as possible in the form of cakes, both for our refreshments and for our cake stall.

We hope to change things a bit this year and try to bring a fresh face to this much anticipated event in our church calendar. It not only is one of our major fundraisers but is very much an occasion for us to show our face to people who we wouldn't normally see within our church. If you have any ideas offers of help, whether on the day, beforehand or tidying up afterwards, please contact me on

mammataylor124@gmail.com

07932406696

or speak to me in church.

Thanks - Mark Taylor

If you have any articles you wish to go in the next In Touch these need to be received by 20th November to be published in the Christmas Issue

Please contact Meg Langton at

meganjane124@gmail.com if you have any information to

be included or speak to Mark Taylor on 07932406696.

For more information about the life of our Church please see our Website, Facebook and Instagram pages

September, October and November Service Dates

Date	Service	Preacher
Sunday 6 th September 11am	Season of Creation	Mrs Pauline Culshaw
Sunday 13 th September 11am	Season of Creation	Rev Andrew Mashiter
Sunday 20 th September 11am	Harvest festival & Parade Service	Rev Sue Guénault
Sunday 20 th September 4pm	Tea Service & Holy Communion	Rev Sue Guénault
Sunday 27 th September 11am	Season of Creation	Mrs Pauline Culshaw
Sunday 4 th October 11am	Season of Creation & Holy Communion	Rev Sue Guénault
Sunday 11 th October 11am	Sunday Worship	Rev Andrew Cheatle
Sunday 18 th October 11am	Parade Service	Mrs Lorraine Howarth
Sunday 25 th October 11am	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Guénault
Sunday 25 th October 4pm	Tea Service and Holy Communion	tba
Sunday 1 st November 11am	Sunday Worship	Mrs Pauline Culshaw
Sunday 8 th November 11am	Remembrance Sunday Holy Communion	Rev Sue Guénault
Sunday 15 th November 11am	Brigade Enrolment Service	Rev Sue Guénault
Sunday 22 nd November 11am	Sunday Worship	Rev Geoff Farthing
Sunday 22 nd November 4pm	Tea Service and Holy Communion	Rev Andrew Cheatle
Sunday 29 th November 11am	Sunday Worship	Mrs Merle Farthing

In Touch



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