

CONNECTING THE CHURCHES OF MACCLESFIELD TEAM MINISTRY

LINK

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

FREE



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Welcome to Macclesfield Team Ministry

Macclesfield Team Ministry is a family of four churches that are located in the town of Macclesfield and are part of the Church of England. We are four different communities of people seeking to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and trying to bring wholeness and healing to the wider town.



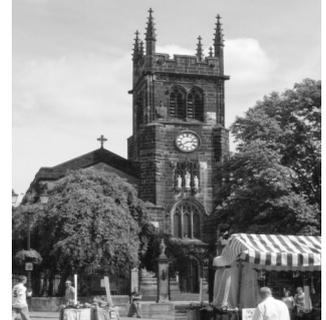
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Brough Street West
Macclesfield
SK11 8EL



St Barnabas
Lyme Avenue
Macclesfield
SK11 7RS



St Peter's
Windmill Street
Macclesfield
SK11 7HS



St Michael & All Angels
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St Michael's: Ellen Brown 01625 423178
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St Peter's: Jann Thorpe 01625 500544

Safeguarding Diocesan Advisor

Pauline Butterfield

01928 718834 ext 221

pauline.butterfield@chester.anglican.org



One year on...

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds." (Hebrews 10:23-24)

Having now reached the milestone of being in post one year, my thoughts have naturally reviewed what's happened in that time.

There have been some wonderful 'stand-out' moments, such as when Gary, a homeless alcoholic, 'gate-crashed' a particular carol service .. and starkly reminded us how the message of Christmas is for ALL. Another was when some 350 people attended a vigil event at one of our churches, less than 24 hours after the Manchester Arena bombing. Two memories which

will endure; two occasions when I recognised the presence of God in our midst.

I'm glad to say there have been other 'God-moments' too, be they when ministering to those who were ill, dying or bereaved, or to those seeking to have a child christened or get married. (Did you hear about the 'secret wedding', when even the bride's brothers thought they were coming to a christening [only]? #greatsurprise!)

And, of course, there's the specialness of being part of a team of four churches, where what unites is the desire to reflect the love of God to one another and to our wider community through compassionate service and active care. Believe me, that's not the case everywhere!

Through ordinary conversations and in everyday life, my time at Macclesfield has been blessed by you and by your welcome of me and my family. Thank you!

So, with the first year now under my belt, having got to know you and our churches better, having understood something of the opportunities and the resources God has given us, I'm even more excited about being here than I was a year ago. I hope you are too!

Martin Stephens



Team notices

Vacancy

By the time you read this, the Team Vicar vacancy will be in the Church press. Some people will already have looked at the Team Profile and be assessing whether God is calling them to join us in Macclesfield.

How exciting! How daunting! Please continue to pray for this important appointment in the life of our Team; for those directly involved in the process as well as for potential applicants.

Christmas

As is usual, there'll only be one service the Sunday after Christmas, 10.30am on 31st December. As last year, this will include an act of commitment, an opportunity to offer ourselves afresh to God. What will be different this year is that it will be at St Barnabas Church.

Team Social

Were you at the Team Social in February, when Darth Vader turned up as a guest at the Open Door Café?

A time of fun and togetherness, we intend to have another social evening early in 2018. Listen out for more details, but start to plan your act!

Cover shows (L-R) some of the St Cuthbert's Way Pilgrims David Wightman, Karen Brady, Ann Durrant, Jemila Ghazoul, Paul Simms, Ruth Simms, Lynne Spedding, Paul Spedding, Jenny Wild, Jon Evans & Rachel Davies



Tots Time
Fridays 10am - 12noon
St Barnabas Church, Lyme Avenue

£1 entry | 0 - 4 years. Just come along, everyone welcome!

Lots of space to run around and many toys to play with. Tea and toast provided.

Every Friday during term time.

Part of the work of St Barnabas Church,
 Lyme Avenue, Macclesfield

Animal graphics created by Freepik

Prophet or loss?

Book Review. 'Twelve Prophets, Volume 2'

Just recently we have collected together all the books that were scattered around St Michael's church and, having sorted them, they are now available as a small library in the Upper Room above the entrance area. This particular book is one of the 'Daily Study Bible' series. Not knowing much about these twelve prophets I decided to read and study it during my morning prayers.

There should be two of these books but we haven't got Volume 1 so if anyone out there has a copy it would be received with grateful thanks!

Volume 2 explores Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malach. This study book puts the messages of the prophets into the context of their times and highlights some very human situations which have parallels today.

Basically, my conclusion is that these prophets were really in touch with their own people and society whilst also being closely in touch with God. They were bold in standing up to corrupt leaders and in speaking out for justice and righteousness. This leads me to ask where are our prophets today?

I leave you to answer that for yourselves!

Tricia Atherton

2nd Macclesfield (St Michael's) Senior Section (formerly Rangers) is 40!

To mark the Unit's birthday we are having a party on Sunday 3rd December at the Scout and Guide hut on Station Road, from 3-5pm.

Former members and leaders are invited to come and celebrate along with current members and parents. There will be time for reminiscing as well as a chance to find out what the

Unit has been doing since it re-opened 2 years ago. If you know of any former members or leaders please pass this invitation on, we would love to see as many as possible.

For more information please contact Ali Griffen at seniorleaders@mpcsq.co.uk

The Unit is open to girls from 14 to 25 years of age, new members are always welcome. You do not need to have been a member of Girlguiding to join the Senior Section.



Link

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Link. If you would like to submit news, an article or photos, please email linkteammagazine@gmail.com or hand in your contribution at the Team Office. The deadline for the Dec/Jan edition is Monday **6th November 2017**. The views expressed in this edition of Link do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial team or the PCCs of the churches.

Christian Blind Mission (CBM)

CBM is a major Christian International Organisation supporting people with, or at risk of, disability in the World's poorest places.

They work to help around 30 million people with disabilities, mainly sight loss, but also improving health and educational opportunities and building secure livelihoods. Also they become involved in disaster relief and help to shape policy and practice in the interests of the poor and disabled in the countries where they work.

In 2015 CBM transformed the lives of over 70 million people living with, or at risk of, disabilities in over 60 countries, training many doctors and other professionals working with the blind and treating other disabilities.

It costs £20 to provide a special telescope for a child to see a blackboard at school, £100 to train a teacher to support children struggling to see and £190 to pay for an operation to remove cataracts from a child blind in both eyes and restore their sight.

I am proud to support CBN, especially as it works in the name of Jesus. They URGENTLY need ongoing finance to continue their vital work. Please can you assist them in this way?

Their address is Oakington Business Park, Dry Drayton Road, Cambridge CB24 3DQ (Tel01223 484700)..Please do contact me - or them, direct for any further information. THANK YOU - they will be so grateful for your support.

Ralph Cole (01625 428458)

Team Confirmation Service

Tuesday 14th November 2017

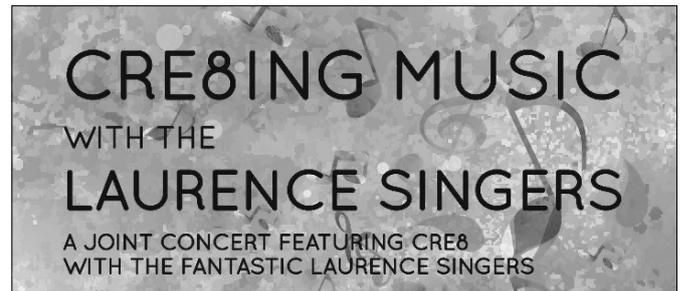
7.30pm

at St Michael's
Church

Conducted by
Bishop of Stockport



Laurence Singers Concert 14th October 2017 7pm St Michaels Church



We are very proud to announce a special concert with the fantastic Laurence Singers on Saturday 14th October. This promises to be an enjoyable evening of music with a varied programme from the singers and some special joint performances with talented young people from Cre8's own Music Project.

Tickets are £7.50 and can be purchased from Cre8 by calling 01625 503740. All money will go towards Cre8's charitable activities.

North West Charity Awards 2017: Finalists

Cre8 are finalists in two categories at the North West Charity Awards 2017. We're finalists in 'Small Charity Big Impact' for our work with young people and families in the neighbourhood of the Moss Estate in Macclesfield. And Cre8 Facilities our social enterprise, supported by Creamline Dairies (employing young people & young adults and providing valuable work skills & employment opportunities), is a finalist in the 'Outstanding Charity Support' category.

We'll find out if we've made it at the Awards Ceremony in October (at the very swanky Midlands Hotel). Congratulations and a HUGE well done to everyone involved with Cre8; young people, their families, this community, our workers and volunteers and the immense supporters we have all across Macclesfield and far wider. You make Cre8 great!



Happy hikers

A group of 17, mainly but not exclusively, St Mike's members headed off to Akeld Manor (Northumberland) a couple of weeks ago, with our leader Taffy, to walk St Cuthbert's Way.

What a fantastic week we had! The weather (always a first concern) was generally kind, the landscape wonderful and the company not just bearable but great fun. How marvellous to meet each other in the early hours, dressed in pyjamas, to argue over distances walked; to race each other to the shower/bath; and to eat tasty meals in convivial company.

Poor Karen (curate) was truly shocked to see how much alcohol could be drunk by dedicated pilgrims, and the number of times we were exhorted to "form a ring of steel around the general" (Taffy) in order that he might

bark out instructions to his unruly mob was extraordinary.

Seriously, the week was inspirational: we got to know old friends in new ways as we shared stories of our lives in the way which happens only when walking together; we laughed a lot; we ate well; we kept our eyes on Jesus through our

morning and evening reflections and liturgy. Thank you to all who came along and made it so wonderful, and thank you.

Roll on the next pilgrimage!

Lynne Spedding



One of refuge sites along the pilgrim route across the sands to Lindisfarne (Holy Island). Essential if the tide time-tables are misread. (Fortunately not required on this occasion).

Greenbelt



A few stalwarts from St Michael's and St Peter's travelled to Boughton House for the August Bank Holiday weekend, for the annual Greenbelt Festival. The weather took us by surprise – we aren't used to non-stop sun at Greenbelt. Even the toilet queues were manageable and

the toilets themselves positively luxurious (comparatively speaking). Greenbelt is a Christian Arts Festival with a focus on social justice.

There was an immense range of activities: speakers covering all kinds of social and political issues (for example, John Bell speaking on Rampant Heterosexuality and later on the implications of a Trump presidency and a Brexit Britain; Clive Stafford-Smith, who works with prisoners on death row in the States; Charles Handy, highly respected economist - to name just a few); arts, crafts and music workshops; multi-cultural and multi-faith events, etc.

The Sunday morning service was inspirational, with a genuine focus on inclusivity, and some wonderful songs. We all learnt a bit of British Sign Language and shared the peace through signing, as well as signing one or two songs. Watch out, St Mike's!

This was a wonderful time for spiritual refreshment, reflection and engagement with current issues from a faith perspective. It's well worth trying Greenbelt out next year, as long as you can cope with camping!

Lynne Spedding

A SERVICE OF REMEMBERING

Arranged by the Bereavement Teams of the Macclesfield Team Ministry and Macclesfield & Bollington URC Churches

Sunday, 15th October at 4.00 pm
in St Michael's Church

Our annual service of Remembering offers a focus of thanksgiving for those who have died and whose memories we continue to hold dear. At the service names are read out of people who have died recently and also, there is an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance. There will be a few hymns, readings, prayers and a short talk and light refreshments will be served afterwards giving an opportunity to talk or to sit quietly in church for a while or speak with members of the Bereavement Team.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Date for the Diary - **Friday, 1st December**

There will be a Christmas Lunch arranged for the above date - commencing at 12.00 noon until 2.30pm in St Michael's Church.

More details will follow in the weekly sheets in all four churches. Hope you can come along and join with others for a Christmas lunch, entertainment and opportunity to meet other people from our Macclesfield Team.

Date for Your Diary

Cre8 Winter Concert 2017

Saturday 16th December

United Reformed Church, Macclesfield



CRE8's Recent Super Supper

Thanks St Mike's - your fresh produce fed 17 young people and 7 volunteers! Everyone at least tried it which is pretty good and quite a few came back for seconds! We had a big cheer and round of applause to say thankyou.

#harvest #cre8 #church #Macclesfield



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Events & Notices

Music at Mike's Next Concert 24th Nov at 1.15pm

A programme of concerts at St Michael's for your entertainment by King's School musicians. Free admission and light refreshments served.

Church or hall bookings

All Saints

Jim Donaldson 01625 619050
jacjim@ntlworld.com

St Barnabas

Jonathan Aiken 07515 410170
jonathanstewartaikem@gmail.com

St Michael's

Emma Kingdom: 01625 421984
stmichaelscoordinator@gmail.com

St Peter's

Mike Boardman: 01625 428646

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Our Church Toddler Groups

WEDNESDAYS — 9.30am to 11.00am

St Peter's Church 'Take a Break'

Contact the Team Office 01625 421984

WEDNESDAYS — 1.30pm to 3.00pm

All Saints Church '0-5 Club'

Contact Shirley Hill: 01625 426874

THURSDAYS — 10.00am to 11.30am

St Michael's Church

Contact Church Office: 01625 421984

FRIDAYS — 10.00am to 12.00pm

St Barnabas Church

Contact Church Office: 01625 503740

(see advert on page 4)



We work together with the management of Macclesfield Town Centre and the Police to help people, whoever they are and whatever their situation, by listening, caring, offering practical help or referring them to specialist agencies.



macclesfield

Without our volunteers we cannot run this valuable service. We urgently need more volunteers for this role. If you are interested to know more, please speak to David Wightman on 07770 785188.

St Michael's is Open Monday to Saturday 10.30am to 12.30pm. Call in for a look round or refreshments.

Sunday Services

Sundays	All Saints Brough St. West	St Barnabas Lyme Ave.	St. Michael & All Angels In the Market Place	St Peter's Windmill St.
1st Oct	9.30am Informal Service	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
8th Oct	9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Morning Prayer 6.30pm Choral Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer
15th Oct	9.30am Morning Worship	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service with Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
22nd Oct	9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Morning Prayer	9.30am Worship for All Bells
29th Oct	Fifth Sunday	11.15am Holy Communion	10.30am Treacle Service	Fifth Sunday
5th Nov	9.30am Informal Service	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
12th Nov	9.30am Holy Communion	11.00am Short act of remembrance 11.15am Morning Prayer	9.30am Storytelling Service 10.45am Remembrance Service 6.30pm Choral Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer
19th Nov	9.30am Morning Worship	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion
26th Nov	9.30am Holy Communion	11.15am Morning Praise	10.30am Treacle Service	9.30am Worship for All
3rd Dec	9.30am Informal Service	11.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Storytelling Service 11.00am Holy Communion 6.30pm Advent Carol Service	9.30am Holy Communion

Services in October & November

Hospital Services

St Luke's Chapel,
Macclesfield Hospital
Sunday 8th October
Sunday 29th October
Sunday 12th November
11.00am

Have you ever thought about helping support patients who come to worship? Can you help out on a weekly or more occasional basis?

For more information please contact Vicky & Gordon Darlington
01625 428215

Messy Church



4.00pm - 6.00pm - All Saints Church
7th October
4th November

It's a once a month time of creativity, worship and eating together for families for whom traditional Sunday Services don't work.

Midweek Communion

Thursdays
10.30am
St Michael's Church

Healing Service

St Michael's Church
**Service of Prayer for
Healing & Wholeness**
6th October
3rd November
12.30pm

This service will last about half an hour and all are welcome. It contains intercessions for those who are sick or grieving and there will be an opportunity for those who wish to receive prayer with laying on of hands.

Team Cre8 Community Run



Thanks so much to all the Team Cre8 runners who took part in the Macclesfield Half Marathon and Community 5K run.

17 started and 17 finished! Some a lot quicker than others but we all did it! And we inspired some of our young supporters to run next year!! Thankyou everyone - especially those who have donated and supported the Team. You can still donate at

www.give.net/cre8macchalf

Who's up for running next year?

The Results

Team Cre8 Faith Change Community SMASHED IT on Sunday!

We came 4th in the 5K community challenge (out of 10 teams!) thanks to our 5 fastest finishers - Rob (Wood not Wardle), Tom, Pip, Ruth & Laura. Special mention to Rob who came in 13th place overall in the 5K with a time of 19 minutes woowoooo! And

Emma who ran 28 minutes whilst 28 weeks pregnant!

Team Cre8 came third in the Half Marathon community team challenge thanks to Gordon, Ollie and Martin. And our team had the oldest members out of the top three teams. Not bad for a teeny tiny community organisation from the Moss Rose Estate.

