

Circuit

Reverend Ian Hu

A Message From Reverend Ian Hu Superintendent Minister

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! Greetings in Christ as we begin a new Methodist Connexional Year. This newsletter is going to be the final issue of the Liverpool (North) Circuit newsletter, as we are now officially an integral part of the newly created North Liverpool and South Sefton Methodist Circuit effective 1 September 2023.

Our churches in the Liverpool North Circuit (at Fazakerley, Linacre Mission and Old Roan) are now officially merged with the churches in the Liverpool North Central Circuit (at Kensington and West Derby) and with the churches in the Crosby Circuit (at St. Mark's Church Netherton and Moor Lane, with a class at Birchdale Road Waterloo). Formby Methodist Church, formerly located within the Crosby Circuit, is now officially part of the Southport Circuit to the north of us.

Liverpool (North) Circuit has a rich history of witness and care for our churches and communities. Together with our partner churches in circuit, we bring these qualities together as we embark on a new journey together in mission as a new circuit of

churches. We are blessed with a strong and gifted combined Circuit leadership team and staff, local preachers & worship leaders, and dedicated church councils together with loving and caring church congregations. May we continue to allow God's Spirit to use each of us as effective messengers of God's love, grace and hospitality through our witness in Jesus Christ. As we look forward to continuing to get to know one another better in this journey forward, thank you all for being the Church!

With blessings,

Rev. Ian J. K. Hu
*Superintendent Minister, North Liverpool
and South Sefton Circuit*



You CAN have your cake and eat it!

On Saturday 8th July we held a cream tea at Fazakerley, welcoming friends old and new, to celebrate the summer season, with delicious cakes, scones with jam and cream and of course, copious cups of tea.

Pity the weather hadn't remembered it was July, although the gazebo did a great job at keeping us dry before we eventually had to admit defeat and retreat indoors.

Undeterred, we continued to enjoy a lovely afternoon – good food and a great atmosphere. A real slice of heaven!

Thanks to everyone who helped to make our time together so special.



Time For A Summer “Ketchup” With Friends!

The annual August barbecue took place at Fazakerley on Sunday 20th August, after the morning service. The event, a highlight of the year, provided us with the opportunity to relax and spend time together.

All tastes were catered for, and the vast menu included meat and vegetarian options, along with a range of condiments and sauces.

We even managed to follow the second half of the World Cup Final, whilst munching away. Sadly, the Lionesses got more of a grilling than our burgers!

This team effort showed Fazakerley at its best. We are grateful to everyone who made the barbecue possible, including those who brought food, tidied, and washed up. A particular thank you, however, to Chris, our “barbecuer-in-chief.” Don't know how he managed to cater for so many in such a short space of time. Chris, you did a great job! Same time, same place next year?



It's All Fun And Games!

As part of our community outreach work, Fazakerley organised two “fun and games” afternoons this summer, in June and August, for local children and young people. Competitive board games, “extreme” Jenga, mindful colouring and table tennis, were just some of the choices on offer.

The non-stop activity sessions were thirsty and hungry work. Time out for snacks and drinks for all, helped keep energy levels high.

A big thank you to all church members and friends, who helped make both afternoons possible.



Carolyn Kirk - Fazakerley Methodist Church

Old Roan: An Update On Just Some Of The Ongoing Offerings To Members And Our Wider Community.

MONTH OF PRAYER.

July was a month of prayer for the many local, circuit, national and international concerns we need to pray for. This was put together by one of our own members and an absolutely fabulous job she made of it with a prayer dairy with daily prayer topics. For example Saturday 1st July main topic was 'Relationships within the Church' with 'Thanks' for strong relationships, friendship, trust and respect. 'Prayer requests' That God be at the centre of all relationships.

We met for breakfast on a Saturday morning at 8.30am and spent an hour sharing food and praying. We then met on Monday at 2.00pm until 3.00pm to pray for the requests people had asked for. Music was also a part of the circle of prayer which helped focus as a form of meditation.

On Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm to 8.30pm we completed a five week course on Lectio Divina that provides a framework for prayer and well worth googling www.24-7prayer to hear the sessions for yourself.

This prayer month was a real blessing to our church community because it allowed people to choose when to take part at a time to suit them or attend them all, if they wished and gain so much in understanding the benefit of corporate prayer.

WARM/WELCOME SPACE.

Over the last few months, we have run a very successful 'Warm Spaces' outreach into the local community in tandem with the other churches in Aintree Village, all on different days. We ran on a Wednesday afternoon from 2.00pm until 4.00pm and two volunteer served up to 14 people with tea, coffee, biscuits, and conversation. We ran this until 19th July when we closed for the summer with the intention of recommencing in September. We want to thank the volunteers who provided this much appreciated service and look forward to seeing them again in the new session.

MESSY CHURCH

We have continued to run messy church with the final one before the summer break run on Sunday 25th June and the 12 or so children with an adult thoroughly enjoyed the day supported by our team of 14 volunteers.

STORYTIME

This continues each Wednesday for a group of pre-school children with an adult meet to play and listen to stories. The numbers vary but the word gets around of the existence of this community outreach and new children are always welcome. As with most groups they close for a month and this took the form of a Teddy Bears picnic.

BRUNCH

We reopened our Saturday brunch when we moved out of covid restrictions and this once a month event is growing from strength to strength with up to 50 people attending between 11.00am and 1.00pm. More than a half of people coming over the church doorway are non-church goers, but people who see our sign outside and pop in and then become regulars because of the warm welcome they receive and the good food they enjoy.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

Rev. Helen Kirkup is facilitating a neighbourhood project with other local church communities where we consider how we react to our neighbourhoods in a Christian way. We have two meetings which meet every two weeks one at lunch time at Nette's café and the other at 7.00pm in the Valentine. We spend an hour in consideration of our week, individual action and inaction. Each group has a different dynamic and we meet for social events every once in a while, even winning the recent Quiz event at St Giles; these are times of relationship building and a new way of church in a small way.

We continue to upgrade our premises and are so pleased with the results of recent projects. After the successful installations of new windows and the addition of French Doors in the Fellowship Room

CHURCH HALL

Thanks to the circuit grant we were able to have a new wood style, scratch and water resistant floor laid in our hall which was to cover the original 'granwood' floor which was falling as a result of the clinker used as a base when the floor was laid 60 years ago. The new floor has already brought many positive responses from existing community users and also from some new users who had previously felt that the floor was a danger to their particular need, such as dancing.

CARPET IN THE CORRIDOR AND FOYER.

It was with sadness that we saw the closure of Maghull Methodist Church but along with other churches in the circuit and beyond we recycled a lot of the resources from the church. In our case we took up 500 of the carpet tiles from the main church and had them laid in our long corridor and the main entrance foyer. The reaction from the church family here at Old Roan and community users has been enormously positive and it has been said that the change has raised the profile significantly.

U3A

Here at Old Roan we have become the main hub for our local Aintree U3A which has more than 150 members doing all sorts of pastimes at various days and times over the week. We encourage the U3A extensions into new and creative pursuits by only charging £1 per head for start ups and our normal letting fee for more established groups.

It is a real privilege to welcome this group into our church and they seem to appreciate the venue.

UNIFORM ORGANISATIONS.

We host a local Scout group which in its four divisions has over 100 children gaining from the best of weekly events and week end camps at places like Tawd Vale.

The group works collaboratively with the church and we welcome the support they provide and hope that they welcome our support for their work which comes together at the regular parade services.

Blessings to you all Dave Evans

The End Of Liverpool North Methodist Circuit

I can't let the events and decisions of recent times go without acknowledging the times and in particular the many past blessings received as a member of Liverpool North.

Revd Sheryl, at our final Circuit meeting, suggested we take a look back of our life and times as LNMC which quickly had us recalling times and memories of past events and people who influenced our lives and life in this Circuit.

I'm sure we all have times when we've laughed and cried together, stories shared and thoughts of people we love who are no longer with us.

Growing up or growing old together God is the one constant, the unchanging presence, the source of our strength during tough times and our loving Father, friend and guide who shares our lives.

Thank you LNMC from all you have meant to me and to so many and I pray that our new amalgamated Circuit will offer and provide many new blessings during this new adventure together. If God's in it then it can't be anything other than a success whether we want it or not.

From Ian Roxburgh & Dave Evans - Old Roan Methodist Church



Strawberry Tea at Old Roan

We had a lovely afternoon on 1st July in our beautiful fellowship room with the sun shining. Delicious strawberry and cream homemade scones plenty for everyone and thoroughly enjoyed.

Carol Barker - Old Roan Methodist Church



Gospel Choir at Old Roan Methodist Church

Are having a Musical Evening on 30th September from 7:00pm - 9:00pm With Melling Community Gospel Choir There is no cost but donations kindly received for Woodlands Hospice, All are welcome

Pam Davies - Old Roan Methodist Church



Woodlands Hospice

Caring for local people since 1996



*Here are some real corkers to give you a laugh.
These are actually some of the announcements
given on Church notice sheets or newsletters*

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the alter.

Mr. Bradford was elected and has accepted the office of head deacon. We could not get a better man.



The 'Over 60s Choir' will be disbanded for the summer with the thanks of the entire church.



The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.



A cookbook is being compiled by the ladies of the church. Please submit your favourite recipe, and also a short antidote for it.



The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Life groups meet on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM for food, fun, and fellowwhipping.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.



The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth into Joy.'



Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Liz Shaw - Linacre Methodist Mission

CONTACT US

Superintendent Minister

Reverend Ian Hu
07384 897354
superintendent
@liverpoolnorthcentral.org.uk

Presbyter

Reverend Neil Stubbens
07543 108494
Fazakerley / Old Roan

Pastoral Minister

Reverend Sue Edwards
07732 071869
Linacre Mission(Only)

Senior Circuit Steward

Mr David Evans
davidmevansaintree@gmail.com

Circuit Steward (Finance)

Mrs Margaret Langton
margaretelangton@hotmail.co.uk

Circuit Admin / Finance Assistant

Mr Bernard Turner
0151 922 2836
accounts@nlssmc.org.uk



Circuit Website

www.mclnc.co.uk

Closing Date of Next Edition

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These should be sent to the circuit office no later than 26th November 2023