

"Methodist and United Reformed Church News in Darwen"

***Working together to learn, live, love and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.***

**February/March 2024**

**CENTRAL**

**BRIGHT STREET**

**SPRING VALE**

**TRINITY**

**TOCKHOLES**

**METHODIST MINISTER**

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**URC Churches** – Central URC, Tockholes URC and Trinity URC/Methodist  
For baptisms, marriages and funerals and other enquiries please contact the appropriate church secretary.

Central Website: [www.centralurcdarwen.org.uk](http://www.centralurcdarwen.org.uk)

Methodist Website: [www.darwenmethodists.co.uk](http://www.darwenmethodists.co.uk)

Our magazine is now produced in this format for email and printing purposes. If anyone does not receive a copy or knows of someone who hasn't received a copy, please contact Liz Rutherford 01254 774715 or email [lizrutherford@live.co.uk](mailto:lizrutherford@live.co.uk)

### **Facing The New Year With Hope Despite The Challenges**

Dear friends, it is a great joy for me to be able to put down these few words at the beginning of the New Year 2024 for the very first time since I arrived. I wish to thank Adam and other Ministers, both active and retired, who have been doing marvellous work here at Lancashire East Missional Partnership. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all who have been faithful in serving God and his church throughout the past year, in whatever office or capacity of the church's life we have served. God values your commitment to his church and honours your service to Him. I extend to you, and your families and loved ones, every blessing and glad tidings as we continue to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I assure you of my prayers and best wishes as the New Year unfolds.

Looking at my diary, I noticed that I arrived here on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2023. I was made to feel very welcome. Within this brief period, I met various people within the partnership, the school at Barrow, the organisations (DARE and Kairos), as well as colleagues and members from sister denominations and other faiths whom we work in partnership with. You will accept with me that new beginnings are not easy to cope with as there are always challenges along the way. The thoughts of transitioning from Belgium to the United Kingdom, the visa acquisition challenges, living alone in a large mansion, well-furnished through the efforts of the members within the partnership, trying to know and call people by their names, travelling from one church to another, attending prayer and partnership meetings, then getting lost along the way as a result of poor directions, all constitutes the challenges I have been facing in the course of transitioning into a new country and home.

These challenges are just so evident as we move into the New Year as well. As we journey forth into 2024, we are surely aware of much uncertainty regarding what lies ahead, especially with so many national and global issues, the challenges facing the Church, and all we are immersed in concerning the people and places of our local contexts. Perhaps some of it seems confusing and bewildering, yet let us not allow that to make us lose hope and focus. May such challenges only help us to look beyond what seems to be, open our hearts and minds to the mysterious presence of God, and yearn to see and hear the signs of God's certain kingdom. Amid all the knowns and unknowns awaiting us in this New Year, let us not forget the certainty of our hope in God, and may that certainty give us peace amidst anxiety and restlessness. We must learn to trust God, and even seek ways of transforming our obstacles into opportunities. We must remain confident that God will never abandon us because He is still writing our story.

As we all know, Christmas is followed by New Year and so are the celebrations. As Christians, we celebrate the New Year with great fervour. The toasting of glasses with shouts of joy at midnight and the fireworks high in the sky depict the New Year celebrations. It is a time to start anew and fresh in all aspects of life. It is the time to self-reflect and broaden our horizons. I hope and pray that as we journey into 2024 we will marvel afresh at the journey of those restless, curious and faithful gift-bearing Magi who were utterly focused on following that mysterious star as they sought out the new-born King; and that we will keep our minds and hearts focused on the mystery and wonder of God's certain love and forgiveness. It won't remove all the pain, uncertainty or struggle, but it will free us to be joyful in the unchanging hope we have in Jesus Christ.

With God as our Leader, may we be prepared to live another year under His guidance. Do not be afraid to face life. This New Year has a lot of promises for us. Trust God and everything will be fine for you and yours this year 2024.

With my prayers and every blessing for this new year  
Yours devotedly in Christ  
Gilbert Esambe

## **CENTRAL**

As we are now well into January, having come through snow, ice, driving rain and howling wind, it is hard to remember the relatively placid weather during Advent and Christmas. However, it is not difficult to remember the lovely and meaningful services that we had during this period. David Foster preached on Advent Sunday, this service making a lovely start to the Christmas period, with a candlelit church setting the scene for a thoughtful and reflective service. All the services in Advent were candlelit – many thanks to those responsible for this. On the first Tuesday in Advent we had one of the services that I must admit I like the best – a Carol service. This was led by Doreen Goodship and featured most of the well-known carols. As we moved towards Christmas the excitement mounted. I found the Lessons and Carols Service particularly enjoyable as well as thought-provoking. All enjoyed Barbara Duxbury's Nativity service.

The Christmas Eve service was taken by the Rev'd Lena Talbot. This was a special service in two ways – one, obviously, that it was Christmas Eve, but the other was that it was Lena's last service before her retirement. It was lovely to be able to share this occasion with her, and she was presented with a small token of our appreciation.

We are so fortunate in the variety of preachers we have coming to our pulpit. Most recently we were pleased to welcome Rev'd Terry Young, who enlivened his service with some interesting and amusing slides – and incidentally taught us something about Hebrew poetry!

The social side has not been neglected. The Central Fellowship had a lovely Christmas lunch, followed by an excellent concert from the Ashleigh Singers, led by Michael Greenhalgh. After Christmas, a Beetle Drive was held in the coffee lounge. This was a hugely enjoyable experience, but very tense and actually quite exhausting. A surprising level of concentration is needed to ensure the dice is shaken and passed on in as quick a time as possible.

As always, we have prayed for members of our congregation who have been unable to attend because of illness, both short and long term.

Janet Goodship

**Birthday Celebrations:** John East, Alison, Olivia, David Yates, Tom, Heather, Farrah, David Laditan, Doris Hamer's granddaughter

**Wedding Anniversary:** Dave and Alizon, Len and Karen

**Prayers** - Each week in church we continue to mention people by name in need of our prayers.

**Congratulations** to Negin and family who have been awarded their visa after 5 years.

## **Coffee Bar Rota**

### **February**

4th Feb	Janice Cowell Elsa Peacock
11th Feb	Beryl Shaw Pauleen Henson
18th Feb	Margaret East Liz Staffa
Feb 25th	Barbara Duxbury Karen Narramore

### **March**

3rd March	Dorothy Yates Margaret Burns
10th March	Beryl Shaw Pauleen Henson
17th March	Janice Cowell Elsa Peacock
24th March	Margaret East Liz Staffa
31st March	Dorothy Yates Margaret Burns

### **Central Fellowship 2 pm**

Feb 8th Guide Dogs

March 7th Indian Adventure

**Bible Study** – 10 am – 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 21<sup>st</sup> March in the lounge.

### **Flower Rota**

February 4th

In Memory The Central Fellowship

February 11th

In memory of Edith and Arnold Briggs the family

February 18th

Marion Brown

February 25th

In Memory Beryl Shaw

March 3rd

In Memory Gary and Eileen Pye

March 10th

Mothering Sunday 'In memory of Maureen' Stella Talbot

March 17th

Wedding Anniversary Mike and Anne Adamson

March 24th

Flower Fund

March 31st

In Memory of Jack and Betty East the family

### **Communion Rota – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in the month**

**February** Dorothy Yates (bread) Negin Farinam

**March** Janet Goodship (bread) Ade or Adebola Laditan

### **DARE**

We started 2024 with a Birthday Bash on 5<sup>th</sup> January to celebrate John's birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup> January and Ann's birthday on the 10<sup>th</sup> January. The first Wednesday in 2017 was also the official opening of DARE, so quite a lot to celebrate.

#### **Good Friday at Central**

Come along and join us from 1 o'clock - 4 o'clock For those who are active there will be a short afternoon walk, and for the less active there will be crafts and board games in the hall. Hot Cross Buns and tea and coffee will be served during the afternoon and we will finish with a short Good Friday service in church. No need to book and it will cost you nothing - just come along and enjoy the afternoon.

Barbara Duxbury

Dear all

I am taking this opportunity to say a big thank you to all of you in Church for all your good wishes and lovely cards & gifts for my retirement from Leading Worship.

I was ordained in 2002, so twenty-two years ago in July, and have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Ministry. I have met a lot of great people and made many, many friends from being in Blackburn from 2002 till 2004 when we moved to Cottam and then again on our return to Blackburn in 2009.

I have very, very happy memories of my days with you and of course as we are not going anywhere (hopefully) in the near future. I'm sure we will meet again in various places and on various occasion.

My thanks to all of you for all my memories and happy times, love and blessings as always,  
Lena

**CENTRAL URC COLLECTION FOR  
SAVE THE CHILDREN**

***Christmas 2023***

The final total raised is **£250.00**

Carol Service collection	£49.50
Christmas Day collection	£50.00
Probus Carol service	£14.50
Christmas card postage money and donations	<u>£136.00</u>
	<b><u>TOTAL: £250.00</u></b>

*Many thanks to all who contributed.*

**TRINIY FELLOWSHIP NEWS - (Judith)**

Our Christmas celebrations began on 5th December, when 17 of us made our way to Astley Bank for our annual Christmas meal. We were joined by Gilbert, and it was lovely to have the opportunity to get to know him a bit better. It was also good to see Lilian, Malcolm and Iain, as Lilian struggles to get to church these days.

Our anniversary service on 14th January was led by George and was followed by a Jacob's join lunch. Thanks to Janet for organising this.

Those among us who have celebrated birthdays recently include Kath, Stephen, Callum, Mary's daughter Christine, Terry, Mary's great-granddaughter Alba and brother John, George, Janet and Adam.

In our prayers we have remembered Mary, who has had a successful operation to remove a blemish from beneath her eye; Linda and Mo, friends of Helen from bowling; Helen, former business manager from St. Cuthbert's, and her family; Jack and Sheila – Jack is now back at home after spending some time in hospital; Lilian and Malcolm; John East; and Edith Tolley.

Finally, we were delighted to hear that Janet and George have recently welcomed a great-niece Amelia, a sister for Freddie.

## **TOCKHOLES URC - (Emma)**

### **Flower Rota:**

#### February

- 4<sup>th</sup> Vacant
- 11<sup>th</sup> Tansy Gilbert
- 18<sup>th</sup> Christine Smith, In memory of Dada
- 25<sup>th</sup> Vacant

#### March

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Claire, In memory of Grandparents
- 10<sup>th</sup> Joan Clayton, Birthday Memories
- 17<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Gillett, In memory of Joan
- 24<sup>th</sup> Eileen and Gordon Sellers, Birthday Memories
- 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday, Chapel

Happy New Year to you all! We send warm wishes and love from all at Tockholes.

Christmas is now a distant memory and we look forward to the Spring months, especially the lighter nights and the warmer weather. This Newsletter covers February and March, and as Easter is early this year it means my update covers Good Friday.

Last year, we opened our Village Hall as usual for afternoon tea. Unfortunately, the turnout wasn't great and we didn't see as many friendly faces as in years gone by. We're still pondering what to do this year. It takes a lot of time and effort to plan and run the day and we need to be sure we will have customers before doing that. Our wonderful Elders will be meeting this week to decide a way forward.

Our Toy Service in December was a wonderful opportunity to start the celebrations, giving donations of Toys to a charity that needs them. For many years this has been the Salvation Army, however this year we decided to support a charity very close to our hearts in Tockholes – DARE (Darwen Asylum and Refugee Enterprise). We also welcomed Rev Gilbert Esambe to deliver his first service at Tockholes. Luckily the snow didn't scupper our plans for the day (thankfully, Rock Lane had been cleared and gritted the night before).

The highlight of our Christmas celebrations was our Christingle Service, on 17<sup>th</sup> December. Our lovely chapel was full (not often this happens) and Mr George Grime gave a wonderful service of celebration. Thank you so much for making us all smile with your interactive '12 days of Christmas', and thank you to all who attended for making this service so special. It's so special when we dim the lights and our chapel is filled with an Orange glow!

As you will see from our Flower Rota, we have a few vacant weeks for people to donate. If any of those are special dates for you, and you would like to be part of our Flower Rota then please do get in contact with Kathleen.

Emma

## **NEWS FROM SPRING VALE METHODIST CHURCH - (Julie)**

We wish all our church family and friends a very happy, healthy and peaceful 2024, and we hope you have had a blessed Christmas.

We have had a busy few weeks at Spring Vale with lots of special activities and services including:

In November we successfully launched our Sprinkles toddler group (Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30). This group focuses on helping pre-school children to develop using play, stories, prayer and craft. The group had a lovely Christingle type activity in the last session of the year. The group will continue in 2024, and will be led by our own Rev Elizabeth Kirova.

Our established Stay & Play toddler group had a successful Christmas Party with over 30 families present and a special visit from a special person.

On 19 December a group from Spring Vale went outside braving the cold weather to carol sing ("Carols for Cranberry") on the new estate of Cranberry Lane and then on Garden Village. We are pleased to say that despite the wet weather we had a good turnout, including some local people joining in.

We are also pleased to say that our children and young people contributed again to our Christmas worship with a creative performance of the nativity. This was very enjoyable and the children were brilliant; a big thank you once again to everyone involved.

All our usual activities and groups have now started again after the Christmas break including:

The fellowship group on our regular Monday evenings (at Bright St)  
Stay and play on Tuesday mornings  
The community craft (and chat) group on Tuesday afternoons  
Our uniformed organizations  
Choir group Friday evenings

\*Please check out our website for more details on all our activities.

We are also very pleased to say that following a lot of hard work behind the scenes, our community craft group has been successful in obtaining a very welcome grant. This will enable this group to extend their reach and activities within the local community. A very big thank you to all those involved in this project.

We continue to extend our prayers to everyone who is feeling unwell, anxious or sad at this time.

Please contact one of our stewards if you would appreciate a pastoral visit to your home, or you need other support.

Please check out our Facebook page and website for all the regular activities and additional services taking place over the coming weeks <https://www.darwenmethodists.co.uk/diary/> for more details.

### **NEWS FROM DARWEN METHODIST CHURCH @ BRIGHT STREET – (Karen)**

Here we are, just 3 weeks into January, and yet Christmas seems an age ago and Spring a long way off, but during this dreary, cold weather we surely have much to look forward to as we trust in God to lead our way.

December commenced with our annual Christmas Fayre which was a success. Then followed a quiet week or two when, unfortunately, we had to cancel our planned Christmas meal due to sickness.

On the final session of this year's Stay & Play we had a short Nativity Play followed by a party, when we had a visit by the big man himself and also from Darwen's very own Mr Grinch. I'm not sure who was the more popular. The 40 children and their parents/guardians had a great time. (Permission given for photos).



In the afternoon of the same day, our Time well-being group held their Christmas party, so Father Christmas was in attendance again and a good time was had by all. Our grateful thanks to all who helped in any way with these events and to all who attended.

Our Christmas services were well attended starting with a united Carol service when we joined our friends at Spring Vale. Our Blue Christmas service, a quiet reflective service of remembrance and hope, was very well attended and it was very gratifying that friends from other churches came to join us. Our Christmas Day service was an early one at 9 am, as Rev Elizabeth had a later service to take over at Haslingden (oh the joys of being a minister) and given the early hour, was also well attended.

Mabel, our 100 year old, hasn't been able to attend church services recently, and knowing Mabel doesn't like to miss out, we decided we would take carol singing to her. Four of us joined Mabel in her little cosy cottage and we sang our hearts out, and what a delight it was when a friend of Mabel's, who was passing by on a walk, came in and joined in with the singing.

Well just as soon as we have one busy period behind us we find ourselves planning for Easter which is early this year. On Maundy Thursday at Bright Street we will be holding a hot meal at 6 pm with a short communion service and we will be inviting our Spring Vale friends to join us. On Good Friday we will be at the Spring Vale end of town, exact details yet to be decided. Easter Sunday breakfast will be served at 9 am at Bright Street, followed by a 9.30 communion service, then a quick dash up to Spring Vale for our main Easter morning service.

Well, I think that's enough to keep us busy for the time being but I'm sure there's a lot more planning coming up.

Sending love and Easter blessings from all at Bright Street.



### Methodist Holy Week Services

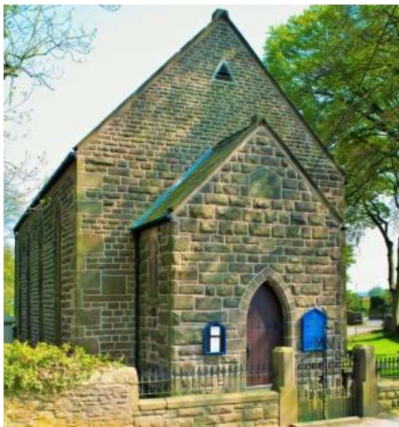
6pm Maundy Thursday @Bright Street  
 2pm Good Friday service @Spring Vale  
 9am Easter Breakfast and communion@ Bright Street  
 10:30am Easter Day service @ Bright Street

### DEADLINE DATES FOR CHURCH MAGAZINE 2024/2025

<b>April/May</b>	<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>June/July</b>	<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>August/September</b>	<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>
<b>October/November</b>	<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>
<b>December/January</b>	<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>

### URC CHURCH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY & MARCH 2024

<b>Date</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>Trinity</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Kath Hodgkinson	Rev Gilbert Esambe
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Barbara Duxbury	Debra Phillips
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Catherine Young	Rev Terry Young
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Danny Wilson	George Grime
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	George Grime	Doreen Goodship
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Barbara Duxbury	John East
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Doreen Goodship	Barbara Duxbury
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Rev Adam Woodhouse	Methodist preacher to be allocated
28 <sup>th</sup> March – Maundy Thursday		George Grime
31 <sup>st</sup> March – Easter Sunday	Barbara Duxbury	George Grime



**TOCKHOLES URC CHURCH**

4 <sup>th</sup> February	George Grime
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Doreen Goodship
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Rev Gilbert Esambe
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Doreen Goodship
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Rev Adam Woodhouse
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Barbara Duxbury
17 <sup>th</sup> March	George Grime
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Barbara Duxbury
31 <sup>st</sup> March Easter Sunday	George Grime

# CHURCH GROUPS

## CENTRAL URC

Day	Time	Name of Group and Room
Monday	9:30-Noon	DARE (Hall and Lounge)
	6.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Ballroom/sequence dancing (Hall)
Tuesday	10am to 11:00 am	Yoga (Hall)
	11.30 am to 12.30 pm	Dance Fit Exercise Group (Hall)
	1:00pm – 2:00pm	Active Lives (Hall)
	6.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Ballroom/sequence Dancing (Hall)
Wednesday	10.00 am to Noon	DARE (Hall and Lounge)
	2.00 pm to 4.00 pm	Ashleigh Singers (Hall)
	5.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Line Dancing ( 7pm-8pm )/ Ballroom (Hall)
Thursday	9.00 am to 12.00 noon	P.R.O.B.U.S. <b>alternate weeks</b> (Hall and Lounge)
	10.00 am to 11.30 am	Bible Study <b>once a month</b> (Lounge)
	2.15 pm to 4.00 pm	Church Fellowship ( <b>once a month</b> (Hall/Lounge)
Friday	8.00 am to 10.00 am	Slimming World (Hall)
	12:00 – 1:00	Yoga (Hall)
Saturday	8.00 am to 10.00 am	Slimming World (Hall)
Sunday	5.00 pm to 8.00	Jam Factory band <b>as required</b> (Hall)

## TRINITY URC

Day	Time	Name of group
Monday	6 pm to 8 pm	Slimming World
Tuesday	6.15 pm to 8.15 pm	Yoga
Wednesday	4 pm to 9 pm	Ferris Dance Company
Thursday	9.30 am to 11.30 am	Spinning Tops toddler group
Saturday	9 am to 12 noon	Ferris Dance Company

## TIME WELLBEING GROUP - SPRING PROGRAMME 1-3 pm at Bright Street

2 <sup>nd</sup> February	To be confirmed
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Speaker: Norman Pearson
16 <sup>th</sup> February	Bingo
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Speaker: Darwen Heritage Centre
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Sing-along with Alan
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Speaker: Frank Robinson – The Wesleys
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Decorating eggs
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Easter bonnets and Easter breakfast

## SPRING VALE

Sunday	10.30 am	Sunday Service & Junior Church 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month – All age worship
Monday	am	Baby Sign
Monday	4.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Dancing – Rothwell Arts
Tuesday	10.30 am to 12.00 noon	Stay and Play Toddler Group
Tuesday	2 pm to 4 pm	Craft Group
Tuesday	5.45 pm to 7.00 pm	Rainbows
Wednesday	10.30 am to 11.30 am	Sprinkles Toddler Group
Wednesday	10.45 am to 11.30 am	Baby Sign
Wednesday	6.00 pm to 7.30 pm	Brownies
Wednesday	7.30 pm to 9.00 pm	Guides
Thursday	4.15 pm to 9.15 pm	-Rothwell Arts
Friday	11.00 am to 12 noon	Chair Yoga
Friday	6 pm to 8 pm	Choir
Friday	7.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Walk this Way Choir
Saturday	9.00 am to 5 pm	Rothwell Arts

## DARWEN METHODIST CHURCH AT BRIGHT STREET

<b>Sunday</b>	10.30 am	Sunday service – multi-media Contact Karen Rowley 07941 881833 <a href="mailto:Karenliz1947@gmail.com">Karenliz1947@gmail.com</a>
<b>Monday</b>	9.45 to 1.30 pm	BwD various mum and children activities
	7 to 8.30 pm	Fellowship Group
<b>Tuesday</b>	10.30 to 11.30 am	Tai Chi
	1.30 pm	Drop in coffee, chat and prayers
	6 to 7 pm	Fit n Funky
<b>Wednesday</b>	6 to 7 pm	Yoga (for menopausal women)
	7.30 to 9 pm	Trefoil Guild ( <b>1<sup>st</sup> Wed of the month</b> )
<b>Thursday</b>	10 am to 12 noon	Beading Group
	12 to 1.30 pm	Lunch ( <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month</b> )
	1.30 to 3 pm	Memory Makers
<b>Friday</b>	9.30 to 11 am	Stay & Play Toddler Group
	1 to 3 pm	“Time” wellbeing Group
<b>Saturday</b>	9-10 am	WW
	11 am to 3 pm	Darwen Textile Group ( <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of the month</b> )

## Wordsearch – Forty Days

T B E I N G P O W E R F U L D  
R L T M A M U A R T F O R A E  
A E G N I T I S I V E R Y E S  
T S O E C H I L D L E S S C U  
S S R R S S E N I P P A H N A  
U E E H D C H T I A F K C E C  
B D S T R O N G T O W E R I E  
D L T E E N A I R R R S A R B  
U A L R A S C T G T T T N E P  
E S E B M T Y T A H T H S P E  
S T S E D A N I E L T O W X E  
M I S G S N N F W H O S E E K  
I N V I C T O R Y O V E R N A  
N G M N Y L A T R E V E N E H  
D O G N I Y O R T S E D I O N

Answer, Because, Begin, Being, Blessed, Brethren, Can, Childless, Constantly, Daniel, Days, Destroy, Dream, Experience, Faith, Forsakes those, Forty, Happiness, He never, Him, in God, Keep, Lasting, Mind, Nights, Of trauma, Powerful, Restless, Revisiting, Start, Strong tower, Subdues, That, The, Uncertainty, Victory over, Who seek

Answer to last Wordsearch – Bethlehem

# BIBLE READINGS

## FEBRUARY 2024

- 1 Luke 7.24-30
- 2 Luke 2.22-32
- 3 Luke 7.31-35
- 4 Mark 1.29-39
- 5 Luke 7.36-50
- 6 Luke 8.1-3
- 7 Luke 8.4-15
- 8 Luke 8.16-18
- 9 Luke 8.19-21
- 10 Luke 8.22-25
- 11 Mark 9.2-13
- 12 Exodus 24.12-18
- 13 2 Peter 1.16-21
- 14 Matthew 6.1-21
- 15 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2
- 16 John 12.27-36a
- 17 Luke 9.28-36
- 18 Mark 1.9-15
- 19 Isaiah 55.1-13
- 20 Isaiah 56.1-8
- 21 Isaiah 58.1-12
- 22 Isaiah 60.1-7
- 23 Isaiah 60.8-16
- 24 Isaiah 60.17-22
- 25 Mark 8.31-38
- 26 Isaiah 61.1-7
- 27 Isaiah 61.8-11
- 28 Isaiah 62.1-12
- 29 Isaiah 63.1-9

## MARCH 2024

- 1 Isaiah 65.17-25
- 2 Isaiah 66.10-13
- 3 John 2.13-22
- 4 Jeremiah 1.1-10
- 5 Jeremiah 2.1-13
- 6 Jeremiah 3.11-18
- 7 Jeremiah 7.1-11
- 8 Jeremiah 7.21-28
- 9 Jeremiah 11.18-20
- 10 John 3.14-21
- 11 Jeremiah 13.1-11
- 12 Jeremiah 18.1-6
- 13 Jeremiah 18-20
- 14 Jeremiah 20.7-13
- 15 Jeremiah 26.1-24
- 16 Jeremiah 28.1-17
- 17 John 12.20-33
- 18 Jeremiah 30.1-11
- 19 Matthew 1.18-25
- 20 Jeremiah 30.12-17
- 21 Jeremiah 30.18-22
- 22 Jeremiah 31.1-13
- 23 Jeremiah 31.31-34
- 24 Mark 15.1-39
- 25 John 12.1-11
- 26 John 12.20-36
- 27 John 12.44-50
- 28 John 13.1-17, 31b-35
- 29 Isaiah 52.13-53.12
- 30 John 19.38-42
- 31 Mark 16.1-18

## **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

### **CENTRAL:**

**Secretary:** Karen Narramore email [karen.narramore@elht.nhs.uk](mailto:karen.narramore@elht.nhs.uk)

**Room Lettings:** Janice Cowell Tel 01254 706379 email: [rooms@centralurcdarwen.org.uk](mailto:rooms@centralurcdarwen.org.uk)

### **DARWEN METHODIST CHURCH AT BRIGHT STREET**

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**Stewards:** Valerie Gregory Tel 01254 705314  
Karen Rowley, 2 Lyndhurst Road, Darwen. Tel 07941 881833  
Val Hunt Tel: 01254 776667 Mobile: 07967 526341. [valeriehunt0412@gmail.com](mailto:valeriehunt0412@gmail.com)

**Worship leaders:** Karen Rowley 07941 881833  
Jean Fish 07506 613830  
Elizabeth Foster 01254 776294

**Room Lettings:** Val Hunt 35 Coniston Drive, BB3 3BJ 07967 526341 email:  
[valeriehunt0412@gmail.com](mailto:valeriehunt0412@gmail.com)

### **SPRING VALE**

**Stewards:** Chris Allan, 2 Sudell Close, Darwen  
Donna Boothman

**Room Lettings:** David Foster, 4 Derby Close, Darwen Tel 01254 703858  
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### **TRINITY, LOWER DARWEN**

**Secretary:** George Grime Tel 01254 54305 email: [agandjmgrime@aol.com](mailto:agandjmgrime@aol.com)

### **TOCKHOLES:**

**Secretary:** Kathleen Knowles Tel 01254 706489

### **CHURCH NEWS EDITOR**

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### **FORMAL YOUTH ORGANISATIONS**

**Spring Vale:** Guides, Brownies, Rainbows;

**Methodist at Bright Street:** Brownies, Rainbows

### **PARENT AND TODDLER GROUPS**

**Weekday Groups** at Spring Vale, Trinity and Bright Street

### **ENQUIRIES:**

**URC Churches** – Central URC, Tockholes URC and Trinity URC/Methodist

For baptisms, marriages and funerals and any other enquires please contact the appropriate church secretary.

**Methodist Churches**—please contact the Minister or Stewards.