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ST LUKE'S HOYLAKE
A Family Of Faith 

NOTICES 15th September 2024

Minister:

Rev Noel Sharp
0151 633 2558

Church Office/Church and Community

Lay Worker: Cate Warbrick
0151 632 6524

Caretaker:

Sam Hepworth
07545950810



Sunday 15th September 10.30


Communion/Welcome Back to
Church/Shared Lunch
Rev Noel Sharp

Sunday 22nd September 10.30

Own Arrangement

Sunday 29th September 10.30

Bekezela Dima



Activist and author Shane Claiborne examines the tension between justice and grace:

“Violence is contagious. Violence begets violence.... Pick up the sword and die by the sword. You kill us and we’ll kill you. There is a contagion of violence in the world; it’s spreading like a disease.

But grace is also contagious.

An act of kindness inspires another act of kindness.... A single act of forgiveness can feel like it heals the world. Grace begets grace. Love rubs off on those who are loved.... There’s nowhere you can see the battle of grace and disgrace waged more vehemently than in the criminal justice system. When it comes to words like “justice,” people can say the same thing and mean something completely different.

Punishment offers us one version of justice. There is a sensibility to it: evil should not go without consequence. And there is a theology behind it: “An eye for an eye ... a tooth for a tooth” [Leviticus 24:20].

Yet grace offers us another version of justice. Grace makes room ... for justice that is restorative and dedicated to healing the wounds of injustice. But the grace thing is hard work. It takes faith—because it dares us to believe that not only can victims be healed, but so can the victimisers. It is not always easy to believe that love is more powerful than hatred, life more powerful than death, and that people can be better than the worst thing they’ve done.

These two versions of justice compete for our allegiance.

Mennonite pastor Melissa Florer-Bixler connects forgiveness and restorative justice: We are told that we choose whose world we want to live in. We’ll choose wealth or God. We’ll choose violence or God. We’ll choose nationalism or God. We’ll choose racial hierarchy or God. Each case is an example of a different and incompatible operational system. One of those systems, if we live by it, binds us in endless struggle and violence that leads to our own destruction, as well as the destruction of others.

We are asked to choose which world we want to live in—a world of retributive justice or a world of forgiveness. [Theologian] Karl Barth, reflecting on forgiveness, writes, “Living by forgiveness is never by any means passivity, but Christian living in full activity.”

We can’t operate in both orders. The way out of this endless loop of retribution is to recognise that forgiveness is interwoven with the social order of God’s reign.”

(Abridged version from article by Shane Claiborne [Restorative Justice — Center for Action and Contemplation \(cac.org\)](https://www.cac.org)

Notices please to stlukesmethodistnotices@outlook.com

God of infinite wonder, whose love has no horizon and whose grace has no border, we open ourselves to your presence this day.

God of the minutiae, in whose company 'insignificant' has no meaning, we receive your blessings this day.

Raise our eyes from only that which is in front of us.

Lift our heads, that our vision may be broader and longer.

Sow seeds of passion in our hearts

and lay embers of hope in our lives

that we may never accept the concept of inevitable,

but instead cultivate communities of peace

that live a language of possibility.

Helen Kirk, District Chair, Chester and Stoke-on-Trent District



Companionship Cafe – every Tuesday 10.30am to 12noon

Prayer Together – every Wednesday 10am to 10.30am

Coffee Morning – every Wednesday 10am to 12 noon

Knit & Natter – every Wednesday 10.30am to 12noon

Can Cook Ordering – every Wednesday 10am to 12 noon

Food and Friends – every Friday 12 noon to 2pm

Back to Church Sunday
15th September with shared lunch together after the service

Community Lunch
25th July at 12.00 noon

Every Monday evening Deacon Ellie explores the Methodist Way of Life. The time is 7:30-8:30 and it would be lovely to have people joining in, if only occasionally. The Zoom link is here

<https://zoom.us/j/95062658670?pwd=b9MYWbowow916U934Qud4WGfrNB7L0.1>

This Sunday we will come together for Communion service with Noel and then share lunch and time together after the service. Please do come and with plenty of food that can be shared.

Helen (Douglas) who runs our Coffee Morning on Wednesday's will be doing a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Wednesday 25th September 10am to 12 noon. Please come and support Helen and Macmillan

Many of you will remember Norm Irlam who has died, aged 88. He used to help Barry Otterson with youth club and was also a member of St Luke's Golf Club and an avid pool player with Mason too. His funeral service was held yesterday at Landican and our love and prayers to Fran is his wife, Karen their daughter and all the family.

A night of Comedy and Magic - tickets are now available for "JOHN ARCHER – COMEDY AND MAGIC" comedian and magician, at West Kirby United Reformed Church (Opposite the Wro) on FRIDAY 4th OCTOBER at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £10 for Adults, £5 for 12-18 year olds and are available from Paul Franklin 0151 625 3998 or email: paul.franklin1958@gmail.com



What a wonderful baptism service we had last Sunday and our love and prayers to Fatemeh, Pouyan, Nella, Banoo and Melody and our sincere thanks to Hope Church for hosting us once again!

We are delighted to be hosting Riding Lights here at St Luke's on Wednesday 30th October at 7.30pm. Please do book your tickets to support this and Transforming Lives for Good. Hit this link to book ☺ [Cups On A String](#)
[Riding Lights](#)

ST LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH
WIRRAL CH47 2BF
WED 30TH OCT 2024, 7.30PM
BOX OFFICE: ticketsource.co.uk/ridinglights

A reminder that Church Council is on the 19th September at 7.30pm. All are welcome and we would love to see you there.