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**ST LUKE'S HOYLAKE**  
A Family Of Faith 

## Notices March 2026

As the train from Leeds carried me over the Pennines to Liverpool last Sunday the sun was setting. The hills were folded in amber light, dry stone walls casting long shadows, and as I journeyed west and homeward, I found myself reflecting on journeys and travelling and returnings and Lent.

There is something about facing west at sunset that feels like Lent. The day is not yet over, but it is drawing toward completion. The light is still beautiful, but it carries a quiet ache. Perhaps Lent is like that: a season of honest light. Not harsh, not condemning, but searching. It asks where we have been, what roads we have taken, and whether the direction of our hearts is truly homeward. Nearing Liverpool, I checked my emails and this was in my inbox:

**Return to the Wholeness, the One, your God,  
who is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love,  
and relenting from punishment.  
—Joel 2.13**

The words seemed to meet the moment perfectly. “Return.” Not “improve.” Not “prove yourself.” Not “try harder.” Simply: return.

The prophet Joel speaks into a time of devastation. The land has been stripped bare; the people feel exposed and afraid. Yet the call is not to frantic repair but to return — to come back to the One whose character is mercy. In the Hebrew, the word often translated “return” is *shuv* — to turn around, to reorient yourself, to face a different direction. The invitation is astonishingly tender: Return to the Wholeness, the One, your God.

Not return to shame. Not return to fear. Not return to punishment.

Return to the One who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Lent reminds us that God is not waiting at the station with folded arms and a list of failures. God is waiting with mercy. And even if the journey has been long, even if the land feels stripped bare, the promise of Joel remains: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.

Lent is not a forced march into gloom. It is a homeward journey in amber light. So wherever you find yourself — halfway across the hills, emerging from a tunnel, or just beginning to realise you have been travelling in the wrong direction — hear the invitation afresh:

Return.

Turn your face toward the One who has never turned away from you....

And let the light fall gently on your face as you come home.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 10.30**  
Craig Price

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 4pm**  
LEGO Church

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 10.30**  
Deacon Ellie Griffin

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 10.30**  
Mothering Sunday - OA

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 10.30**  
Rev P Fanning – Communion

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 10.30**  
Palm Sunday – Linda Pillow



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Creator God, we acknowledge your part in composing the stories and the songs of our lives, bringing us into being, and setting before us opportunities to explore and grow into the people you made us to be.

Saviour God, we rejoice at the way in which you bring life and harmony into the stories and songs of our lives, enabling us to discover our true selves through a relationship with you, and giving us the confidence to live life to the full.

Inspiring God, we are thankful for the ability you give us to tell our stories and rehearse the songs of our lives, enabling others to grasp the wonder of how their stories and songs intertwine with yours.

May we always be looking for the new stories and the fresh songs that you have for us to inhabit and sing, as we seek to live our lives in the depths of your amazing grace. In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Gill Newton, former District Chair, Sheffield District*

You are warmly invited to the next Lego Church at St Luke's this Sunday  
1<sup>st</sup> March 4pm to 6pm

Enjoy building things, a video clip and Lego bible story. Finish by sharing a hot meal.

All families are welcome (*please note - children must have an accompanying adult who stays with them*).



**Lent Course:** Ellie is leading four sessions in Lent on Living, Telling and Sharing the Good News. These sessions are in person at Moreton MC on a Monday at 10:30am. These will take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March

Ellie will also run the same session on a Tuesday evening at 7pm on Zoom and the link for this is here:

<https://zoom.us/j/94209585834?pwd=b7xorlLIGR0qqfrpgjcWlYqgXX92bi.1>

The dates for the online are 24<sup>th</sup> February and the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March. Everyone welcome either in person or online or both 😊

Are you able to offer a couple of hours on a Wednesday afternoon to support the Toddler Group making drinks for the children and their carers? It does not need to be every Wednesday; whatever you can offer would be so very appreciated. If you can please speak with Catriona and thank you.

The funeral service for Margaret Jackson is on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February with the Committal at Landican at 10am and the Service of Thanksgiving at 11.15am at St Luke's followed by refreshments.

The funeral service for Sheila Lomas will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 11am at St Luke's and the Committal Service at 12.30pm at Landican.

The Funeral Service for Gillian Creek is at Landican on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am for close family with the Service of Thanksgiving at St Luke's at 12.15pm where all are welcome.

March 2026

Singing Café – 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at  
10.30am to 12 noon

Community Lunch – 26<sup>th</sup> at  
12.30pm

Men's Bible Study – 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at  
7.30pm

Ladies Life Group – 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
19.30

Prayer Together – every Wednesday  
10am to 10.30am

FUSS – every Wednesday 9.30am to  
12pm

Coffee Morning – every Wednesday  
10am to 12

Can Cook Ordering – every  
Wednesday 10am to 12 noon

Food and Friends – every Friday 12  
noon to 2pm

**Annual Church Meeting** 12 noon  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March

**Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday  
Fund Charity Event** 29<sup>th</sup> March 1pm  
to 4pm

**Presidential Visit to the District** The President of the Methodist Conference, Revd Richard Andrew, and Vice President Matt Forsyth, are visiting the District from Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026. As part of the visit there are two events to which all are welcome and more details can be found here

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bpK31IIAKre2I735XqRuwkKVcvZLWKV/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bpK31IIAKre2I735XqRuwkKVcvZLWKV/view?usp=drive_link)

Notices please to [stlukesmethodistnotices@outlook.com](mailto:stlukesmethodistnotices@outlook.com)