

# January 2026

Sunday morning worship takes place at 10.30am on Zoom and in-person at Scotforth Road.

Evening worship is at The Cornerstone at 6.30pm.

## January 4<sup>th</sup>

am Rev Kara Cooper

*Covenant Service*

3pm *LGBTQ+ Open Table*

pm Rev Melanie Greenall

*Covenant Service*

## January 11<sup>th</sup>

am *Local Arrangement*

pm Simon Stewart

## January 18<sup>th</sup>

am Susan Wilson

pm Deacon Pru Cahill

## January 25<sup>th</sup>

am Lynne Blair

pm Michael Hampson

## February 1<sup>st</sup>

am Paul Bowden

pm Simon Stewart

Our morning services are designed to be inclusive - usually starting with an all-age section. After this, during term time, separate provision is made for any school aged children.

The evening service has an informal style of worship with an opportunity for reflection and conversation.

**On Wednesdays** we have a quiet reflective service with meditative singing and readings, **6.30-7pm by Zoom.**

A *local arrangement* service is organised by the church stewards.

**Lancaster Methodist Church**  
**Scotforth Road, (LA1 4TE,**  
corner of Kensington Road),  
**The Cornerstone**, Sulyard  
Street (NE off Dalton Square),  
LA1 1PX

# Lancaster Methodist Church

[www.LancasterMethodistChurch.org.uk](http://www.LancasterMethodistChurch.org.uk)

registered charity No. 1170840

Minister: Revd Linda Catlow (01524 956647)

## Dear Friends of Scotforth Road

My name is Revd Yvonne J Pearson and as I will be sharing care of you while Revd Linda is on Sabbatical I thought a bit of an introduction might be helpful. I may have met some of you when I have led your service on a Sunday a couple of times but hope that this will give you a little bit more about who I am and where I've come from.

My husband, Pete, and myself moved into Grimsargh about 18 months ago. I am a supernumerary minister who retired from the Dane & Trent Circuit as their Superintendent. I worked with Revd Linda in the Chester & Stoke District before she came to you, and so we chose to link ourselves to your Circuit. Pete and I have six children between us and that's what brought us back to Lancashire. They are spread over Darwen, Leyland, Preston, Cottam and my daughter and family are in Cornwall.

I saw my retirement as stepping into a new stage of ministry. My extended qualifications and love of Supervision is part of that new stage of ministry and I'm still discerning how best I can offer that. Currently I am still supporting the Chester & Stoke District and Supervising two people from this District as well. I continue to offer dates to Revd Linda for the plan and so am beginning to get to know the churches in the Circuit.

It will be a pleasure and honour to support you in Revd Linda's absence. The Stewards and Pastoral team have my details so please do ask if I can be of support alongside Revd Paul Turner.

I believe life is full of God's callings. Callings to take things up and lay things down, and take other things up. Very appropriate as we enter a New Year and for many of us as we approach renewing our Covenant with God and the Church. These callings are sometimes personal and sometimes for our church. Discerning God's callings involves prayer, listening for his word, not just in preaching but in hymns and prayers and from others who share with us, in our looking where God is active in our world and seeking where we might join in.

I wonder, as we enter this New Year and prepare to renew our Covenant, as we are invited to join in the prayer, what God may be saying to us.

What is his calling on your life right now, for you personally or your church? There are no callings, big or small that are not of equal value to God's people. Follow your call and you may be surprised that he will 'accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.'

For more about the Covenant Service, [click here](#).

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/what-is-distinctive-about-methodism/the-covenant-service/>

## and Rev Paul Turner's message:

Dear Friends

I write these words with the New Year almost upon us. What should be our thoughts at this time?

Initially, it's often a good idea to reflect upon the past year. What were the highlights and the disappointments and importantly how can we learn from them?

It's important sometimes to set ourselves new goals. Some of us may not be in our first flush of youth, but as C.S. Lewis reminds us 'you are never too old to dream a dream'. As Christians of course, we need to be confident that our Lord will guide us if we put our trust in Him.

As members of Lancaster Methodist Church we want to be the best we can be, looking forward to what is in store for us. We want our church to continue as a witness for Christ in its locality and beyond. We belong to a church in which friendship and fellowship are shared and enjoyed. This is something to celebrate and give us hope as we enter a new year.

May God bless us and keep us as we serve him during 2026.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful New Year.

Rev Paul Turner

**LMC Christmas Appeal for Relief Work** in the Caribbean in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa has raised over £1000 to date - thanks to all who have donated - and we are still receiving donations!

## Prayer Buddy - Torrisholme

Please continue to pray for Torrisholme. We are mainly elderly in our congregation but we are certainly a faithful family to each other. We have had a funeral for Paul Slater who died on holiday in South Africa with his wife Deborah. Please could you pray for his wife & family. Paul was not very old, and it was a great shock to everyone. All our children are looking forward to Christmas. We have a good Sunday School and we thank God for them.

## 'Reflect in the City' every Wednesday

A quiet reflective service with meditative singing and readings, 6.30-7pm by Zoom, open at 6.20. Everyone is welcome to join us for about 30 minutes of prayer, song, silence and reflection. Contact [LMCNotices@gmail.com](mailto:LMCNotices@gmail.com) for the link.

## Welcome Space on any Wednesday at LMC

Scotforth Road between 10 and 12 for a cuppa and chat!

**The Cornerstone House Group:** Fortnightly on a Thursday at 7.30pm for focussed scripture sharing and discussion. Next meeting: January 15<sup>th</sup> – all welcome at The Cornerstone.

## Meetings at The Cornerstone this month

For any further details, contact Simon [simoncornerstonecafe@gmail.com](mailto:simoncornerstonecafe@gmail.com)

**'LGBTQ Sunday', 3pm first Sunday of every month** LGBTQ-led informal service with reflection and conversation – a safe space for all. Next on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

**'Stronger Together'** We all need a little help from time to time so join us for 'Stronger Together', a new group designed for people to come together to share their emotions and feelings in a safe and supportive environment. No judgement. Just support, kindness and connection. We are all in this together. 6-7pm every Thursday, Room 4 at The Cornerstone

**Emotional Health Group for People with Special Needs:** For friendship, fun, arts & crafts and serious discussion. Last Wednesday of the month. Next meeting: January 28<sup>th</sup>

**Bereavement Support Café:** 10.30am to 12noon every Monday.

**'Big Questions'** Spiritual searching group, every Tuesday at 7pm. Come and share with us.

**Lunch-time Holy Communion, 1.15pm:** Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January. All welcome.

**Lancaster Men's Hub 'Elevenses'** every Friday from 11am to 1pm including Boxing Day and Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>. For good company, games and a good lunch. The Hub now has its own workshop space and a 'studio' as well which you can find out more about at Elevenses.

**'The Making Place' craft cafe** every Thursday from 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am -1pm (entrance £5). Good company and excellent cake!

**Theological Book Group**, on Zoom once a month. We are reading '*The Heart of Christianity*' by Marcus Borg. The next meeting will be 3.30pm on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Simon or LMCNotices for the zoom link.

**'Writers Inc'.** Writers' group for any budding scribblers... 10.30am to 12pm on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays - January 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

**The Cornerstone Music Café**, every Monday from 12<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm. Come along for a sing-a-long of timeless classics with our very own house band! Tea and coffee available.

**Global Village Café lunch club for refugees and asylum-seekers:** Every Wednesday from 12.30pm. Open to the general public, price for lunch £7.50 (waged).

**'Chewsday' Lunch Café every Tuesday 12 til 2pm**

If you feel you could bake some fresh cakes or make soup to be sold as part of the lunch please contact Barry. To do that we would ask you (and pay for you) to do a Food Hygiene course, which can be done online. Restarts on January 13<sup>th</sup>

Our LMC Facebook page is [here](#)



Our Cornerstone Facebook page is [here](#)

## Dates for your diary

### January

4<sup>th</sup> Covenant services

4<sup>th</sup> 3pm LGBTQ Sunday Service – at Cornerstone

8<sup>th</sup> 1.15pm Holy Communion at Cornerstone

**Little Pebbles** is our parent/carer & toddler group and meets every Tuesday at Scotforth Road from 10-11.30 during term-time.

*The notices are usually distributed monthly.  
If you would like an e-copy of the Notices, send an email to [lmcnotices@gmail.com](mailto:lmcnotices@gmail.com) .*