



KIRKHAM METHODIST CHURCH



www.kirkhammethodist.org.uk

South Fylde Circuit—Lancashire District

Kirkham Churches Together



September—October 2019

Dear All,

A friend of mine told me a story about an American minister who, on going through the check-out line at the local store, saw ahead of him a small boy who seemed to be in some difficulty.

Lying on the counter was a packet of sweets, and beside it was the little boy's money. The shop assistant spoke to the boy, and he began to dig first in one pocket and then in his other pocket. Finally, he looked up at the assistant in silent despair. At this point the minister tapped the boy on his shoulder and asked, "How much do you need?" He answered, "Eight cents." To which the minister replied, "Let me help you, okay?" and he placed the eight cents in the young boy's hand. As the boy took the money he looked up with gratitude on his face. It was a look the Minister never forgot.

The truth is he didn't have to help the young boy, but what a blessing.

I believe it is the "didn't have to do it" kind of situations, that are the real seasoning in a Christian's life - when we are prepared, or ready, to go that extra mile to help or be there for others especially when we don't have too.

The opportunities for such rich rewards are all around us if we take the time to recognize them: a word of praise, comfort, or encouragement, a card, or a note of appreciation for "just being you" -- just little gestures of love and friendship when "you didn't have to do it." What a difference they can make.

There is so much in the life of a Christian that "we don't have to do" but when done always seems to bring God's blessing to those who are the recipients, as well as for the benefactor.

Thus Paul says

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people"

Gal 6:10

Coming alongside others is not just about our Christian duty it is also about how we live together as a community and as members of the one human family.

It seems to me that today's Britain desperately needs people who will go the extra mile, showing kindness, friendship and neighbourliness as a church we need to be seen and to go that extra mile for each other and for those around us. We need to take every opportunity to make a visible difference to those struggling in our world

As you read this ask yourself "how can I be an instrument that makes a difference to the life of another? What can I give, say or do that will help make Christ real to another?"

For it is when we make Christ real that we live out our Christian discipleship and become Gods' blessing to others.

May God enable you to be a blessing to someone today. Amen

Sylvester

The Methodist Church Kirkham



Minister:
Revd Sylvester Deigh
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Senior Steward:
Mrs Katharine Davies
Tel: 01772 684673

Website— www.kirkhammethodist.org.uk

Our Calling

Vision statement:

That every person has a relationship with God through Christ.

Mission statement:

To live as a people of **faith**, to share **God's love**, and to be a **voice of hope**.

Missional Goals:

To be a voice of and for hope by responding to the needs of our local community.

To encourage every person through the missional activities of our church to develop their relationship with God.

To encourage and enable every person to develop their faith through Christian interaction and the study of the bible.

Flower Mission

Flowers Donated by

1st Sept Jennifer & Ray Jones
8th Sept ———
15th Sept Karen Wolstenholme
22nd Sept Irene Pugmire
29th Sept ———
6th Oct ———
13th Oct Michael King
20th Oct Karen Wolstenholme
27th Oct ———

Flowers Arranged by

Dominique Durham
Lesley Nicholl
Va Vatanimoto
Tima Tamaigelo
Karen Wolstenholme
Wendy Pate
Diane McCrae
Jennifer Jones
Helen Ball

Donations received from:-

Miriam Harnett, Helen & Peter Ball, Barbara Milne & Barry Hardisty,
Tamaigelo Family, Vatanimoto Family, Durham Family.

Many thanks to everyone for their kind donations and also to the
Ladies who arrange the flowers in church week by week.
If you would like to donate or feel as though you could help by arranging the
flowers in church then please see Lesley Nicholl.



Men's Curry Night

You are invited to the next Men's Curry Night which will be on **Friday 20th September**, 7:30pm at The Buraq. This will be the start of our 6th 'season' of Curry Nights and all are welcome to join us.
Could you please let Ian Womersley know if you would like to come by Sunday 15th September.



Lancashire District Half Day

At

**Bamber Bridge Methodist Church
Station Rd, Bamber Bridge
Preston PR5 6ED**

On

**Saturday 12th October
10.00am - 1pm**

Speaker

**Helen Noble from
Action for Children**

*District project for 2018-2020
Please support the 'Enabling Stall'*

*Doors open for coffee / tea
at 10am*



KIRKHAM METHODIST



**Our next Messy Church will be on
on Friday 18th October 2019 5-7pm
Tea Provided**

**Families welcome, all children need to be
accompanied by an adult
Mums & Dads,
Grannys & Grandads
Let's make it a family affair.**

*Please let us know if you are
coming for catering purposes.*

**Further information will be issued in the
Church Weekly notices nearer the date.**

Contact Tel: 01772 499543

Youth Emmaus

Think faith, fun, fellowship

Youth Emmaus helps young people of age 10+ to get to grips with the basics of the Christian faith.

It Comes in three sections:

- What Christians believe: God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit.
- How Christians grow: Prayer, The Bible, Church, Holy Communion, Becoming a Christian.
- Living the Christian Life: God's priorities for the world, relationships, your money and your life, sharing faith.

We will meet for the first time at
Kirkham Methodist Church
Nelson St, Kirkham, Preston PR4 2JP
for Pizza and fun as we get to know each other
Saturday 21st September 2019 At 5pm



"I only stop at the library and the High School".

This was the reply of the driver of the No. 78 bus when I asked to be put down near the railway station at Ansdell, visiting an old friend who lives near Fairhaven Methodist Church. Since giving up driving, I have had to learn to use unfamiliar local bus routes, but this one turned out to be spot-on and Ansdell library, luckily, was open. I was early for my lunch visit, so I browsed happily for half an hour or so. What caught my eye was a little book entitled "A History of Shipbuilding at Lytham" by Jack M. Dakres, published in 1992.

Now I had long known that ships had been built at Lytham, as well as at Freckleton (which I wrote about in a recent "Link" article), but I didn't know anything of the scale of the Lytham industry - what kind of ships were built, why and when. And what I found was this:

Ships had been built commercially on the Ribble estuary at least from the early 1800s, but the first recorded was a two-masted sailing ship, the brigantine "Grace", launched in 1818. (I recalled that Barbara's great-grandfather, pioneer missionary Revd. Thomas Wakefield, had travelled from Tilbury to Zanzibar in 1870, on the brigantine "Emily"). Until the mid 1800s shipbuilding on the Ribble was nearer Preston, upstream from Lytham, but as the Albert Edward Dock (now a marina) was developed, the Ribble was diverted and launching facilities were developed further downstream, at Lytham.

The new yard was located behind present-day Lidl, other businesses and the Lytham Quays housing development. Dock Road, near where Saltcotes Road joins the main Preston to Lytham Road, gives a clue. The first vessel completed at this yard was named "Sunlight", built in 1889 for Lever Brothers and named after the famous brand of soap, manufactured at their new factory on the South side of the River Mersey, opposite Liverpool on the Wirral.

As to the kind of ships that were built over the next 60 years or so, there are links with colonialism – British, Portuguese, Belgian, German – and the exploitation of the vast commercial resources of their overseas territories, especially in Africa. The growth of the motor industry played its part as well, with the need for rubber, in the first place, from South America.

Much of the potential wealth of these lands lay in their inhospitable tropical interiors – oil palms for soap manufacture, for example, latex for rubber (not native to South East Asia to where it was eventually transplanted), hardwoods for furniture and building – raw materials immensely valuable to the empire builders of Europe.

Continued over.....

But how to get at them and extract them from lands with few roads or railways? The answer was to make use of the rivers and lakes which gave ways in from the coast to the interior and which were big enough for some ocean-going ships to navigate. Africa has its Congo, Niger, Tana rivers and their tributaries and the huge inland seas – Lake Victoria the biggest. The rubber boom in South America, associated with the burgeoning motor industry, was at its height in the first dozen years of the 20th Century. The River Amazon, around 4000 miles long, touches half-a-dozen South American countries and is navigable for ocean-going ships as far upstream as Iquitos in Peru, 2400 miles from its mouth on the Atlantic coast of Brazil.

So, what kind of ships were needed to exploit these lands? Not huge liners or tankers or container vessels, but smaller shallow-draught ships for the relatively shallow waters of rivers and lakes, paddle-steamers, tugs, barges, lightships. Overall, several hundred such vessels were built at Lytham in the 60 or so years of its dockyards' life, but not, it seems, the legendary "African Queen", made famous in the 1951 film of that name, starring Katherine Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart – though this was exactly the kind built at Lytham.

Some of the Lytham ships sailed under their own steam down the Ribble then across the Atlantic to their purchasers in South America or to West or East Africa and Asian lands. Ships not designed for ocean going journeys sailed to Liverpool then were hoisted aboard larger vessels as deck cargos to be shipped abroad. Others were put together temporarily at Lytham, then dismantled, their parts labelled and crated, transported to Liverpool and shipped abroad. Re-assembly was done by teams of outfitters who accompanied the cargoes and stayed with them for a period.

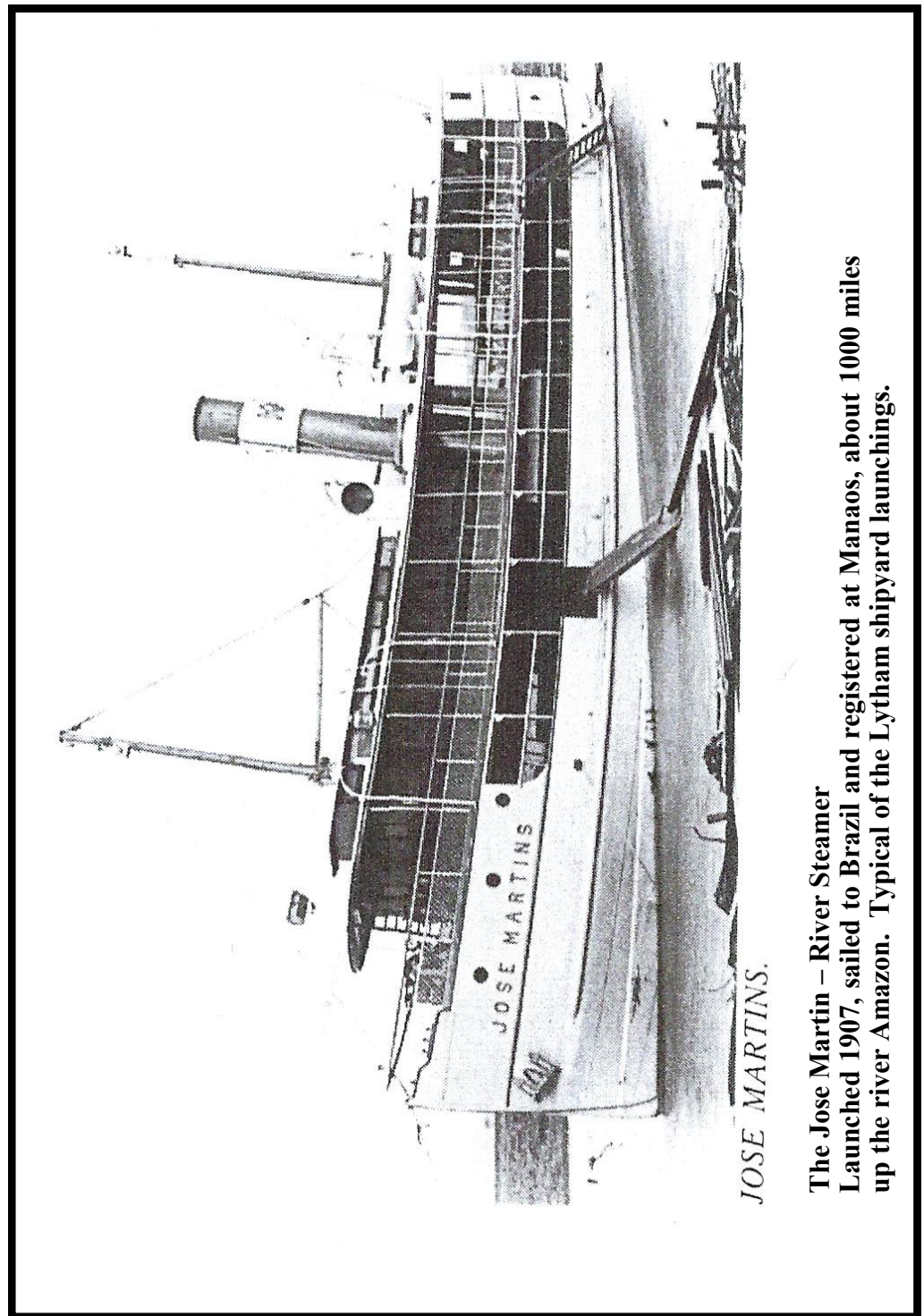
The last ship, and also the largest, to be built there was the "Hazelfield", bought in 1947 by a Liverpool shipping company. However, the end was in sight. The dredging of the Ribble channel for Preston Dock's ships caused silting of the Lytham channel and the yard closed in 1955. At its height, the industry had around 400 workpeople – a very significant employer.

Funny how I can have lived so close to this piece of history (as for the Freckleton Piece) for so long without knowing much about it – but it's never too late, is it? And if I'd got off the 78 bus at the wrong stop.....?

Eric Wolstenholme

The Jose Martin – River Steamer

Picture on next page.



**The Jose Martin – River Steamer
Launched 1907, sailed to Brazil and registered at Manaus, about 1000 miles
up the river Amazon. Typical of the Lytham shipyard launchings.**

Dear Friends,

It's been a year since I came to join the team in South Fylde, and half-way through my two-year appointment seems a good time to reflect on some of our shared experiences and to look forward to the year ahead.

Certainly, it is a privilege to work alongside so many wonderfully committed people, each serving the Lord in your own particular ways. I've learned a great deal about how the people of this circuit have adapted to the changes which have taken place over a number of years, looking for new ways to be Christ's disciples and to share his love within the community and beyond.

My role is quite varied including pastoral support, and I enjoy visiting people at home, in nursing homes or in hospital. It has been good to get to know individuals better, sharing life stories and hearing about faith journeys, whilst I have come to know others through time spent in conversation over coffee and biscuits or a game of scrabble.

And it's not just those individual conversations which have been great ways to see Jesus at work in your lives, but also through the various activities which encourage that closer relationship with God. Being part of the Messy Church team and the wonderful Holiday Club at Kirkham, are evidence that young people are being given an opportunity to discover Jesus for themselves and being encouraged and nurtured as they build their own relationship with him. It will be a fabulous experience this year through the Youth Emmaus programme to see some of our young people making that special commitment to become members of the Methodist Church.

What a response we are going to be making in the year of testimony - to be encouraged and equipped to share our faith with others around us as we work through the Talking Jesus programme, gaining in confidence to tell our own stories about our lives with Jesus. Earlier this summer at Conference, our new President, Barbara Glasson and Vice President, Clive Marsh encouraged people to read their book, 'So What's the Story?' highlighting the importance of story-telling in all cultural settings, but especially how it gives us all an opportunity to talk about our faith and how our lives are shaped by God's presence.

Worship is a wonderful way in which the Good News can be shared and I have been blessed with the opportunity to prepare and lead services in each of the churches, especially being asked to deliver the address at the Covenant services. We all know those promises we make on that occasion, but living up to them is a challenge we each strive to achieve. We each face challenges, some welcome, others less so, but which help us to grow in our relationship with Jesus. I pray that in this year ahead we may be ready to embrace changes and be willing to allow God to lead and direct our lives as he opens another chapter in our stories.

Carolyn Hothersall
Lay Worker

Used Postage Stamps

Please continue saving postage stamps for Huntington's Disease (HD) and pass onto Gillian Womersley.

This is a simple but effective fundraising activity.

(**Huntington's disease (HD)** is a neurodegenerative genetic disorder that affects muscle coordination and leads to cognitive decline and dementia. It typically becomes noticeable in middle age.)



Organ Fund

Just a reminder that Alessandra Durham is still collecting for the church organ fund. So any loose change would be very much appreciate.

LMG

Our Ladies Monday Group Autumn / Winter Programme began on 2nd September when our speaker Roy Porter spoke on 'The Second Greatest Journey of Jesus'.

On Monday October 7th Abbie Legg returns to tell us of her experience of attending the 24th World Scout Jamboree this summer in West Virginia, USA. We look forward to hearing all about it.

All ladies welcome, we meet in the coffee lounge 7.45pm. Subs £1 for anymore information please speak to Jennifer, Gillian or Irene.

Church Leadership Team (LT)

For information there are a few changes to KMC Leadership Team from 1st September 2019.

Ian Womersley will stand down from the role of Senior Steward and take up Property Secretary responsibility. Ian will still be part of the Leadership Team and a church representative to circuit meetings.

Katharine Davies will again assume the role of Senior Steward.

And finally we welcome Lucinda Baldwin as a Church Steward and part of the Leadership Team.

MOST PEOPLE STRUGGLE TO TALK
ABOUT JESUS. THIS COURSE WILL INSPIRE
YOU TO SHARE YOUR FAITH.

TALKING
JESUS

Six session course beginning
8th September at KMC.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

HOPE

our new villages, towns & cities



TALKINGJESUSCOURSE



@TALKINGJESUSUK



TALKING JESUS

The Methodist church has declared the connexional year 2019 – 2020 a year of testimony - a year when we are being encouraged to share our stories of faith. The “Talking Jesus” course will help us learn how to talk about and share our faith with others.

TALKING
JESUS



**are you
stuck for
words?**

The people we know are more open to faith than we might think – 43% believe Jesus rose from the dead... But many Christians struggle to talk about Jesus.

The six practical, video-based sessions in this course will inspire you to share your faith. The course will give you practical tips to help you to be natural and relevant as you talk about Jesus with the people you meet.

The goal is to equip you to make the most of every opportunity to help friends, colleagues and family members to consider Jesus for themselves and to become His followers.

Sessions will be held at Kirkham Methodist Church
On Sunday's at 6:30pm on the following dates:-

Sun 8th Sept, Sun 15th Sept, Sun 22nd Sept,
Sun 29th Sept, Sun 6th Oct, Sun 13th Oct.



A selection of photos from 'Backpackers' Holiday club.