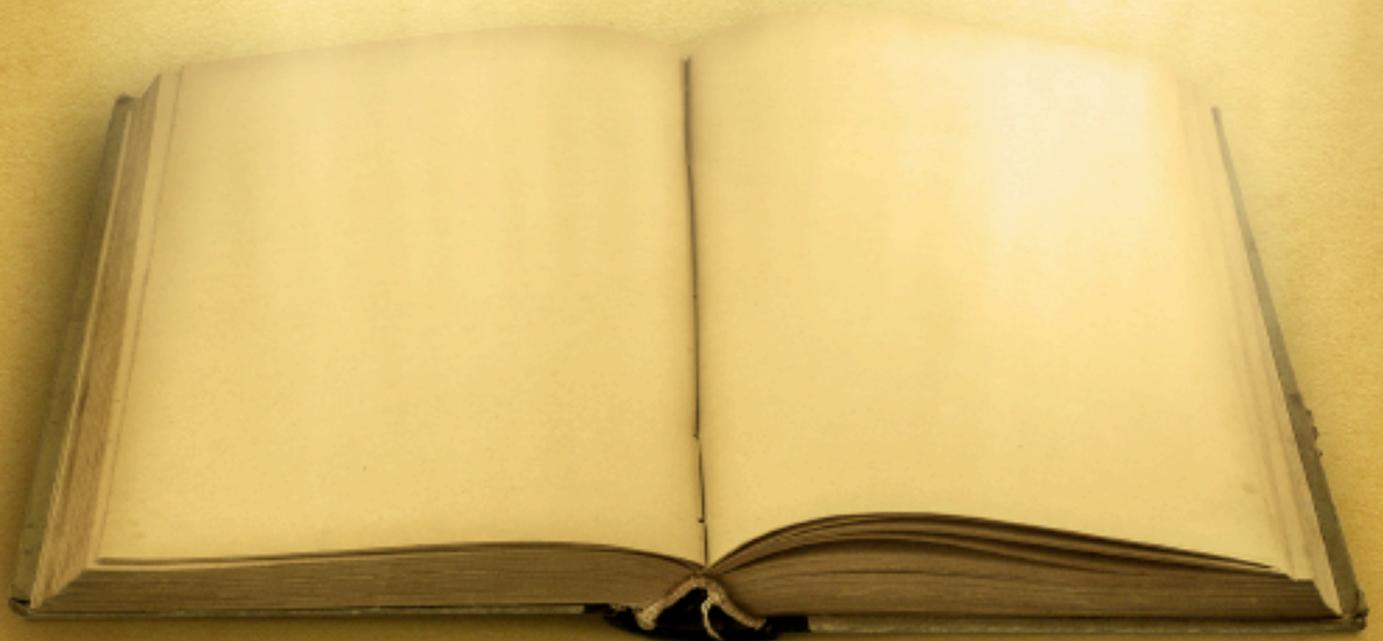
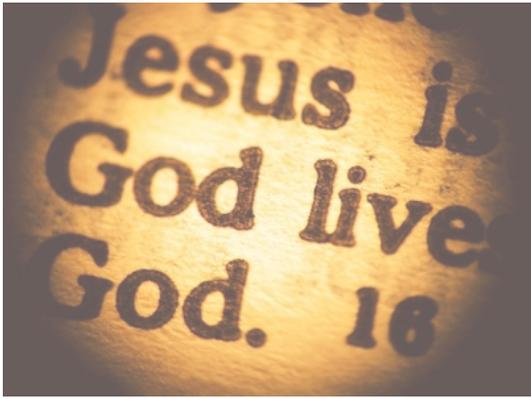


Manchester & Stockport Methodist District

Year of the Bible 2011

*A Sharing of Events from
Around the District*





Year of the Bible 2011

District Celebration Service

Sunday 17th June 2.30pm

Central Hall, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ

Representatives from each Circuit are invited to bring their sections of the Handwritten Bible to be collated ready to be taken to the 2011 Methodist Conference

Share in a short act of worship followed by a visit to John Rylands Library, Deansgate (where St John's Fragment is displayed - the earliest NT manuscript ever discovered)

www.mandsmethodists.org.uk

19/01 Manchester

'The Big Write, Read and Draw' Sunday April 17th @ **Chorlton Methodist Church** from 4pm come and hand-write a portion of the Bible (each church in the circuit is invited to write a few verses towards the whole Handwritten Bible of the Methodist people) paint or draw your favourite biblical word or phrase, draw a part of the Passion Story.

At 6pm there will be a reading of Mark's gospel Come and get involved in this circuit 'Year of the Bible' event Light refreshments will be available

During the Sundays in Lent, **Manley Park** are holding a series of services on the Bible -

An introduction-	Bible Readings: 2 Timothy 3: 14-17, John 1: 1-14
The Law-	Bible Readings: Exodus 20: 1-17, Deuteronomy 10: 12-15, Mark 12: 28-34
The Prophets- 9-19	Bible Readings: 1 Kings 19: 4-16, Jonah 3: 10 - 4: 11, Luke 20:
The Writings-	Bible Readings: Proverbs 8: 22 - 9: 6, Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8, Song of Solomon 4: 1-5, 5: 10-16
The Gospels-	Bible Readings: John 9: 1-41, Luke 24: 15-49
The Epistles-	Bible Readings: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12, Romans 5: 1-11, 1 Peter 1: 1-12

Bible Festival at Clayton - Over the weekend of 25th and 26th June, Clayton Methodist Church is to hold a Bible Festival where the Church will be open for anyone to visit and see displays about the Bible, think about favourite passages, and take time to reflect on what the Bible means to them. The Sunday will include a special service in the Morning.

Trinity Ancoats- To mark the Year of the Bible, the members and friends of Trinity are going to produce a spoken version of Mark's Gospel. A CD will be produced that we can then give out to the people who come into our building. The intention is to have the CD available later in the year, but recording work is starting soon!

'Bible Day' at East Didsbury- Sometime in June or July we hope to include our local primary school in the event, together with the various groups who use the building, our church groups and individual members of the congregation. At the moment the vision is that we have an exhibition of art and craft, based upon each contributor's choice of a Biblical passage; together with readings of favourite Bible passages and interpretations of Bible passages in song, dance, drama or acted with puppets, interspersed at various times throughout the day.

Crumpsall- We held a Bible Sunday on 13th March when we all bring in our bibles and talk about our favourite passages. Also people are being given the opportunity to talk about their favourite psalms in the services throughout the year.

St Peter's House- Mandarin language Bible study every Friday in term time, led by Council for World Mission missionary and St Peter's Chaplain Shou Hui Chung (Presbyterian Church in Taiwan). **The Jagged Edge of Scripture:** Clobber texts from the Bible; Spring term 2011 led by Terry Biddington (Anglican Chaplain). **Ordinary Healing:** The Gospel of Matthew and healing today. A Lent 2011 study for St. Peter's Church.

Didsbury with Barlow Moor Methodist Church-As part of the National Heritage Open Days, on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th September we are organising an exhibition to celebrate The Year of the Bible. The exhibition will be open in the afternoons on the two days and we hope to be able to display various versions of the Bible including a Family Bible. At the exhibition there will be quizzes, a children's trial and the chance to make an illuminated letter.

As part of the exhibition, we are asking everyone to write out their favourite Bible passage or verse and on May 21st, we will be holding a coffee morning to bring people together to start to do this. The passages will then be collated together as a "Didsbury Bible" which will be put on display. There will also be opportunity for people to contribute to this during the exhibition. On Sunday 11th September, we are having a special service to celebrate this year.

Withington Methodist Church- From the beginning of Lent until the 8th of May (the Sunday after the original publication date of the King James Version), each of our preachers has chosen a book from the bible to focus on in our worship. It is hoped that this will refresh the way we use the bible in worship. We are covering a selection of the books of the preachers choice ranging from the Gospels to Job, Romans to Song of Songs.

In conjunction with this there will be a bible reading leaflet to encourage us to dip into each book of the bible during lent. There is then an opportunity to comment on the passages, both on a display at the back of church and a page on facebook "Withington Methodist Church Bible Page"

We are also hoping to read the whole bible between us before the 8th May. Many people have volunteered to read one of the 66 books of the Bible during Lent. Can Withington Methodist Church read the whole bible between us? We hope so and already we have started to have some interesting feed back on things that have taken us by surprise or encouraged or fed us.

19/03 Salford

The **Salford Circuit** celebrated the 400th Anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible with two events on Saturday 26 March. At **St Paul's Methodist Church**, Irlam the Circuit took part in the Connexional "Handwritten Bible" project during a coffee morning, prepared by the local Network team. The church was full for the event with people waiting their turn to add to the handwritten verses. On display were various versions of the Bible together with two family Bibles each at least 100 years old.

At the same time, at **Patricroft Methodist Church**, Cath Owen (a Local Preacher) was being sponsored to read the New Testament from start to finish. A group were there to support her and share in the readings some of which were in French and Russian.

19/11 Oldham & Saddleworth

On Saturday 12th February the Mezzanine in the **Salt Cellar** was turned into a Scriptorium in the midst of shoppers coming in for a meal. An invitation was given to the Circuit to gather together to reflect on the verses we were given to write. A PowerPoint in the background had inspiring images that encouraged conversation and the art resources provided opportunity for people to share their personal reflections on what the Bible means to them today.

19/12 Shaw & Royton

Shaw and Royton circuit held their handwritten Bible event on Thursday 17th March from 9.30 am – 12 noon at Trinity, Royton.

19/15 Bramhall

The Bramhall Circuit are just over half way in doing their portion of the handwritten bible project and it will culminate in a Circuit service on May 22nd at 6.30 pm at Wilmslow Methodist Church. From about 4 pm on the 22nd at Wilmslow we will be having activities to support the Year of the Bible theme including a cafe, puppets, a CLC bookstall, crafts for children, Bible display of old or interesting bibles, favourite bible verse display, calligraphy demonstration and Bible Society display and collection. Richard Lowson will be leading the service with contributions from the Circuit staff and Keith Davies.

We are hoping to do a kind of Horrible 'Bible' Histories. We are also hoping to organise a Circuit visit to the John Rylands University Library on Deansgate in Manchester to see the St. John's fragment and other rare Bible related papers

Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church- are doing the Essential 100, individually, in homegroups, and linking the readings and themes throughout most of their Sunday services.

19/18 Buxton

We've sold 18 One Year Bibles and some of those reading it meet with Deacon Janet Heys to discuss it.

We're having a Bible Quiz in the Circuit

Song of Praise with a ***Biblefresh Theme*** planned for Sunday 28th August at 6.00 pm at Buxton Methodist Church.

19/19 Alderley Edge & Knutsford

Knutsford Methodist Church- During 2010 KMC hosted a **Sons of Korah Concert** for the Bible Society. This Australian group have put the Psalms to music. The concert and Sunday morning worship were well received.

As part of our celebration of the year of the Bible, the Circuit Meeting agreed the following programme of events:

- 24 November 2010: Circuit reading of Isaiah in preparation for Advent.
- 12 March 2011: "The Bible and You" - Circuit study day for Lent exploring how we can hear the Bible's message for daily growth, guidance and revelation.
- 23 April 2011: Circuit reading of St. Mark's gospel for Holy Saturday.
- 2 June 2011: Circuit reading of Acts for Ascension Day.
- 18 June 2011: Banks' Memorial Lecture by Rev'd Alison Tomlin, President of Conference, on The Year of the Bible.
- 31 August 2011: Circuit Prayer Vigil around the reading of 1 and 2 Peter.
- 23 November 2011: Circuit Reading of 1 and 2 Thessalonians in preparation for Advent.

Our experience in November 2010 was that members of the public walked in off the street and sat for a few minutes. People from the churches joined for as long as they wished. It was great to experience the drama of Isaiah in this way. We expect numbers to increase for the Easter Saturday Vigil with the public reading of Mark's Gospel.

The Circuit Bible Study Day was attended by 20 people and was enjoyed by all.

We are excited to note that Churches Together in Alderley are planning an event where the historic Bibles of the churches will be on display.

Knutsford Methodist Church celebrated Bible Sunday on the 2nd Sunday of Advent and allocated half of the Christmas Offering for Bible translation for Burkino Faso. Housegroups and individuals are following the Big Read using Tom Wright's "Lent for Everyone – Matthew." In November 2011, a member of the Wycliffe Bible Translators is coming to lead worship on the theme of Bible Translation. We have a link to the Riding Lights audio bible which we have used in public worship and encouraging people to listen to.

19/21 Glossop

2011 - The Year of the Bible Celebration-

Monday 14th March 9am...Circuit Brunch at Central Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Glossop

Tuesday 15th March 10am – 12 noon selected Bible Readings at Hadfield Methodist Church, Station Road, Hadfield

Sunday 20th March 6.15pm Circuit Service to celebrate the Year of the Bible, Central Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Glossop. Preacher: Revd Dr Keith Davies

Monday 14th to Sunday 20th March Exhibition for Year of the Bible, Central Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Glossop. Launch 9.30am on 14th March at the Brunch.

Exhibition opening times:

Monday	9am – 11am, 6.30pm – 10pm
Tuesday	10am – 11am, 7pm – 9pm
Wednesday	9am – 3pm, 7.30pm – 9pm
Thursday	1.30pm – 3.30pm, 6pm – 8pm
Friday	9.45am – 2pm
Saturday	9.45am – 12noon
Sunday	12 noon – 2pm

Saturday 23rd April 10am – 12 noon Hadfield Passion Play, outside event with music and drama

Sunday 17th July in the afternoon, Bible Stories & Picnic in the Park, outside event with music and drama – bring your picnic

19/22 Hyde & Denton

In Hyde and Denton we're doing a couple of special things as well as our share in the Handwritten Bible:

1. Reading the whole New Testament over the week 11-16 April in six "episodes", one at each of the circuit churches
2. At Hyde Central church we are planning four special Sundays when everything (worship services, Junior Church etc.) will focus on a Biblical theme: 20 March - Passover; 1 May - Marriage and Weddings; 1 October - Ruth; 18 December – Angels

Denton Methodist Church- At Denton we've already had a special all age '**Connect and Reflect**' service, exploring the Bible in different ways, and a Circuit service celebrating the Bible. The only other thing to report is that Denton Churches Together are planning to hand out copies of the booklet 'Glimpses of the Word ' as we walk in the Denton Carnival on 11th September.

19/24 Macclesfield

Bible Festival- Langley Methodist Church and Sutton St James Anglican Church are holding a nine day Bible Festival in June from Saturday 11th to Sunday 9th.

There will be two joint services, four talks, two seminars, a scriptorium, banner-making, displays and exhibitions, a Bible trail between the two villages etc. etc.

See our special website - which is not yet complete - for some more details. We hope to complete our publicity materials for the first week in April

www.celebratethebible.net

Bible Bonanza- Tuesday 21st June from 6.00pm in the **Gawsworth Methodist Community Hall-** corner of Congleton Road and Darklane Gawsworth SK11 9QZ, the 1st Gawsworth Girls Brigade Company are writing their portion and to celebrate this we are having an evening ' bible bonanza' when the result(a photocopy of it!) will be on display and there will be lots of other quizzes word searches, and power point things going on with refreshments- this will be a GB evening but we shall give it good publicity and hope many will come from this area

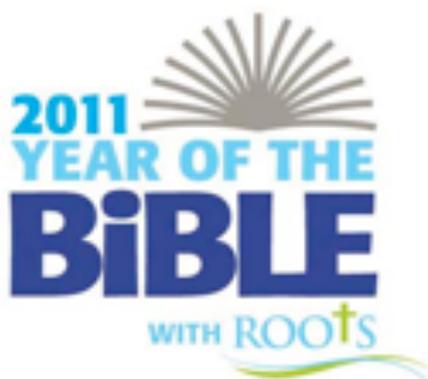
Resources:



www.biblefresh.com

Deepening
Discipleship

www.deepeningdiscipleship.org.uk



[www.rootsontheweb.com/Year of the Bible/](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/Year_of_the_Bible/)