

## St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

**In Contact** 

13th July 2025

#### Matthew 28, 16-20

### **CALLED TO GO (Falconer Home Special)**



Lilias "Mama" Falconer was born in 1915 in Moss Side, Manchester and whilst she was not a member of St. Margaret's Church, she visited on occasion with her friends. At the age of 15 she was telling her family of God's call on her life to go to Africa "to look after babies and children". After several failed attempts she finally trained with the Salvation Army, qualified as a nurse and, in 1946 with qualifications in tropical medicine, set sail for Africa on board a troop ship bound for a hospital in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) to work to save those suffering from leprosy.

Whilst there she saw the plight of babies left to die when their mothers died in childbirth and, after agreeing to care for one child, Luke Fondulu, five more were brought to her over the next 18 months. With her six babies Lilias left and, on her own, went further into the bush where she established her Children's Home and Orphanage in the small community of Kabulamema.

In the intervening years, until her death in 1998, Lilias saved over 600 babies, an average of one baby a month for fifty years!! In March 1966 Lilias said, "God has worked mightily and the home is happy and at one. I could ask for nothing better".

Looking back on her teenage years Lilias must have thought that this all seemed like a 'crazy' plan. What did God have in mind for her? But she heard God's call to go, was willing to respond and set off putting her faith in the one who had called her to go.

God has a plan for all of us. It's a unique plan tailored to each and every one of us. It may involve moving overseas or to another part of the country to serve Him but it's more likely to involve serving Him where He has placed us.

Where is God calling us to go? To our neighbour? To become involved in an activity in the community? To visit someone in hospital or someone on their own at home? As you think about God's call to go it might seem like a 'crazy' plan; what is God doing?

When we give our lives to God we can't pick and choose the bits of His calling we like and ignore the bits we don't. Matthew 28 verse 19 calls us to "Go"; it's a great commission not a great 'suggestion'. Rest assured, though, God knows exactly what He's doing.

He will equip us with all the skills and gifts we need to do what He's calling us to do. He will give us the words to say when we need them; we need not worry. However, we do need to be willing to go where He calls us to go.

I'm sure Lilias could not have foreseen the outcome of God's 'crazy' plan for her life any clearer than we can see the outcome of God's 'crazy' plan for ours, but when it's God's plan there's always an amazing outcome.



**Duncan Stansfield** 

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# Bible Verse for 2025: Philippians 4.4 Rejoice in the LORD always. I will say again: Rejoice!

#### This week- Sunday 13th July 2025:

Morning Worship at 10.30am. Sunday service to give thanks for the Falconer Home. Theme is: 'Called to Go.'

BCP Communion at 3pm.

**12th July: 7pm.** A concert of light summer music by Vivaldi ensemble in church. Refreshments and Concert will be free. Donations in aid of Falconer Home.

#### Next Week 20th July 2025:

**Family Communion at 10.30am.** Matt will be speaking from Acts 28.17-31 on the theme: **'Continuing Acts.'** 

#### July 13th - July 19th, Please Pray for:

- People living in Errwood Road (Green End to Shawbrook Road).
- Good listening and wise decisions at PCC on Monday.
- Someone to go to the Anti-Poverty meeting on Thursday as Matt unavailable.
- Jane Franklin as the only Warden & with many other responsibilities.
- Students finishing university for vacation jobs or employment.
- "Message" Oaks resettlement homes helping those leaving prison to find work.
- God's church to flourish in every part of India.

#### **Looking Ahead:**

**Holiday Special:** for the over 55's is to take place from **Monday, July 28th to Wednesday, July 30th.** A "Holiday at Home" with lots of interesting activities, refreshments and lunch provided, all free of charge. Pray for a good time of fun, food and friendship.

**This Time Tomorrow:** you may have heard others being interviewed in church and asked about what they are doing this time tomorrow and how we can pray for you. Would you be interested in being interviewed? If so, see Helen Hardy or Matt.

**Mission Action Plan 2026-9:** At the end of this year, we will be starting to form our next plan for growth, so please chat to Matt or any member of the PCC if you have ideas and thoughts

If you are visiting St Margaret's for the first time we hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today.

For more information please visit our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Come and join us for tea or coffee after the service.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library (when open) and Asda Reddish

URGENTLY NEEDED: Please concentrate on <u>Tinned Tomatoes</u>,

<u>Tinned Sweet Corn/Peas</u>, <u>Tinned Carrots/Potatoes</u>, <u>Tinned</u>

<u>Corned beef/ham</u>, <u>Long life Fruit juice/ Long life Semi milk</u>, <u>Tea/Coffee</u>, <u>Tinned Fruit/ Custard</u>, <u>Jam/Peanut butter</u>, <u>Shampoo</u>.

that could feed into this.