



# St Margaret's Church

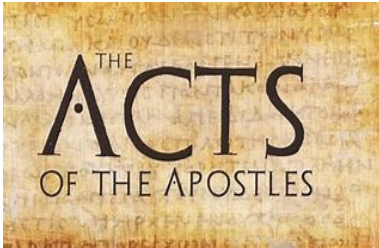
Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

6<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## Acts 11. 19-30

## MOVING OUTWARDS



"Escape to the country" is a TV programme in which prospective buyers are shown three possible homes in their chosen country location. They usually want to move outwards from the city to the country, often into retirement or semi-retirement. Moving outwards appears in today's reading, but different reasons.

### By persecuted Christians (v.19)

Acts chapter 7 tells how Stephen was stoned to death. As a result, believers were scattered and travelled to various places including Antioch. As they did so they told people about Jesus and "a great number became believers and turned to the Lord"

### By Barnabas (v.22)

The church in Jerusalem heard about this and sent Barnabas to investigate. At Antioch he saw the grace of God at work and encouraged the new believers. His name means 'son of encouragement' (Acts 4:36). It is good to investigate where God is working. One example by The Bible Society called 'The Quiet Revival' has shown a large increase in church attendance among 18-24 year olds between 2018 and 2024.



### By Barnabas again (v.25)

As "a great many people were brought to the Lord" Barnabas needed help to encourage these new believers. He remembered Saul of Tarsus who had a dramatic conversion experience on the road to Damascus. So, he went to Tarsus to look for Saul, who joined him in teaching people about Jesus. This group were given the nickname 'Christians' because they were learning about Christ.

### By prophets (v.27)

They moved from Jerusalem to Antioch. As people who listened to what God was saying, one of them, Agabus predicted that there would be a famine. We need to listen to what God is saying to us in our situation through the Bible or people to whom God gives a particular message.

### By Barnabas and Saul (v.30)

People gave "according to their ability" and sent relief to Judea. Barnabas and Saul took it. So began a partnership which was to continue in The Acts of the Apostles.

The church grew as people moving outwards did the task God had for them at that time. It was as they were proclaiming Jesus, encouraging believers, partnering with others, speaking God's word, listening to God, giving and sending relief that the church was growing. Our travels might not be as far as theirs, but we can learn from those who were 'moving outwards' in The Acts of the Apostles.



Alan Pugmire

## Bible Verse for 2025: *Philippians 4.4*

**Rejoice in the LORD always. I will say again : Rejoice!**

### **This week- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2025 :**

**Holy Communion at 10.30am.** Alan Pugmire will be speaking from Acts 11. 19-30 on the theme: '**Moving Outwards.**' This is Alan's first sermon in our 150th anniversary year.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### **July 6<sup>th</sup> – July 12<sup>th</sup>, Please Pray for:**

- People living in Heathwood Road, Angleside Avenue & Ivylea Road.
- Wise decisions about Kids' Club for September.
- Those children leaving ABC to start at school in the autumn.
- All to come to church expecting God to meet with them & speak to them.
- Secret believers in Afghanistan to be strengthened and protected.
- TearFund's Democratic Republic of Congo Appeal fund as they face disaster there.

### **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 that could feed into this.

*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](http://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 Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Sweet Corn/Peas, Tinned Carrots/Potatoes, Tinned Corned beef/ham, Long life Fruit juice/ Long life Semi milk, Tea/ Coffee, Tinned Fruit/ Custard, Jam/Peanut butter, Shampoo.**