

OAKWORTH



METHODIST CHURCH

Golden Jubilee Year



March 2010 Newsletter



*Jesus said to him, "I promise you that today you
will be in Paradise with me".*

Luke 23:43

Minister's Letter



Dear Friends,

On 1 November 2003 the Methodist Church and the Church of England entered into a Covenant commitment after many years of conversations about church unity. The presence of the Queen at the official signing of the Covenant gave special significance to the occasion and the ceremony was followed by a service of thanksgiving and dedication at Westminster Abbey.

On 11 February 2010 the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference were invited to address the General Synod of the Church of England and their words were reported in the secular press, not always accurately! To some they seemed to be saying that Methodism was finished. It is worth quoting therefore exactly what they did say: "We are prepared to go out of existence not because we are declining or failing in mission, but for the sake of mission. In other words we are

prepared to be changed and even to cease to have a separate existence as a Church if that will serve the needs of the Kingdom".

Subsequently a "Pastoral Address" has been sent out, copies of which are available at the back of church. I hope folk will read this carefully, and do so bearing in mind that we are in the season of Lent preparing for Easter. Easter speaks of "death" and "resurrection" and for the Christian these two cannot be separated. They are two sides of the same coin. You cannot understand Good Friday (death) without Easter Sunday (resurrection), and vice versa. You cannot have new life in the church without letting go of some of the old.

Our own lives too are full of "deaths" and "resurrections", some fairly minor, others major. They are a fundamental part of God's creation and his ongoing creative activity. In all things we seek the loving, guiding and protecting hand of God through the work of his Holy Spirit.

Peace & Love,



"PUSS IN BOOTS" PANTOMIME

Another tremendous success and whenever I have bumped into folk who came along they have been full of praise. Congratulations to **EVERYONE** involved. *John Hudson*

Minister: Rev John Hudson

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Good News

Congratulations

David is hardly going to write this himself, but I know we will all be delighted with the news that he and Ruth are to receive a Keighley Area Forum **Community Star Award** on 29th March for commitment and enthusiasm given to the Pantomime over many years. *John Hudson*

Family News

Stacee and Jeff are very, very excited to tell us that she is pregnant again! The baby is due 5th September. She asks for our prayers for an easy pregnancy as she's "been sicker than a dog the first 3 months"!

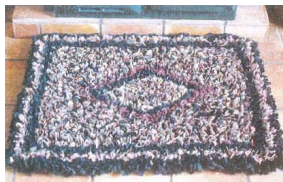


Christmas Fundraising

Thank you for your response to the recent appeals and events. Our stall at the Village Christmas Fair made £12; Church Calendars raised £100; the Christmas Lunch netted £215 and the Christmas Gift envelopes brought in £210. The Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation are grateful for the £60 collected at the Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service and your response to the Haiti Disaster Appeal raised a further £60.

Rag Rug Making

Remember your mum or gran making rugs out of old clothes cut into strips and prodded through hessian to make cosy comfortable rugs? This craft is alive and well in Yorkshire, Airedale Ruggers having over 20 members. A small group of us meet in the church lounge on the third Monday of the month from



6.00-8.00 pm. Anyone interested please come along - see what we do and have a go - you will be most welcome. *Kath Batty.*

Church Membership

After Easter, I shall be exploring Church Membership with Stuart Hopper. If anyone would like to join us please let me know. *John Hudson.*

Time to Talk of God

Coming next, a series of three meetings on Climate Change ("the greatest challenge to the Church in our generation") using the recently produced ecumenical report: "HOPE in God's Future". Wednesdays 21 April, 5 May and 19 May, all at 7.30pm.

Church Flowers

Thank you to all who provide and/or arrange the flowers at church each Sunday. They are much appreciated.

FLOWER ARRANGERS PRAYER

May God grant that our hearts, our eyes and our hands may receive His inspiration, enabling us to glorify His House with the beauty of the leaves and blossoms which He has created.



News Snippets

Wednesday Club

We all enjoyed our trip to Keighley Playhouse in December to see "A Kick in the Baubles" and the Carols Evening hosted by David and Chrissie. Peter Howarth retained the Bowling trophy again in January with the highest aggregate score over the evening but his father surprised everyone coming a strong second!

This month sees the annual planning meeting at Dorothy and Peter's - so come armed with lots of good ideas!

SNOWDROPS

"It's rather dark in the earth today",

Said one little bulb to its brother.

"But I thought I could feel a sunbeam's ray,

Let us strive and grow till we find a way",

So they nestled close to each other.

They struggled and strived by day and night

Till two little snowdrops in green and white

Rose out of the darkness and into the light

And gently kissed one another.

In Memoriam

We commend Neville Smith (95), Gertrude Harrison (89), Elsie McKenzie (90) and Stanley Smith (95) into God's hands, assuring family and friends of our continuing prayers and sympathy.

Neville Smith

The recent passing of Neville Smith at the age of 95 brings memories of the 1920s+1930s and big chapels like Lane Ends Primitive Methodists with big organs and big choirs at



the centre of things. Neville's father, Fred Smith, was the choirmaster and Neville joined his choir. When Lane Ends chapel closed Neville came to the Wesleyans and was welcomed into the choir by Ellis Wright who liked this pleasant man with a good bass baritone voice, willing and able to sing solos and who was later to be joined by his son and daughter.

Now, as we offer our sympathies to Neville's family, we give thanks for his life and his gift of music.

Dorothy Wright

Gertrude Harrison



We first met Gertrude at her husband's funeral. She was concerned that there would be very few people there but there was a large congregation. Such was her love and thoughtfulness that everyone who knew her regarded her as a special lady - so kind, considerate and very appreciative of every little thing done to help her.

Gertrude enjoyed going to chapel, both for Services and all the other activities, including the Luncheon Club.

She loved the company of relatives and friends and found it very hard not being able to dress up and meet people in latter months.

I'm sure Gertrude will be in many people's thoughts for a long time, such was her lovely nature. It was a great privilege to have known her.

Jim & Margaret Shackleton

We give thanks for £185 donated to church funds in memory of Gertrude

Puss in Boots

The final run-up to the show seemed to be littered with obstacles this year - but all were overcome and what a fantastic show it turned out to be in the end! The scenery, costumes, special effects, routines and every member of the cast came together in a spellbinding show that outshone all previous pantomimes - and raised £3,500 for the church. We are very encouraged by the feedback, as you will see from the reports below.

Next Pantomime: 19-26 Feb 2011

Cinderella

Jackie McGinnis wrote:

And now for the best bit - Oakworth Pantomime. Well, what can I say, other than it was the best one yet?

Who were the star performers? I wouldn't like to choose, they were all excellent. Rob Green, as the ogre was his usual horrible self (sorry Rob, nothing personal!) Harriet Shires, as Freckles the pageboy, was yet again the best pantomime fool I have seen in many years. We had village girls and boys, made up of some of the village's talented children, supergirls and little ogres, made up of some of the younger children of the village and a cast of senior performers that would put some professionals to shame.

Perhaps for me I think we have found a new star in Emily Moses, who played the part of Jill, a village girl abducted by the ogre, with an ability beyond her years; I look forward to seeing her in future productions.

Scenery, music and special effects

were, as usual, excellent, the parents and Janet did a fantastic job on the costumes and, all in all, I think you would have to go a very long way to find a better amateur production.

So, I would like to thank everyone involved with this year's pantomime & offer my congratulations on a splendid event - you did the village proud.

Don't forget to order your Puss in Boots DVD from David - only £7.50

David Knights wrote:

For a thoroughly enjoyable evening you can't do much better than seeing Oakworth's annual panto. Audience and performers come together in an uproarious way that many other local pantos would kill for. I saw this year's show only a couple of nights into the run but the cast were so hyper you'd think it was their final night.

The first act fair bustled along, but it was the second act that truly impressed with a succession of terrific set pieces. An opening ballroom dance, Happy Little Ogres, You're The One That I Want, an underwater ultraviolet scene, a Can-Can with kitchen utensils. All set against brilliant scenery that included a castle tower, a bridge, a working fountain and a brightly-burning stove. There were great duets, cracking chorus numbers and -- like last year -- one of the best-sung panto finales you'll hear across the district.

Only one niggle: across the cast much of the dialogue sounded as if it was being read rather than acted. But all these performers were so loud, clear, and enthusiastic that we could forgive a little stiffness and mis-timing of jokes.



PUGS IN BOOTS











Word Search - The Climb

I can almost see it, that dream I am dreaming, but
There's a voice inside my head saying, "You'll never reach it".
Every step I'm taking, every move I make feels
Lost with no direction, my faith is shaking,
But I got to keep trying, got to keep my head held high.

There's always going to be another mountain,
I'm always going to want to make it move;
Always going to be a uphill battle,
Sometimes I'm going to have to lose;
Ain't about how fast I get there,
Ain't about what's waiting on the other side ... It's the climb.

The struggles I'm facing, the chances I'm taking,
Sometimes might knock me down but no, I'm not breaking;
I may not know it, but these are the moments that
I'm going to remember most, yeah, just got to keep going;
And I, I got to be strong, just keep pushing on.

S	E	C	N	A	H	C	N	S	E	S	N	H	G	I	H	X
E	A	V	O	I	C	E	T	N	Y	I	H	N	M	A	K	E
M	K	Y	K	N	O	W	W	Y	A	A	O	A	E	A	F	P
I	E	E	I	R	P	O	A	T	U	I	W	N	K	A	T	E
T	O	V	E	N	D	M	N	M	T	P	I	L	C	I	M	T
E	T	R	O	P	G	U	A	C	S	E	H	I	A	P	N	S
M	S	E	B	M	O	E	E	E	T	I	N	I	U	I	S	G
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N	H	C	A	E	R	2	M	O	T	H	E	R	6	E	G	F
A	E	W	B	T	S	A	F	S	E	L	G	G	U	R	T	S

Find all
the blue
words
from the
passage
above in
the grid
opposite
and then
read the
message
hidden in
the
unused
letters!



Christmas Services





Golden Jubilee Year 1960-2010

On 9th April, it will be 50 years since our present church building opened and our Golden Jubilee Year celebrations are now reaching their climax.

The successful Autumn events were reported in the last Newsletter and special monthly Jubilee Services have continued through the winter.



Gordon and Janet Webb, who recently retired to Leicester, returned to lead our Carol Service and enjoy Christmas lunch with us. They wrote afterwards, *"It was a great pleasure for us both to be with you to share in the Jubilee celebrations and to see the church in such obviously good heart"*. Gordon was superintendent minister from 1997-2004.

Our present minister, John Hudson, led our Jubilee Covenant Service at the end of December and Gail was with him.

Marc and Olive Pattern travelled all the way from their retirement home at Eastburn to be with us in January! Marc was a minister in this circuit from 1991-98 though he was only our minister at Oakworth for his final year, following the early retirement of Peter Fletcher.



Circuit minister, Alf Waite, led our final monthly Jubilee Service at the end of February.



Our Golden Jubilee Anniversary weekend starts on 10th April when an exhibition is being arranged tracking our history over the last 50 years. Please let Rodney have items for the exhibition as soon as possible now. Peter Whittaker, Chair of the District, will be leading the Golden Jubilee Service on the Sunday and we are preparing for a packed church on that occasion. Full details of the weekend events are advertised on the back page of this Newsletter. Please ensure that anyone you know with past connections to the church knows about it.

Details of the Candlelight Cabaret in May and the grand finale weekend in June - the Flower Festival and Celebration of Baptism appear opposite.

Other forthcoming events are advertised on the following pages.

Thank you again for the Jubilee Fund donations received - £1,152 so far. Jubilee expenses so far total £445 but the major events still to come will need at least the balance remaining.

Jubilee Special Events



Candlelight Cabaret and Mini Meal

Friday & Saturday 14th + 15th May at 7.00 pm



Our first Candlelight Cabaret nearly 30 years ago was very successful at bringing lots of people from different groups together to put on short cabaret acts in between seven courses of a mini meal, again prepared by different people. We shall be looking for volunteers to do it all again very soon and then inviting others to book tables to enjoy the cabaret. The difference is that tickets are FREE this time - donations will be invited instead for the Jubilee Fund!

FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday & Sunday 12th + 13th June

This is the grand finale event for the Jubilee Year.

It is 34 years since our last Festival of Flowers!

We are looking forward to Rev Margaret Christopher opening the Festival at 10.00 am on the Saturday.

It will be open 10.00 am - 4.00 pm on Saturday with Coffee and biscuits am and Cream Teas pm.

Open on Sunday after service and 2.00-4.00 pm.

Flowers will be auctioned at 4.00 pm and the weekend will close with a Service of Praise and Thanksgiving.



Celebration of Baptism

Sunday 13th June 10.30 am

Rev Ruth Parry is leading this Celebratory All Age Worship Service and we shall be inviting all those we can trace who have been baptised at our church. If you know the current address for anyone not on our mailing list, please see David. We look forward to celebrating in the midst of the flowers!



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Fundraising Events



Jubilee Grand Auction



**Saturday 13th March
from 10.30 am**

with our resident Auctioneer
Richard Atkins

Viewing starts 9.45 am

Refreshments available

If you have any saleable items
please bring them to church
during the week before the sale
or contact David Howarth

Jubilee **Spring Market**

**Saturday 27th March
10.00 am to 1.00 pm**

**Lots of stalls to buy from
Easter gifts, birthday presents!**

Have a Coffee and a chat

**Stay for Meat & Potato Pie
and Pea Lunch**

Please sign the list in the porch



**Share fellowship
as you spend!**



Oakworth Ladies' Group invite you to
Firth's Fashion Show, *South Pacific*

Tuesday 13th April at 7.30 pm
at Oakworth Methodist Church

Tickets £4.00 including Tea & Biscuits

from Firth's in Haworth ☎01535 643800 or ☎644201

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Proceeds for Lifeboats & Church Funds

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea



Lifeboats

All Age Worship



Mothering Sunday

All Age Praise & Parade Service
Sunday 14th March 10.30am



Led by Louise, Helen and the Young People, with Drama, the Songbirds, our Youth Praise Band and lots of participation!

A special invitation goes to all young people and their parents.
All Mums receive daffodils!

Maundy Thursday

Hot Cross Buns &
Holy Communion
Service

Thursday 1st April
7.30 pm

led by
Rev John Hudson



Easter Sunday

4th April 10.30 am

Morning Service
led by Rev Terry Porter

6.00 pm Service of
Holy Communion
at Exley Head

United Service for
churches in John's
'Section' of the Circuit

Jubilee Sunday School Anniversary

Sunday 9th May
10.30 am

Guest Preacher
Rev Alistair Sharp

Led by Louise, Helen and the Young People, with our Youth Praise Band and Songbirds



All Age Praise Service

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Sunday Worship & Young People



A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together

- Mar** 7 10.30 am Rev John Hudson
14 10.30 am Louise, Helen + Young People -
Mothering Sunday All Age Praise & Parade Service
21 10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls - **Holy Communion**
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Christ Church
28 10.30 am Mr Dewar Wishart
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**
- Apr** 4 10.30 am Rev Terry Porter - **EASTER DAY**
6.00 pm Rev John Hudson - **Holy Communion** - Exley Head
11 10.30 am Rev Peter Whittaker (West Yorkshire District Chair)
Golden Jubilee All Age Church Anniversary Service
18 10.30 am Rev John Hudson - **Holy Communion**
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Christ Church
25 10.30 am Mrs Tanya Short
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**
- May** 2 10.30 am Rev Dr Lewis Burton
9 10.30 am Rev Alistair Sharp, Louise, Helen + Young People -
Sunday School Anniversary All Age Praise Service
16 10.30 am Mrs Anne Mott
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Methodist Church
23 10.30 am Mr Brian Whitcombe
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**
30 10.30 am Church Stewards - **Songs of Praise**
6.00 pm **No evening Holy Communion Service this quarter**
- Jun** 13 10.30 am Rev Ruth Parry - **Celebration of Baptism Service**

Sunday School / Junior Church also meet at 10.30 am

All Children and Young People are welcome

Creche facilities are available when required



Details of Circuit Events and Services can be found
in the Circuit News section of this Newsletter

Diary Dates



Tuesdays 11.30 am Senior Citizens' Pre-lunch Fellowship
 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club
(closed 6th April (Easter) + 1st June (Spring Bank))

MARCH 2010

Mon 1 7.30 pm Church Council - Lounge
 Wed 3 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Wed 3 7.30 pm "When I Survey...." Lent Course #2 - Christ Church
 Fri 5 2.00 pm Women's World Day of Prayer - Slack Lane Baptist
 Tue 9 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - Yeadon Bellringers - Lounge
 Wed 10 7.30 pm "When I Survey...." Lent Course #3 - Lounge
 Thu 11 7.30 pm Wednesday Club Planning Meeting - Thornbank, Occupation Lane
 Sat 13 10.30 am **Jubilee Grand Auction - Viewing 9.45 am**
 Wed 17 7.30 pm "When I Survey...." Lent Course #4 - Christ Church
 Mon 22 6.30 pm Pantomime Party: DVD, Food, Games
 Wed 24 7.30 pm "When I Survey...." Lent Course #5 - Lounge
 Sat 27 10.00 am **Jubilee Spring Market + Lunch**
 Tue 30 7.30 pm Jubilee Committee - 60 Lord Lane, Haworth

APRIL 2010

Thu 1 7.30 pm **Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service**
 Wed 7 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Wed 7 1.00-3.00 Garden Gang - tidying the church garden - all welcome
 Sat 10 10.00-4.00 **Jubilee Open Church + Exhibition + Refreshments**
 Tue 13 7.30 pm Ladies' Group Fashion Show
 Wed 14 7.30 pm Wednesday Club
 Tue 20 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - AGM + Bingo
 Wed 21 7.30 pm **Time to Talk of God #1 - Lounge**
 Mon 26 7.30 pm Church Annual General Meeting - open to all - Lounge

MAY 2010

Wed 5 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Wed 5 7.30 pm **Time to Talk of God #2 - Lounge**
 Wed 12 7.15 pm Wednesday Club
 Fri/Sat 14/15 7.00 pm **Jubilee Candlelight Cabaret + Mini Meal**
 Wed 19 7.30 pm **Time to Talk of God #3 - Lounge**

JUNE 2010

Sat 12 Weekend **Jubilee Flower Festival Weekend + Refreshments**

Further details and information can be found on our
Website: www.OakworthMethodists.org



Golden Jubilee Year 1960-2010

Church Anniversary Weekend

Saturday 10th April

Open Church + Exhibition

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Come in, look round and see how the church has developed over the years.

Displays in the various rooms show different areas of our life and work.



Stay and chat as long as you like - renew links from years gone by - meet new friends.

Refreshments available:

Coffee & Biscuits Saturday morning and Sunday lunchtime
Cream Teas Saturday afternoon
Tea & Biscuits Sunday afternoon

Sunday 11th April

Jubilee Church Anniversary

All Age Worship 10.30 am

Guest Preacher: Rev Peter Whittaker
(West Yorkshire District Chair)

Open Church + Exhibition

After Service & 2.00-4.00 pm



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