



December 2010 Newsletter



Philippians 4:19

"I pray that God will take care of all your needs with the wonderful blessings that come from Christ Jesus!"

Minister's Letter

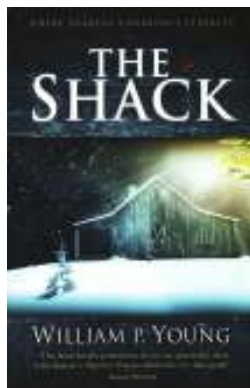


Dear Friends,

Sometimes you just feel that you are missing out! "Have you read 'The Shack'?" is a question I found myself being asked time and time again.

What was this book causing such a stir? I had to find out! So I borrowed a copy and have just finished reading it. It is said that you either love it or hate it! I loved it!

Written by William Paul Young, the sub-title is, "Where Tragedy Confronts Eternity" and basically it is a novel with the sad scenario of the abduction of Missy, youngest daughter of Mackenzie Allen Philips ('Mack').



Four years later, in the midst of "his great sadness", he receives a rather suspicious note, apparently from God!

"Mackenzie, It's been a while. I've missed you. I'll be at the shack next weekend if you want to get together. Papa".

I cannot reveal what happens because that would spoil your read, assuming you want to join the millions who have read this best-selling book. What I can say is that I found the theological insights extremely stimulating, lively and very thought-provoking. To read theology without realising it is just brilliant!

With an unexpected twist in the last but one chapter I feel I want to read it again, not something that happens with many of the books I read.

So I guess I am going to have to buy my own copy! Or shall I drop a hint to Santa???

Peace & Love to you all as we enter the Advent / Christmas / Epiphany seasons.



Minister: Rev John Hudson

☎ 01535 602669

e-mail: john.hudson@airedalemethodists.org



We are delighted to be able to report that Rev Sandie Exley-Watts has accepted the invitation to join the Airedale Circuit Staff in succession to Rev John Hudson when he retires next August.

Sandie is presently serving in the Doncaster Circuit alongside Revs Arthur & Helena Harbottle

Good News

Congratulations

Stacee and Geoff Gehring proudly present their new baby daughter Carys Kristine, born 17th September, pictured with big sister Evie. We pray God's blessing on you all - especially Stacee as you return to work!

Welcome

Joan Jones and Bridget Pearmain have recently had their membership transferred to Oakworth and we warmly welcome them both into the church family.



Happy Christmas to all our readers

IS THE CHURCH
ON YOUR
CHRISTMAS LIST?



Please place your Gift Envelope
on the collection plate at church
or let David have it. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS
CARDS

Instead of writing Christmas
Cards to everyone at church,
would you like to write just one
card and add it to the display at
church for all to share?

The money you save could go in
your Gift Envelope.



Harvest Festival



A big thank you to those who provided and arranged the flowers for the **Harvest** display. There was quite a variety this year - see the photos on this page and the front cover. Rev Jacky Hale led our All Age Worship Service - her first visit here to preach - and she set us thinking on how we deal with our rubbish!



Yorkshireman Marathon

We served soup and cake for over 500 runners at the annual Off-Road Marathon again in September. This is the fourth time we have provided this service and the organisers continue to be very grateful to all those who help. We are thankful for their £750 donation to church funds. The runners tell us that no other event caters so well for them!

Prize Giving Praise

Maureen Dyson has retired from Sunday School teaching and we say a huge thank you to her on behalf of all the young people she encouraged in their faith over the long number of years she has served.



Autumn Fayre



There was a lovely atmosphere at our **Autumn Fayre** again this year as folk browsed around the stalls and chatted over cups of coffee. The stall holders did a brisk trade and many folk stayed for lunch at the end of the morning. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to raise £850 for church funds.



Sunshine Bags

Maureen Haigh would like to thank all who came with their Sunshine Bags in early October and stayed for morning coffee and a chat. She was sorry to miss the event herself but is pleased with the £215 that the bags yielded and that the event ran smoothly. If anyone else would like a bag - please see Maureen.

Remembrance Sunday



Fundraising for Timothy



Strike it Lucky was a fantastic evening's entertainment with three teams competing for the prizes. Cake in the interval and the auction of a home-made Christmas cake added to the funds raised. Don & Jenny won the biggest prize but the real winner was Timothy who now has another £250 towards his education. Thanks to all.



Word Search - The Violinist

A renowned violinist announced that during the concert he would play one of the world's most expensive violins.

His first piece was played flawlessly and the audience were stunned when, after completing the piece, he smashed the violin. That is, until he explained that the violin he had broken was a cheap violin.

He then picked up the expensive instrument and began to play. The sound was beautiful but most of the people couldn't tell any difference between the music played on the cheap violin and the music played on the expensive one. The quality of the instrument was secondary to the skill of the violinist.

It's something like that in our service for God. He can use ordinary instruments like us! If we are in tune with Him he will produce beautiful music through us.



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

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



News Snippets

Ellis Wright

Ellis has been our organist for a long time. He first held the post in the old Wesleyan chapel until it closed in 1957. He then played at St John's, Ingrow until he retired from work, when he chose to return to Oakworth. That was 23 years ago and he has rarely missed a service since then until ill health struck earlier this year. We were delighted when he managed to return for a few weeks last month but he struggled to get ready in time and he has now made the agonising decision to retire from the job rather than risk letting us down at the last minute. We are indebted to Ellis for his labour of love over all those years - he will be sorely missed.

If you know anyone who would be interested in becoming our organist, or anyone else willing to join the interim rota to play organ or piano for services, please let David or the stewards know.

Pantomime

Rehearsals are now in full swing and full details of the show can be found on pages 12+13.

Following a health and safety review at church, we have agreed not to provide hot drinks for the audiences this year and an extra gangway will be left across the centre of the auditorium.

Harvest Gifts

"The Salvation Army in Keighley would like to thank you for the kind donation of food which we received from your Harvest. The support of your congregation is most welcome and very much appreciated. All donations, whether food or money, are used for the hot meals we serve to those who are displaced, individuals suffering because of family breakdown, adults newly released on probation or referrals from social services, family centres and the community Drug and Alcohol team. Cereals, long life milk, biscuits, tins of rice pudding and baked beans are most useful for providing food parcels. These are given out on a daily basis, at the request of Social Services and other professional and voluntary agencies, to people in need. This is an ongoing project throughout the year, gifts of food and donations of cash are always needed. Thank you for enabling the Salvation Army to carry out this important ministry to the people of Keighley and Craven."

Choir Concert

The Airedale Male Voice Choir provided us with a wonderful evening's entertainment last month when they came to help raise funds for the Ladies' Group's chosen charities this year. The church was full and the singing was much enjoyed by all. A big thank you to all who helped raise £460 that night.



Summary of Oakworth Methodist Church Accounts 2009-2010

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Collections	10,567.67	Circuit Share	14,600.00
Property/Lettings	8,367.00	Property Maintenance	5,918.29
Fund Raising	7,022.00	Utilities	4,309.11
Project Income/Grants	3,951.00	Project Costs	3,951.85
Tax Recovered	2,961.73	Cleaner's Wages	3,120.00
Donations/Gift Appeals	2,064.00	Mission Donations	2,320.97
Mission Collections	1,520.97	Jubilee Expenses	1,500.00
Investment Income	62.31	Sunday School	350.73
Sundry Receipts	1,356.55	Sundry Payments	1,712.82
	37,873.23		37,783.77

Treasurer's Report

We give thanks once again for the healthy set of figures shown above! We are grateful to you all for your continued support.

Receipts

Collections were about the same as the previous year but the amount of **Tax recovered** on Gift Aided collections and donations was down by £400, reflecting the lower level of one-off donations.

However, with three new groups using our premises regularly, income from **Property/Lettings** shows a very healthy £650 increase.

Fundraising income was down by £200 and **Investment income** hit rock bottom with poor economic conditions continuing to prevail.

But it was our **Golden Jubilee Year** and the Donations/Gift Appeals figure includes £1,500 raised by the Jubilee Appeal, towards the Jubilee expenses.

We were very pleased with your response to other **Mission** appeals and collections, as were the charities!



Payments

We were able to increase our **Circuit Share** by £650 as promised.

Property Maintenance costs went up £1,500, back to the level of two years ago. **Sundry Payments** also increased by £700. A significant factor in both these figures was the higher cost of copying and printing.

Cleaner's Wages and **Utility** costs increased with inflation but **Sunday School** costs were level.

The **Project work**, which was all financed independently of the general funds, included the new audio-visual equipment and "flight desk" and the improvements in the hall.

Summary

Whilst general expenses increased by almost £3,000 and some income streams actually reduced, we were still able to end the year with a small surplus thanks to the fact that none of last year's project costs were funded from general income. Thanks again for your continuing support.



Cinderella

our 25th celebration pantomime



In this wonderful silver jubilee production, the popular fairy tale of Cinderella is brought to new, magical life by our 41 enthusiastic kids who can't wait to entertain you once again.

Poor Cinderella is being forced to carry out the every wish of Baroness Beaujolais, her cruel stepmother, and her ugly stepsisters, Hattie and Mattie, whilst her father, Baron Beaujolais looks on helplessly. Prince Charming has left to travel the world and Pantomania is governed by the selfish Duke of Verruca. However, upon learning of his father's death, the Prince returns to take up his duty as King. But there is one problem - the Duke is not willing to relinquish his power. The Duke bullies his henchmen, Nip and Tuck, into bopping the Prince over the head and he subsequently loses his memory. The Duke then manipulates his naive nephew, Archie, into posing as the Prince and causes havoc for anyone who may get in his way. Luckily, faithful Buttons and his friend Kathy are trying everything they can to sort out the confusion, while Cinderella's Fairy Godmother, ably supported by her two trainees Goldie and Calista, is working wonders to bring Cinderella together with her true love.

Goldie keeps the Seven Bears occupied whilst Calista is given Six Little Kittens to help cheer up Cinderella. As always, you will be treated to some superb song and dance routines by these younger members of the cast, as well as the older Townsfolk and the soloists. You'll join in some marvellous comedy routines with the ugly sisters and the Duke's henchmen; and BOO yourselves hoarse every time the Duke appears!

The stunning scenery, special effects, costumes and lively routines really bring the story to life, helping our young people to give of their best in a show of pure magic! And those special moments include a bit of slapstick in the Dressing Room, a spectacular transformation scene in the Kitchen and, of course, our popular UV scene in the Royal Forest this year!

There are eight fun-packed shows to choose from again but don't forget to book your tickets in good time or you may be disappointed - some performances will be sold out by early February!

Enjoy our celebration pantomime!!



Oakworth Methodist Sunday School
presents our 25th celebration pantomime:

Cinderella

**19th - 26th
February 2011**

7.00 pm Evening Shows:

**Saturday 19,
Monday 21, Tuesday 22,
Wednesday 23,
Friday 25, Saturday 26.**

**2.00 pm Matinees
on both Saturdays.**



Tickets available in January from Janet Armstrong ☎01535 642625
or book on-line at www.OakworthMethodists.org
or complete and return the Booking Form below

Adults £5.50, Senior Citizens £4.50, Children £3.50

Please return this BOOKING FORM by 5th February to:
Mrs Janet Armstrong, 77 Providence Crescent, Oakworth, Keighley, BD22 7QU

I would like to book the following tickets for *Cinderella* :

..... Adults, Senior Citizens, Children, for the show on
(please delete or circle) [Sat 19 Matinee] [Sat 19 Evening] [Mon 21 Evening] [Tue 22 Evening]
[Wed 23 Evening] [Fri 24 Evening] [Sat 26 Matinee] [Sat 26 Evening]

I enclose £ in payment. (Cheques payable to Oakworth Methodist Church)

Send tickets to: (Name+Address)



I authorise Oakworth Methodist Church to recover tax on this payment
and confirm that I pay UK Income/Capital Gains tax at least equal to the
amount of tax being reclaimed in the relevant tax year. ☐ Please tick



Sunday Worship & Young People



A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together

- Dec** 5 10.30 am Mrs Irene Mitchell - **Reader's Service**
12 10.30 am Rev John Hudson - **All Age Carol Service/Baptism**
19 10.30 am Louise, Helen + Young People -
All Age Christmas Praise Service
3.00 pm **Carols at Oakworth Manor**
Fri 24 11.15 pm Rev John Hudson -
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
Sat 25 10.00 am Christmas Morning Service at Kly Shared Church
26 10.30 am Rev John Hudson -
United Section Service at Keighley Shared Church
Jan 2 10.30 am Rev Terry Porter - **Covenant Service**
9 10.30 am Mr Tony Ainley
16 10.30 am Rev David Cooke
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service - Christ Church**
23 10.30 am Rev Elizabeth Caissie
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**
30 10.30 am Mr Michael Webster
6.00 pm **Rev John Hudson - United Holy Communion Service**
- Christ Church
Feb 6 10.30 am Rev Alan Raine
13 10.30 am Church Stewards - **Songs of Praise**
20 10.30 am Rev John Hudson - **Holy Communion**
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service - Christ Church**
27 10.30 am Rev David Cooke
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**

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 Pre-lunch Fellowship (alternate weeks)
 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club
(closed 14th, 21st+28th December and 15th+22nd February)

DECEMBER 2010

Wed 1 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Wed 1 7.30 pm Emmaus House Group - 17 Ridgeway Mount
 Sat 4 2.00 pm Village Society Christmas Fair - Holden Hall
 Sat 4 6.30 pm Big Sing + Pie & Pea Supper - Silsden
 Sun 5 3.00 pm Circuit Children's Christmas Party - Kly Shared Church
 Tue 7 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch
 Wed 8 7.30 pm Wednesday Club - *The Railway Children* - Playhouse
 Sun 12 11.45 am **Christmas Lunch - after Carol Service - church hall**
 Tue 14 1.45 pm Ladies' Group Christmas Party - church lounge
 Wed 15 7.30 pm Emmaus House Group - 17 Ridgeway Mount
 Sat 18 6.30 pm Carols in the Barn + refreshments - New House Farm
 Sat 18 8.00 pm K+WVR Carol Train + Brass Band - Oakworth Station
 Fri 24 11.15 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion - in church**
 Sat 25 10.00 am Christmas Morning worship for all - Kly Shared Church
 Wed 29 10.00 am Stage erected in church for pantomime preparations

JANUARY 2011

Tue 4 6.30 pm Pantomime rehearsals commence on stage
 Wed 5 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Sun 9 2.00 pm PRESENCE - Circuit Encouragement Day - Kly Shared Church
 Wed 12 7.30 pm Wednesday Club Bowling Night - AMF Bowling
 Tue 18 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - *A Farmer's Life* - David Ogden - lounge

FEBRUARY 2011

Wed 2 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Sat 5 10.00-12.00 **Ladies' Group Brunch - church hall**
 Tue 8 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - *Got a drawer full at home* - Nancy Norton
Information for March Newsletter to David this week please
 Sat 19 to Sat 26 **25th Pantomime - Cinderella**

MARCH 2011

Wed 2 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Tue 8 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - *On the Buses* - Robert Auty - lounge
 Tue 8 7.30 pm Church Council - church lounge

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



Christmas Services



Traditional Carol Service

Sunday 12th December
at 10.30 am

All Age Worship & Baptism
led by Rev John Hudson

followed by
Christmas Lunch

Please sign the list in the porch
If you would like to stay to Lunch

Village Carols in the Barn

New House Farm, Oakworth

Saturday 18th December
at 6.30 pm

K+WVR Carol Train

calls at Oakworth Station
at 8.00 pm

Christmas Praise Service

Sunday 19th December

All Age Worship 10.30 am

Led by the Young People



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

Friday 24th December
at 11.15 pm

led by Rev John Hudson

**Join us for fruit punch and
mince pies from 10.30 pm**

Covenant Service and Re-dedication of Pastoral Visitors

Sunday 2nd January
at 10.30 am

led by Rev Terry Porter



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