



June 2011 Newsletter



*So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do,
do everything for the glory of God.' I Corinthians 10:31*

Minister's Letter



Dear Friends,

For my 50th birthday our children planned a surprise outing. We headed north from Nottingham up the M1 and I had absolutely no idea where we were going until we reached Oxenhope!

Little did I think then that I would be living within sight (just) and sound of the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway, let alone be operating the crossing gates at Oakworth Station or serving as minister of Oakworth Methodist Church!

Yes, I still have the tickets! You know I never throw anything away (though that is now having to drastically change) and interestingly the price of a full-line return ticket then (£5) is exactly half what it is today some 14 years later.

It does seem strange writing my final "Minister's Letter" for the Oakworth Newsletter but I do so confident that our "God of Surprises" has plenty in store for us all!

At Oakworth Methodist Church we continue to work out our "Strategy for the Future", not only in terms of the building, but also for church growth, as was highlighted in the discussion at our recent Annual Church Meeting,

Gail and I have a new lifestyle to look forward to and more time to spend with our family, especially the growing grandchildren, but it is going to be very different from what we have known. Apprehensive? Yes, of course, but again confident not only that God goes with his travelling people but that he also waits to receive us, whether on earth or in heaven.

"Keston" was one of my first churches back in the mid-70's. It actually closed last year, a small semi-rural chapel like so many in our own Airedale Circuit. The name lives on though in "Hymns & Psalms" for it is also the name of the tune to an excellent hymn (H&P 221) which is worth singing/reading over and over again. The first verse reads thus:

"I am not skilled to understand
What God has willed,
What God has planned;
I only know at his right hand
Stands one who is my Saviour"

Let us all travel well in the fellowship of Jesus and the company of his friends.
Peace & Love,.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hudson".

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Dick Whittaker

Touchstone
making a lasting community

Celebration Pantomime

CELEBRATE!
21 Years



For their 21st Anniversary Celebration, members of staff starred alongside other friends of Touchstone in a pantomime written specially to celebrate the support given by Rev Peter Whittaker during his time as District Chair. It was a tremendous evening - hosted by Oakworth - thanks to everyone for your support.

Spring Market



Mother's Day Parade Service



Sunday School Anniversary



Wednesday Club



Bluebell Walk in Low Wood



Daddy's Empty Chair

A man's daughter had asked the local minister to come and pray with her father. When the minister arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows. An empty chair sat beside his bed. The minister assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit.

"I guess you were expecting me", he said.

"No, who are you?" said the father.

The minister told him his name and then remarked,

"I saw the empty chair and I figured you knew I was going to show up."

"Oh yeah, the chair", said the bedridden man.

"Would you mind closing the door?"

Puzzled, the minister shut the door.

"I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter", said the man. "But all of my life I have never known how to pray. At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head. I abandoned any attempt at prayer", the old man continued, "until one day four years ago, my best friend said to me, 'Johnny, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus. Here is what I suggest. Sit down in a chair; place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair. It's not spooky because he promised, 'I will be with you always'. Then just speak to him in the same way you're doing with me right now.'"

"So, I tried it and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I'm careful though - if my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me off to the funny farm."

The minister was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue on the journey.... Then he prayed with him, anointed him with oil, and returned to the church.

Two nights later the daughter called to tell the minister that her daddy had died that afternoon.

"Did he die in peace?", he asked.

"Yes, when I left the house about two o'clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the shops an hour later, I found him dead. But there was something strange about his death. Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested his head on the chair beside the bed. What do you make of that?"

The minister wiped a tear from his eye and said, "I wish we could all go like that."



Humorous Word Search



A man was having trouble with his computer so he asked his 11 year old neighbour to come and advise him. The boy came, pressed a couple of buttons and solved the problems. As he was about to leave, the man asked him what had been wrong. The boy replied, "It was an ID ten T error". Not wanting to appear ignorant, but still wishing to know how to fix it if the problem occurred again, the man asked, "Whatever is an ID ten T error? I have never heard of that". "Write it down", replied the boy. "I think you will figure it out". So the man did as he was told - ID10T!!

.....

At the pearly gates, St Peter greeted a Minister and a Member of Parliament and gave them their room keys. "Vicar, here are the keys to one of our nicest single rooms. And for you, Mr MP, the keys to our finest penthouse suite". When the Minister objected, St Peter explained, "Listen, Ministers are ten a penny up here, but this is the first MP we've ever seen!"

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

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

Congratulations

Kath and John Batty have become grandparents! Alex George Tiffany was born on 19 April - congratulations to Jayne, Ryan and all the family!

Copier/Printer

You will have noticed the improved quality of the photos in this Newsletter. Yes, we have upgraded the church's copier/printer and are delighted with the results! Not only has the print quality improved, it is faster and it also folds and staples the Newsletters for us! Better still, it costs us less per year than the one it replaced!!

Roll of Honour

We are very grateful to Don Donnison for the excellent work he has done restoring the Roll of Honour.



In Memoriam

We commend Patricia Reed and Lilian Wakefield into God's hands, assuring family and friends of our continuing prayers and sympathy.

Luncheon Club

Two new helpers are being sought to work fortnightly on Tuesdays at Luncheon Club to replace two ladies who need to step down for health reasons. Please contact Dorothy Robinson on ☎607618 if you know anyone who may be interested.

Cinderella DVDs

It is not too late to order your DVD - please let David know as soon as possible if you would like your name adding to the list - a bargain at £7.50. Peter has almost completed the master copy so we will be running them off and delivering them very shortly.

Next Pantomime: 11-18 Feb 2012
ROBINSON CRUSOE

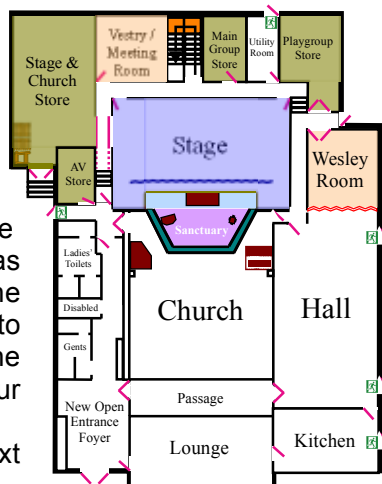
Annual General Meeting

Strategy for the Future:

After healthy discussion it was recognised that alterations to the building, if not as ambitious as the scheme presented, would be a good thing, especially to create more storage space and useable rooms, together with the possibility of an entrance to the building from the front rather than the side of the building. It was agreed by Church Council members present in the meeting to go forward with a feasibility study to look further into this, especially to investigate the possibilities of building on land at the rear of our present building.

Any firm proposals would be brought to the next Church Council.

It was also agreed that any “Strategy for the Future” must also focus on church growth and the promotion of Christian discipleship.



Music in Worship

As we now do not have a regular Sunday morning organist it was agreed to purchase a Digital Hymnal Player for times when no-one is available to play the organ/piano on a rota basis. The total cost (including music for Hymns & Psalms, Mission Praise, Junior Praise and Songs of Fellowship) is £2423 and the Circuit have subsequently granted £360 towards this.

It was suggested that an appeal for donations towards the Digital Hymnal be made through this Newsletter. The balance will be taken from reserves. If you are happy to support this appeal, David will gladly accept your donations.

Appointments

The following appointments were made:

Church Stewards: Andrew Houldsworth (Senior), Joyce Beer, Ethel Davy, Maureen Haigh and Dorothy Robinson.

Our aim is to sustain a team of 6 so we have one vacancy.

Reps to Church Council (6): Maureen Dyson, Louise Makin, Joanne Moses, Lizzie Proctor, Alan Shaw, Sharon Taylor.

“Crossing The Bridge”

The meeting was encouraged to hear that a new group for teenagers had recently been launched - details on next page.

Special Events



ON THE MOVE

"On the Move" is an outreach project promoted by the churches of Keighley and happens this year from

Thursday 2nd - Saturday 4th June

12.00-2.00pm

on Church Green, Keighley.

Free burgers and hot dogs are given away in a context of Christian worship, and people are invited to chat about the Christian faith.

Do pray for this, and join in.



Village Gala

Saturday 2nd July

2.00 pm: Procession leaves Lane Ends

2.30 pm: Entertainment in Victoria Road Playing Field (includes children's sports)

Please see Ruth if you can help in the Refreshment Tent

What is crossing the bridge?
Answer: A youth group for Oakworth.

We meet once a fortnight on a Sunday evening from 7.00-8.30. Meetings are varied using ideas put forward from all members of the group; a mixture of bible study, discussion, music and other things usually involving food of some sort.

Who can go?

The group is open to all 13-18 year olds who are interested in learning more about being a Christian in today's society. We have a group of around 10 young people so far; we are ecumenical and welcome everyone though we meet at the Methodist church.



Louise.

Special Events & Services



Keighley Youth Theatre KYDZ

present: "Getting Out"

A drama about dreams and reality

Thursday and Friday

15 + 16 July 7.15 pm

☎ 01535 219705 for tickets

Pantomime Praise Service

Sunday 17th July 10.30 am

All Age Worship

**Featuring excerpts from the Pantomime,
our Youth Praise Band and Songbirds**



Barbecue

**Sunday 17th July
from 1.00 pm**

Milner Bank, Newsholme

Cream Teas

**Sunday 31st July
from 2.00 to 5.00 pm**

Lower Scholes, Pickles Hill

**Enjoy the view, the garden
and the hospitality**



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Sunday Worship & Young People



A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together

- Jun** 5 10.30 am Mr Dewar Wishart
12 10.30 am Mrs Pat Keene - **All Age Worship**
19 10.30 am Rev Nigel Ogley - **Holy Communion**
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church
26 10.30 am Mr Bernard Thompson - **Reader's Service**
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- Jul** 3 10.30 am Rev John Hudson - **Final Service at Oakworth**
10 10.30 am Rev Peter Mott
17 10.30 am Louise, David + Pantomime cast -
All Age Pantomime Praise Service
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church
24 10.30 am Mrs Kathleen Miller
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
31 10.30 am Mrs Anne O'Shaughnessy
6.00 pm Revs John Rogers & Terry Porter -
United Holy Communion Service - Christ Church
- Aug** 7 10.30 am Rev David Cooke
14 10.30 am Church Stewards - **Songs of Praise**
21 10.30 am Rev Alan Raine - **Holy Communion**
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church
28 10.30 am Mrs Sylvia Thompson
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- Sep** 18 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **First Service at Oakworth**
Harvest Festival All Age Worship

Sunday School / Junior Church also meet at 10.30 am

All Children and Young People are welcome
Closed for Summer Holidays 24 July - 28 August

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 from 19th July for Summer break)

JUNE 2011

Wed 1 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Thu 2 - Sat 4 "On the Move" - Church Green, Keighley
 Wed 8 7.00 pm Wednesday Club - Archery - "High Adventure", Cowling
 Tue 14 7.30 pm Circuit Consultation - Ilkley Road Methodist Church

JULY 2011

Sat 2 2.00 pm **Village Gala - Victoria Road Playing Field**
 Wed 6 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Wed 13 6.45 pm Wednesday Club - Canal Cruise - Hebden Bridge
 Fri 15 - Sat 16 **KYDZ Youth Theatre Summer Show - in church**
 Sun 17 1.00 pm **Barbecue - Milner Bank, Newsholme**
 Tue 19 7.00 pm Farewell event for John & Gail Hudson - Shared Church
 Sun 31 2.00 pm **Cream Teas - Lower Scholes, Pickles Hill**

AUGUST 2011

Wed 17 7.00 pm Wednesday Club Surprise Evening - Milner Bank
Information for September Newsletter to David this week please

SEPTEMBER 2011

Fri 2 7.30 pm Circuit Welcome Service for Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - Shared Church
 Sat 3 all day Keighley Show
 Wed 7 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Sat 10 10.00 am District Synod - Silsden Methodist Church
 Sun 11 all day **Yorkshireman Off-Road Marathon - Haworth**
 Tue 13 7.30 pm Circuit Meeting - Cullingworth Methodist Church
 Wed 14 7.30 pm Wednesday Club - Poems/Short Stories - 2 Owls Nest

YOU are **WELCOME** to "Sunday at Six" @ Keighley Shared Church

5 June Rev Michael Chapman: The Life & Hymns of Isaac Watts

3 July Anne Mott & Rev John Hudson: Worship Iona Style

7 Aug David Miller: Twentieth Century Hymn Writers

4 Sept Revs Peter Mott & Sandie Exley-Watts: Desert Island Hymns

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



Joan Jones Birthday Party



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