



December 2011 Newsletter



Our happy catering team, sporting their designer aprons, come to the end of their weekend of preparing for and serving soup and cake to 500 runners in the Yorkshireman Off-Road Marathon at Haworth in September.

Minister's Letter



Dear Friends,

My grandfather used to tell the story of his first day at school. The teacher told him to 'sit there for the present'. So my poor granddad waited all day for 'the present', which, of course, never came because the teacher meant 'sit there for now.'

Sometimes when it comes to the major Christian festivals, we can be left feeling like my grandfather. Our expectations are built up, but we do not experience the wonder and the joy.

There may be many reasons for the disappointment. We are promised truly a present, a gift from God but there may be all sorts of things going on in our lives which make it almost impossible to experience the gift. I am sure that you, like me, will have had times in your life when you could not move from Good Friday to Easter Day because your heart was filled with sorrow. Similarly, you will have had Christmases which left you cold.

It's not that God misleads us in any way or that God withholds good gifts from us. God wants to give us so much, that God gives all of himself in Jesus. Rather, God's gifts do not always come according to our timetable. What we need to do is to prepare ourselves to receive the gift in confident hope and trust that God's good gifts will come to us unexpectedly, at a time of God's choosing.

Joy and peace to you all,

Sandie

Minister: Rev Sandie Exley-Watts

☎ 01535 602669

e-mail: sandie.exleywatts@airedalemethodists.org

Happy Christmas



Jesus - Light of the World

Light of the world you stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that makes this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Tim Hughes



**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

We were invited to bring our Harvest Produce with us to worship on the Sunday morning this year to make a do-it-yourself display - as can be seen below. Thanks to all those who did provide items for the display. They were later gratefully received by the housebound and others in need. We warmly welcomed our new minister, Rev Sandie Exley-Watts as she led the Harvest Service - her first at Oakworth.



Yorkshireman Marathon

A big thank you to our intrepid catering team seen here serving soup to the returning runners. It was truly a marathon effort by all but greatly appreciated by the organisers who have presented us with a cheque for £750 by way of thanks.



Sunshine Bags



Maureen and Rodney would like to thank all who brought their Sunshine Bags to be emptied and stayed for coffee and a chat in early October. £240 was counted - which was well up on last year. If you need a replacement bag or would like to start popping your spare pennies in a new bag every time the sun shines during the next year, please have a word with Maureen. Thanks.

Ladies' Group Fashion Show

Members of the Ladies' Group acted as models for the Ladies, Childrenswear and Accessories Fashion Show put on by Complete Clothing Company. There was then an opportunity to purchase items modelled. The event raised £165 for this year's charity: Down's Support and Church Funds.



SS Prize Giving Praise Service



"Everyone's invited" was the theme of the Sunday School Prize Giving Praise Service. This was explored in songs, prayers, a sketch called "The King" using puppets, a short message from Louise and even a clip from "Alice in Wonderland"! JMA Awards and Sunday School Prizes were then presented to the young people who really enjoyed taking part in the Service - see photo.



Autumn Fayre



A big thank you to everyone who supported the Autumn Fayre last month. We had a bumper crowd looking round and spending their money, resulting in a massive profit of £960 for church funds - a brilliant result!



Remembrance



There was a large congregation in church and at the Cenotaph for the Remembrance ceremonies. Good numbers of Uniformed young people stood alongside parents and many others as we remembered again those who lost their lives in two world wars and other hostilities since, with Janet Armstrong leading our thoughts.





www.airedalemethodists.org

CIRCUIT NEWS No. 10

December 2011 - February 2012

Circuit Staff: (All Tel. codes 01535 except as marked)

Rev Jacky Hale	652353	Rev M Ruth Parry	01274 563227
Rev Sandie Exley-Watts	602669	Rev Charlotte Common	635140
Rev John Peet	634369	Mrs Claire Voss (Children's Worker)	669575
Rev Dr Lewis Burton	646287	Mrs Tanya Short (Pastoral Worker)	657819
Mr Edward Pennick (Circuit Administrator)	600338		

Airedale Methodist Circuit will welcome all and serve all in the name of Christ, by increasing an awareness of God and declaring His love.

From: Rev Jacky Hale

And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to god in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

Luke 2:13-14

Dear Friends,

As we enter the season of Advent, and prepare ourselves for Christmas, many questions come to mind, not least of which is: What possible impact can this ancient story have on our modern world? We may also ask: What is the relevance of angels singing to shepherds? Of wise men following a star? What can it mean to us that a young girl claimed her child was not that of a man, but of God? Is there any warning we can draw from a crowded inn; from people too busy to stop and see history unfold before them? Does a helpless child in a cattle trough, still appeal to us?

One problem for us is that, at the heart of Christmas is a mystery. Theologians talk about the incarnation - how God became man. How he willingly laid aside the splendour of heaven for the squalor of earth. How he traded angels singing for cattle lowing, and plunged from strength to weakness, from omnipotence to vulnerability.

Well, if we find the mystery of it all a little difficult to grasp, what else speaks to us? The music of Christmas certainly calls to us; each year the familiar melodies and words comfort us: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come."

“The hopes and fears of all the years....” “Come and worship, come and worship....” Melodies, minor and major, stir our souls, transporting us back to Bethlehem. We see the star. We hear the angels. We wonder at the mysteries of a silent night so holy. Yes, the music calls to many of us.

For others, it is about time with family and friends. In the year 2011 that means motorways and airports. Where is God in all this? Are we wise travellers following a family star? Are we shepherds trying to gather back our original flocks, thinking that we are bound to be visited by angels this year? Do we make our journey laden with our versions of gold, frankincense and myrrh from M&S, BHS and Argos, but forget to bring anything at all for the King, himself? And there are some of us who will find little warmth and few friends this Christmas. Like shepherds shivering in the night wind, many will feel loneliness deep in their bones, with no family fires to warm them, and only the thin blanket of memory to break the chill.

So what is it? What do we need this Christmas?

Yes, the warmth of family, if we can find it. Yes, the music of the season, if we will really listen to it. Yes, certainly, the mystery of the incarnation, if we will ponder it. But perhaps on this particular Christmas, what we need is the promise brought by the angels, “Peace on earth and goodwill to all.” Wars rage around us. Where there is peace, it seems at time so fragile. This Christmas, our prayer may well be that we actually see goodwill among people, that we really know peace on earth.

But in reality, what we need most of all is not the message of Christmas - we need the Christ of Christmas! In many ways, we need Christ as we have never needed him before. This year, may we worship Jesus just as the wise did 2000 years ago, lavishing our best gifts on him, holding nothing back; and may Christ fill the silent night of Christmas 2011 with the music of his presence.

May you all have a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jacky

Jesus comes with all His grace, comes to save a fallen race,
Jesus comes to lift us up. Alleluia, what a Saviour!

Christmas is more than a tale that is told,
More than a story that's pretty and old,
Christmas is even much more than a birth,
Christmas is heaven come right down to earth.

How can I tell such a story as this!
Mary is welcoming God with a kiss.
Christmas is more than a story - it's true -
My God is come to me, He comes to you.

(Patrick Appleford)

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!
 The Voss family are now three! Just in time for this publication baby William Isaac Voss has arrived, weighing in at 9lbs 1 oz! We all offer sincere congratulations to proud parents David and Claire - we are pleased to share your joy. Remember, Dave, not too loud on those drums. I'm sure we all look forward to meeting William Isaac.

WORSHIP

A QUICK GUIDE TO SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Bingley	4th December @ 4pm Christingle Service 18th December @ 4pm Carols Christmas Day @ 10am Celebration Worship
Cononley	11th December @ 11am Toy Service Christmas Day @ 11am All Age Holy Communion
Cowling	4th December @ 10.30am Toy Service 18th December @ 6pm Carol Service Christmas Day @ 10.30am All Age Worship
Cross Hills	18th December @ 10.30am Carols 24th December @ 4pm Christingle Service 24th December @ 6pm Holy Communion Christmas Day @ 9.30am All Sorts Christmas
Cullingworth	11th December @ 4pm Carols 18th December @ 10.30am Nativity Service Christmas Day @ 10am All Age Worship
Eastburn	18th December @ 4pm Carols Christmas Day @ Celebration Worship
Eldwick	18th December @ 6pm Carols 24th December @ 11.30pm Holy Communion
Exley Head	11th December @ 4pm Christingle 18th December @ 10.30am Carols 24th December @ 4pm Birthday Party for Jesus
Farnhill	18th December @ 10.30am Carols Christmas Day - United @ Silsden
Haworth	11th December @ 2.30pm Holy Communion 18th December @ 10.30am Carols Christmas Day @ 10.30am United @ Baptist Church
Ilkley Road	11th December @ 6pm Carols in the Barn @ East Riddlesden Hall 18th December @ 10.30am Nativity 24th December @ 11.30pm Holy Communion Christmas Day @ 10.30am United @ United Reformed

Keighley Shared Church	18th December @ 10.30am Carols Christmas Day @ 10am United Service
Lees	11th December @ 3pm United Carols @ St James Christmas Day @ 10.30am Celebration Worship
Long Lee	18th December @ 10.30am Nativity Service 18th December 6.30pm United Service @ St Barnabas Christmas Day @ 10.30am Celebration Worship
Marsh	18th December @ 2.30pm Carols
Oakworth	11th December @ 10.30am All Age Carol Service 18th December @ 10.30am All Age Christmas Praise 24th December @ 11.15pm Candlelight Holy Communion
Oxenhope	18th December @ 10.30am Carols Christmas Day @ 10.30am All Age Worship
Silsden	18th December @ 10.30am Nativity Service 18th December @ 6pm Carols with Silsden Town Band 24th December @ 5pm Christingle Service 24th December @ 11.30pm United Holy Communion @ St James
Steeton	Christmas Day @ 10.30am - All Sorts Christmas 18th December @ 3pm Nativity Service 18th December @ 3pm Carols Christmas Day @ 10.30am All Age Worship
Wesley Place	18th December @ 2.30pm Carols Christmas Day @ 10am United Service @ Shared Church

PERHAPS A GRACE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY?

Lord bless this food upon these dishes
As Thou didst bless the loaves and fishes,
And like the sugar in the tea, May all of us be stirred by Thee!

or alternatively

For food and drink in plate and cup, And other people washing up!
We give You thanks O Lord.

SINGING THE FAITH

The new authorised Methodist hymn book 'Singing the Faith', has now been published and material for projecting PowerPoint is also available.

The book contains 748 hymns and songs, plus canticles and psalms. The music edition costs £25, while the words only costs £7.50 - these are introductory prices, only held until 31st December 2011 (see the Methodist website for more details). The large print, words only edition will cost £12.50. The electronic words edition is £25, but is only useable on PC, not on MacIntosh.

LEARNING AND CARING

LOCAL PREACHERS - CIRCUIT PASTORAL WORKER

As the Circuit tries to temporarily fill the gap left following the sad departure of Rev Neville Richardson, due to his unexpected illness in South Africa, we are pleased to confirm that Tanya Short, one of our fully accredited Local Preachers, who is hoping to go forward for training for the full-time ministry next September, has been appointed as a Circuit Pastoral Worker. Tanya started her work for the Circuit in October and is caring for the churches at Cullingworth, Haworth, Lees and Oxenhope. We hope that this opportunity will give her good experience if she is able to pursue her aim next year.

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

On Thursday 16th February, from 10am-3.15pm there will be a Fellowship Day with District Officers on the Easter Offering theme at Bingley Methodist Church - all ladies are very welcome.

CIRCUIT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Let us continue to remember the members of the Team at this difficult time as they have to prepare for changes in the Circuit staffing - not forgetting both Ruth and Charlotte as they also seek new appointments. But of course there are other issues for them to consider, not least preparing the budgets, and in guiding us through the many concerns, and opportunities the Circuit faces.

Recently they had an 'away day' at Hetton Methodist Church looking at such matters - another day away from their families and friends, away from doing other things they may have wished to do - let us not forget it is all voluntary work, on top of the range of responsibilities they encounter in their local church, home and work. Thank you

POSTAL SCAM

A warning has been issued by Royal Mail and Trading Standards Office about a scam: "A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS(Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a premium rate number). DO NOT call this number, as this is a SCAM originating in Belize. If you call this number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call. If you receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655. To learn more see the Crime Stoppers website: <http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/crime-prevention/helping-prevent-crime/scams/postal-delivery-scam>

FED UP WITH JUNK MAIL, AND UNWANTED PHONE CALLS?

Why not register with the Mailing Preference Service (0845 703 4599) or on line at mpsonline.org.uk and the telephone preference service 0845 070 0707 or online at tpsonline.org.uk

SERVICE

ALL CHANGE - NEW CIRCUIT OFFICE

Please note that in the near future the Circuit Office will move to the house adjacent to Silsden Methodist Church - at that time its email address will be Office@AiredaleMethodists.org and the old one will be switched off.

The new postal address will be:

Airedale Circuit Office, Church House, 80 Kirkgate, Silsden, BD20 0PA

J.M.A.

The J.M.A. Beetle Drive was held at Bingley Methodist Church on the 24th September with children from Bingley and Oakworth, and several adults helping to keep the scoring. Rev Jacky Hale also took part. There were hotdogs, and sherbet filled wafers for afters. Claire Voss, with the best score of 313 over 10 games won a small prize. The money raised through J.M.A. for world mission by the Airedale Circuit was £980! What a tremendous effort - our congratulations go to all involved.

COMMUNION WINE

With the closure of Reid's bookshop in Keighley a number of Churches have been asking about an alternative supplier for Communion Wine. It may now be obtained at £4 per bottle from Edward Pennick at the Circuit Office (01535 600338), Tuesday or Thursday, 9.30am - 1pm.

EVANGELISM

REV AMY WALTERS

Amy is now a Probationer Minister in the Tadcaster Circuit, and a number of friends went across for her induction. She is pictured there with Tim and her mum.

We wish her every joy and success as she goes forward again in her work for her Lord.



A REAL MAN!

In the land which we call Holy,
from of old a land of strife,
Lived a Man whose birth was lowly;
Great our debt to that one life!

Where the Roman legions sweated,
In a world where might was right,
Lived a Man whose love defeated
Deadlier foes than soldiers fight.

Where a proud and subject nation
Learned to scorn each lesser breed,
Lived a Man whose true compassion
Knew no bounds of race or creed.

Where men studied to be righteous
Strict to keep each trivial ban,
Lived a Man who came to teach us
Love of God is love of man.

Where god's People long expected
God would reign, or God had lied,
Lived a Man they all rejected,
Lived the God they crucified.

This our faith: He lives for ever!
Love redeems, though it is slain!
This His Church's whole endeavour!
So to live that Christ may reign. *(Fred Pratt Green)*

LEES METHODIST CHURCH COFFEE MORNINGS

The regular coffee mornings are held on the first Saturday of each month from 10.00 - 11.30 am. All very welcome.

EXLEY HEAD CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 3rd December: 11.00 am - 1.00 pm
Variety of Stalls; Tombola; Santa's Grotto; Lunch being Served.

CIRCUIT QUIZ AT BINGLEY

On Saturday 31st March, including hot supper - more details later.

Not knowing all the words



While walking through the woods one day, I was surprised to hear a child's voice. I followed the sound, trying in vain to understand the child's words. When I spotted a boy perched on a rock, I realised why his words had made no sense: He was repeating the alphabet.

"Why are you saying your ABC's so many times?" I asked him.

The child replied, "I'm saying my prayers."

I couldn't help but laugh. "Prayers? All I hear is the alphabet."

Patiently the child explained, "Well, I don't know all the words, so I give God the letters. He knows what I'm trying to say."



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

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



Summary of Oakworth Methodist Church Accounts 2010-2011

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Collections	10,450.77	Circuit Share	15,400.00
Property/Lettings	9,503.50	Project Costs	11,152.53
Project Income/Grants	9,501.37	Property Maintenance	6,340.54
Fund Raising	6,640.00	Utilities	4,902.33
Tax Recovered	2,999.78	Cleaner's Wages	3,222.00
Mission Collections	1,236.11	Feasibility Study	3,000.00
Donations/Gift Appeals	945.00	Mission Donations	2,126.11
Investment Income	57.20	Sunday School	340.34
Sundry Receipts	1,897.59	Sundry Payments	1,397.79
	43,231.32		47,881.64

Treasurer's Report

We give thanks once again for the commitment and support of so many people to the work and witness of our church.

Receipts

Collections and the amount of **Tax recovered** on Gift Aided collections and donations were slightly down but several people have reviewed their level of giving recently and the figures are looking more healthy for this year.

Fundraising income was also down by £400 and our **Investments** continue to bring in a very poor return.

Donations returned to a more normal level after the bumper figure brought in by the Golden Jubilee the previous year.

However, income from **Property/Lettings** shows a very healthy £1,150 increase with more regular groups using our premises.

Most of the **Project Income** came from grants to cover replacement costs of the radio microphone system.



Payments

We were able to increase our **Circuit Share** by £800 as promised.

Property Maintenance costs were up by £400 but **Sundry Payments** were down £300.

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

The **Feasibility Study** and shortfall between **Project Costs** and **Project Income** were financed from reserves, pending receipt of the delayed bequest funds mentioned overleaf. As well as the radio microphones, these costs included the new Digital Hymnal.

Summary

If you exclude all the Project income and expenditure figures from the table above, the remaining general income and expenditure figures are the same. That means the General Account balanced nicely at the end of the year and we are very grateful for that. Thanks again for your continuing generosity in the difficult economic climate.



News Snippets

Bequests

I am delighted to report that we have received two bequests for the church during the last three months.

The funds from the estate of Betty Midgley were released in September, following a delay of several months, and the church's share came to £6,400. These funds had been earmarked earlier in the year to pay the feasibility study costs of our proposed strategy for the future and the balance has gone towards the cost of replacing the central heating boiler - see opposite.

We have also received the wonderful sum of £31,200 from the estate of Ellis Wright. These funds have been invested for us to receive an income from them. The capital can only be spent on replacing the church organ and furnishings as and when necessary.

Neither of these former stalwart church members had any family to pass their assets on to and we are deeply grateful to both for remembering the church in this way. Expressions of thanks have been conveyed to the executors.

If anyone else would like to consider including the church in their will, it is not difficult but there are special clauses that need including. David will be happy to advise you. It is certainly a wonderful way to support your church.

In Memoriam

We commend Mabel Townend into God's hands, assuring family and friends of our continuing prayers and sympathy.



Property Matters

We have been aware for some time that the combi-boiler which serves the kitchen and heats the hall, lounge and ancillary rooms was coming to the end of its life. It finally ceased to function during the summer and was replaced. The old boiler had never heated the rooms at the far end of the building adequately and it is lovely now to go into the Wesley Room and find it nice and warm! It was a blessing that the bequest came when it did, to help to fund the £3,000 cost.

Grateful thanks go to the team who decorated the kitchen in October. It was certainly in need of doing and now looks a lot brighter. The hot water boiler in the kitchen was also replaced around this time. The old one had served us well for well over its life expectancy - let's hope the new one does the same!

Wednesday Club

The pre-arranged activities for the quarter did not work out and were replaced with a visit to Wesley Place church in October to hear Ian Dewhirst talking about local history and a Quiz/Carol Singing evening and supper at Don and Jenny's at the end of November. Both were enjoyed by all. We return to the planned programme next week with our annual visit to Keighley Playhouse to see *"The Flint Street Nativity"* followed by our Bowling Evening in January. Do join us!

Timothy in Uganda

Don and Jenny included a raffle at the Carol Singing evening which raised £24 for Timothy. We now have enough funds in hand for Timothy for the next 12 months so we are not arranging an extra fundraising event this year.

Church Cleaner

Sharon Taylor has served us well in her capacity as church cleaner for the last ten years. We are very grateful for her dedicated service during this time. Some of her personal commitments have changed recently and she now finds that she cannot continue with this work. She has agreed to continue until Christmas but we shall then be looking for a replacement.

The Church Property Committee will shortly be meeting to put together a new job profile for the cleaning role and we shall then be seeking applicants to interview for the post. Five people have already expressed an interest in hearing more about the job. If you know anyone else who might be interested, please let David Howarth or Peter Robinson know so that information can be forwarded when it is available. The job advert will be placed on the Notice Board in the vestibule at church and printed in the notices.

Pantomime

Rehearsals for Robinson Crusoe are now in full swing and the song/dance routines are starting to come together. Full details of the show can be found over the page - tickets go on sale at the end of the month.

The stage goes in immediately after Christmas and work has already begun on designing the scenery and sorting out all the special effects. We're not revealing any secrets yet!

We are having to meet much more stringent safeguarding regulations this year and Peter is racing against the clock to register all our children and the parent chaperones with the Council and to arrange for new CRB checks to be completed before the deadline.

Strategy for the Future

Consideration of our strategy for the future continues. The need for more physical space in our premises was acknowledged earlier in the year and, following a period of consultation, the plans Peter proposed were amended and authorisation was given for a feasibility study to be undertaken. This was completed in September and did not raise any issues we were not expecting.

The Church Council set up a small group of members to reflect on how the church's mission might develop, so that when we begin to look next year in more detail at the building proposals, the discussion will be grounded in the context of how we see our mission in the community developing and how this might help us in promoting Christian discipleship. This time of reflection will also give Sandie time to get to know us better and to see how she feels she can support and guide our future work.

Meanwhile, the Church Council was happy to encourage further use of our drama facilities and the stage will actually be used by the KYDZ Youth Theatre for their Spring Show at the beginning of March before it is put away after the Pantomime. Worship will continue in the more informal setting of the Church Lounge for the extra couple of weeks after the pantomime.

Please continue to hold all these matters in your prayers as we seek to discern God's master plan for us all.



Robinson Crusoe



**ANOTHER
BRAND NEW
ACTION-
PACKED
PANTOMIME
ADVENTURE**



26th Oakworth Methodist Pantomime
Eight Shows: 11th - 18th February 2012

Robinson Crusoe

Our 40 enthusiastic panto kids are about to set sail on yet another brand new thrilling pantomime adventure and they want YOU to join them!

The Crusoe boys, Robinson and Billy, find they are thwarted in their hopes of marrying their sweethearts. Billy cannot marry Bessie because her father, Captain Bowsprit, wants someone with money and Robinson's Polly is always dashing away to her sick Grandmother. Luckily, Robinson inherits his uncle's treasure map and he sails away on the Captain's ship with Bessie, Billy, his sister Milly and mother, Ma Crusoe, in search of untold wealth. The villainous Blackbeard and his sidekicks Patch and Hook join them under cover intending to steal the map. Just as they are about to pounce, a new threat arrives in the shapely figure of the Crimson Hawk and her crew of female pirates, who also lay claim to the treasure. Blackbeard sets fire to the ship and, after encounters with the sea god Neptune and goddesses Aphrodite and Galatea, our heroes find themselves shipwrecked on the very island they wanted to reach! Robinson makes a new friend, naming him Man Friday but the others are less fortunate, finding themselves at the mercy of the island's Medicine Man. Robinson and Friday come to the rescue, the treasure is discovered and the true identity of the Crimson Hawk is revealed.



As the plot unfolds, you will be treated to some superb song and dance routines by the Sailors/Islanders, Soloists and young Nymphs and Sprites. You'll join in some marvellous comedy routines with several of the main characters and BOO yourselves hoarse whenever Blackbeard appears!

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 the end of January! Enjoy the show!!



7pm Evening Shows:

**Saturday 11th, Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th,
Wednesday 15th, Friday 17th, Saturday 18th**

2pm Matinees on both Saturdays

Tickets available in January from Janet Armstrong ☎642625
or book online at www.OakworthMethodists.org

Adults £6.00, Senior Citizens £5.00, Children £4.00



Sunday Worship & Young People



A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together

- Dec** 4 10.30 am Mr Tony Ainley
11 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **All Age Carol Service**
18 10.30 am Louise Makin + Young People -
All Age Christmas Praise Service
3.00 pm Carols at Oakworth Manor
- Sat 24** 11.15 pm Rev Sandie Exley-Watts -
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
25 10.00 am Revs Elizabeth Caissie and Sandie Exley-Watts
Christmas Morning Worship for all at Keighley Shared Church
- Jan** 1 10.30 am Rev Alan Raine - **Covenant Service**
8 10.30 am Mr Michael Webster
15 10.30 am Church Stewards - **Songs of Praise**
7.30 pm Ecumenical Heartbeat Service - Christ Church
22 10.30 am Rev Nigel Ogley
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
29 10.30 am Mrs Ann Fox
6.00 pm Revs Sandie Exley-Watts & John Rogers -
United Holy Communion Service - Christ Church
- Feb** 5 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts
12 10.30 am Mr Terry O'Shaughnessy
19 10.30 am Mr Dewar Wishart
7.30 pm Ecumenical Heartbeat Service - Christ Church
26 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **Holy Communion**
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 13th, 20th+27th December and 7th+14th February)

DECEMBER 2011

Fri 2 6.00 pm Theatre Company presentation to SS children - Bingley
 Sat 3 2.00 pm Village Society Christmas Fair - Holden Hall
 Tue 6 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch
 Wed 7 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - church lounge
 Wed 7 7.30 pm Wednesday Club - *The Flint Street Nativity* - Playhouse
 Sun 11 11.45 am **Christmas Lunch - after Carol Service - church hall**
 Tue 13 2.00 pm Ladies' Group Christmas Party - church lounge
 Wed 14 7.30 pm Emmaus House Group - 17 Ridgeway Mount
 Sat 17 6.30 pm Carols in the Barn + refreshments - New House Farm
 Sat 17 8.00 pm K+WVR Carol Train + Brass Band - Oakworth Station
 Sat 24 11.15 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion - in church**
 Sat 25 10.00 am Christmas Morning worship for all - Kly Shared Church
 Wed 28 10.00 am Stage erected in church for pantomime preparations

JANUARY 2012

Tue 3 6.30 pm Pantomime rehearsals commence on stage
 Wed 4 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - church lounge
 Wed 11 7.30 pm Wednesday Club Bowling Night
 Tue 17 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - *On Location* - Paul Kenny - lounge
 Sat 28 10.00-12.00 **Ladies' Group Brunch - church hall**

FEBRUARY 2012

Wed 1 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - in church
 Tue 7 7.30 pm Circuit Treasurers' Consultation - Steeton
 Sat 11 to Sat 18 **Pantomime - Robinson Crusoe - on stage in church**
Information for March Newsletter to David this week please
 Tue 21 1.45 pm Ladies' Group - Carol's Dolls - church lounge

MARCH 2012

Thu 1 to Sat 3 KYDZ Youth Theatre Spring Show - on stage in church
 Wed 7 11.00 am Monthly Prayer Time - church lounge
 Sat 10 10.30 am **Grand Auction - Viewing from 9.45 am - in church**
 Mon 12 7.30 pm Church Council - church lounge
 Tue 15 7.30 pm Ladies' Group - *Good Health with Aloe Vera* + Ex Head

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



Christmas Services



Traditional Carol Service

Sunday 11th December
at 10.30 am

All Age Worship
led by Rev Sandie Exley-Watts

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 17th December
at 6.30 pm

K+WVR Carol Train

calls at Oakworth Station
at 8.00 pm



All Age **10.30 am**

Christmas Praise Service
Sunday 18th December
Led by the Young People

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

Saturday 24th December
at 11.15 pm

led by Rev Sandie Exley-Watts

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



Covenant Service and Re-dedication of Pastoral Visitors

Sunday 1st January at 10.30 am

led by Rev Alan Raine



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