



# March 2013 Newsletter



Snow White was a tremendous success - a complete sell out!.  
Relive it one more time as you look through the photos inside.

# Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

*'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'* (Luke 23:43)

So Jesus responds to the 'good' criminal on the cross. As we contemplate the cross we can stand in different places in the scene before us. For, whatever else it was, crucifixion was a spectacle, designed to be watched. The suffering bodies were held up high, in a public place, carefully staged for maximum effect. So where are we in the scene?

Preachers have sometimes invited us to think of ourselves as the frightened disciples, cowering at the very edge of the scene, terrified of being identified with Jesus and sharing his fate. Yes, I can acknowledge that is me sometimes. Are we amongst the women who wait and weep, feeling every part of Jesus' suffering as their own? Well, I'd like to think that's where I might be.

There are times though, when I could well be with Pontius Pilate, washing my hands of the whole gory business, claiming that I have no responsibility for the evil in the world. I hardly dare think that I might be with the religious leaders, so intent on preserving what I hold dear that I completely miss the Truth before my eyes – yet I know that it's within the realms of possibility.

If we are ruthlessly honest with ourselves and able to acknowledge the darkness within each of us, we may see that we could be the 'good' criminal crucified with Jesus. We may have the grace to know that, given certain circumstances, we could and would so betray the image of God within us, that there would be no hope for us other than in the boundless mercy of our God.

But what about the 'bad' criminal? Could that be us too - too proud, too blinkered, too bitter to acknowledge our need of forgiveness?

As we come before the cross this Passiontide, let us come not as voyeurs of Christ's suffering, watching from a safe place. But let us come to stand in that painful and uncomfortable place, where like the thief who begged Jesus for pardon, we acknowledge our part in it all, and so open ourselves to the tender mercy of our God. May we too hear the live-giving words of Jesus spoken to us.

Shalom, Sandie



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# Inn Churches, Keighley

This was part of Bradford 'Inn Churches'. The aim: to provide beds and meals 'in churches' in the coldest months - one week being in Keighley for the first time. During the last week in January, twelve 'guests' arrived at All Saints Church at 6.00 pm, were welcomed and given a hot meal. Camp beds, clean bedding, towels, games and videos were provided and volunteers were on hand to chat. 11.00 pm was lights out with two shifts of volunteers on hand overnight. Early morning - yet more helpers arrived to cook a hot breakfast and the guests left at 9.00 am.



I wasn't sure what to expect but when I arrived on Tuesday at 10.00 pm for the night shift I found a quiet, pleasant environment with guests chatting, playing games, watching videos or enjoying an early night. Overnight was uneventful and we all enjoyed a hot breakfast together.

Sunday was music night with local musicians coming in. This was a lovely evening. Again, guests and volunteers were playing games, chatting and singing together. Some of the East European men sang in their own language; one of the women guests said she didn't understand a word but it spoke to her heart.

It was good to meet volunteers from other churches, 70 people being involved altogether. The organisation was excellent and any problems were quickly dealt with. It is hoped to run it again next year for two weeks. Both Sandie and myself found it a worthwhile and interesting experience.

Kath.

## Money Matters

### Can you help?

First of all, thank you to all who helped at or supported the fundraising events over the Christmas period: Our stall at the Village Christmas Fair made £35, the Christmas Lunch raised £180 and the Christmas Gift envelopes brought in £200. The pantomime also raised a fantastic £4,000 profit for church funds.

Sadly, however, the treasurer's figures for the current year are now showing a projected shortfall of £1,900 by the end of the year. Collections are down on last year and Fundraising events are not bringing in as much as we had hoped. As well as the usual Summer events, "Tea at the Ritz" will be an extra fundraising event at church on Saturday 29 June. Please support that if you can. We also ask that you prayerfully consider whether you are able to increase your regular giving and/or offer an extra donation to help the situation. Thank you.





# Christmas Lunch



Ann Fox led our Carol Service and told the Christmas Story with the help of a series of wooden figures. Many of the congregation stayed for the wonderful Christmas Lunch which followed and enjoyed the fellowship together.

# Christingle Praise







The cafe style Christingle Praise Service was really appreciated by all age groups as evidenced by the sea of smiling faces. It was very much hands on as everyone took an active part in the Service - led by Louise and the young people - and made their own Christingles to take home.



# Snow White

Order your DVD  
today - only £8



So, Queen Scarlet was soaked to death and unceremoniously dumped in the glass coffin - and Snow White now lives happily ever after with her Prince in Tyrolia - through the forest, over the mountains, past the waterfall, along the riverside, down the valley and over the bridge. It may be a long, long way but the seven dwarfs will gladly direct you!

Another fantastic show has come to an end and thanks go to everyone who contributed to yet another triumph. The kids on stage worked really hard and it was great to see the smiles on their faces as they entertained our very appreciative audiences. Eight full houses this year: just brilliant! Scenery, costumes, choreography, music and special effects all enhanced their efforts - it was a magical week - and it raised £4,000 for the church! Wonderful!

We have said farewell to seven cast members this year but workshops for the remaining cast have already been held to show us what other hidden talents they have and we are seeing more strong characters coming through to take the places of the leavers. We can now confirm the main cast for next year: Aladdin - Alice; Widow Twankey - Natasha; Abanazar - Peter; Wishee & Washee - Elliot & Hannah; Emperor & Empress - Sam & Emily; Princess Jasmine - Georgina; Vizier & Wife - Bailey & Katie; Prince Pekoe - Harry; Genie of the Lamp - Charlotte; Spirit of the Ring - Sasha.



Workshops will be held after Easter for new cast members and work will then start on the script!

Some of the many  
comments received:

Jennifer wrote:

"Once again, thank  
you so very much  
indeed for the most

wonderful evening. The whole show  
was marvellous! We all thoroughly  
enjoyed every moment. The  
enthusiasm and sheer joy of performing  
came across mightily. The acting,  
singing and dancing all superb; the  
costumes and scenery amazing. All  
hugely appreciated!"

John & Kay wrote:

"We thought the panto was a really  
good fantastic family event - we found  
it difficult to believe that they were all  
under 18."

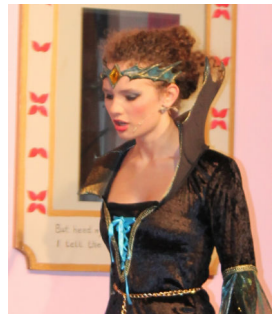
Nina said:

"Our three grandchildren really enjoyed  
the pantomime - it was far superior to  
Keighley Amateurs! The scenery was  
lovely, the costumes were great. The  
kids loved getting wet and the flying  
eggs. The skeleton scene was their  
favourite. Congratulations to all!"

Don't miss our next Pantomime adventure:



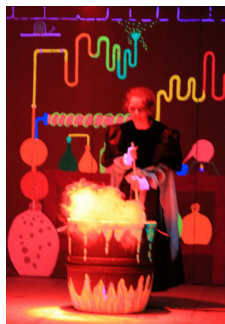


















# Seven Wonders of the World



A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present 'Seven Wonders of the World'. Although there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids;
2. Taj Mahal;
3. Grand Canyon;
4. Panama Canal;
5. Empire State Building;
6. St Peter's Basilica;
7. China's Great Wall.

While gathering the votes, the teacher noticed that one student had not yet finished her paper. She asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little, I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have and maybe we can help." The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the 'Seven Wonders of the World' are:

1. To see;
2. To hear;
3. To touch;
4. To taste;
5. To feel;
6. To laugh;
7. To love."

The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. The things we often overlook as simple and ordinary and that we regularly take for granted are truly wondrous! A gentle reminder that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand ... or bought by humankind.

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

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



# Timothy in Uganda

Timothy's latest letter arrived before Christmas with a copy of his school report which says:

*"Kaweesa shows interest in what he does. Fairly good results. Aim higher next term".*

*"How are you all and how is life there in England now? Let me think you're fine but for me am fine here in Uganda. I have written to you to inform you that I am in Senior two and I go to one of the biggest schools in Kampala the Capital City of our Country called St Peter's SSS Nsambya and am okay with it and next term am going to Senior three. I would also want to thank you for paying my school fees and also for buying me scholastic materials. I have also written to tell you that I have spent a lot of time without hearing from you but today I have had chance to get letter from you thanks a lot. Let me take this opportunity to thank those two young stars and friends of mine that is Emily and Charlotte for making birthday celebration cards for me and for those helping them to make the cards. Thanks for being so caring and so loving to me and my family. Yeah, at home me and my young sister, mother and my two brothers we grow our own vegetables and they are now mature. God bless you."*

Timothy



## Vision for the Future



Some of the new initiatives have got off to a good start over the winter months:

- *Singing for Fun with Glen Berry has attracted good numbers of older people before the Luncheon Club on a Tuesday morning. This will be reviewed after Easter to see whether a change of day/time could attract a wider age range.*
- *J.I.G.S.A.W. (Jesus Is Great Super And Wonderful) - formerly Sunday School - is going well - and we hope it will soon start attracting new young people.*
- *A café style Christingle service was held in December (see page 4) and this went extremely well. The next café style Youth Service is on Palm Sunday.*
- *Monthly "Messy Church" sessions aimed at young families who would not normally attend church on a Sunday morning will begin in May on Thursday afternoons. The idea was very well received when it was aired after a Service last month. Please have a word with Helen Hudson if you are interested in getting involved with this in any way.*



• *We now publicise events on Facebook. Log on and 'like' us!*



# Special Events & Services

## **Mothering Sunday** All Age Praise & Parade Service



**Sunday 10th March 10.30am**

Led by Louise & the Young People  
with music, dance, drama,  
lots of participation and  
daffodils for all the mums!

## **Maundy Thursday**

Hot Cross Buns &  
Holy Communion Service

**Thursday 28th March 7.30 pm**

led by Rev Terry Porter



## **Spring Market**

**Saturday 6th April 10.00 - 1.00**

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



## **Sunday School Anniversary**

**Sunday 12th May 10.30 am**

**All Age Praise Service**

Led by Louise  
and the Young People

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# Sunday Worship & Young People



*A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together*

- Mar** 3 10.30 am Rev Nigel Ogley  
10 10.30 am Louise Makin + Young People -  
**Mothering Sunday All Age Praise & Parade Service**  
17 10.30 am Rev Saidu Kanu  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
24 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor  
7.00 pm Rev Saidu Kanu & Louise Makin - Youth Service
- Thu** 28 7.30 pm Rev Terry Porter - Maundy Thursday -  
Hot Cross Buns + Holy Communion Service  
31 10.30 am **Easter Day** - Louise & Stewards - **Songs of Praise**  
6.00 pm United Section Service + Communion - at Oakworth
- Apr** 7 10.30 am Mrs Olive Bastow - **Reader's Service**  
14 10.30 am Deacon Claire Gill -  
**Church Anniversary All Age Worship**  
21 10.30 am Mr Terry O'Shaughnessy  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
28 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **Holy Communion**  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- May** 5 10.30 am Mrs Gladys Stephenson  
12 10.30 am Louise Makin + Young People -  
**Sunday School Anniversary All Age Praise Service**  
19 10.30 am Rev Nigel Ogley  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
26 10.30 am Rev Alan Raine - **Holy Communion**  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor



**J.I.G.S.A.W. also meets 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** 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club  
(closed 2nd April + 28th May)

## MARCH 2013

Fri	1	2.00 pm	<b>Women's World Day of Prayer Service - Christ Church</b>
Mon	4	10.00 am	Lent Meeting - Transformed by Presence of Jesus - Manse
Mon	4	7.30 pm	Church Council - church lounge
Mon	11	10.00 am	Lent Meeting - Transformed by Presence of Jesus - Manse
Mon	11	7.30 pm	Strategy for the Future - Vision Group - church lounge
Mon	18	10.00 am	Lent Meeting - Transformed by Presence of Jesus - Manse
Mon	18	6.00 pm	Pantomime Workshops for Aladdin - in church
Tue	19	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group - Card Making - by Wendy
Wed	20	7.30 pm	Wednesday Club - Planning Evening - 217 Fell Lane
Fri	22 to Sun	24	Hope & Gamble Mission Outreach in Keighley
Sat	23	7.45 pm	KYDZ Youth Theatre Spring Show - in church
Mon	25	10.00 am	Lent Meeting - Transformed by Presence of Jesus - Manse
Mon	25	6.00 pm	Pantomime Party: DVD, Food, Games - in church

## APRIL 2013

Sat	6	10.00-1.00	<b>Spring Market + Lunch - in church</b>
Tue	16	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group - AGM - church lounge
Wed	17	7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting - Haworth Methodist Church
Wed	24	7.00 pm	Wednesday Club Meal - Bronte Hotel, Haworth
Sat	27	10.00 am	District Synod - Batley Central Methodist Church
Mon	29	7.30 pm	Annual General Church Meeting (open to all) - lounge

## MAY 2013

Sat	11	10.15 am	Circuit JMA Sponsored Walk - Oakworth to Haworth + back
Wed	15	7.00 pm	Wednesday Club - Visit to Keighley Civic Centre
Sat	18	12.00-3.00	Touchstone <i>Pop'n</i> - MacRory's, Easby Road, Bradford
<i>Information for June Newsletter to David by this week please</i>			
Thu	23	3.15 pm	Messy Church - in church hall

## JUNE 2013

Fri	7	7.30 pm	<b>The Ritardandos in concert - Ladies' Group</b>
Wed	19	7.00 pm	Wednesday Club Walk
Thu	20	3.15 pm	Messy Church - in church hall

Further details and information can be found on our  
**Website: [www.OakworthMethodists.org](http://www.OakworthMethodists.org)**





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