



# June 2015 Newsletter



Bluebells on the St Ives Estate at Bingley - taken on the Wednesday Club Walk in May - with the **Mission Possible** logo superimposed - see inside!

# Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends,

If you were asked about some of Jesus' last words to his followers, I wonder which ones you'd come up with. Perhaps you'd remember, 'Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world/age.' Or perhaps it would be, 'Go and make disciples of all nations.' But if you were thinking of John's gospel, it might be, 'Peace to you'.

Each of these sayings is important but they do give a slightly different emphasis. When, in the fourth gospel, Jesus constantly greets his amazed and frightened disciples after the resurrection with the words, 'Peace to you', he is reminding them of, and offering them anew, 'the peace which the world cannot give.' It is an inner peace which flows from his presence. Jesus comes to his disciples and gives himself to them, revealing his forgiving love for each one.

He does not criticise.

He does not make any recriminations.

He does not judge them or remind them of how badly they let him down.

He does not speak of betrayal.

He does not make anyone feel guilty.

Instead, Jesus confirms his choice of them.

They are his beloved ones, and he is there for each of them.

When we too have failed him and are locked behind doors of fear and shame, Jesus comes to us and says,

'Peace to you.'

In all the pain and joy of the journey of life, Jesus meets us with unfailing love and forgiveness. This is at the root of the peace he gives – and this is what he wishes us to model in our lives, that others may be drawn to him.

*Dear friends,  
You will be aware that I have been here for nearly 4 years, so a consultation would usually happen about now to determine whether I should stay beyond the initial 5 year appointment or move on.*

*However, I shall be 65 by the end of next summer, so I intend to seek permission to retire. Be assured that I am not in the process of 'winding down' yet, and will be fully with you until July 2016.*

*Shalom, Sandie*



Shalom,  
Sandie

**Minister: Rev Sandie Exley-Watts**

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# Mothering Sunday Parade Service



The Uniformed Organisations swelled the congregation at the Mothering Sunday Service led by Sandie. They paraded their flags, helped get the message across and distributed daffodils to all the mothers at the end of the Service.



After the Service, Coffee and Cakes were served in the hall to raise funds to enable us to continue to support Timothy in the final stages of his education in Uganda. A big thank you to all who helped to raise £220.



The new Singing the Faith hymn books were dedicated by Sandie in a Service last month for regular use in worship.

Thank you to all who have donated over £500 towards the cost - memorial stickers have been placed in several of the books.

David is still happy to take donations!





# News Snippets



## Wednesday Club

The Meal at the Grouse in April and the May Bluebell Walk at St Ives were enjoyed by all. Do join us for our Summer activities if you are able.

## Dog Training and Behaviour

Classes have started on Tuesday evenings at Church - Obedience for all ages and levels; Clicker training and workshops. Three dogs and owners attended the first series of sessions and several more have joined the latest training which has just started. Contact Sian Atheel - 07587 979493

## Hansel & Gretel

The Pantomime Party was enjoyed by all as they watched the **Humpty Dumpty** video out-takes on the big screen and joined in the games with great enthusiasm.

Workshops to audition for **Hansel & Gretel** went really well and the main roles have all been cast. Auditions for new cast members to join the Chorus take place this month. David has started work on the brand new script and everyone is already looking forward to the rehearsals starting in the Autumn!



Don't forget your  
**Humpty Dumpty**  
DVD - only £8

## Spring Market

Thanks to all who helped at and supported the Spring Market in April. A quiet morning but we raised £605.



You will see from the next four pages that we are hoping the Circuit will appoint a Youth/Community worker to do some work with our young people. The good news is that they have asked the Circuit Pastoral Worker, Mrs Glenda Coogan to do some interim work with them and she will be leading the Panto Praise Service next month.

We still need as many votes as possible in support of the project - at Church or direct to David. Thanks.



30<sup>th</sup> Oakworth Methodist Pantomime  
13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>  
February  
2016

a brand new  
fun-packed  
pantomime  
adventure

**Hansel &  
Gretel**





We were challenged a few years ago to review our Church's Mission:

- What could we do better?
- What new initiatives would enable us to spread the good news of Jesus in our community?

The whole process has seemed a bit like "Mission Impossible" but a fresh approach - "**Mission** Possible" - has resulted in a more positive response.

Messy Church was just one new initiative to come out of the initial process and, whilst attendance varies, between 10 and 30 additional children and parents are actively engaging with the Gospel every month as a result.

Our Church Strategy Team looked at four strengths of our church:

- The variety in our forms of worship
- Involvement in community life
- Our work with young people – mostly not on a Sunday!
- The emphasis placed on drama – from pantomimes to drama in worship

How can we capitalise on these?

Mission opportunities have come and gone over the years in our work with young people. Most recently, Louise and Lizzie successfully led the 'Crossing the Bridge' Youth Group. That particular group has now run its course and Louise has moved into training for full time Ministry. We need to focus on developing a new form of Mission amongst our young people.

- Who might lead it?
- What might it look like?

We would love to see more use of drama in worship and to put on other forms of drama - using all age groups.

Could drama be the hook to help us talk about faith matters together? We struggle to run fellowship groups at Oakworth - this could be an answer.

- Who might help us with this?

Church Council put much thought and prayer into these questions. This resulted in a new Mission Statement and a fresh approach to our Strategy for the Future - under the banner:

**"Mission Possible"**



# MISSION POSSIBLE

A new set of plans were considered as the previous versions had proved too expensive. They still offer a much improved building layout with everything under one roof:

- New Front Entrance faces main road making us more visible
- Up to five meeting spaces could be used at same time
- Extra toilet facilities at other side of building
- Playgroup area self-contained and secure – so other areas of building can be used whilst they are in
- Playgroup facilities much improved enabling them to meet Ofsted requirements
- Much needed storage space available to church and all user groups
- Improvements to stage layout / access would bring several benefits
- Fire Risk / Health & Safety requirements would be met – *legal obligation*
- Reduced carbon footprint and costs with Solar PV and LED lights

*The plan and graphics in this leaflet will help you to see how the improved layout will work.*



# MISSION POSSIBLE

*Church Council put together a two-part package to address our Mission needs, bring practical benefits to the Church and enable us to meet our legal and community obligations. This was unanimously agreed subject to gaining sufficient church/community support:*

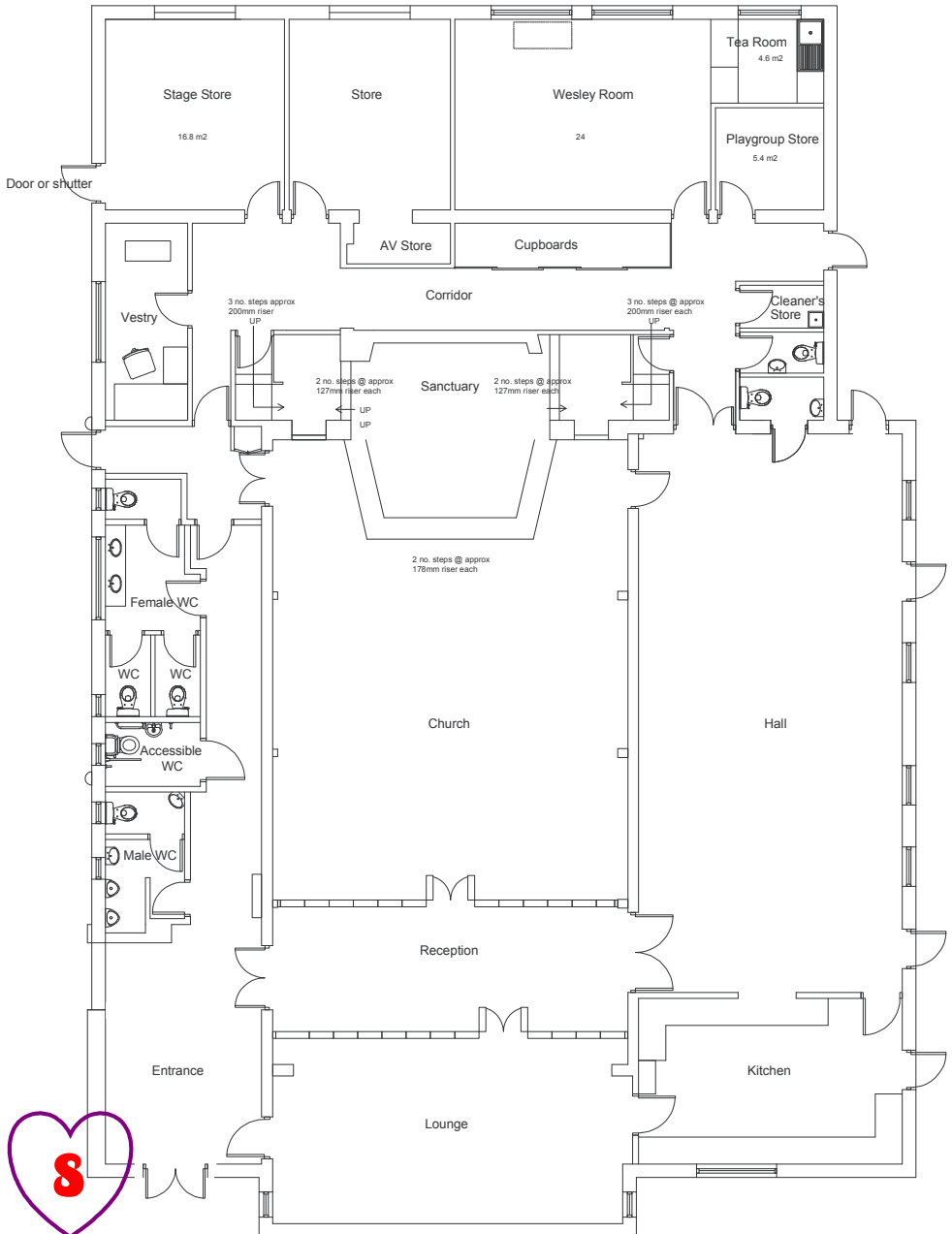
1. Employ a part time Youth & Community worker with drama skills
  - To capitalise on Mission opportunities in existing and new groups of young people
  - To encourage the use of drama in worship and as a tool for Mission
  - Could it be a Circuit appointment with say 10 hours per week at Oakworth and other churches utilising hours to make it a half time or full time post?
2. Embark on a scaled-down version of the previous building plans
  - To make the church more visible and welcoming and reduce our carbon footprint
  - To improve the building layout and storage with everything under one roof
  - To meet Ofsted requirements for Playgroup and legal Health & Safety obligations

The total cost of these proposals will be around £248,000. We already have £55,000 towards this in bequests and donations and would hope to raise a further £115,000 (50% of building costs) from charitable grants and trusts. We are hoping for £53,000 from Circuit and District grants, leaving us £25,000 to raise from donations and fundraising.

Whilst we do not expect raising all this money to be an easy ride, we do believe it is perfectly do-able. We also believe that using the funds we have been given so far as a catalyst to attract further grants makes financial sense.

This is one of the most positive projects this church has ever embarked upon and we are delighted that both church and community have got behind it by voting unanimously in favour - with over 110 votes cast as we go to print. If you haven't yet shown your support, please do so at the back of church as soon as possible - voting closes on 14th June in time to advise Circuit Meeting.







# Reach for the Stars Word Search

When the world leaves you feeling blue,  
 You can count on me, I will be there for you.  
 When it seems all your hopes and dreams  
 Are a million miles away, I will reassure you.  
 We got to all stick together, Good friends there for each other.  
 Never ever forget that I got you and you got me ...

There's a place waiting just for you.  
 It's a special place, where your dreams all come true.  
 Fly away, swim the oceans blue,  
 Drive that open road, leave the past behind you.  
 Don't stop, gotta keep movin'; Your hopes you gotta keep buildin'.  
 Never ever forget that I got you and you got me ...

*So ... Reach for the stars, climb every mountain higher.  
 Reach for the stars, follow your heart's desire.  
 Reach for the stars, and when that rainbow's shining over you,  
 That's when your dreams will all come true.*

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

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



# Sunday Worship



*A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together*

- Jun** 7 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **Baptism**  
14 10.30 am Mrs Anne O'Shaughnessy  
21 10.30 am Mr Michael Webster  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
28 10.30 am Mrs Glenda Coogan + David & Panto Team -  
**All Age Pantomime Praise Service**  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- July** 5 10.30 am Rev Terry Porter - **Holy Communion**  
12 10.30 am Mr Bernard Thompson - **Reader's Service**  
19 10.30 am **United Service at Exley Head Methodist Church -**  
Rev Barbara Walls - **Holy Communion**  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
26 10.30 am Mr John Hopkinson  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- Aug** 2 10.30 am Local Arrangement  
9 10.30 am Rev Jennifer Lunn - **Holy Communion**  
16 10.30 am Rev David Cooke  
23 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **2 Baptisms**  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor  
30 10.30 am Mrs Joan Jones



***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*

***J.I.G.S.A.W.*** will be closed for the Summer Holidays and All Ages  
will worship together from July 19 to August 30 inclusive



Details of Circuit Services and Events can be found  
in the Circuit Plan or the monthly Circuit News sheet

# Diary Dates



**Tuesdays** 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club  
(closed 21st July to 1st September inclusive)

## JUNE 2015

Wed 10 7.00 pm Wednesday Club Walk round Yeadon Tarn  
Wed 17 7.30 pm Circuit Consultation Meeting: Silsden Methodist Church  
Thu 18 6.00 pm Panto Praise Rehearsal  
Fri 19 4.30 pm Panto Praise Rehearsal  
Fri 19 6.15 pm New Cast Auditions for Panto  
Thu 25 3.15 pm **Messy Church - in Church Hall**  
Fri 26 5.30 pm Panto Praise Rehearsal

## JULY 2015

Sat 4 2.00 pm **Village Gala - Victoria Road Playing Field**  
Wed 8 7.00 pm Wednesday Club Bowling & Putting at Bingley  
Thu 16 **Messy Church - CANCELLED**  
16 + 17 7.15 pm KYDZ Youth Theatre Summer Show - *Anarchy Beach*  
Sun 19 1.00 pm **Barbecue - Milner Bank, Newsholme**

## AUGUST 2015

Wed 19 7.30 pm Wednesday Club - Something at Milner Bank!  
*Information for September Newsletter to David by this week please*

## SEPTEMBER 2015

Sat 12 7.30 pm District Synod - Settle Circuit  
Sun 13 All day **Yorkshireman Off-Road Marathon - Haworth**  
Wed 16 7.00 pm **Wednesday Club Film Night & Faith Supper - Church**  
Sun 20 10.30 am **Harvest Festival All-Age Worship: Deacon Claire Gill**  
Thu 24 3.15 pm **Messy Church - in Church Hall**  
Sat 26 7.15 pm KYDZ Youth Theatre 10th Anniversary Concert  
Tue 29 7.30 pm Circuit Meeting - Cowling Methodist Church

## OCTOBER 2015

Sat 3 10.00-11.30 **Sunshine Bags & Morning Coffee - Church Lounge**  
Thu 8 7.00 pm Wednesday Club - **An Evening with Ian Dewhirst -**  
*Local Life between WW1+WW2 + Pie & Peas - Church*  
Sat 17 2.00 + 4.00 **Tea at the Ritz - in Church**  
Thu 22 3.15 pm **Messy Church - in Church Hall**

Check our website for further information:  
**[www.OakworthMethodists.org](http://www.OakworthMethodists.org)**



# Special Events & Services



## Pantomime Praise Service

**Sunday 28th June 10.30 am**

**All Age Worship**

**Featuring excerpts from the Pantomime**

**Led by Glenda Coogan & the Panto Team**



## Village Gala



**Saturday 4th 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**

## Anarchy Beach

Keighley youth theatre KYDZ invite you to Haniki Beach holiday camp for sun, sea and chaos to the top tunes of the early noughties.

Your fellow campers include naughty boys, scheming girls, wannabe pop stars, a useless ventriloquist, a gangster's daughter and a mystery girl in witness protection.

And don't forget cuddly old Roland Rabbit!

**Thursday & Friday July 16 & 17 at 7.15pm**

[www.kydztheatre.co.uk](http://www.kydztheatre.co.uk) for ticket details

## Barbecue

**Sunday 19th July  
from 1.00 pm**

**Milner Bank, Newsholme**



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