



December 2016 Newsletter



Janet Armstrong leads the Memorial Service at the War Memorial in Oakworth Park on a beautiful Remembrance Sunday morning.

Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends,

Although it's only the 4th November it would seem that the countdown to Christmas has really begun, in the shops at least. This week I spotted my first Advent calendar on sale. It was one of those that offered a chocolate treat behind each unopened door. I must admit that I do have a fondness for these!

Well whether you opt for this sort or prefer the ones that at least tell the Christmas story, the Advent Calendar is one of the few things that still survive from the traditional run-up to Christmas, inviting us to share in the old four-week period of preparation. Whether it is a chocolate or a scene from the birth narrative, I like that it's tied up with this notion of opening doors, about being surprised. I think that one of the really important things about this pre-Christmas period should be getting in touch again with our God of surprises. Christmas ought to be about surprises, welcome surprises. It's a shame if it becomes – as it often does – a bit of a grim duty, and all we can think about is all the shopping that has to be done and all the cards to be written and so on.

I like to think that Advent calendars give us a kind of nudge to say 'Look, this world is more than you thought. Under the surface, there can be wonderful things, new things to find out about yourself and each other and the whole world you live in'. To me the Advent message is: "Look, there, just where you least expect it, God is at work."

For Christians this Advent period of getting ready for Christmas is getting ready to discover new things about God – remembering the surprise that everybody felt at the first Christmas. God showed his love in a new way with the birth of Jesus, and people were amazed at this – and started falling in love with God.

It's worth trying, in the run-up to Christmas, to ask if we really want to discover new things – or whether we're just in a rut, trapped by duty, weighed down by boredom. Because if we really are ready for a surprise, God's ready to tell us at Christmas that there's more to him than we thought – and more to us and our neighbours as well.

Peace be with you all,

Rosemary X



Minister: Rev Rosemary Nash

☎ 01274 568163

e-mail: rosemary.nash@airedalemethodists.org

News Snippets

Church Flowers

A huge thank you to all who provide and arrange the flowers in church each week. They are appreciated by all. The rota is now being prepared for 2017 - please add your name to the calendar at the back of church or speak to Kath Batty. Thank you.

Carols in the Barn

Come and witness the enactment of the nativity scene with children and live animals at this village Carol Service in the Barn at New House Farm on Saturday 17 December at 6.30 pm.

If you are able to provide some mince pies for the refreshments after the Service or to help with serving the refreshments, please have a word with Kath Batty. Many thanks.

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. ✨



Pick up a Christmas Gift Envelope from the table at the back of church.

It was on a starry night, when the hills were bright, earth lay
sleeping, sleeping calm and still; then in a cattle shed, in a
manger bed, a boy was born, King of all the world. StF 206



Worship

We shared in some uplifting All Age Services during the Autumn with Rosemary's storytelling at the Harvest in September and Jo helped by an all age drama group at the Prize Giving in October.



Prize Giving



Harvest Festival

Church Fundraising Events

Yorkshireman Marathon

Another hectic weekend was spent preparing & serving soup, sandwiches and cake to the Off-Road Marathon runners at Haworth. We are grateful for the £750 thank you cheque.

Autumn Fayre

Thank you to all who supported the Autumn Fayre. There was a steady flow of people browsing round the stalls and the lunch was enjoyed by all. £765 was raised for Church Funds and the Lees Ladies Craft Stall raised a further £170 for the **Mission Possible Appeal**.



Sunshine Bags & Coffee

Maureen and Rodney thank all who brought their Sunshine Bags & stayed for coffee. £155 was raised this year.



Oakworth Methodist Church



Lidget, Keighley Road,
Oakworth, Keighley,
West Yorkshire, BD22 7HN

MISSION POSSIBLE APPEAL

Island Truffles & Treats

Andy & Jeannie dished up some wonderful treats ranging from Belgian chocolate making and Cream teas to Andy's hilarious rock 'n' roll tribute act to the stars. The evening raised £68 after expenses were taken out.



Evening with Ian Dewhirst



Following a pie+pea supper, we were in stitches again as we enjoyed another very entertaining evening with the legend that is Ian Dewhirst - this time talking about *Victorian & Edwardian Church and Chapel life*, raising another £340 in the process.



Panto Team events

Our Panto Parents began this year's fundraising with Coffee & Cakes after the Prize Giving Service (£106) and a recent bag packing day at B&Ms with some of the cast (£365).



As well as all the events outlined above and opposite, the local fundraising appeal has also raised £460 from three more Film Evenings: *'The Jungle Book'* (2016), *'Maleficent'* (2014) and the first of the *'Nativity!'* series of films; £200 from a Summer PreSchool sponsored event, £75 from Kath's Cream Teas during the Summer and £170 from the Lees Ladies' Craft Stall at the Autumn Fayre. The final total in sponsorship from Lucy & Ed Chester's mountaineering expeditions came to a superb £328. A big thank you to everyone who organised and supported all of these varied events.



Tea at the Ritz

This was one of the highlights of our Autumn fundraising events. Nearly 100 guests enjoyed another afternoon of elegance and relaxation in pleasant surroundings with delicious food and beautiful music over the course of two sittings. Kath spearheaded the brilliant team of helpers, without whom this event would not be possible! Thanks to all who helped us raise a further £868 for **Mission Possible**.



News Snippets

Ronald in Uganda

Thank you to those who stayed after the Harvest Service in September for Coffee and Cakes. We raised £140, which enables us to continue to sponsor Ronald's education until Christmas.



The next event in support of Ronald is a



**Santa (Beetle) Drive
with Food**

on Thursday 22nd
December
from 5.00 pm

Please support Ronald
this Christmas

Ground Force Day

A big thank you to the garden gang who turned out on a cold morning last month to tidy the beds and grounds around the church. They look a lot better for it!



Luncheon Club

With 25-30 diners every Tuesday, we urgently require a cook to head up one of the fortnightly teams. Please contact Dorothy Robinson at church or via the website if you know anyone who may be willing to take on this voluntary role or to help in any other way in the kitchen. Thanks.



Peter Fletcher

We were really sorry to hear that Peter was involved in a car accident in early October and died from his injuries. Many of us carry fond memories of the time he was our Minister in 1992-1997. Strong links were developed with Exley Head & Cullingworth as well as Christ Church & Slack Lane Baptists. He introduced us to Alpha and shared his passion for music with us. We commend him into God's hands, assuring Val and the family of our prayers and sympathy at this time.

Sinbad the Sailor Word Search

When the evil magician, Vazar, spirits away Princess Yasmin, Sinbad sails from old Baghdad, aided in the rescue mission by his mum Dame Semolina, his sister Tinbad the Tailor and the Captain and crew of the *Seagull*. Overcoming numerous obstacles, including Black Hook and his band of swashbuckling pirates and being special offer of the week at the Zalabar slave auction, the heroes triumph and Sinbad wins Princess Yasmin's hand in marriage.



Along the way, you will meet Citizens of Baghdad, Magic Pixies, Sailors, Pirates, Belly Dancers, Islanders, Exotic Birds and Valley Dwellers. You will be encouraged to join in some marvellous comedy routines and you will laugh at the antics of a cheeky monkey called Monty! You can BOO yourselves hoarse when Black Hook, Vazar or Barracuda, the Witch of the Sea, are around but they get their just deserts when Talida, Genie of the Ring, is finally freed from her shackles.

So come and join in the excitement and laughter as you are carried along in yet another rollicking, fun-packed, spectacular adventure, full of Eastern promise and Turkish delights!

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

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



Summary of Oakworth Methodist Church Accounts 2015-2016

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Collections	11,518.90	Circuit Share	18,500.00
Property/Lettings	10,131.80	Utilities	4,994.51
Fund Raising	8,665.00	Property Maintenance	7,167.85
Tax Recovered	3,043.00	Cleaner's Wages	4,012.00
Project Income	1,050.00	Project Costs	1,051.42
Mission Collections	898.67	Mission Donations	1,798.67
Donations/Gift Appeals	1,272.63	Youth Work	83.79
Investment Income	310.36	Sundry Payments	1,332.62
Sundry Receipts	2,065.00		
	38,955.36		38,940.86

Treasurer's Report

We give thanks once again for the commitment and support of so many people which enables the Mission work of our church to continue to grow.



Summary

Thanks again to everyone for your generosity last year which just enabled us to balance the books again.

This was all the more remarkable in the light of the fact that we also raised over £30,000 during the year towards the **Mission Possible Appeal**.

Receipts

Some figures showed a decrease on the previous year for various reasons but these were more than compensated by increases in other figures. We are particularly grateful to those who gave extra in response to my plea during the year when it became obvious we were heading for a shortfall.

General Reserves at the year-end stood at £5,957 - less than two months of our budgeted expenditure. This will need increasing following completion of the **Mission Possible** project to the three months budgeted expenditure figure agreed by Church Council.

Payments

All general costs, including the £400 increase in Circuit Share, were broadly in line with the budgeted figures.

Total Reserves were, of course, much higher because they include £75,984 of funds held for the **Mission Possible** building project.

Project Costs

All the Project Income was put towards replacing an amplifier and maintaining our AV equipment and licenses last year.

We ask for your continuing prayerful support through the current year so that our general expenses continue to be covered as we concentrate our efforts on fundraising for the **Appeal**.





Christmas Services



Traditional Carol Service

Sunday 11th December
at 10.30 am

All Age Worship led by
Rev Barbara Walls

followed by
Christmas Lunch

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

All Age Christmas Nativity Service

Sunday 18th December
at 10.30 am

led by Ms Jo Dolman
with the Young People

Music led by our Praise Band

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

Christmas Eve Candlelit Communion

Saturday 24th December
at 11.15 pm

led by Rev Terry Porter

Join us for fruit punch and
mince pies from 10.30 pm

Circuit Carols with Rev Dr Roger Walton

(President of Methodist Conference)

Wednesday 21st December 7.00 pm

Here at Oakworth - followed by refreshments

Please book (free) at AiredaleMethodists.org or ring David/Peter on ☎ 215784



Christmas Morning
NO Service at Oakworth





Mission Possible Family Film Evening Swallows and Amazons (2016)

with Fish & Chips in the Interval

Friday 27th January 6.30 pm

on the giant screen at
Oakworth Methodist Church

All welcome - just turn up on the day

Donations towards Mission Possible Appeal

Four children (the Swallows) on holiday in the Lake District sail on their own to an island and start a war with rival children (the Amazons). In the meantime, a mysterious man on a houseboat accuses them of a crime they did not commit.

Sinbad the Sailor

Rehearsals are now in full swing - the cast are working hard on song/dance routines and dialogue and everything is starting to come together.

The stage base will be installed in church on Tuesday 27th December 10.00-12.00am. Anyone who is free to help that day will be very welcome to join us. Work has already begun on designing scenery, preparing special effects and sorting out all those wonderful costumes!

Have a go at the **Sinbad the Sailor** Word Search on page 9. Booking details are opposite and on the church website.

Book your tickets very soon to avoid disappointment!

Enjoy the show!!



Tickets available
in January

18th-25th
February
2017



31st Oakworth Methodist Pantomime

3 1st Oakworth Methodist Pantomime



Sinbad the Sailor

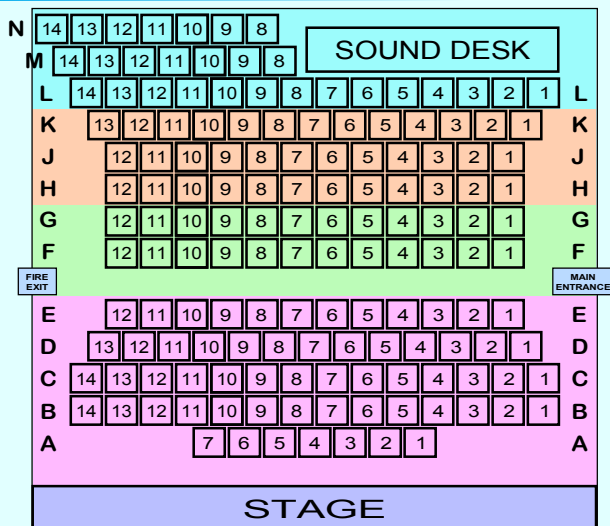


7pm Saturday 18th Feb, Monday 20th Feb
Evening Tuesday 21st Feb, Wednesday 22nd Feb
Shows: Friday 24th Feb & Saturday 25th Feb
2pm Matinees: on both Saturdays

Seating Plan

Seats individually
ticketed

Adults £7.00
Seniors £6.00
Children £5.00



Book online at www.OakworthMethodists.org

or ring Janet Armstrong ☎01535 642625

Tickets available in January

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Sunday Worship



A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together

- Dec** 4 10.30 am Mr Maurice Baren
11 10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls - **All Age Carol Service**
18 10.30 am Ms Jo Dolman with the Young People -
All Age Nativity Service
- Wed 21** 7.00 pm Rev Dr Roger Walton (President of Conference) -
Circuit Carol Service at Oakworth - *Please book with Peter or David*
- Sat 24** 11.15 pm Rev Terry Porter -
Christmas Eve Candlelit Communion Service
25 10.30 am **Christmas Day** - NO Service at Oakworth
- Jan** 1 10.30 am Rev Rosemary Nash - **Covenant Service**
8 10.30 am Mrs Janet Clark
15 10.30 am Rev Terry Porter
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Christ Church
22 10.30 am Mrs Olive Bastow - **Reader's Service**
3.00 pm **Service at Oakworth Manor**
29 10.30 am Ms Doth Lund
6.00 pm **Revs John Rogers & Bryony Partridge** -
Ecumenical Service with Holy Communion at Christ Church
- Feb** 5 10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls
12 10.30 am Mr Maurice Baren
19 10.30 am Rev Rosemary Nash - **Holy Communion**
7.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Christ Church
26 10.30 am Mr David Varley
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



Editor: David J Howarth ☎ 01535 215784

e-mail: DHowarth@OakworthMethodists.org

Diary Dates



Tuesdays 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club
(closed 13th Dec to 3rd Jan & 14th+21st Feb)

DECEMBER 2016

Sat	3	2.00 pm	Village Society Christmas Fair - Holden Hall
Tue	6	12.00 pm	Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch
Thu	8	3.15 pm	Messy Church - in Church Hall
Sat	10	6.00 pm	Circuit Christmas Family Party - Bingley Meth Church
Sun	11	11.30 am	Christmas Lunch - after Carol Service - Church Hall
Tue	13	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group Christmas Party - at Church
Wed	14	1.00 pm	Carol Singing at Social Club & 1.30 Oakworth Manor
Fri	16	7.00 pm	Pantomime Chaperones' Christmas Meal - White Lion
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
Tue	20	7.30 pm	Celebration of Christmas with <i>Living Waters</i> - Christ Church
Wed	21	7.00 pm	Circuit Carol Service - Rev Dr Roger Walton - at Oakworth
Thu	22	5.00 pm	Santa (Beetle) Drive - for Ronald in Uganda - Church Hall
Sat	24	10.30 pm	Fruit punch + mince pies followed by Candlelit Service
Tue	27	10.00 am	Stage erected in church for pantomime preparations

JANUARY 2017

Mon	2	4.30 pm	Pantomime rehearsals commence on stage
Fri	6	7.00 pm	JIGSAW Staff Meeting with Rosemary
Tue	10	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group: " <i>First Aid</i> " - Glen Berry
Wed	11	7.00 pm	Wednesday Club Bowling Night - Shipley Bowl
Thu	12	3.15 pm	Messy Church - in Church Hall
Fri	27	6.30 pm	Mission Possible Film Evening + Fish & Chip Supper

FEBRUARY 2017

Tue	7	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group: Street Angels, Skipton
Thu	9	3.15 pm	Messy Church - in Church Hall
Sat	18 - Sat 25		31st Pantomime - Sinbad the Sailor - on stage in Church

MARCH 2017

Tue	7	1.45 pm	Ladies' Group: " <i>Memories</i> " - Keith Barber
Thu	9	3.15 pm	Messy Church - in Church Hall
Thu	9	7.30 pm	Church Council - in Church Lounge
Fri10-Sat11		7.15 pm	KYDZ Youth Theatre Spring Show

Check our website for further information:
www.OakworthMethodists.org



Oakworth Methodist Church



Lidget, Keighley Road,
Oakworth, Keighley,
West Yorkshire, BD22 7HN

MISSION POSSIBLE APPEAL

The good news is that local fundraising and donations reached the initial Appeal Target last month and now stand at £33,600 - bringing the total amount raised / promised to date for the whole project to £166,400. More details inside this Newsletter.

However, the sad news is that tender figures for the building project came in substantially higher than expected. The value engineering process will therefore take longer than hoped, which means that completion of the business plan and submission of the large grant applications have been delayed. Because of this, the building programme has reverted to the original timetable and work will now commence at Easter 2018, with completion expected in September 2018.

Once the value engineering is complete, a new budget figure will be set. Meanwhile fundraising and grant applications continue.

Donations to the **Mission Possible Appeal** are always welcome!

