

OAKWORTH



December 2017 Newsletter



We warmly welcomed our new Minister, Rev Barbara Fairburn as she led our Harvest Festival Service in September.

Pastoral Letter

Dear friends

When I was a child, I used to love setting up our Christmas crib scene. We'd carefully unwrap all the figures and put them in place as we thought about the story they told. I still love crib scenes: and the stories they have to tell when you look at them more closely. Some crib scenes have beautiful figures, hand carved from olive wood while the figures in others are wobbly and made of cardboard tubes and tissue paper. Some have figures knitted in brightly coloured wool and others have figures carefully modelled in clay. There are crib scenes with figures that are larger than life and others with figures so tiny they fit into a walnut shell. There are some figures which no one dare touch for fear of damaging them and others which just invite you to touch them and hold them and bring their stories to life.



The crib scenes are there to tell us the story of the birth of a baby who changed the lives of everyone who came into contact with him. The story speaks to us of a young mother who risked her life and reputation to give birth to this child of God, a down to earth carpenter who dared to follow the advice of an angel, an innkeeper who forgot rules and regulations and made room for a baby, a group of shepherds, outsiders in both senses of the word, whose lives were suddenly touched by the glory of heaven, and some kings who were not too proud to kneel in the straw and honour a baby.

The baby Jesus we see in those crib scenes didn't just change the lives of a few people in a far-away place a long time ago: Jesus still changes lives today. He still brings light and hope and challenges and courage to people all over the world, no matter what situations they find themselves in, whenever they come to recognise him not as an ornament to decorate their homes for a few weeks at Christmas but as the living God who is with us forever.

May the Christmas story come alive again for you this Christmas.

Wishing you every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.

Barbara



Minister: Rev Barbara Fairburn

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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 2018 - 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 16 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.

See him lying on a bed of straw; draughty stable with an open door.
Mary cradling the babe she bore; the Prince of Glory is his name.
O now carry me to Bethlehem to see the Lord of love again. StF216



Worship

Harvest Festival



Prize Giving



Remembrance

The church was almost full for the Parade Service led by Rev Barbara Walls on Remembrance Sunday. The uniformed organisations then led the parade round to the Cenotaph in the park for a very well attended Memorial Service led by Janet Armstrong, during which seven wreaths were laid.



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. £700 was raised for Church Funds and the Lees Ladies Craft Stall raised a further £244 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

Fashion Show



Fundraising

Another entertaining and well attended, Evening with Ian Dewhirst in October, this time based on 'Life in the 1950s', raised £380. The Lees Ladies Craft Stall at the Autumn Fayre raised £244. The Ladies' Group Fashion Show given by H&L Fashions last month brought in £150. Another three Film Evenings raised a total of £380, with audiences enjoying 'Beauty and the Beast' in September,

'Pan' in October and 'Spider-Man: Homecoming' last month. Val Cadamarteri's £10 Challenge made £150 over the last two years and other donations came to £62. Many thanks for the continuing support for the Appeal.

Co-op Local Community Fund

The 2017 Co-op Local Community Funding round finished last month and the final total raised for **Mission Possible** 'Pantomime facilities upgrades' was £1870.85. A BIG thank you to Co-op members for helping us raise this sum. **Mission Possible** and the Oakworth Community Trust have both been chosen for the 2018 fundraising round - please support us by becoming a Co-op member and always using your card when you shop there.

Other Grants

We have just been notified that the Methodist Church National Property Committee has awarded us a fantastic £100,000 grant towards our project. Sadly, the Arts Council has declined our request for assistance but other grant applications in the pipeline are still sufficient to enable us to reach our target if they are all successful.



News Snips

Wedding

Barbara led her first wedding service in the church in October and we offer our congratulations to bride and groom Kerrie Griffiths and Jack Tomlinson. God bless you both as you start out on married life together.



Ronald in Uganda

Thank you to those who stayed after the Harvest Service in September for Coffee and Cakes. We raised £135, which enables us to continue to sponsor Ronald's education until next Summer.



Ronald is now 11 years old and he recently wrote:

"How are you? I am fine and my mother is fine. I love to play football at school. My class work is not very good but I just try. I hope to pass to P.3 (next class) next year - please pray for me. Thank you very much for paying my school fees. May God bless you"

The next event in support of Ronald is a

**Santa (Beetle) Drive
with Food**

on Wednesday
20th December
from 5.00 pm



Please support Ronald
this Christmas

Worship and Events in 2018

If the building work is able to go ahead as planned after Easter, the main Church area will be converted into a huge store-room and worship will continue in the Lounge area through most of next year. The Hall and Lounge will continue in use as normal throughout the building work and the main entrance will move to the other side of the building during this time. There will not be sufficient space to hold the Spring Market but a number of smaller social/fundraising events will be planned instead - details later.

Tommy Tucker Word Search

Dame Ditty runs a successful school of singing - star pupil: Melody - much to the chagrin of the rival music teacher, Dr Discord - pupils: none. When the Duke of Sterling and his family, arrive in town, the rivalry between the two schools is brought into the open and a singing contest, to be held at the local Fair, is suggested. However, Dr Discord rigs the rules so that only a male singer is eligible and coerces Benny, his handyman, to sing (very badly!) after threatening to throw Benny's mother out of her cottage. Dame Ditty has no male singer until Tommy Tucker arrives on the scene and is discovered to have a wonderful voice. Dirty work is afoot as Discord conspires with Mother Curseum to put a spell on Tommy, stealing his voice for Benny. But Melody and her friends enlist the help of Professor Wizo to reverse the spell and all turns out well in the end.

Along the way, you will be treated to song and dance routines by Alice and the Children, Townsfolk and Pupils, as well as the Principals. You'll join in some marvellous comedy routines with the main characters, laugh until you cry at some of the things they get up to and BOO yourselves hoarse when Discord and Mother Curseum are around!

So come and join in the excitement and laughter as you are carried along in yet another rollicking, fun-packed, spectacular adventure. The working steam train and merry-go-round are both back by popular demand!

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| R | E | K | C | U | T | E | E | X | C | I | T | E | M | E | N | 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 2016-2017

| Receipts | £ | Payments | £ |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Collections | 11,611.40 | Circuit Share | 18,900.00 |
| Property/Lettings | 9,736.50 | Utilities | 5,067.60 |
| Fund Raising | 8,380.00 | Property Maintenance | 6,253.67 |
| Tax Recovered | 3,483.34 | Cleaner's Wages | 4,127.20 |
| Project Income | 955.00 | Project Costs | 0.00 |
| Mission Collections | 660.38 | Mission Donations | 1,605.38 |
| Donations/Gift Appeals | 863.78 | Youth Work | 296.29 |
| Investment Income | 187.38 | Sundry Payments | 1,287.53 |
| Sundry Receipts | 1,664.48 | | |
| | 37,542.26 | | 37,537.67 |

Treasurer's Report

We give thanks once again for the commitment and support of so many people which just enabled us to balance the revenue account once again, whilst continuing to fund-raise for the **Mission Possible Appeal**.



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 a further £28,600 during the year towards the **Mission Possible Appeal**.

Receipts & Payments

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

All project costs related to **Mission Possible** payments, enabling us to use normal project income towards the general revenue budget.

On the income side, Collections & Tax Recovery showed a small increase but all other income streams were down on the previous year. Rental income suffered most due to less bookings.

We are particularly grateful to those who responded to my plea during the year and gave extra when it became obvious we were heading for a shortfall.



General Reserves at the year-end stood at £6,398 - just 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.

Total Reserves were, of course, much higher because they include £74,553 of funds held for the **Mission Possible** building project.

We ask for your continuing prayerful support through the current year so that our revenue expenses continue to be covered as we concentrate our efforts on reaching our **Mission Possible Appeal** target.



Christmas Services



Traditional All Age Carol Service

**Sunday 10th December
at 10.30 am**

led by Rev Barbara Fairburn

**NB: Christmas Lunch
is the following week**

All Age Christmas Nativity Service

**Sunday 17th December
at 10.30 am**

led by Mr Chris Holmes

**followed by
Christmas Lunch**

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

Winter Carols in the Barn
New Year's Eve Carol Service

**Saturday 16th December
at 6.30 pm**

K+WVR Carol Train

**calls at Oakworth Station
at 8.00 pm**

Christmas Eve Candlelit Communion

**Sunday 24th December
at 11.15 pm**

led by Rev David McAloon

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



Christmas Morning

**Family Celebration - 10.30 am
at Lees Methodist Church
led by Deacon Jackie Fowler**



**Sunday 31st December - NO Service at Oakworth
United Service at Exley Head: Rev Ruth Crompton**



Mission Possible Family Film Evening

Cars 3 (2017) (U)

with Fish & Chips in the Interval

Friday 26th January 6.30 pm

on the giant screen

at **Oakworth Methodist Church**

All welcome - just turn up on the day

Lightning McQueen sets out to prove to a new generation of racers that he's still the best race car in the world.

Donations towards **Mission Possible Appeal**



Mission Possible Family Film Evening

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (2016) (12A)

with Fish & Chips in the Interval

Friday 23rd February 6.30 pm

on the giant screen

at **Oakworth Methodist Church**

All welcome - just turn up on the day

The adventures of writer Newt Scamander in New York's secret community of witches and wizards seventy years before Harry Potter reads his book in school.

Donations towards **Mission Possible Appeal**



Little Tommy Tucker

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 Wednesday 27 December from 10.00 am. 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 **Tommy Tucker** Word Search on page 9. Booking details are opposite and on the church website. Book your tickets in early January to avoid disappointment!



Little Tommy Tucker

10th-17th February 2018

another exciting pantomime adventure



Tickets available in January

32nd Oakworth Methodist Pantomime

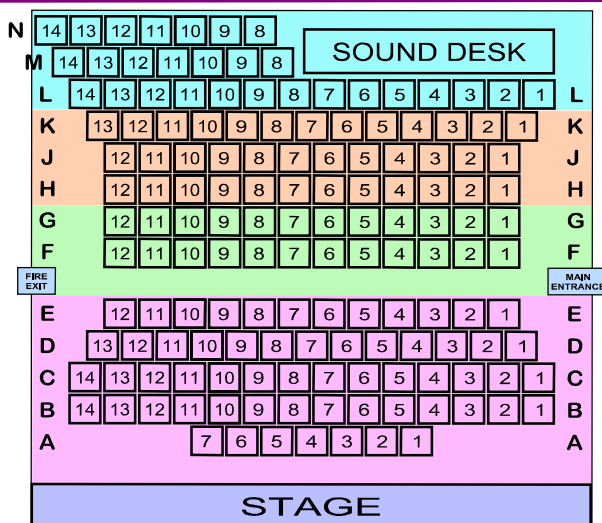
Little Tommy Tucker



7pm Saturday 10th Feb, Monday 12th Feb
Evening Tuesday 13th Feb, Wednesday 14th Feb
Shows: Friday 16th Feb & Saturday 17th Feb
2pm Matinees: on both Saturdays

Seating Plan

Adults £8.00
Children £6.00
Senior Citizens
£7.00



Book online at www.OakworthMethodists.org
or ring Peter Howarth ☎07968 618312

Tickets available in January

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Sunday Worship



A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together

- Dec** 3 10.30 am Mrs Patricia Henny & Ms Jo Dolman
10 10.30 am Rev Barbara Fairburn - **All Age Carol Service**
17 10.30 am Mr Chris Holmes - **All Age Nativity Service**
24 10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls - **Christmas Carols**
11.15 pm Rev David McAloon -
Christmas Eve Candlelit Communion Service
31 10.30 am Rev Ruth Crompton -
UNITED SERVICE - at Exley Head Methodist Church
- Jan** 7 10.30 am Local Arrangement
14 10.30 am Mrs Patricia Henny & Ms Jo Dolman
21 10.30 am Rev Barbara Fairburn - **Covenant Service**
6.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Christ Church
28 10.30 am Mr Michael Webster
6.00 pm **Circuit Service** - Steeton Methodist Church
- Feb** 4 10.30 am Rev Barbara Fairburn
11 10.30 am Mr Maurice Baren
18 10.30 am Mrs Janet Clark
6.30 pm **Ecumenical Heartbeat Service** - Christ Church
25 10.30 am Rev Barbara Fairburn & Deacon Jackie Fowler -
includes **Holy Communion**



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

Carols at Oakworth Manor: Thursday 14 December at 2.00 pm



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Diary Dates



Tuesdays 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club
(closed 12th Dec to 2nd Jan & 6th+13th Feb)

DECEMBER 2017

| | | | |
|-----|----|----------|--|
| Sat | 2 | 2.00 pm | Village Society Christmas Fair - Holden Hall |
| Mon | 4 | 5.30 pm | Kool Kids - Table Games, Crafts, etc for 8-13s |
| Tue | 5 | 12.00 pm | Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch |
| Sat | 9 | 4.30 pm | Circuit Prayer Pilgrimage Launch - Silsden |
| Tue | 12 | 1.45 pm | Ladies' Group Christmas Party - Church Lounge |
| Thu | 14 | 1.30 pm | Carol Singing at Social Club & 2pm Oakworth Manor |
| Thu | 14 | 3.15 pm | Messy Church - in Church Hall |
| Sat | 16 | | Carols in the Barn has been CANCELLED this year |
| Sat | 16 | 8.00 pm | K+WVR Carol Train + Brass Band - Oakworth Station |
| Sun | 17 | 11.30 am | Christmas Lunch - after Nativity Service - Church Hall |
| Mon | 18 | 5.30 pm | Kool Kids - Table Games, Crafts, etc for 8-13s |
| Tue | 19 | 7.00 pm | Circuit Carols Service - Silsden Methodist Church |
| Wed | 20 | 5.00 pm | Santa (Beetle) Drive - for Ronald in Uganda - Church Hall |
| Thu | 21 | 7.30 pm | Celebration of Christmas with Living Waters - Christ Church |
| Sun | 24 | 10.30 pm | Fruit punch + mince pies followed by Candlelit Service |
| Wed | 27 | 10.00 am | Stage erected in church for pantomime preparations |

JANUARY 2018

| | | | |
|-----|----|---------|---|
| Tue | 2 | 4.30 pm | Pantomime rehearsals commence on stage |
| Tue | 9 | 1.45 pm | Ladies' Group: " Silverline " - Jeanette House |
| Wed | 10 | 7.00 pm | Wednesday Club Bowling Night - Shipley Bowl |
| Thu | 11 | 3.15 pm | Messy Church - in Church Hall |
| Mon | 15 | 5.30 pm | Kool Kids - Table Games, Crafts, etc for 8-13s |
| Fri | 26 | 6.30 pm | Mission Possible Film Evening + Fish & Chip Supper |
| Mon | 29 | 5.30 pm | Kool Kids - Table Games, Crafts, etc for 8-13s |

FEBRUARY 2018

| | | | |
|-----|-------------|---------|---|
| Sun | 4 | 2.00 pm | Pantomime Full Run Through |
| Thu | 8 | 3.15 pm | Messy Church - in Church Hall |
| Sun | 4 | 6.00 pm | Pantomime Dress Rehearsal |
| Sat | 10 - Sat 17 | | Pantomime - Little Tommy Tucker - on stage in Church |
| Mon | 19 | 5.30 pm | Kool Kids - Table Games, Crafts, etc for 8-13s |
| Tue | 20 | 1.45 pm | Ladies' Group: Olympic Volunteer - Fiona Denby |
| Fri | 23 | 6.30 pm | Mission Possible Film Evening + Fish & Chip Supper |

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

 Find us on
Facebook



Oakworth Methodist Church



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

MISSION POSSIBLE APPEAL

We are delighted to report that local fundraising and donations since the inception of **Mission Possible** have now reached £82,450 bringing the total project amount secured to date to £300,537. Details of these figures can be found on the charts at church.

STOP PRESS NEWS: The Methodist Church Connexional (National) Property Committee has just confirmed that we will receive a superb £100,000 grant from them. This really is an answer to prayer and means that 70% of the **Mission Possible** budget is now covered. It also unlocks the door to other grants. We already have several other grant applications in the process of being made, with responses due next Spring.
See Page 7 of this Newsletter for further information.

We are now very hopeful that we will have secured sufficient funds by Easter to enable us to commence preparatory works and confirm a start date for the contractors to come on site.

