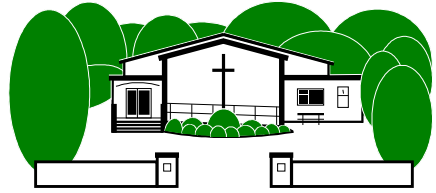


# Oakworth Methodist Church

**MISSION**  
**POSSIBLE**



## July 2021 Newsletter



We are looking forward to the day when we will be able to walk into church and find it set out like this again. Notice the new oak frames around the stained glass panels to make them match the rest of the sanctuary furniture ... and the new organ which is now leading our worship every Sunday. See inside for more photos and the full story.

# Pastoral Letter



Dear friends,

It seems strange to think that this will be my last letter for the magazine before I leave you and, to use the strange Methodist term for retirement, 'sit down.' When I do move on, I will take with me many special memories of Oakworth: the joy of sharing worship, especially when our children and young people were there, keeping us all on our toes! Food and fellowship play an important part in the life of any church and Oakworth does both well! Who could forget the laden tea trolley that would appear after services, the friendships made at lunch club, messy church, fish and chips, Christmas dinners, summer picnics. Covid has denied us many of those opportunities this past year, but they will certainly be back!

Then, of course, there's the Pantomime: not just those wonderfully fun filled performances, but the way so many people of all ages and backgrounds come together and give so freely of time, energy and creativity to make it all happen.

Creativity has had an important part to play in other areas of church life too: the displays used to share the message of God's love with those who pass by: prayer flowers to remember loved ones, Christmas stars, the story of Easter, Pentecost doves, all offering new opportunities to explore and discover new ways into prayer.

Faith, hard work and creativity have come together over and over again in the work of **Mission Possible** and it has been a joy to start to see the fruits of that project. I will never forget the delight of seeing our four beautiful stained glass windows: faith, hope, peace and love, for the first time. The colours and images constantly seem to work together to lift the spirits and draw us in to explore further. No matter how many times I have looked at them, there is always something new to catch my eye: something to remind me of our creator God who is always at work to bring beauty out of brokenness and hope out of despair.

There are many memories, but above all I will remember the friendship, fellowship, support and faith of all those it has been my privilege to work with and alongside. Thank you for all we have shared together over the past four years. I commend Rev Nel Shallow and the new staff team to you and you can be assured of my prayers for you all and for the new Worth Valley Church as you step out in faith together.

God bless you all.



*Barbara*

**Minister: Rev Barbara Fairburn**

**☎ 01274 568163**

**e-mail: [barbara.fairburn@airedalemethodists.org](mailto:barbara.fairburn@airedalemethodists.org)**

# Stained Glass Panels & New Organ



Thanks to Keith Howarth who has made new oak frames for the Stained Glass Panels to lift them above the piano and organ and match them with the Sanctuary furniture. Everybody has been very appreciative of the work.

Sadly our 45 year old organ, acquired by us 23 years ago, developed an irreparable fault last Christmas. A 10 year old single manual organ in pristine condition has been purchased to replace it and it sounds even better than the old one! The cost has been fully covered by donations from the congregation - thanks be to God.



# Oakworth Methodist Church



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

**MISSION  
POSSIBLE  
FUTURE**

## Are you Excited?

As we look beyond the present difficulties, there is much to be excited about.

- Covid restrictions look set to be lifted later this month at last - so worship and all the other activities associated with our church will be able to resume in a more normal way - does this excite you?
- As we say farewell and thank you to so many people who have helped and supported us over the past few years - we welcome those who come to work with us over the next phase of our journey - does this excite you?
- Our Church Council voted unanimously in May to join the new Worth Valley Church - to work more closely with Exley Head, Lees and Oxenhope Churches, with shared responsibilities to release time and energy for Mission - does this excite you?
- **Mission Possible** was never just a building project - it was and is a vision of new ways of working and sharing our faith with the community around us - particularly through drama with the young people - now is the time to develop this vision further - does this excite you?

## Church Activities Resume

- The Church is now open for worship most Sunday mornings - see pg 14.
- Hopefully, we'll be able to sing again fairly soon.
- Even when mandatory government restrictions are lifted this month, we will not immediately be abandoning all the measures we have in place to keep us all safe - this will happen progressively as conditions improve.
- Some Youth Groups have been operating in bubbles for several weeks already - most others hope to return in September.
- Oakworth Craft Group was able to resume last month because there are only six of them at present.
- Other adult community groups will be able to return from later this month.
- Possible starting dates for The Welcome Drop-In, our Lunch Club and some of our Social/Fundraising events have been included in the Diary on page 15 - these are subject to church restrictions being relaxed - look out for details in the weekly Notices and next Newsletter.
- KYDZ: Keighley Youth Theatre and the Panto Team are busy rehearsing for the Extravaganza which hopefully will go ahead in October - see details on pages 10-12 - Tickets go on sale in September - with contingency plans in place if it becomes obvious after bookings open that we cannot go ahead for whatever reason.
- This is exciting news - though we remain cautious and realistic.



# Farewell and Thank You



- **Rev Barbara Fairburn** retires at the end of the month and we bade her farewell at the end of her final Service with us on 18th July. Dorothy Robinson presented her with gifts to help her remember her time at Oakworth - Panto DVDs and garden vouchers to go towards rejuvenating the garden in her new home in the Lake District.

Barbara has supported us through quite a turbulent period as the **Mission Possible** project has developed and the pandemic has brought about so many changes. We are grateful for all she has shared with us and pray God's blessing on her as she enjoys a well deserved long and happy retirement.

- **Rev Ruth Crompton** also retires at the end of the month and we thank her for her support as Superintendent Minister over the last eight years.
- **Rev David McAloon** moves to pastures new at the same time and we wish him well in the next phase of his ministry.
- **Glen Berry** has led the singing in worship for many years on his violin and we were sorry to hear of his decision to step down last month. We are grateful for his enthusiasm and dedication over the years and wish him well as he concentrates on other pursuits. We will still see him from time to time as he supports us in other ways.
- **Robina Wedge** has been our Church Cleaner for the last nine years and she stepped down from this role at the end of June. She says that over the years she has met some wonderful people and enjoyed cleaning before and after all the events. Robina has performed her duties to an exceptional standard and has been a joy to work with. We thank her for her flexibility and commitment to her job.





# New Members of the Oakworth Team

## Rev Nel Shallow - Minister

Nel is a Methodist Presbyterian currently serving in the Grantham & Vale of Belvoir Circuit - the same Circuit as John Hudson came to us from! She has a passion for creativity and exploring our Christian faith through the creative arts; she's a photographer and loves to tell tales about God. Nel was ordained in June 2018 but has worked within the Methodist Church, as a Minister and a Lay Worker, for over twenty years. She has many years' experience in Youth work and drama and the whole family have been involved in pantomime! Nel has an MA in Evangelism and has been the District Arts Officer for Notts & Derby District. She is married to James, a research archaeologist; they have two sons.



## Barbara Boothroyd - Organist

Barbara is no stranger to us and has played our old organ several times over the years at special services and funerals. We were delighted when she accepted the invitation to play for worship every Sunday whilst Exley Head remains closed. In fact, she really likes our new organ and is enjoying playing for us. We look forward to the day when we can sing along to her playing once again.

Barbara is also a keen photographer and takes all the photos for Keighley Playhouse where she is an active member. She also took Joy's wedding photos.



## Emily Varey - Cleaner

Emily was the only applicant for the cleaner post but she loves working on her own, has a passion for cleaning and her references were outstanding. She has already thrown herself into the job and is doing very well. Emily is 18 and has just finished her college course in Art and Design; she is awaiting her results.

Emily's passion is photography (there's a theme here!!) and she would love to make that her career. She has already signed up as Pantomime Photographer and offered to help with scenery painting.



## Sharon Longman - Church Worker

This information is taken from Sharon's profile on the Calderdale Circuit website, where she is currently working:

"I was born in Huddersfield in 1966 and had no church/Christian background until the late 1990's when I was asked if I wanted to attend an Alpha course by my then hairdresser, whom I knew had something I hadn't ... it turned out to be Jesus! The Holy Spirit 'got' me on His weekend during Alpha and I have been on a journey full of peaks and troughs since, but I feel I'm fairly level at the moment.

I remarried in July 2018 to Jeremy, a wonderful man who truly is a gift from God and supports me 100% in all aspects of my work and walk with God. He too works within the Circuit at Christ Church as a mission Centre Manager. I have 2 grown up children of my own and have also acquired 2 step children recently.

I have worked in Highways and was practising as a therapeutic counsellor prior to joining the Calderdale Circuit in 2013 when I was employed to lead the Busoasis project. This is an amazing project which serves the communities of Calderdale in many exciting ways by sharing the love of God. This at times has been challenging but more so a blessing to me.

I feel strongly called to all aspects of community work. This mainly involves engaging with people of little or no faith, which was me in a previous life, consequently I feel it is the best use of my gifts as I seem to be able to 'meet people where they are at'.

I am also a West Yorkshire Police Chaplain, another exciting, challenging role I have been called to.

I've been told I'm nearly always smiling, funny and exude calm! Credit: Jesus living within me."



---

## New Circuit Staff Team from September 2021

**Rev Clare Stainsby** - Superintendent -

Pastoral responsibility in the Craven Church supported by Rev Nigel Ogley

**Rev Nel Shallow** -

Pastoral responsibility in the Worth Valley Church and Marsh

**Rev Terry Keen** -

Pastoral responsibility in the Aire Valley Church and Cullingworth

**Glenda Coogan** - Church Worker in the Craven Church.

**Sharon Longman** - Church Worker in the Worth Valley Church & Keighley Town Centre

**Debs Brazier** - Church Worker in the Aire Valley Church

**Jeremy Longman** - Digital Outreach Worker across the Circuit.



# News Snippets

## Congratulations

Sarah Mitchell gave birth to William David on 7th April - a fourth grandchild for Susan & John Shires.

## Action for Children

Your collecting boxes / donations raised £464.96 this year. Thanks!



## Ronald in Uganda

Ronald is now 14. His Aunt is taking good care of him and his health is greatly improved. He is lively, looks happy and enjoys playing football with his friends in the village. He now looks forward to going to school and helps with cleaning the dishes in the compound. The family are very grateful for our support.



## Prayer Garden

A Holy Week Trail was set up around the Prayer Garden just before Easter with the daisies still in place. A wooden cross was added on Good Friday and this was dressed on Easter Sunday morning.

This was all replaced by a bevy of doves for our Pentecost display in May. The ribbons have since been taken down but the doves remain as the plants in the garden grow and flower around them.

The displays have been appreciated by many as they pause on the way past.





# You can't stop the beat Word Search

You can't stop an avalanche as it races down the hill.  
 You can try to stop the seasons, girl but you know you never will.  
 And you can try to stop my dancin' feet but I just cannot stand still;  
 'Cause the world keeps spinnin' round and round  
 And my heart's keeping time to the speed of sound;  
 I was lost 'til I heard the drums then I found my way  
 'Cause you can't stop the beat!



Ever since we first saw the light  
 A man and woman liked to shake it on a Saturday night  
 And so I'm gonna shake and shimmy it with all my might today;  
 'Cause you can't stop  
 The motion of the ocean or the rain from above,  
 You can try to stop the paradise we're dreamin' of  
 But you cannot stop the rhythm of two hearts in love to stay  
 'Cause you can't stop the beat!

The opening number from our Panto Extravaganza (Second Half)

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

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



# Pantomime News



Our February Pantomime, Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, had to be postponed this year due to the pandemic, so we decided to try and get our young people together once restrictions were lifted to prepare an alternative style of Show to put on in October. The Panto Team Leaders were all keen and the children were excited at the prospect of finally being able to get some normality back in their lives. A script was prepared for a **Pantomime Extravaganza**, which brought together six mini-pantomimes using extracts from previous scripts. We managed to get enough children to cast all the roles and rehearsals were arranged. However, it then became apparent that not all the children were going to be able to commit the time needed to rehearse and prepare for a full-length Show. Catching up with missed education had to take priority and several cast members dropped out of the Extravaganza.

So, it was back to the drawing board - what should we do? Following a conversation with KYDZ: Keighley Youth Theatre, we realised that they were having the same problems with preparing for their October Concert. The obvious solution was to get together and put on a joint Show with KYDZ providing the entertainment for the First Half and the Panto Cast taking over after the Interval: a full length **KYDZ & Panto Extravaganza**.

The Second Half will still include scenes from Snow White and many of your favourite Panto song and dance routines, as well as other special items - as you will see from the advert opposite.

There will be up to six performances to choose from but seating capacity is being reduced and we are not selling extras on the nights. We are keeping things simple to keep everyone safe and encourage as many as possible to support our young people (details on page 12). Tickets go on sale on 1st September.



Rehearsals began after Easter in small bubble groups to comply with Covid-19 restrictions. This has worked well and the children have been very enthusiastic - though a few rehearsals have had to be cancelled when high numbers of children were isolating due to the virus. Everyone will be brought together in September for the final rehearsals to get everything ready for the October Show.

We are hoping that Ali Baba will finally be able to go ahead next February! The Panto will have to be re-cast in September as we have lost some of the original cast. The script will then be finalised in October ready for rehearsals to start in November.

We look forward to your support at both Shows - bring all your family and friends - Enjoy!



**Oakworth Methodist Church**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

# **KYDZ & Panto Extravaganza**

**Showcasing the talents of  
KYDZ: Keighley Youth Theatre  
and the**

**Oakworth Pantomime Cast**

**Your favourite showstoppers  
from Musicals, TV & Pantomime**

**Hosted by Keighley Panto Comic  
Mr Philip Smith**

**Book online at [www.OakworthMethodists.org](http://www.OakworthMethodists.org)  
or ring Peter Howarth ☎07968 618312**

**Tickets go on sale on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021**



**11**

# Oakworth Methodist Church

## KYDZ & Panto Extravaganza

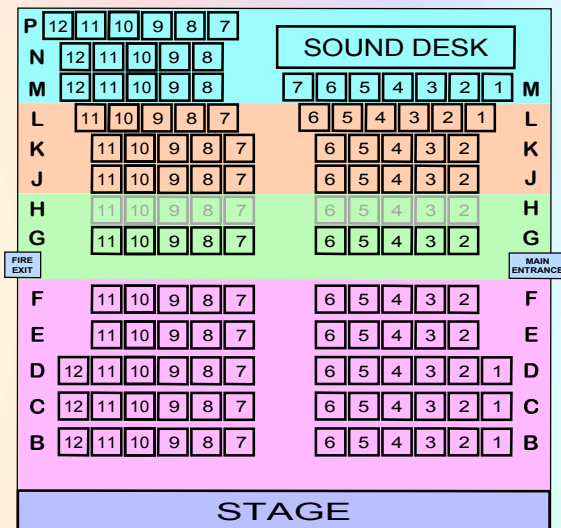
2pm Matinees: Saturdays 2nd & 9th October

7pm Tuesday 5th Oct, Wednesday 6th Oct,  
Shows: Friday 8th Oct & Saturday 9th Oct.

### Seating Plan

Ticket Prices  
Reduced to:

Adults £7.00  
Seniors £6.00  
Children £5.00



**We are keeping things simple to keep you safe:**

Seating capacity reduced to create more space between rows

Additional windows installed to improve ventilation

We are NOT selling programmes, raffle tickets or refreshments

Free programmes on your seats - bring your own refreshments



# SUNDAY 1 AUGUST 2021

There will be a Circuit Farewell Service to celebrate the service to the Circuit of our three Ministers over the last years and to send them on their ways to pastures new. Here are the details:

**2.30-3.00 pm:** Arrive at Jackson's Field - the field just over the river as you come into Silsden. Parking is available on the road and in the field itself.

**At 3.00 pm:** There will be a Worship Service led by Rev Kerry Tankard - District Chair.

**Bring your own food, suitable clothing and seats.**

Gazebos, windshields, etc. also welcome if you put them up yourselves. If you bring them, please set up around the edge of the field so as not to obstruct the view of the 'stage' area.

Toilet facilities are being provided on site.

Please support this event and pray for good weather!

## The Welcome Drop-in

First Monday of every month – 6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October

2.00-3.30 pm – at Oakworth Methodist Church

Tea, coffee, juice, biscuits

Fully accessible

From September, we hope to open an afternoon drop-in for everyone, young or old. It will be a time to meet with friends both old and new over tea/coffee and biscuits; a time for relaxation and laughter and anything else that you would like to do.

We will particularly welcome carers and cared for and those living with dementia. We can offer help and support and have links with Carers' Resource – an independent and nationally recognised Yorkshire charity that gives tailored information and support to carers, those in need of support and care, and professionals who work with them. We also work with Dementia Friendly Keighley.

We look forward to meeting you.

For further information, contact Val Cadamareri ☎01535 600530

**MISSION  
POSSIBLE**





# Sunday Worship



*A warm welcome awaits as we worship together*

Oakworth Services are being held fortnightly June-August.  
Exley Head are holding their Services at Oakworth on the alternate Sundays whilst their church is closed.  
Hopefully, weekly Services will resume in September and both congregations will worship together every Sunday.

<b>Jun</b>	6	10.30 am	Rev Susan Greenhart	Oakworth
	13	10.30 am	Rev Barbara Fairburn + <b>Communion</b>	Exley Head
	20	10.30 am	Rev Barbara Walls	Oakworth
	27	10.30 am	Rev Michael Mewis	Exley Head
<b>July</b>	4	10.30 am	Mr Tim Sharp	Oakworth
	11	10.30 am	No Service at Oakworth	
	18	10.30 am	Rev Barbara Fairburn	Oakworth
			<b>Farewell Service with Holy Communion</b>	
	25	10.30 am	Mr David Varley	Exley Head
<b>Aug</b>	1	10.30 am	No Service at Oakworth	
		<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Rev Kerry Tankard - District Chair</b>	
			<b>Circuit Farewell Service for 3 Ministers</b>	
			<b>Open Air Service at Jackson's Field, Silsden</b>	
	8	10.30 am	Rev Alan Raine	Exley Head
	15	10.30 am	Mr Michael Webster	Oakworth
	22	10.30 am	Mrs Glenda Coogan	Exley Head
	29	10.45 am	Mr David Clark <b>(live from Silsden)</b>	Oakworth

If you wish to attend any of the Services, please phone or email David by the day before the Service in order to reserve your seats. .

**Don't forget your face mask to help us keep each other safe.**

All Services will be live-streamed on our Church YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCYWiWU9yU\\_I8EMGkvIvewog](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYWiWU9yU_I8EMGkvIvewog)  
and they can also be viewed later if you wish.



**Editor: David J Howarth** ☎ 01535 215784  
e-mail: [DHowarth@OakworthMethodists.org](mailto:DHowarth@OakworthMethodists.org)

# Diary Dates



**Tuesdays** 12.15 pm Oakworth Methodist Lunch Club  
(closed until September due to coronavirus pandemic)

*We are hoping to be able to restart some of our regular activities in September - 18 months after the first lockdown began - but the dates are subject to restrictions being lifted before events can go ahead.*

## JUNE 2021

Mon 21 1.00 pm Oakworth Craft Club - in Church  
Tue 22 7.00 pm Annual General Church Meeting - in Church  
Wed 23 7.00 pm Circuit Meeting - on Zoom

## JULY 2021

Wed 14 7.00 pm Worth Valley GCM + Church Council - at Oakworth  
Mon 19 1.00 pm Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge

## AUGUST 2021

Sun 1 3.00 pm Circuit Farewell Service for our 3 Ministers + picnic -  
at Jackson's Field, Silsden - led by Rev Kerry Tankard (District Chair)  
Mon 16 1.00 pm Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge

## SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun 5 10.30 am United Worth Valley Church Service - at Oakworth  
Sun 5 2.30 pm Circuit Welcome Service at Keighley Shared Church -  
for new Ministers + Lay Workers - led by Rev Kerry Tankard  
Mon 6 2.00-3.30 The Welcome Drop-in starts ??? - Church Lounge  
W/c 6 Stage up in Church for KYDZ & Panto Extravaganza  
Tue 7 12.15 pm Lunch Club restarts ??? - Church Hall  
Tue 7 7.00 pm Circuit Meeting - at Steeton  
Sun 12 All day Yorkshireman Off-Road Marathon - at Haworth  
Sun 19 10.30 am Harvest Festival All Age Worship - Rev Nel Shallow  
Mon 20 1.00 pm Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge  
Fri 24 6.30 pm Mission Possible Film Evenings restart ???

## OCTOBER 2021

Fri 1 5.30 pm KYDZ & Panto Extravaganza Dress Rehearsal  
Sat 2 to Sat 9 KYDZ & Panto Extravaganza Show Week  
Mon 4 2.00-3.30 The Welcome Drop-in - Church Lounge  
Sat 16 10.00-11.30 Sunshine Bags + Morning Coffee

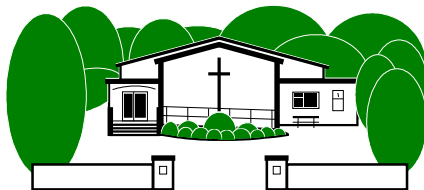
Check our website for further information:  
[www.OakworthMethodists.org](http://www.OakworthMethodists.org)



Find us on  
Facebook



# MISSION POSSIBLE



Almost £3,000 has been received/promised towards the **Mission Possible Appeal** since March: £2,600 in donations and £321.50 from the Lees Crafty Chatters' Virtual Easter Stall. Thanks again to the Crafty Chatters for their ongoing support and for your donations, most of which covered the cost of the new organ and balustrade.

Local fundraising and donations currently stand at £124,268 and the total amount secured to date has risen to £460,698.

A further £10,000 repayment has been made to the Circuit Loan, which has reduced the outstanding balance to £15,000.

We continue to make good progress with the electrical and AV upgrade work and the Lounge has been cleared ready to bring it back into use later this month. Shelving has been extended in the costume store upstairs and all the spare curtains/fabric previously stored in the loft above the lounge have been transferred to meet fire regulations.

