

**OAKWORTH**



**METHODIST CHURCH**



# September 2014 Newsletter



The Peloton in the Tour de France 2014 passes Lees Methodist Church where several of our members helped with refreshments.

# Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends,

There's a moment which stands out clearly from my recent sabbatical. You might expect me to name a moment from my retreat or my travels in Italy – all of which were amazing. But no, the picture I have is of my 18 month old granddaughter crouching down to stare at a dandelion. She was completely transfixed by it, full of wonder. And she was in no hurry to move on.

That moment encapsulates for me the most important learning, or re-learning, during my time away from normal duties. It speaks to me of the need for all of us to be still long enough to allow God's creation to speak to us; to get in touch with the things which bring us life. This is what Moses urged the Hebrews to do as they were about to cross the Jordan into the Promised Land:

*'I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life, so that you and your descendants may live.'* Deuteronomy 30:19

Much later, Jesus was to sum up all that he came to give us as 'abundant life'. But we have to go on choosing the things which bring life to us and all God's people, every day of our lives.

What brings me life as a minister is helping people engage deeper with our faith and to discover for themselves all the wondrous gifts God offers us. So I've made some choices including running a 'Disciple' course (please see Circuit Newsletter); and to explore with others forming an intentional 'spiritual' community of prayer, reflection and action based on a Rule or Way of Life (similar in kind to the Iona or Northumbrian Communities). This will initially be based at Keighley Shared Church but open to all who feel drawn to this way of 'going deeper' in their relationship with God.




These will be among my top priorities in the next year or two, so it follows that some things will have less priority if I am choosing the things which bring life (rather than burn-out). That's an ongoing conversation to be had with stewards and church councils and in the process I hope you will reflect on what brings life to you personally, and what brings life to the church.

Shalom,

Sandie



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## Timothy in Uganda



Timothy is sitting his final senior exams at school this year and needs our prayers. He wrote this in January:

“How are you there in your Country? I have written to inform you about my life styles and to thank you for all the things you have offered to me like education (school fees and scholastic materials). I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for the Christmas gifts you offered to me which made that day colourful to my side. I have also written to you to ask you whether you also celebrate the new year in your country as we do here in Uganda. By the way, do you also practice floriculture? For me at our home in the small compound we have, I plant there flowers which makes our home to look very attractive to our visitors and the villagers in our area at large. May God bless you for your good heart of caring about me and helping my family by sponsoring me to a good school known here in Kampala our capital city. Thanks a lot.”

Timothy Kaweesa

## Strategy for the Future update

Our Church Strategy Team presented alternative plans for meeting the future needs of the church - costing less than half of those presented last year - to a very positive Church Council meeting in July. The big difference between the two schemes is that the new plans are for a single storey building and they utilise all the existing church walls rather than demolishing and rebuilding from scratch.

The Church Council approves in principle the revised Strategy for Mission plans and agrees:

- to the plans being publicised by all means possible for wider support;
- to the plans being presented to a General Church Meeting;
- to them being presented to the Circuit and District via the Methodist Consents process to gain their approval;
- to the Architect and Property Consultant continuing to work on the plans and preparing and submitting them for Planning consent;
- to fully support the Strategy Team in taking the plans forward;
- to meet all future costs from a separate fund set up for this purpose.

The Strategy Team is now working on the Mission statements for the consents process which need Circuit approval before we can proceed with the steps outlined above. The final decision to go ahead with the building work rests with the Church Council – subject to all the above consents being given.



# Candlelight Cabaret & Mini Meal



# Village Gala



# News Snippets

## Pantomime Praise and Coffee & Cakes

"He means everything to me" was the theme of this year's Panto Praise Service and it was good to see the cast sharing in worship with us. It was great to welcome back Candy and to help her raise £600 over coffee and cakes towards the operation Nicole needs to help her to walk. They have raised almost £20,000 so far this year.



## Congratulations Rob & Beth

Rob has been involved in our pantomimes for several years. He and Beth are also members of KYDZ Youth Theatre Group. Congratulations to you both on your marriage in July.



## Recent Events

The Candlelight Cabaret and Mini Meal in June was a superb event, bringing together so many people for a very entertaining evening.

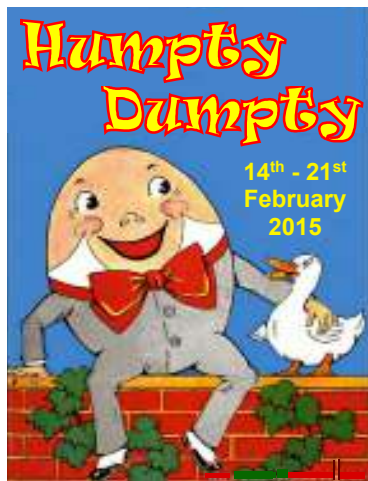
It was a lovely day for the Village Gala in July and the crowds came out in force to enjoy it.

The Barbecue last month was not so lucky weather-wise but it was well supported and a good time was had by all - see below.



## In Memoriam

We commend Mary Howarth into God's hands, assuring relatives and friends of our prayers and sympathy.



## Humpty Dumpty

The script is complete and Judith & David are now working on the songs and dance routines. Excitement mounts as we all look forward to starting rehearsals in October - the dates are in the Diary on page 11.



# Risk Word Search



To laugh is to risk appearing the fool;  
To weep is to risk being called sentimental;  
To reach out to another is to risk involvement;  
To expose feelings is to risk showing your true self;  
To place your ideas and your dreams before  
the crowd is to risk being called naive;  
To love is to risk not being loved in return;  
To live is to risk dying;  
To hope is to risk despair;  
To try is to risk failure.



But risks must be taken, because the greatest risk in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing, does nothing, has nothing, is nothing, and becomes nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he simply cannot learn, feel, change, grow or love. Chained by his certitude, he is a slave; he has forfeited his freedom. Only the person who risks is truly free.

*Often attributed to the poet and thinker, Leo Buscaglia, the real author of this inspirational verse is **Janet Rand**.*

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

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



# All Age Worship



## Harvest Festival

**Sunday 21st September**  
**10.30 am**

*All Age Worship led by  
Rev Sandie Exley-Watts*

*Please bring flowers for the  
displays on the Saturday morning*

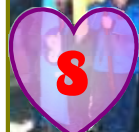
*Tinned food welcome at the  
Service (to go to Salvation Army)*

*Gift envelopes will be available  
for donations in lieu of produce  
for 'All We Can' (Methodist Relief)*

## *All Age Prize Giving Praise Service*

**Sunday 12th October**  
**10.30 am**

*Led by  
Mr Maurice Baren*



## Remembrance Sunday

**All Age Parade Service**

**Sunday 9th November**

**10.00 am - (NB early time)**

**Led by Rev Barbara Walls**

**At 10.40 am, those who wish to  
parade round to the Cenotaph for  
the Memorial Service will be led  
by the Uniformed Organisations**



# Special Events



## Yorkshireman Off Road Marathon at Haworth



**Sunday 14th September**

Please let Jane know if you can help with preparation on the Saturday, provide a cake, or serve on the day.

## Wednesday Club Film Night

**Wednesday 17th September 7.00 pm**

**Can you guess the film?**

**There will be a Faith Supper in the Interval**

WEDNESDAY CLUB  
FILM NIGHT  
WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER  
7.00 PM



Maureen Haigh invites you to bring your

## Sunshine Bags



to church to be emptied on  
**Saturday 4th October**  
10.00 to 11.30 am  
and to stay for a chat over  
**Morning Coffee**

**Oakworth Ladies' Group Concert**

**The Big Band Sound of**

**Geri and the Atrics**

**Saturday 4th October 7.30 pm**

**Tickets £5 from Ladies' Group members**

**Proceeds for Martin House and Church Funds**



# Sunday Worship & Young People



*A warm welcome awaits you as we worship together*

- Sep** 7 10.30 am Rev Dr Lewis Burton - **Holy Communion**  
14 10.30 am Mr John Hopkinson  
21 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **All Age Harvest Festival**  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
28 10.30 am Mrs Anne O'Shaughnessy  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- Oct** 5 10.30 am Rev David Cooke  
12 10.30 am Mr Maurice Baren -  
**All Age Prize Giving Praise Service**  
19 10.30 am Rev Sandie Exley-Watts - **Holy Communion**  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
26 10.30 am Mrs Louise Makin  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor
- Nov** 2 10.30 am Mr David Miller  
9 **10.00 am** Rev Barbara Walls -  
**Remembrance Sunday All Age Parade Service**  
10.45 am Memorial Service at the Cenotaph  
16 10.30 am Local Arrangement  
7.30 pm Ecumenical *Heartbeat* Service - Christ Church  
23 10.30 am Mr Bernard Thompson - **Readers Service**  
3.00 pm Service at Oakworth Manor  
30 10.30 am Rev Marcus Pattern  
6.00 pm Revs John Rogers & Sandie Exley-Watts  
Ecumenical Service with Holy Communion - Christ Church



**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

## SEPTEMBER 2014

- Sat 6 10.00 am District Synod - Woodhouse Grove School  
Fri 12 to Sun 14 **Christ Church Weekend Away at Scarborough**  
Sun 14 All Day **Yorkshireman Off-Road Marathon - Haworth**  
Tue 16 1.45 pm Ladies' Group  
Wed 17 7.00 pm Wednesday Club **Film Night & Faith Supper** - in Church  
Thu 25 3.15 pm **Messy Church - in Church Hall**  
Tue 30 7.30 pm Circuit Meeting - Lees Methodist Church

## OCTOBER 2014

- Wed 1 7.30 pm Meeting re Tea at the Ritz - Church Lounge  
Fri 3 5.00 pm **Pantomime Scripts issued - First read-through - Church**  
Sat 4 10.00-11.30 **Sunshine Bags + Morning Coffee - Church Hall**  
Sat 4 7.30 pm **Ladies' Group Concert - Geri and the Atrics - Church**  
Mon 6 5.00 pm **Pantomime Rehearsals start - in Church**  
Thu 9 7.00 pm **Wednesday Club - An Evening with Ian Dewhirst - Local Life in the First World War + Pie & Peas - Church**  
Sat 18 2.00 + 4.00 **Tea at the Ritz - see back page advert - in Church**  
Thu 23 3.15 pm **Messy Church - in Church Hall**  
Mon 27 7.30 pm Church Council - Church Lounge

## NOVEMBER 2014

- Sat 1 10.00-1.00 **Autumn Fayre + Lunch - in Church**  
Tue 11 7.30 pm Ladies' Group: Meal at the White Lion  
Wed 12 7.00 pm Wednesday Club - RSPCA Visit - Bradford  
*Information for December Newsletter to David by this week please*  
Thu 27 3.15 pm **Messy Church - in Church Hall**

## DECEMBER 2014

- Tue 2 12.15 pm Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch  
Sat 6 2.00 pm Village Society Christmas Fair - Holden Hall  
Wed 10 7.30 pm Wednesday Club - *When we are Married* - Keighley Playhouse

## FEBRUARY 2015

- Sat 14 - Sat 21 **Pantomime - Humpty Dumpty - on stage in Church**

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





## Evening with Ian Dewhirst . . .

Thursday 9th October 7.00 pm

*Local Life in the First World War*

Pie and Peas served at 7.00 pm

*Please let David know if you are coming*



Join us for

TEA AT THE Ritz



*At Oakworth Methodist Church on Saturday 18th October at 2pm or 4pm*

*There is NO charge - donations will be invited for the future work of the church*

*Booking is essential - Contact David today to avoid disappointment - details below*

*An afternoon of elegance and relaxation in pleasant surroundings with delicious food and beautiful music*

## Autumn Fayre



**Saturday 1st November**

**10.00 am to 1.00 pm**

**Lots of stalls to buy from**

Get your Christmas presents!

**Have a Coffee and a chat**

**Stay for Meat & Potato Pie  
and Pea Lunch**

Please sign the list in the porch  
when it goes up

**Share fellowship as you spend**



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