MISSION POSSIBLE

Oakworth Methodist Church

Part of Worth Valley Church, Airedale Methodist Circuit

September 2024 Newsletter



Pastoral Letter



Dear friends,

I hope this letter finds you well, as I know there are a lot of incidences of Covid at the moment. I thought I would share my guiding scripture as I go into my second year of probationary ministry.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8: *"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres"*

My time here so far has been a blessing but also exhausting with many calls on my time. To be sustainable in this role I must improve my work and life balance, exercising self-love and care. This scripture talks of the attributes of love. This speaks to me of three things: God's love for us, how we should love others, but also of self-love and care.

As our churches get smaller, we all end up doing more. As there are fewer folk, so people hold roles for longer, as there is no one to step in and give them a break. Worrying about self-love and care seems counterintuitive when so much needs to be done, by so few. The scripture says love needs to be patient and kind and when it comes to self-love and care we sometimes need to practise this to get it right. When we get the balance of work and service and self-love and care right, it protects our mental health, emotional well-being and physical well-being, which makes us stronger and better at what we do. Caring for yourself and filling up for yourself means you have more to offer to others. So, give yourself little treats, spend time with those who love you and allow time to rest and 'simply be' with God.

We read in the bible that Jesus exercises self-care in his day-to-day ministry. Sometimes he went to great lengths to step away from others. He went up a mountainside. He went out onto a lake in a boat. He walked off into the darkness, rising before anybody else. Jesus, like many of us, was unwilling to spend large amounts of time away from his responsibilities. So maintained a wise rhythm of rest, care and work amid his busy ministry life.

To help others we must be constantly filling up, resting, and taking care of our needs. Again sometimes we need to practise this or consciously be active in allowing time for prayer and time to spiritually fill up and spend time with God.

Continued >>>>>

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In the bible story of Martha and Mary, Martha buzzes around doing work and preparation, she gets cross with Mary her sister who is sitting at Jesus' feet listening to his teaching, but when she berates her for it, Jesus comes to Mary's defence.

When God invites us to join in with his mission and ministry, God doesn't need exhausted, frazzled, burnt-out people. We are invited to work but also to enjoy the moment and to feel spiritually energized, with a rested soul and spirit. Our God is calling all of us to fully rest in him spiritually, physically and mentally and learn the unforced rhythms of grace.

Have a Blessed and restful Autumn.

Love from *Rev Tracy* Xx

News

Sunshine Bags

A new fundraising initiative was launched in 1982 in support of building the new Hall for our growing Sunday School. Betty & Elizabeth gave out Sunshine Bags to many of the church family and asked them to pop a penny in the bag every day the sun shone. The bags were emptied each October at a special Coffee Morning. This has continued every year since then and raised over £9,000 for church funds. Maureen & Rodney took over running the coffee mornings several years ago but are now standing down and it has been decided that the time has come to make this the final year for the Sunshine Bags. A huge thank you to all who have faithfully contributed through this initiative over the years and to those who have run the Coffee Mornings. Chris Partington will include a special Thanksgiving in the Service on Sunday 6th October.

In memoriam

We commend Michael Walsh into God's hands, assuring family and friends of our prayers and sympathy.

Mission Possible Vision

This will be the main topic of conversion at the next Church Life Meeting on 26 November as we seek God's guidance on the next steps. All welcome to share in the discussion.

Mission Possible Film Evenings

Our final film before the Summer break was *'Arthur's Whisky'* on 28 June which raised a further £136. We return for the first film of the Autumn Season on 27 September, a *Poirot* murder mystery, *'Death on the Nile'.* This will be followed by *'The Great Escaper'* on 1 November and *'The Miracle Club'* on 29 November.

Prayerful Bookmarks



We have all been blessed by the beautiful posters Barbara has been creating for the Prayer Corner in the Lounge. She has now designed and printed two bookmarks which are on the hymn book trolley at the back of church. If you would like one, please help yourself - they are free!.

Thanks Barbara!

Summary of Oakworth Methodist Church Accounts 2023-2024

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Collections	14,515.95	Circuit Share	16,000.00
Property/Lettings	15,568.60	Utilities	12,366.58
Fundraising	11,738.00	Property Maintenance	5,735.95
Tax Recovered	4,176.50	Cleaner's Wages	5,698.20
Donations/Gift Appeals	806.15	Mission Donations	1,593.39
Mission Collections	593.39	Sundry Payments	2,571.97
Investment Income	411.69	Oven / Notice Board Poles	2,264.00
Photocopying/Printing	410.00		
Rank Foundation Grant	686.00	Tfr to General Reserves	2,700.00
MP Project Income	2,408.96	MP Project Costs	5,204.62
	51,315.24		**54,134.71**

Treasurer's Report



After the turbulence of the last few years, our church finances finally began to settle down last year.

Most of the income streams were up on the previous year. With the amalgamation of the Oakworth and Exley Head congregations completed, Collections have increased by £3,300 and Gift Aid Tax Recoveries by £1,000. The rent review and increased use of our premises by community groups brought in an additional £2,100 from Property Lettings. Film Evening income comes direct to the general church finances now the **Mission Possible** building project is fully funded - and Pantomime audiences are growing again - both of which helped to boost our Fundraising total by £3,600.

The Rank Foundation Grant was gratefully received in support of the dishwasher replacement in August 2023, the cost of which was included in the previous year's accounts.

Because income streams have been stronger than expected, we agreed during the year to increase our Circuit Share by £4,000 to £16,000. We knew that gas costs would increase by £2,000 with the long-term fixed rate coming to an end but we have managed to shave £3,000 off the electric costs by changing our supplier. Other general expenses were as budgeted. Two one-off costs were incurred when the Lincat Oven needed replacing and the main Notice Board needed longer poles!

The £2,700 surplus was transferred to our General Reserves, which now stand at £8,500, which equates to 70% of the three months of budgeted general expenditure we aim for when circumstances allow.

Our 2023-24 **Mission Possible Projects** have also been fully funded. The replacement radio microphone system is now complete, batteries and chargers have been replaced and we have installed a new electrically operated roller drop for pantomime backdrops. Thanks for your support.

Sing to Me, Autumn

Patricia L. Cisco. Family Friend Poems, September 27, 2016.



Sing to me, Autumn,
with the rustle of your leaves.
Breathe on me your spicy scents
that flow within your breeze.

Dance with me, Autumn, your waltz that bends the boughs of trees.
Now tell me all the secrets you've whispered to the seas.

Sleep with me, Autumn, beneath your starlit skies.
Let your yellow harvest moon shimmer in our eyes.

Kiss me, Autumn, with your enchanting spellbound ways
That changes all you touch into crimson golden days.

Love me, Autumn, and behold this love so true
That I'll be waiting faithfully each year to be with you.

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

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

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Yorkshireman Marathon



Thank you to all who helped with the catering at the Marathon at Haworth this year. It was a bit wet for the runners but everybody appreciated the pizza and drinks which welcomed them at the end! The church received £425 from the organisers plus £195 in donations from the runners.

Pantomime News



It is 45 years this year since our first pantomime in 1979 and we are celebrating with Cabaret Nights on Friday+Saturday 25+26 October starting at 7.00 - cabaret acts interspersed with multi-media presentations of special memories from the 37 pantomimes we have presented over the years.

We have invited Rainbows/Brownies/Guides, Showkids Dance and KYDZ Youth Theatre to celebrate with us and each group will perform a selection of songs and sketches during the first half of the Show in amongst the Panto memories. Panto-style refreshments will be available during the Interval and then some of our current Panto cast will reprise some of their routines from Cinderella, followed by more Panto memories. Finally, some of our former Panto cast members will entertain us in a grand finale. There will also be an exhibition of Panto photos, props and costumes from down the years.

Everybody is welcome to come and enjoy the Cabaret Nights and you can book online in the same way as you would book for the pantomimes. Tickets are already on sale - booking details opposite.

As soon as the Cabaret is over, we go straight into rehearsals for our 2025 Pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk! The new script is finished and ready for printing. The scripts will be given out on Friday 8th November at 5.45 pm and the first Read-through will follow at 6.00 pm. Rehearsals will start the following week. The Production Team are all looking forward to working with this year's cast to produce another great Show!!

Book the dates in your diaries: 15-22 February 2025 - and enjoy the Show!



Oakworth Methodist Pantomime

Celebrating 45 years of Pantomime

Cabaret Night

Friday & Saturday 25th & 26th October 2024

at Oakworth Methodist Church @ 7.00 pm

Pantomime Children Past and Present

supported by:

KYDZ Keighley Youth Theatre

Showkids

Rainbows Brownies Guides

and featuring a multi-media presentation of special memories from 37 Shows and an exhibition of photos, props and costumes

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

Mission Possible Film Evenings

with Fish & Chips in the Interval

on the giant screen at Oakworth Methodist Church



Death on the Nile (2022) (12)

Friday 27th September *6.30 pm*

Belgian sleuth Hercule Poirot's vacation aboard a glamorous river steamer turns into a terrifying search for a murderer when a picture-perfect couple's idyllic honeymoon is tragically cut short. Set against an epic landscape of sweeping Egyptian desert vistas and the majestic Giza pyramids, this tale of unbridled passion and incapacitating jealousy features a cosmopolitan group of impeccably dressed travellers, and enough wicked twists and turns to leave audiences guessing until the final, shocking denouement.

The Great Escaper (2023) (12)

Friday 1st November *6.30 pm*

A 2023 biographical drama film starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson (based on the true story) of an 89-year-old British World War II Royal Navy veteran, Bernard Jordan, who "broke out" of his nursing home to attend the 70th anniversary D-Day commemorations in Normandy, France in June 2014. Along the way, he is aided by strangers, makes some new friends and says a heartfelt goodbye to a fallen friend, while news of his "escape" makes him an international sensation.





The Miracle Club (2023) (12)

Friday 29th November *6.30 pm*

Ballygar, Ireland, 1967: a hard-knocks community that marches to its own beat, rooted in traditions of loyalty, faith and togetherness. There's just one tantalizing dream for the women of Ballygar to taste freedom and escape the gauntlet of domestic life: to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes. And with a little benevolent interference from their cheeky and rebellious priest, close friends Lily, Eileen, Dolly and her son Daniel are the 'lucky' few to win this ticket of a lifetime at their riotous local raffle night.

For the final time, we invite you to bring your **Sunshine Bags**



to church to be emptied on

Saturday 28th September
10.00 to 11.30 am

and to stay for a chat over

Morning Coffee

AIRE & WORTH VALLEY

presented by
WORTH VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
AFFILIATED TO
N.D.S. N.V.S. N.C.S.

12th ANNUAL SHOW

Flower, Vegetable, Baking Show
and Children Classes

LIVE MUSIC

Sunday 22nd September 2024

to be held at

OAKWORTH METHODIST CHURCH
BD22 7HN

Admission – **50p** (children free) *all donations welcome*

The show will be open to the public from 1.30pm

Judging from 11am – Price giving from 3.30pm
and auction from 4.00pm

all welcome

KYDZ
Keighley Youth Theatre

Annual concert

Sketches Songs

LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION!

Saturday 12th October at 7:15
Oakworth Methodist Church
Tickets available from
www.keighleyyouththeatre.co.uk/tickets
www.ticketsource.co.uk/kydztheatre

Autumn Fayre



Saturday 23rd November

10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Lots of stalls to buy from

Christmas Gifts Crafts
Jigsaws Cakes Tombola

Enjoy a chat over coffee

Share fellowship as you spend!

Sunday Worship



A warm welcome awaits
as we worship together

Sep	1	4.00 pm	**Circuit Service -** East Riddlesden Hall Barn
	8	10.30 am	Chris Partington - **All Age Worship**
	15	10.30 am	Rev Tracy Birks - includes Holy Communion
	22	10.30 am	**Worth Valley Church Harvest Festival** - led by Rev Tracy Birks - at Oxenhope
	29	10.30 am	David Clark
Oct	6	10.30 am	Chris Partington
	13	10.30 am	Rev Susan Greenhart
	20	10.30 am	Darrell Cummins - **All Age Worship**
	27	10.30 am	**Worth Valley Church Service** - at Oakworth - led by Chris Partington
Nov	3	10.30 am	Rev Susan Greenhart - includes Holy Communion
	10	**10.00 am**	Rev Clare Stainsby - **Remembrance Sunday All Age Worship**
		10.45 am	**Remembrance Ceremony -** at Cenotaph in Park
	17	10.30 am	Rev Tracy Birks
	24	10.30 am	**Worth Valley Church Service** - at Oxenhope Incudes Holy Communion - led by Rev Tracy Birks

Oakworth Services will be live-streamed on our Church YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/@oakworthmethodists/streams
and they can also be viewed later if you wish.

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Diary Dates



Tuesdays 12.15 pm Oakworth Methodist Lunch Club

closed 29th October (Half Term), 10th-31st December (Christmas)

SEPTEMBER 2024

Mon	2	1.30 pm	Welcome Drop-in - Church Hall
Sun	8	All day	**Catering for Yorkshireman Marathon** - at Haworth
Tue	10	7.00 pm	Church Life Meeting - Church Lounge
Thu	12	3.30 pm	**Messy Church** - Church Hall
Mon	16	1.00 pm	Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge
Wed	18	7.00 pm	**Wednesday Club** - Fish & Chip Tea at The Trawlerman
Fri	20	10.00 am	Friendship Group - Church Lounge
Sun	22	All day	**Worth Valley Horticultural Show** - in Church+Hall
Fri	27	6.30 pm	**Mission Possible Film Evening** + Fish & Chip Supper
Sat	28	10.00 am	**Sunshine Bags** and **Morning Coffee** - Church Lounge

OCTOBER 2024

Mon	7	1.30 pm	Welcome Drop-in - Church Hall
Tue	8	7.30 pm	Worth Valley Church Council - in Church
Wed	9	7.00 pm	**Wednesday Club** - Maurice Baren: *Stories behind products*
Thu	10	3.30 pm	**Messy Church** - Church Hall
Sat	12	7.15 pm	**KYDZ Youth Theatre Autumn Concert** - in Church
Fri	18	10.00 am	Friendship Group - Church Lounge
Mon	21	1.00 pm	Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge
Fri/Sat	25/26	7.00 pm	**Cabaret Nights** - celebrating 45 years of Panto

NOVEMBER 2024

Fri	1	6.30 pm	**Mission Possible Film Evening** + Fish & Chip Supper
Mon	4	1.30 pm	Welcome Drop-in - Church Hall
Fri	8	5.45 pm	**Panto Scripts out and first Read-through** - in Church
Thu	14	3.30 pm	**Messy Church** - Church Hall
Fri	15	2.00 pm	Friendship Group - Visit M & S Archive in Leeds
Mon	18	1.00 pm	Oakworth Craft Club - Church Lounge
Wed	20	7.00 pm	**Wednesday Club**: Barbara Boothroyd: *New hymns and photos*
Sat	23	10.00 am	**Autumn Fayre** - in Church+Hall
Tue	26	7.00 pm	Church Life Meeting - Church Lounge
Fri	29	6.30 pm	**Mission Possible Film Evening** + Fish & Chip Supper

DECEMBER 2024

Mon	2	1.30 pm	Welcome Drop-in - Church Hall

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

Find us on Facebook


Dear God
Each season brings something
new for us to see and enjoy
With sunny days and rainy days
our crops grow larger
Fruits and vegetables ripen
Ready for us to harvest
Thank you for all the food we have to eat
Let us remember people who may not have enough
Help us to be kind to others
In thought and words and deeds AMEN


Oh, give thanks to the Lord
For He is good
His loving kindness
Endures forever
1 Chronicles 16:34