Dear Friends

I have worked in the Calderdale (previous Halifax) Circuit for 16 years and I have loved my work. I believe it has been the fulfilment of my calling even more so when I became the Lay Pastor at Boothtown and Southowram.

Over the years I have worked in Northowram, Boothtown, Illingworth, Southowram and Mount Zion. I have met, listened, and spoken to many people and walked alongside many in the community who don’t come to Church but have needed help and support, showing God’s love in action.

I have enjoyed working with children over the years, in Toddler Groups, Craft Club, Messy Church going into BB and GB, the Victorian Days at Mt Zion, working in schools as part of the team delivering ‘Open the Book’ and Sharon and I have done Prayer Spaces and delivered the ‘Unique Course’ with groups of Year 5 & 6 girls.

None of us know when we talk and listen to people what effect we have on them, we may never hear how our words and actions have helped people, the main thing is that we have been there for them.

As I reflect on the last 16 years, I give thanks for the friendships I have made, for the new things that I have learnt and been able to use. There have been frustrations but that is normal in any job.

As I retire I am looking forward to spending more time with Steve, Sarah, and her family. Steve has ideas I will be helping him more at the allotment but I’m not sure about that!! I hope to spend more time doing the hobbies I enjoy and maybe find a new one. Hopefully going on plenty of holidays and visiting more places around the UK some of them may be on the back of Steve’s motorbike.

Thank you for your support, love and prayers over the years.

Every Blessing

Paula