

AROUND THE DALE

The Newsletter of the Calderdale Methodist Circuit

Number 26

October 2021

Community Outreach Food Support Drop In (FSDI)

'We aim to provide support to the homeless and vulnerable that are in need of a food parcel, and guidance to help them to improve their current situations'.

New Ebenezer Hope Help and Love



FSDI has used New Ebenezer (NE) for over twelve years and finds the perfect venue here for this ministry to those who need help.

FSDI is run by Christians Together Calderdale, who provide support to local residents in need, whether this is with homelessness, recovery, housing, benefits, healthcare and anything else we can help with. They are in the Food Poverty Forum in Calderdale and work

together with other food banks within the area.

Their other projects are run from The Gathering Place (next door) and include the Winter Shelter, Banqueting Table (free hot lunches three times a week) and Saturday Gathering.

Currently we are handing out food parcels to around 100 individuals and 50 families each week. Most of our food is paid for by donations and fund raising. Therefore we are grateful for your support to help with supplies and to keep this going.

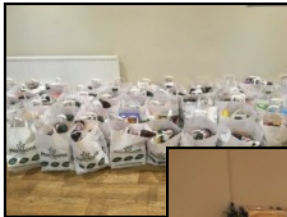


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The items which we always need and ask for donations are the following:

- Jars of pasta sauce
- Baked beans
- Tinned soup
- Jars of curry sauce
- Rice
- Tinned macaroni cheese
- Tinned spaghetti bolognaise
- Weetabix
- Breakfast cereal



The FSDI is open on a Friday and Saturday morning for receiving donations and distributing food. If you are unable to drop food during those times or you wish to donate to help towards the purchase of food please contact:

Rebecca Dixon:

rebecca@christianstogether.org.uk

Tel:01422647390 :

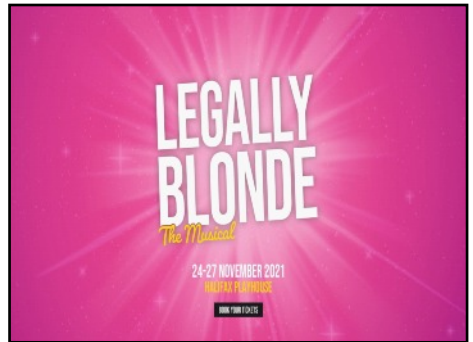
Information about other projects please see the Christians Together website:

<http://ctcthegatheringplace.org/ourProjects>

newebenezer
hope, help & love †

Welcome Halifax Light Opera Society

The church halls have been open for hire and we are delighted to have the Halifax Light Opera Society (HLOS), filling the halls with the sound of music.



They are currently rehearsing at NE this autumn for their next extravaganza 'Legally Blonde' at the Halifax Playhouse.

HLOS are an amateur musical theatre society, a non-profit organisation who have been performing in the town since 1907. Legally Blonde is a fun and award winning musical stage show based on the novel and the hit movie of the same name. For further details and tickets for this production see below and look up on the website.

<https://www.halifaxlightopera.co.uk/>

What goes on.... Town- Centre Mission It's all Go for Halifax Central Church (HCC)

HCC has been based at New Ebenezer since October 2004. The church is led by Pastors Graham and Heather Smith. Since its conception in November 2000 HCC is a growing mission church that works in partnership with the local churches, charities and the community.



Graham and Heather Smith

HCC continues to grow in ministry and Sunday worship is well attended. We have started a monthly Sunday school during the Sunday service that meets in the Church office. Due to the success of Tuesday evening **Praise and Prayer** (7pm-8pm) at New Ebenezer over the summer that will continue.

People have been so blessed and encouraged by answers to prayer and encouraged by a time of praising and thanking God together. All meetings apart from the Friday bible study are now in person.

Also, we have restarted 'Ladies 'Arise' to encourage women through fellowship, prayer and teaching. Our last meeting was a Saturday morning breakfast at Kings Church with Jean Hoggard who inspired us with her testimony and message of the power of the gospel that sets people free. Other exciting things planned are evangelism training and outreach in the town.

Since the employment of our Youth Coordinator, the youth work continues to grow. We had an amazing time over the summer on Savile Park Moor with family games in preparation for the new youth group Offload, as well as training up volunteers. Offload is working in partnership with a national youth charity Urban Saints and we officially launched the youth group on Thursday 16th September 2021.



Youth Co-ordinator

Currently we have 20 children registered, with 12 children attending regularly. It's pretty fun. The children love it with free time to chill, play on the Xbox, table tennis, foodie treats, team games and more.

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Children from around Halifax area from the ages 10-16 years are welcome to come and join us on Thursdays at 6.30pm. There are youth and family events planned for the winter months and this will be circulated once confirmed. If you wish to know more do not hesitate to contact **Kanaya** on email:

hccyouth2021@gmail.com

'Creative Space' was launched on Tuesday 14th September between 10am.-12.30 by Kim Wade. This is held upstairs in the Church Hall. Booking is required. It's a time of fellowship, reflecting on scriptures and then create as inspired by the Holy Spirit. See the flier below for details.

If you wish to know more about HCC visit Halifax Central Church Face book and contact New Ebenezer Administrator.

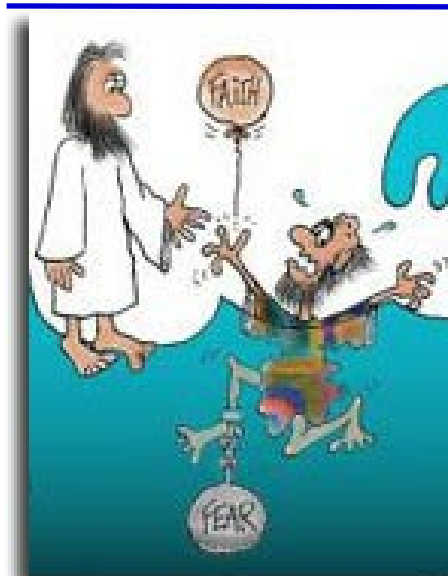


Join us for a time of creativity inspired by the scriptures, a space where we can come together and worship God through our creative expression. This can be any artistic form and is open to all artistic abilities.

We will supply some basic drawing or painting materials but best for you to bring what you would like to use.

Coffee and chat at 10am, followed by scripture sharing at 10.30am and then an hour of Creativity.

Bookings only. To reserve a place or for more information contact Kim Wade: kimjwadeo@gmail.com



Brighthouse Central Methodist Church

Every Wednesday from 4.30pm

Reflections with Jodie

Every Friday from 8.30 am

Time for God

with Mark Cheetham,
Carolyn Stafford
and Graham Smith

find them at
www.facebook.com/brighthousecmc/

A Letter from the Rev Dr Mark Cheetham

Dear Friends,

As you read this note I am surrounded on all sides by pile upon pile of leaves fallen to the ground, which itself is transitioning to a new way of being, growing, resting and recovery. We are coming through a trying and turbulent time, and one we hoped would be over by Autumn generally moving forward in our lives. It feels like it is still very much a work in progress.

Saying this is not to be down hearted but to be real: there is never more cause for thanksgiving to God. I have been extraordinarily encouraged seeing the things you are all engaged in – not as superhuman heroes, but as companions with one another in our prayer, work, and care.



With this in mind, I preached a sermon at our local preachers and worship leaders meeting thinking about how we answer God's call. I know that some of you have been sharing stories of how you have answered God's call both during lock-down and as we go forward. We do not know what will come, but we know we will walk with God, and with each other. And we have never been more needed than in these months, when so many have been isolated.

Perhaps you are able to continue to serve - thank you, are exploring what to offer or a different way of serving - I pray for continued discernment for you, or need to stop doing some or all of what you have been doing—bless you.

I wanted to comment on three things this Autumn that are about how the circuit works and in turn supports its churches.



- The first is about worship in our churches. During the last 19 months we have worshipped in different ways and with different people. I know some of our churches continue to grow into shared worship across a section and this is a wonderful transition. The circuit's struggle with finding preachers is only becoming sharper so I ask your continued prayer, and thoughtful actions as we all wrestle with this in the coming months.
- The second is to ask your prayer for the newly established circuit management team whose first task is to review lay employment and roles across the circuit and make recommendations to the circuit meeting.

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ACTION FOR CHILDREN

News from the District



Thank you for boycotting your bed

We'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone who took part in Boycott your Bed on 9 July.

You've helped us raise over **£180,000**. You are amazing!

We'd also like to thank the churches that have held an Action for Children Sunday service or are planning to hold one. We appreciate your thoughtful prayers and donations.

God bless you!



Craftivism to urge MPs to make children a priority

Are you passionate about social justice and would like to do something to ensure children can fulfil their potential?



Can you make a craft to make a point?

If so, we'd love to get you involved in our September craftivism campaign.

You would be helping us to urge your MPs to commit to making children a personal priority by sending them a handcrafted star.

We believe there's a star in every child.

When a child has the safe and happy childhood they deserve, their star shines brightly. But too many children in the UK right now don't have the chance to shine.

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Their childhoods are overshadowed by poverty, abuse, neglect and poor mental health. And the pandemic has only made things worse..

Our elected politicians can change this. Get in touch and we'll send you information on how you can make a difference.

Safe and happy childhood

Action for Children protects and supports children and young people, providing practical and emotional care and support, ensuring their voices are heard, and campaigning to bring lasting improvements to their lives.



<https://www.actionforchildren.orgg.uk/>



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- The third is to offer a thought about mission and evangelism. These great words that have sometimes been words to avoid, or full of misunderstanding, or used in particular ways; and have come back to the fore in recent meetings. Does it help to think of mission as the work of God in a particular place with the intention of leading people to faith? And evangelism as our talking about God—using words when actions are not enough on their own?

I offer you my encouragement and prayers for all that is yet to be. Bless you and stay safe,

Rev Mark.

Cross Hills Methodist Church



Overgate Hospice Choir

Music Director: Dr Simon Lindley – Accompanist: Alan Horsey

JOHN RUTTER

For the beauty of the earth

Look to the day

A Gaelic Blessing

REQUIEM

Autumn Concert 2021



Saturday 23 October 2021 at 6.30 pm

ELLAND–ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, SAVILE ROAD HX5 0NX

JANE BURNELL

soprano

PRINCIPALS OF THE NATIONAL FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

Sally Robinson *leader*

Nichola Hunter *flute* - Elizabeth Kenwood *oboe*

Sally Ladds *cello* - Angelina Egerton *harp*

Peter Matthews *timpani*

Lauren Rosborough *glockenspiel*

OVERGATE
HOSPICE

Choir

www.overgatehospicechoir.co.uk

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Overgate

For over half a century one of the most glorious and lyrical voices in English music, Dr John Rutter CBE has produced – and continues to produce music greatly beloved of singers, instrumentalists and audiences throughout the world, and very particularly in his native United Kingdom.

Making their first concert appearance since Christmas 2019 in the annual Carol Concert in Halifax Minster, Overgate Hospice Choir celebrates its foundation thirty years ago this year in a fabulous concert of choral music of Affirmation and Remembrance.

Alan Horsey is at the organ, outstanding young soprano Jane Burnell is our soloist and Sally Robinson leads her colleagues and friends, the Principals of the National Festival Orchestra.

The concert will last just over one hour and will be given without interval.

Tickets from Overgate Hospice, Hullen Edge, Elland, from Harvey's Department Store and Shoemsmiths – both of Halifax. Telephone bookings to 01422 373 252 and on-line booking at www.wegotickets.com

Over £345,126 has been raised since its foundation in 1991 by the singers of Overgate Hospice Choir to support the wonderful work of the hospice at Hullen Edge, Elland.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR READING THIS FAR!

**Now please help us spread the
word about this
special concert!**

**Let's fill All Saints' Church on Sat-
urday 23 October 2021!**

**Our aim is to raise our total to
£350,000 by the year end.**

**Further details from
Lesley Henderson
01422 373 252 or
Simon Lindley Music Director
lindleysimon@gmail.com**

OVERGATE
HOSPICE

Choir

**Sue Rosborough, Steward at
Stones Methodist Church and
Treasurer of Overgate Hospice
Choir writes:**

Overgate Hospice Choir is back up and running – we were all so pleased to be back singing together last week.

We are working towards our concert on 23rd October and hoping to reach a total raised of £350,000 for Overgate Hospice by the end of 2021, which is our 30th birthday.

Christ Church is getting active again

Brodstock

On a rainy Saturday in August eight members of Christ Church went to the Brodstock Music Festival.

We erected our gazebo (now with much needed sides), attached the new banner (brilliantly designed by

Emma Story) and put out the rainbow activity. The aim was to engage with people and ask them to write about something they had found hard or enjoyed in lockdown. The coloured pieces of

paper were then glued to a large sheet to build the rainbow that you can see.

The most important part of this was of course the talking to people. Listening to their stories, empathising with their situations and offering to

pray for them. The free lollies brought in the children, but conversations still flowed.

We all found it a rewarding and worthwhile experience. Despite the wet weather the atmosphere was buoyant and people were happy to chat. Along with the lolly



we gave them all a card to say who we were. It was great to have Colin with us this year and I understand that he had some very interesting conversations.



Extra volunteers are always welcome. If you fancy joining us next year, even just for a couple of hours, then don't wait to be asked. Christ Church is a fantastic team to be a part of and we are all part of the team.



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LEP Anniversary

This year Christ Church celebrated it's 18th anniversary as an LEP – yes 18 years!

We welcomed Mrs Jill Baker to lead our worship on Sunday 12th September.

Jill is a highly regarded local preacher and she is always well worth listening to.

Educated at Durham

University where she met her husband Andrew, she is a former President of Methodist Women in Britain and was Vice President of the Methodist Conference in 2017.



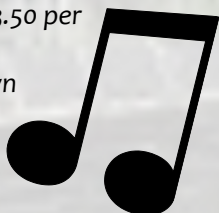
Community Choir

The Community Choir has started meeting again at Christ Church – every Thursday 7-8.30 p.m

The cost for this is £3.50 per session

Please bring your own drink.

If you love to sing, why not come along and enjoy singing for fun!



Tuesday

Tuesday Morning 9.45-10.45 a.m

Time to get fit/keep fit with Sophie!

Sit down and get exercising!

Perfect for getting those muscles going and having fun at the same time!

Tuesday Morning 11 a.m to 12 noon

Keep Fit class

Ideal for those who came to Gentle Exercise! Stretch your muscles, have fun and boost your energy!

Each class costs £4

please bring water with you



Tuesday afternoon 1.15 – 3.15 p.m

Art class

Unleash your artistic talent at our tutor-led weekly class.

£5.50 per session

Tuesday afternoon 3.30-4.30 p.m

Kurling

a fun game
no experience needed
just come and join in!

£3.50 per session

Blackshaw Head

The Church at Blackshaw Head is, at the moment, wrestling with the problem of how to return to full live worship in Blackshaw Head Chapel. There are two reasons why this issue challenges us.



The first is the nature of our lovely building, which, as you may know, is small and intricate, with fixed pews and narrow entrances, which makes ‘social distancing’ hard to organise and which also means it is not currently possible for all of our congregation to attend safely, although we have reopened in a limited fashion.

The second is the nature of our worship, which has been transformed during lock-down. Ever since the early days of lock-down - Easter 2020 in fact - we have each week produced a video act of worship which we broadcast on our facebook page every Sunday morning. Some folk watch it live, others on ‘catch-up’ either later on Sunday or during the week. We’ve also produced DVDs of this to take round to those members of our congregation not on the internet. After the live broadcast we open our ‘zoom coffee

lounge’ to sit down together in our homes over coffee for a chat, as are used to doing after worship.

At its peak, a year ago, we were getting several hundred joining with us each week, (we think the maximum was 883 ‘visits’), including from as far afield as India and Australia, though as places of worship reopened this naturally fell away to a point where we now have a weekly online scattered congregation of around 50, in addition to those who gather in our chapel. It’s been an inspiring, though demanding, journey, for the most part involving only ourselves, though of late we have welcomed other circuit preachers. Along the way we have depended on the massive input of our young adult members, sent home from uni or in lock-down from work, though they have now returned to a ‘more normal’ life as restrictions have eased.



So you see our problem. We have re-opened our building, and we are meeting on Sunday mornings. We are gradually moving from simply sitting together in the chapel to watch (and

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join in with) the video we have produced, to working out some kind of hybrid service comprising parts of the video and parts of live and interactive worship. This, of course, places increased demands on the preacher who must pre-record for the on-line video and attend in person on Sunday morning for the live worship.

But we know that some who regularly worship on-line with us are not ‘church-goers’ and never will be. In fact we’ve been asked for an assurance from one of them that we will continue our online worship videos when we have fully returned into our chapel. Another told us that, although work commitments mean she cannot join us at 10.30, she always sets aside an hour on Sunday evenings to sit down to worship with us. So we are reluctant to abandon this part of our ministry, and those who have depended on us for so long. We have also built up quite a resource - our little worship group has recorded over 150 hymn and song videos, - and it would be a shame to simply delete those.

On the other hand we cannot sustain both recorded and live worship each week. Plus we can’t stay behind in our chapel for coffee and also be at home to open the zoom coffee lounge. An added complication is the lack of internet at the chapel, which prevents us from broadcasting live, or over zoom, from there. One option we’ve considered is to maybe record all or part of the live worship and post it online afterwards, though this would take us into new territory. So much to consider!



So we are prayerfully trying to discern where God is leading us in all of this, and we would be grateful for your prayers also as we move forward in ministry to both old and new members of our church family.



Worship
WITH US ONLINE
Blackshaw Head Methodist Church

What is **A Methodist Way of Life** and why bother with it anyway?



This workshop will explain more about **A Methodist Way of Life**, help us to think about why it is important and why we might adopt it individually and as local churches. We'll think about how **A Methodist Way of Life** can help deepen our discipleship and expand our mission. The workshop will also help us think about how we can adapt and/or contextualise **A Methodist Way of Life** and identify helpful discipleship practices to live out the commitments.

The workshop will run on three occasions, once onsite at Menston Methodist Church and twice online on Zoom. Please register for the session you'd like to attend using the links below.

Sunday 3rd October, 3pm to 6pm, onsite at Menston Methodist Church

39 Main Street, Menston, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 6NB

3pm to 5pm: Workshop

5pm to 6pm: Cafe Worship inspired by A Methodist Way of Life

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/167761750913>

Thursday 4th November, 1pm to 2:30pm, online on Zoom

Register here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMtFuGuqzoiHda1F9GPkwNtOLgCAYYqeOTF>

Thursday 4th November, 8pm to 9:30pm, online on Zoom

Register here: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcrduCrrD0iGNZMJ_-eUsP4jdZsnFgNqMky

For more information please contact:

Rev. David Goodall, Missional Communities Enabler
07854 308513 | communities@ywmethodist.org.uk

A Methodist Way of Life
The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

As far as we are able, with God's help:

Worship

- We will pray daily.
- We will worship with others regularly.
- We will look and listen for God in Scripture, and the world.

Learning and Caring

- We will care for ourselves and those around us.
- We will learn more about our faith.
- We will practise hospitality and generosity.

Service

- We will help people in our communities and beyond.
- We will care for creation and all God's gifts.
- We will challenge injustice.

Evangelism

- We will speak of the love of God.
- We will live in a way that draws others to Jesus.
- We will share our faith with others.

Mount Tabor

We've waited such a long time and now, here we are, *beginning* to open our normal activities, one by one and slowly.

Mount Tabor Brownies opened (With reams of health & safety paperwork) just before the school holidays, then closed again and reopened with the schools. Then I (Sue) opened our Tues Mount Tabor Pilates class at the beginning of September.

Around the same time our ever-popular lunch club opened. We are waiting to see our Guides find their way back to their Tuesday evening slot. We have hopes that a young lady from the locality is going to begin a Mother & Toddler session once a week.

We have also been waiting, and waiting and waiting (Phew!!) to celebrate our 200th birthday which fell in 2020. Our vision for that year was several special services & a number of, hopefully, exciting social and community occasions.

As with many other plans, events conspired against us. Will we be able to “Party” next year or will we have to look to 2023?

Our big, recent change, was to afternoon worship. On our first Sunday, everyone who entered the church said, “Good Morning”. We all dress for church as we get up and then realise it's not 'til the afternoon. The Parade service on the 2nd Sunday remains in the morning to confuse us further.



We look forward to the time when we feel it is Covid safe to leaflet the village and invite more folk to join in our Sunday fellowship, to hear the Gospel and to trust in our Saviour.



Mount Tabor Chapel 1820

Brighthouse

Greetings from Brighthouse Central at the lower end of the Valley.

As summer begins to fade we are beginning to see the birth of a new season. Although Autumn brings shorter days, generally more rain and wind and the need to wrap ourselves up a bit warmer we also get the lovely Autumnal shades as the leaves begin to change colour. There are also the occasional rays of bright sunshine. What a wonderful Creator our God is!



Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve

I think we have all felt the gloom of darkness in our lives throughout the Pandemic but just as surely as the Seasons bring change so we change from despondency to re-assessment in the life of the church.

Covid restrictions have eased but they haven't gone away and we still need to take care, but slowly change is

happening at Brighthouse Central. We have several outside organisations returning to use the building as well as some of our church groups meeting up again - cautiously!

Worship numbers are starting to increase and we have been able to partake in Holy Communion (still using wafers).



A working party has been busy making our kitchen safe and ready to use again. The deep cleaners came in, the appliances were checked, the walls painted and some tiling done. The crockery, utensils and anything else we found we could wash was put through the dishwasher so we can now start using the kitchen again. With all this done, it is our hope to restart Friday 'Open Door Lunches' and serve again those in need of a good weekly meal.

I think it is fair to say that the biggest change we have made in worship is to livestream our morning services. This has allowed us to reach far more people and has even brought new people in to the worship centre. We continue to have midweek 'Reflections' from our Children & Families Worker and 'Time For God' on Friday mornings,

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both accessible through Facebook.



Our children and Young People are still part of our morning worship but Laura, our Junior Church Leader, organises a special Children and Families service every 3rd Sunday afternoon at 4.00 pm. With Bible stories, songs, craft activities and games it has proved very successful and is also enjoyed by some of our adults.

The logo for 'ONE PROGRAMME'. It features a stylized orange circle with a white cross inside, followed by the word 'ONE' in large, bold, black, sans-serif letters, and 'PROGRAMME' in smaller, bold, black, sans-serif letters below it.

We are delighted and blessed to welcome three young people, Lucy, Adam and Leah, each with unique talents, skills and interests, to the One Programme with us at Central. Each one has a named Project Enabler and Carolyn Stafford is their Spiritual Mentor. Each participant has a different initiative to work on and I will be happy to keep you updated with their progress throughout the year. We look forward to seeing them grow in confidence and spirituality as their

faith is nurtured. We hold them in our prayers asking that God's blessing will be upon them. We invite you to pray for them too.

We have also two successful applicants starting as Interns. Both are connected to Central - one will be a Worship Intern and the other a Ministries Intern. We pray for them also, holding them in Christian Love.



So, as we step out in Faith, many things will be completely different and some things we will have to adapt to but God is leading us to be the church he wants us to be. With prayer, patience and participation we strive to be 'Open to God, Open to All'.

May we continue to hold Rev Colin and Rev Mark in our united prayers as they fulfil their role as joint Superintendents of the Calderdale Circuit.

Brighouse Central send their love and blessings to you all.

Susan Yates - Senior Steward



Winter Fayre and Tree Festival

WHERE: Boothtown and Southowram Methodist Church, Beverley Place, Ackroydon, Halifax, HX3 6LR

FAYRE: 11am - 2pm, Saturday 27 November

TREE FESTIVAL: 11am - 4pm, Saturday, 27 November

TREE FESTIVAL: 12pm - 4pm, Sunday 28 November



Trees are to be bought and decorated by each individual or company (they could be used to promote your business)

TO BOOK A TREE:

boothtownsouthowrammethodist@gmail.com

Circuit Mission Enabling Team (CMET)

If you or your church are organizing an event or there is an event happening in your locality then the Mission Enabling Team are happy to come along and support you or help you in any planning you might want any help with.

The Team is also looking after the Busoasis project for the time being and so if you think there is any opportunity you might like the van to come along then just contact Rev Paul Welch.

Have you seen 'Wes' the bear around the Circuit? Perhaps you might like to send some pictures to the Circuit Office of him on his mission outings so that it can go onto the website and share your good news stories. If you are planning any events where you think Wes might be a useful tool then again let Rev Paul Welch know as Wes has a twin called 'Lee' who could make an appearance in Wes's stead if he is occupied elsewhere (Wes Lee).

Are any of the Churches taking up the opportunity to have a Christmas Tree Festival during Advent? If so, let the office know and then it can go on the Circuit Website and Face Book page. Let's shout about what we are doing well and share God's love and his presence as we go about our everyday lives.

There will be daily reflections by Carolyn Stafford leading up to Christmas Day. These will be on the Circuit Facebook Page.

There will also be a nativity trail produced that you can use for your local area. These resources will appear on the Circuit Website nearer the time and are similar to the ones produced for the Circuit last year, but you can add your own destinations on the sheets. Contact Rev Paul Welch for any further info.

Walking 'The WAY'

Starting January there will be a monthly (2nd Sunday 2pm) reflective walk (Walking 'The WAY') that will be for those who like walking and engaging spiritually. This might be of interest for church people and non-church people who want to reflect while enjoying a walk.

This is a good opportunity for people you know who may be part of an existing walking group but don't perhaps attend church. It will have an aspect of well being as well as a spiritual dimension. For an example of walks already done visit the Circuit website link.

<https://www.calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk/news/walking-way.html>

Feel free to come along and bring a friend. Details of the first walk will follow



St Andrews



Summer is officially over for another year and as we enter into a New Methodist Year and the Harvest period for 2021 we give thanks for the events of the past year with all its 'ups and downs' due to Covid 19 and other reasons.

As a church family we have said our goodbyes to Terry & Linda and welcomed Paul & Lynn into our church family and we look forward to whatever the Lord has planned for us in the future.

Little by little our Church groups are beginning once again to take little steps to re-open once more and joy of joys we no longer have to book to go to Church but all our other Covid19 rules will stay in place for a little while longer, but this is a small price to pay to be able to be back with our friends to worship and



socialise together again after almost eighteen months.

For those who are still unsure about joining events with lots of people we continue to Zoom our Service each Sunday and will remain doing so for the immediate future.

In August it was wonderful to be able to share together in our first Service of Holy Communion led for us by the Revd Graham Smith – a very moving and meaningful service.



Once again knitting needles are working hard, the project this season is knitted poppies, as we propose to decorate the tree seen above full of cherry blossom with poppies to celebrate Remembrance Sunday this year.

The Church Development Team continue to work very hard behind the scenes and things are progressing well as we continue to work towards the reality against the dream of a new Church building on our present Church site on Huddersfield Road. We continue to trust the Lord to help us achieve our hope for the fulfilment of our plans.

St Andrew's was open on the Sunday
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during Heritage Week when a light lunch was available. Another first for us and it was really good to share in fellowship around the table once again.



Fund raising for our building scheme has continued on a much smaller scale during these past months through Quizzes, and a socially distanced Plant Stall in the rain.



Our star fundraiser has been Sue Ng who unfortunately fell in her garden recently and sustained a fracture to her neck which resulted in her having an operation to fit a head halo to hold her neck in place but in usual Sue style she turned a negative into a positive and has had her head shaved and asked for sponsorship from family and friends with all donations going towards St Andrew's Methodist Church Development fund. As you are aware the church needs to raise 1.1 million pounds to replace our leaking

and inefficient building! At the present time Sue has raised over £900.00 for our building fund. The really good news is that after a recent hospital visit Sue was told that all was progressing well for her. We thank God for Sue's positivity and witness to our Lord during this time of illness.

We are pleased to say that our Monday morning Toddler Group, the Monday Kitchen Luncheon Club and our Knit & Natter Group have all re-opened with Covid friendly rules which are moving us nearer and nearer



to normality. The highlight for our luncheon club guests is that we can now revert to 'home baking' again and they are so looking forward to the lemon drizzle cake and fresh cream buns that will be on the menu soon!

We are looking forward to the start of a new church venture the 'Wednesday Get Together' which will be open to everyone for an afternoon of fun and fellowship once a month. The future plans include curling/games, speakers and meals out!

We now look forward in anticipation of what the Lord has planned for us as a Church family at St Andrew's in the days and months to come. Sending love to all our Circuit friends.



Northowram Methodist Church **BICENTENARY**

Over the weekend of 18 and 19 September we were delighted to celebrate the bicentenary of



Methodists worshipping on our current site in Northowram.

The celebrations had to be on a small scale because of

Covid-19 restrictions, but we were able to have a lovely flower festival

with refreshments, and our District Chair, Rev Kerry Tankard, preached on the Sunday.

It was the first time we had been able to meet in fellowship since the start of the pandemic, and the weekend was enjoyed by all who came.

These are just a couple of the beautiful displays that we had.



Be assured the
Methodist people
are praying for the
world at this time



The **Methodist Church** 
www.methodist.org.uk

Calderdale 
Methodist Circuit

Circuit Website
[www.calderdale
methodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk)

It is hoped that Issue No. 27 of this News-letter will come out soon. Material for the next issue can be sent to office@calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk

Please send items as soon as you have them available.

Around the Dale

The Newsletter of the Calderdale Circuit of the Methodist Church