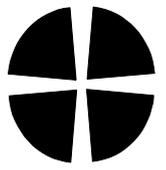


Guiseley Methodist Church



Ministers:

Rev Roger Smith : Tel 01943 874735

Deacon Jenny Parnell : Tel 0113 250 9805

Newsletter

December 2018

and

January 2019

Sunday Worship

December Services

	Morning 10.30 am	Evening 6 pm
2 nd	9.00 am Holy Communion Rev Roger Smith Parade and Toy Service Deacon Jenny Parnell	United Service at St Oswald's Guiseley
9 th	Rev Cayte Norman Holy Communion	Circuit Service at Otley
16 th	Rev Roger Smith Nativity Service	United Service at Yeadon
23 rd	Mr David Tate	Rev Roger Smith Carol Service
24 th	4.30 pm Rev Roger Smith Children's Nativity Service	11.30 pm Rev Roger Smith Holy Communion
25 th	Christmas Day Service Deacon Jenny Parnell	
30 th	Mrs Lindsay Hurst	

Sunday Worship

January Services

Morning 10.30 am

Evening 6 pm

6th Rev Michael Faulkner

United Service at Yeadon

13th 9.00 am Holy Communion
Rev Roger Smith
Parade Mr Alan Sheath

United Service at Guiseley
Rev Keith Reed

20th Rev Roger Smith
Holy Communion

4.00 pm Rev Roger Walton
Circuit Service at Yeadon

27th Mr Michael Hardstaffe

United Service at Yeadon



December 2018

- Sun 2nd 2.30 pm Primrose Court Service led by Tuesday Prayer Group
- Tue 4th 2.15 pm Tuesday Fellowship – Rev Keith Reed
- Wed 5th 12.30 pm Children from Guiseley Primary visit for "What's the Story"
- Tue 18th 2.15 pm Tuesday Fellowship – Christmas Afternoon

January 2019

- Sun 6th 2.30 pm Primrose Court Service. Communion led by Rev Keith Reed supported by church members
- Tue 8th 2.15 pm Tuesday Fellowship – Rev Roger Smith
- Wed 16th 6.45 pm Finance Committee
- Tue 22nd 2.15 pm Tuesday Fellowship – Mrs Julie Hipkin

Ben Rhydding Methodist Church, from 4 to 7 December are hosting a 'Festive Journey' event. There will be train displays and crafts, and some displays on the theme of the Polar Express to raise money for the charity 'The Railway Children' who support homeless children. See poster in foyer for more details.

MINISTER'S LETTER



'Jesus was a refugee' is the title of a new children's picture book which tells the story of the Jesus' birth, flight to Egypt with Joseph and Mary and their return. When I looked it up on Amazon I found just one review which called the book 'communist claptrap'! The reviewer didn't seem to know that this is the story the bible tells (in Matthew chapter 2). Jesus was a refugee.

This makes a direct connection between the Christmas story and our world today. We all know that migration is a massive issue with millions of people on the move, fleeing troubles and seeking a better life. Do we see the face of Jesus in today's refugees?

It's a wonderful thing to see communities welcoming strangers. I recall seeing a news report about people in Shetland campaigning on behalf of a family threatened with deportation. The family included two teenage boys who had caused some trouble, but the locals' approach was: this family belongs here now and if there are difficulties, we'll tackle them.

I've seen many church communities open their hearts to strangers but how do we respond to the thousands of people making their way to Europe? Mediterranean Hope is a Christian charity which supports refugees arriving in Italy. Fiona Kendall, a family lawyer and local preacher from Ilkley, is currently working for the charity. In a recent article, Fiona described how she'd like to see the whole Christian community respond to people on the move:-

‘As Christians first, and as global citizens, my primary hope is that we recognise our collective responsibility to meet the needs of the marginalised – even when that comes at some personal cost. Developing coherent national and international migration policies, rather than simply demonising those who travel would, in my view, take us much closer to resolving this divisive issue.’



As Fiona says, it's all too easy to blame the people on the move. Look at President Trump's negative portrayal of people on the move from Central America and his actions in sending in the troops and planning to build an enormous wall. As Christians, we must look for the face of Jesus in people fleeing their homes.

So if Jesus became a refugee in the Christmas story, how can we reach out in love? There are so many things we can do from supporting a charity to taking personal action. Do something which connects the real story of the birth of Jesus with the real lives of people today.

And, while you're at it, have a good Christmas!

Roger

CHRISTMAS EVENTS AND SERVICES 2018 AT GUISELEY METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2nd December 10.30 am is the TOY SERVICE
Please bring any toys in GOOD CONDITION to donate
to YMCA Hawksworth Wood for distribution to needy
families.



WEDNESDAY 5TH DECEMBER – we are hosting the children from
Guiseley Primary School to tell “What’s the Story” from 12.30 pm



Sunday 16th December 10.30 am is our NATIVITY
SERVICE

SUNDAY 23rd December at 6.00 pm is our
traditional CAROL SERVICE



CHRISTMAS EVE at 4.30
Children’s Nativity Service
Come as your favourite character as we bring the
Christmas story to life.

And at 11.30pm we have our Service of Holy Communion to
welcome the Christ Child once again.

The Christmas Day morning service is at 10.30 am when we invite
the children to bring their new toys to show everyone.

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

Advent Candles in Guiseley Methodist Church



Commencing on Sunday 2nd December, for the following 3 Sundays, and on Christmas Day, an Advent Liturgy and Lighting of Candles will take place.

The stewards would welcome volunteers to take part in this short act of worship at the beginning of each service. There is a short passage to read; and a candle to light. If you have never taken part and would

like to do so, please contact any of the Stewards: Jean Fletcher or Julie Hipkin can show you the details.

AIREBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The next meeting in Church will be held on 13 December commencing at 7.30 pm. The speaker June Ellis will talk about "Do you remember the Old Cinemas in Leeds?" This will take you back to the days when every township had their own Cinema and many families went weekly to the show.

Roger Halliwell 878609

Lunch for Leprosy (October)

The lunch for Leprosy raised the magnificent total of £300 with an extra £58.50 in gift aid.

Many thanks from the Leprosy Mission to all involved.

Roger Garnett

World Church

At the World Church meeting in October I was pleased to report a grand total of £2885 which will go towards the work of the World Mission Fund. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and commitment through the year. There was an excellent response to the Self-Denial envelopes last January when £484 was donated. As usual, next year (!) the envelopes will be in Church on the 6th and 13th January 2019.

The Tuesday Prayer Group continues to support the Mission Fund. Tuesday Prayers, open to all, is “a good way to start the day”. Pray, learn, sing, listen, chat and tea.

We thanked Lynne and all helpers who give much time, effort and love to ensure the success of all Church events, many of which support the World Mission Fund.

Pray for all the people throughout the world who work to alleviate the lives of the poor and desperate.

Look at Hymn 699

God of justice, Saviour to all,
came to rescue the weak and the poor,
chose to serve and not be served.

Jesus, you have called us.

Freely we've received, now freely we will give.

We must go,

Live to feed the hungry, stand beside the broken

We must go,

Stepping forward, keep us from just singing,

Move us into action - We must go.

Thank you

Catherine Mouncey (Sec)

Guiseley Methodist Church

Church Activities Organiser

Guiseley Methodist Church is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic activities organiser on a part time basis to develop a range of stimulating activities across the different age groups within the Church. As an occupational requirement, we are looking for someone who is a practising Christian, committed to their own faith and to growing faith in others of all ages.

The post offers 15 hours per month @ £10.30 per hour, with a requirement within those hours to attend Sunday worship once a month to connect with the congregation. The remaining hours to be worked flexibly, normally one session per week. The post is initially for twelve months.

The post is subject to obtaining a satisfactory DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service)

For further details and/or an application pack please contact Jean Fletcher, senior steward at light326@outlook.com or 07449535298

Closing date: 14th December 2018
Interviews to take place early in January 2019

Jo Cox's Community Spirit Christmas Day Dinner

On 25th December 2018 The Jo Cox Community Spirit will be providing a free Christmas Dinner for up to sixty people from our area at Trinity Church Rawdon. People who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day or would not get a proper meal. Christmas is, for many people, a time of great stress and tension. This is particularly true for those who have struggles with finance and loneliness.

If you know of anybody who is in this situation, even yourself, then please contact me.

We are also hoping to give each person a small Christmas gift, so if you would like to donate a gift that will be very welcome.

Best wishes Jean Fletcher

The following letter has been received from St Georges Crypt

Dear Rev. Smith, Michael and all our friends and supporters at Guiseley Methodist Church,

Once again the seasons come around to harvest and once again the good people of Guiseley give of their own for which we are so grateful. More than ever people accessing the Crypt and our foodbank is becoming a tidal wave of need and necessity.

Thank you all so much for your fantastic harvest. So many people will benefit and grow stronger because of your help.

From everyone here at the Crypt and with all blessings, love and peace.

Chris Fields

YOU'RE INVITED TO EXPLORE ADVENT WITH US

There will be an Advent course starting
3rd December at Yeadon Methodist Church at 7pm
continuing on the 10th and 17th December.
Everyone is very welcome to this informal time of
preparation and fellowship
Led by Deacon Jenny

The Advent prayer space will be held at Bramhope Methodist Church
on Tuesday 4th December from 10 am-7 pm.

This will be a multi-sensory prayer space which leads people through
the Christmas story.

All are welcome to attend, to take time out and reflect.

Deacon Jenny

The Children's Activity Morning on November 10th was a happy event
and raised £100 in donations to Children in Need. Thanks to all the
helpers.
Hilary

Fairtrade: Changes affecting Traidcraft

Traidcraft has been operating since 1979. So in August next year it will be 40 years old. It is a Christian UK-based organisation whose mission is to fight poverty through Fairtrade. The goal of Fairtrade is to make sure that companies in developed countries pay a fair price to producers in developing countries for their work. This includes helping smallhold farmers and artisans to improve their skills, create cooperatives, increase standards of living and secure sustainable livelihoods. Traditionally most trade with poor countries has depended on low-cost labour and exploitation of natural resources and this is largely still the case. Traidcraft's goal has been to change this. It was the pioneer of Fairtrade in this country and is one of the leading dedicated Fairtrade companies in the world. There are now well over 1.5 million farmers and workers spread across more than 73 countries participating in Fairtrade.

Despite Traidcraft's success at improving the lives of so many people as well as the attitude of many consumers, during the past couple of years a large trading loss has accumulated for Traidcraft plc, the part of the organisation that buys and sells Traidcraft products. This August the company announced that it was in consultation with its Board of Directors to discuss possible closure at the end of 2018. It blamed its financial difficulties on the fall of the pound after the Brexit referendum, austerity and a disappointing relaunch of its online shop. However, this month it has been announced that Traidcraft plc will continue trading! Its new plan includes cutting down on the range of products it sells, especially on crafted items, and the existing number of staff employed at the Gateshead headquarters will be reduced from 68 to 12. The charity partner of the company, Traidcraft Exchange, will continue as before.

As well as describing to you what has been happening with Traidcraft, I would like to announce that after 15 years of raising funds as a fairtrader at Guiseley Methodist Church I have decided to stand down from doing this work. This will be a gradual process as I continue to hold a quantity of stock. I will cut down on making orders for the stall but will continue to order tea, coffee and biscuits for the church. I am happy until further notice to continue to take orders from individual people.

If you would like to "take over the reins" from me (or know somebody who may be interested), please let me know and I will discuss with them what the job entails.

Jane Dick

The Nativity through the eyes of the animals (contributed by Chris Gilmour)

What the Donkey Saw
No room in the inn, of course,
And not that much in the stable
What with the shepherds, Magi, Mary,
Joseph, the heavenly host –
Not to mention the baby
Using our manger as a cot.
You couldn't have squeezed another cherub in
For love or money.

Still, in spite of the overcrowding,
I did my best to make them feel wanted.
I could see the baby and I
Would be going places together.

U.A. Fanthorpe



Camels of the Kings

'The Camels, the Kings' Camels, Haie-aie!
Saddles of polished leather, stained red and purple,
Pommels inlaid with ivory and beaten gold,
Bridles of silk embroidery, worked with flowers.
The Camels, the Kings' Camels!
We are groomed with silver combs,
We are washed with perfumes.
The grain of richest Africa is fed to us,
Our dishes are silver.
Like cloth-of-gold glisten our sleek pelts.
Of all camels, we alone carry the Kings!
Do you wonder that we are proud?
That our hooded eyes are contemptuous?



As we sail past the tented villages
They beat their copper gongs after us.
'The windswift, the desert racers. See them!
Faster than gazelles, faster than hounds,
Haie-aie! The Camels, the Kings' Camels!
The sand drifts in puffs behind us,
The glinting quartz, the fine, hard grit.
Do you wonder that we look down our noses?
Do you wonder we flare our superior nostrils?

All night we have run under the moon,
Without effort, breathing lightly,
Smooth as a breeze over the desert floor,
One white star our compass.
We have come to no palace, no place
Of towers and minarets and the calling of servants,
But a poor stable in a poor town.
So why are we bending our crested necks?
Why are our proud heads bowed
And our eyes closed meekly?
Why are we outside this hovel,
Humbly and awkwardly kneeling?
How is it that we know the world is changed?

Leslie Norris

The Shepherd's Dog

Out on the windy hill
Under that sudden star
A blaze of radiant light
Frightened my master.

He got up, left our sheep,
Tramped over the moor.
And I, following,
Came to this open door,

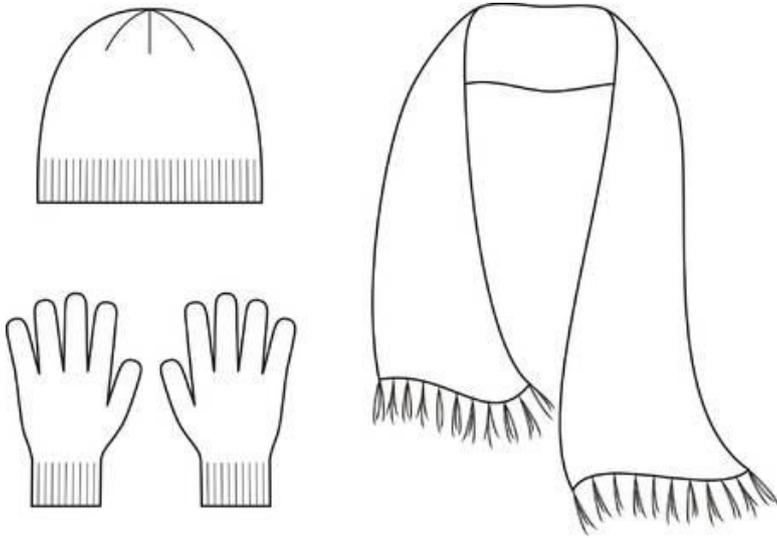
Sidled in, settled down,
Head on my paws,
Glad to be here, away
From the wind's sharpness.

Such warmth is in this shed,
Such comfort from this Child,
That I forget my hard life,
Ignore the harsh world,

And see on my master's face
The same joy I possess,
The knowledge of peace,
True happiness.

Leslie Norris





Please save your unwanted, pre-worn hats scarves and gloves* etc and bring them to

Guiseley Methodist Church

on

Saturday 12th January 2019

JOIN THE GUISELEY CHURCHES TOGETHER FOR COFFEES AND TEAS as we collect warm clothing for St George's Crypt, Emmaus and Simon on the Streets 10 am to 12 noon

***STOP PRESS**

we will now be able to accept any warm clothing but please come along for a cuppa even if you have nothing to bring!

A bit More Yorkshire Humour

A man accidentally runs over a rabbit while out driving on the North York moors. He gets out to see if he can help but the bunny is dead. However, his wife has an idea. She grabs a spray can from her handbag and sprays the prone body. Within seconds the rabbit jumps to its feet, waves its paw at the two of them, then hops off down the road. After a few feet it turns, waves again, then continues on its way. The husband is stunned. "What's in t'can?" he gasps. His wife reads from the label: "Hair spray – restores life, and adds permanent wave."

Young Love

A young dales lad and lass were sitting on a low drystone wall, holding hands as they gazed across the meadows of Swaledale. For several minutes they sat in silence, then the girl looked at her sweetheart and said, "A penny for your thoughts, John."

"Well, ah were just thinkin' perhaps it's time we had a bit of a kiss," said John. The girl blushed, then leaned over and kissed him lightly on the cheek. He in turn blushed, and the pair turned once again, to stare down the picturesque valley.

Minutes passed then the girl spoke again. "Another penny for your thoughts, John."

"Well, ah were just thinkin' perhaps it were time for a bit of a cuddle," said John.

The girl blushed again, but leaned over and gave him a hug. After more gazing at the view, she said again, "Another penny for your thoughts, John."

This time the young lad said, "Well, ter be honest mi thoughts is a bit more serious this time".

"Really?" she said with anticipation.

"Aye," said the lad. The girl looked away blushing more than ever.

"Aye lass, don't tha think it's about time tha paid mi fer the first two pennies tha owes mi?"

Yorkshiremen aren't tight. It's just a story we made up to stop people asking us for money.

Christmas Crackers

What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?
'It's Christmas Eve'.

What is the first step you take, if you get a computer for Christmas?

First, Yule log on.

What is an ig?

An eskimo's house without a loo.

Knock Knock.

Who's there?

Avery.

Avery who?

A very happy Christmas to you all.

See you in the New Year

Contributed by Peter Busfield



The **NEXT NEWSLETTER** is for February & March 2019. Please let us have your material by no later than 20th January* via the

box in the vestry or by email to:
gmcmonthlynewsletter@hotmail.co.uk

Circuit & Church Noticeboard

'Viewpoint' will be our new monthly E-noticeboard for the Circuit. It will detail upcoming events within your church and will be emailed out to the circuit so that everyone gets a view of what is happening.

If you have any special services / events / social happenings etc. due to take place in December or January please give details by email, or call me on 07885 585946. Contributions should be sent to Mike Fawcett (admin@wandamethodists.org.uk) by the end of the first week of every month, for issue the following week.

Many thanks

Mike Fawcett
Circuit Administrator

The Circuit website address is
www.wandamethodists.org.uk

*the Editor's birthday!!