

With Linthwaite Methodist Church

Website www.linthwaitemc.co.uk

	Dec	2	9.30am	Own Arrangement – Toy Service
		9	9.30am	Miss Janice Leam
		16	9.30am	Revd Sue Burton – including Holy Communion
		23	9.30am	Mrs Laura Tunnacliffe
			6.00pm	Carol Service
	Mon	24	6.00pm	Christingle Service – Sunday School Scholars
Christmas Day	Tues	25	10.30am	Joint Service at Slaithwaite – Mr Andrew Marchington
		30	10.30am	Joint Service at Golcar – Revd Nancy Ndoho

Anyone requiring a lift to and from Church, please ring John Liversidge on 842063 or 07903 747672

Minister: Revd Sue Burton 15 Priestley Grove, Taylor Hill, HD4 7RG Phone 300097
e mail suemburton@googlemail.com

Dear Friends

One of the things I remember about Christmas as a child was going to my aunt's every year on Boxing Day for tea and games, including an anagram game which I was and still am terrible at – even the six letter ones defeat me! On their table there was always a Christmas candle holder, which had come from Austria. I loved it – it was the Christmas story on a small round base, surrounded by candles, and I would watch it for ages as it turned slowly round and round. A feature of German Christmas markets, which I've visited many times both in the UK and in various towns and villages in Germany, is the vast display of perfumed candles on the stalls. In one village, Gengenbach, near where my sister-in-law lives, the front of the town hall turns each year into the world's biggest Advent calendar. The twenty-four windows are each decorated with a festive Christmas scene, with a new window revealed every night until Christmas, the whole building being lit in a soft pink light. It's estimated that 10,000 people turn up every evening at 6 o'clock to see the latest window being opened – it certainly felt like that when we were there!

I have to admit that I am somewhat less impressed by the displays outside some houses around us at Christmas. The first year we lived in the manse I think we were the only house without a colourful display of lights up the drive and around the garden, some more tasteful than others. I did wonder if we should perhaps have made more of an effort!

Candles and light – such a symbol of this time of year. We always had a candlelight carol service at Dalton throughout my teenage years, but after the arson in the church in 1983 this somehow lost its attraction. And there are torchlight processions in many churches and cathedrals around the start of Advent, perhaps finishing with carol singing in the streets or a service in church.

Light is such a powerful symbol, isn't it, particularly when contrasted with the darkness. I'm always moved to see the vigils held at places where there has been tragedy, often in the darkness with people holding candles or other lights almost as a gesture of defiance that, however flickering, the light will never be extinguished.

Darkness into light – a powerful image especially at this time of year when we prepare ourselves to receive the Christ child again into our lives. A reminder that Jesus came to bring hope to the world. A theme of many of our Advent hymns and of the well-known carols we enjoy each year. From the traditional, such as Silent Night 'Son of God, O how bright; love is smiling from your face', to the more recent: 'Jesus is the heart of Christmas, light your candles from his flame' (Singing the Faith 207).

May we experience the light of the world anew in our lives this Christmastime.

Best wishes,
Sue

Flower List

Dec	2	John & Molly Myers	23	Margaret Moriarty
	9	Sue Howard	30	No Service at Linthwaite
	16	Flower Fund		

Margaret would like to thank all who have given flowers or money for her to buy some, for the pleasure of others in 2018. The list for next year will soon be on the notice board – please put your name on your chosen day. Also Margaret asks that you continue to let her know of anyone you would like flowers sent to.

Welcomers in Vestibule

Dec	2	Keith & Janine Fielding	23	John & Molly Myers
	9	Margaret Sykes & Alice Mowbray	30	No Service at Linthwaite
	16	Maureen Stead & Joanna Ambler		

I shall be printing a new list in January for 2019. If anyone does not wish to continue taking their turn at welcoming, please let me know before the end of the year so I can cross your name off the list. Also, if there is anyone not on the list who would like to “welcome”, please let me know that also. Jennifer.

Cleaning Rota

Dec	2	Jennifer Hirst & Janine Fielding	23	Margaret Moriarty & Maureen Stead
	9	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard	30	
	16			

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Jan	6	Jennifer Hirst & Janine Fielding	20	Margaret Moriarty & Maureen Stead
	13	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard	27	

Thursday Fellowship at 2.30pm

Nov	29	Lynn Conway	My Life in Yoga
Dec	6	Philip & Catherine Barnett	Christmas Meeting
2019			
Jan	3	Peter Stead	Quiz Time
	17	Ann Littlewood	Storthes Hall Remembered
	31	Dianne Hughes	Street Angels

Diary

Sun	Nov	25	Start of Angel week
Thurs	Nov	29	A Look Back at Linthwaite Movie films from the 1930's, 50's and 70's presented by Ian Baxter in the Church centre at 7pm. Admission £5 including light refreshments
Sun	Dec	2	Toy Service and Prizegiving at 9.30am. See note below
Fri	Dec	7	Circuit Methodist Women in Britain Carol Service at Huddersfield Mission Coffee 10.30am, Service 11am. All welcome.
Sat	Dec	8	Messy Church 4pm – 6pm Christmas! Everyone very welcome
Weds	Dec	19	Ecumenical Service at Holy Family Church, Slaithwaite at 11am
Sun	Dec	23	Carol Service at 6pm with Linthwaite Band
Mon	Dec	24	Christingle Service at 6pm
Tues	Dec	25	Christmas Day Service at Slaithwaite at 10.30am led by Andrew Marchington
Sun	Dec	30	Joint Service at Golcar at 10.30am led by Revd Nancy Ndoho
2019			
Tues	Jan	8	Church Council Meeting at 7.30pm
Weds	Jan	9}	Linthwaite Methodist Young Players present Snow White in the Church Centre
Thurs	Jan	10}	Weds, Thurs & Friday evenings at 7.15pm and Saturday afternoon at 3pm
Fri	Jan	11}	Adults £5, Children £3. Booking from Mairi on 852300 from mid December.
Sat	Jan	12}	Offers of help with refreshments and donation of raffle prizes to Linda Marshall
Sun	Jan	13	Old Folk's Treat committee meeting at 2.30pm

Friendship Hour

Our weekly friendship meetings, Tuesdays from 11.30am – 12.45pm in the Primary room are proving very popular. Everyone welcome to come along and have coffee and biscuits (£1.50), join in the singing and share time with others. Also on the first Tuesday of the month we have a lady to teach us armchair Zumba – come along and give it a go!

Toy Service

On Sunday 2nd December we are holding our usual Toy Service even though our Sunday School is virtually non-existent at the moment. Whether we continue with this service next year will be a matter for future discussion. But on this day we will gratefully receive gifts of new or good used toys which will be taken to the Domestic Violence unit offices for their use. I will ask for any donations from Messy Church parents and carers and invite them to the service.

Sue Howard

Church Christmas Card

Sue will be publishing a 'Christmas Card' again this year. If you would like to put a message to all your Church friends in the card please do the following - write your message on an envelope and inside the envelope place a donation of at least £2, then hand to Sue or email to sue.howard@btinternet.com no later than Sunday 16th December. Any surplus money after printing costs goes towards the cost of the Christingles.

Thank you

Carol Singing

Parties will leave Church on Tuesday Dec 18th and Thursday December 20th at 7pm, and after the Carol Service on December 23rd. Everyone is very welcome to come and join the singing – you don't have to be a perfect singer, a good measure of enthusiasm is all that is required!! Don't forget to bring a torch.

Christmas Day house to house collection.

Collectors urgently required for collecting on Christmas morning. Please see Mairi if you are able to help. She expects the "regulars to turn up as usual!!

Thanks

Sue Haigh thanks everyone who joined her for lunch on October 7th to celebrate her 65th birthday. Donations received amounted to £200 for the kitchen fund.

Haydn Wood Musical Festival

On behalf of the committee Maureen would like to say thank you for the help, support and generosity they received at this year's festival on November 16th & 17th. It is very much appreciated.

Money Matters

Our Sunday collections for October amounted to £1272.30. These were for church funds and as usual include offerings paid directly into the bank.

Jenny Sutherland Church Treasurer

Angels

At the start of Angel Week we invite you to take a knitted angel from Church and give it to a friend or neighbour. The angel carries an invitation to our Christmas Worship services.

The angel can be used to start a conversation about our Church.

The angel can be used to speak to someone new.

The angel can be used to spread the story of Christmas

The angel can be used to get to know someone better.

However you use your angel – may it work Christmas magic in your life.

We have plenty more – the basket will be filled up – until we run out – that would be good!

Property Report

The Kitchen Refurbishment Project including some snagging is now totally complete and Mairi is assisting Jenny in claiming back the VAT (which we are entitled to do). The kitchen has been used on a number of occasions and all users seem happy with the new facilities. We have managed to source nearly £6,000 in outside grants for this project and again thanks go to Mairi for her help and also of course to all who have donated. We also have had to have a water pressure limiter to mains water supply as the water pressure in church was far too high for the new dishwasher!

Routine maintenance continues and the Annual Gas Installation Check and boiler services will be carried out at the end of November. We have had the lights in the toilets changed to LED units, which will reduce electricity use. Time limiter push button switches have also been fitted as the lights were continually being left on (the hunt for the culprits is therefore over!)

Jellies (Out of School Club) have installed some toilets in the old Billiard Room (with our approval) so that they do not have to take the smaller children up and down the stairs.

Jellies are a thriving business and it is really good to see the building being fully used and to hear the sound of young voices. But, times move on, and Jellies require more floor space so the last of the 2 original Billiard Tables has had to go!.

Despite efforts on e-bay and Facebook to find a new home (the only result was a couple of time wasters – Grrr!) the table had to be broken up and disposed of by a commercial waste disposal company. Sad to see such an item meet an ignominious end!

The Graveyard grass has proved quite challenging this year, but we have had some help from the Pride in Linthwaite Group – thanks for Kate Stanley for her help. We have also employed a professional company to cut the hedges this year – the days of 70 year old's wielding hedge cutters is now over (anyone younger please feel free!)

The hanging baskets were better this year than last (maybe some room for improvement) - Christmas trees next Mrs Moriarty!

The next major project will be repairs to the windows in the old Sunday School building, so please keep fund raising!

Peter Stead
Property Secretary

Did You Know? By Mike Shaw

Linthwaite has grown immensely in the last seven or eight decades until today it consists of many hundreds of houses. In the immediate post-war years the 1937 formed Colne Valley Council built estates in each of the four villages in its area. Linthwaite's estate was, and still is, The Ridgeways, on a sloping site off Causeway Side. Before that, it is believed that the old Linthwaite Council erected two blocks of houses on Gillroyd Lane. They seem to have two or three names: Wiggin Cross, Moorside View or simply Gillroyd Lane. Colne Valley Council also built a small number of homes at The Lodge to supplement the private ones that were already there. Now we are in the midst of a new housing boom, this time by private companies, at Waingate and off Hoyle Ing, which together will put pressure on public services. And there is the prospect of a fresh wave of council home building, with Kirklees being allocated Government cash to fund new homes. Whether Linthwaite will be chosen as one of the sites remains to be seen.

Edited and typed by Jennifer Hirst

Items for inclusion in the February 2019 edition of the Link to reach me by Sunday, January 20th please
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