

With Linthwaite Methodist Church

Website www.linthwaitemc.co.uk

Services	March	6	9.30am	Mrs Kimm Brook
		13	9.30am	Mr Paul Bussey
		20	9.30am	Revd Sue Burton – including Holy Communion
		27	9.30am	Own Arrangement

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

Dear Friends

Richard and I often go walking on a Friday, making the most of our mutual day off. We have recently re-watched Julia Bradbury’s ITV programme listing the 100 most popular walks in Britain, as voted by the viewers. Top of the list was the ascent of Helvellyn (think I need to wait for summer for that one!); number 86 was the Pendle Witches Trail in Lancashire, which starts from the village of Barley below Pendle Hill and follows the route taken by the Pendle Witches through the Ribble Valley to Lancaster Castle, where they stood trial.

In 1612 twenty people, the majority women, were tried at Lancaster Assizes on a variety of charges, mostly for witchcraft. They were thought by some to be behind flooding of the river Ribble, illness among livestock and sickness within families. All set against the religious backdrop of the day and the comparative isolation of the Pendle area, which led to misunderstanding and a sense of threat felt to be posed by those who were accused.

Misunderstanding and mistaken threat, something which comes through our Gospel stories, particularly as we move into Lent and start to reflect once again on the last week of Jesus’ life on earth. Marks’ Gospel, in particular, points out that on many occasions the disciples failed to understand what Jesus was saying to them. Despite all that Jesus taught them, despite their intimate association with him, despite everything they had seen him do, the disciples are shown not to understand the path to the cross which Jesus must take.

Misunderstanding can lead to a sense of fear and to severe consequences for the one who is seen as the posing the threat. On our journey through Lent and particularly as we shall reflect later on the events of Holy Week, we shall be aware of the misunderstanding of those who tried Jesus, of those who condemned him, seeing him as a threat to public order. And of those in the crowd who only days before had celebrated his arrival in Jerusalem by the waving of palm branches, were now calling for Barabbas to be released and Jesus to be executed.

One cause of misunderstanding is, I think, the failure to really hear what people are saying. The disciples might have been listening to Jesus but did they hear the real meaning of his words to them? And when we listen to others, do we always hear what they are saying, do we pick up on the cues behind the words? In listening to God in our prayer time do we give space to listen and to hear what God is saying to us at this time? Perhaps in Lent we can make that one of our promises to ourselves and to God.

With my best wishes

Sue

Flower List

March	6	Margaret Moriarty	20	Kath Earnshaw
	13	Sue Howard	27	Flower Fund

The new Flower List is on the Notice Board for 2022. Anyone who would like to put flowers in Church or would like to give Margaret money for her to get some, please put your name on your chosen day. Also Margaret asks that you let her know of anyone you would like flowers sent to. Thank you.

Cleaning Rota

March	6	Margaret Moriarty & Maureen Stead	20	Jennifer Hirst & Linda Nuttall
	13	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard	27	Linda Marshall & Andrea Morley

Thursday Fellowship at 2.30pm

Mar	3	Sue Wishart	Learn about Dementia (This meeting is open to the Circuit)
	17	Revd Sue Burton	Sabbatical Ramble
	31	AGM	

Old Folk's Treat

Saturday March 5th 2022, with the first sitting starting at 12.30pm.

Helpers (must be over 14 years of age) are requested to meet at the Church Centre at 11am on the day.

Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 15th at 7.30pm

Lent group

Linthwaite will be hosting three lunchtime Lent meetings, to be led by a combination of Revd. Sue Taylor, Revd. Roz Page and myself. These will be on a Tuesday immediately following Friendship Hour (on 15th, 22nd and 29th March) and will begin with soup and rolls. The sessions will finish by 1.45 p.m. The title for these is 'Journeying with Jesus to the cross: looking at the last week of Jesus' life'. We hope you will be able to join us. The soup team would like to have an idea of numbers, so please would you let Linda Nuttall or me know if you would like to come along. For those who prefer an evening session on Zoom, these will run from 7.30 to 8.45 p.m. on the same dates, plus an extra one on the 5th April. Again, if you would like to join these please let me know and I can add you to the invitation list. For either daytime or evening sessions you don't have to commit to attending them all - just join us when you can.

Sue

Linthwaite Methodist Sports Club

The Sports Club are having a fund-raising **Wine Tasting Evening** on Friday 1st April at Linthwaite Hall Bowling Club at 7.30pm. Price per person is £12.50 which includes supper. For tickets ring Sarah on 07930655377 or see Diane.

Friendship Hour Tuesdays 11.15am – 12.30pm

Friendship hour every Tuesday morning in the Primary Room. Everyone welcome to come along for a chat, sing-along, play dominoes etc and have coffee and biscuits. A suggested donation of £1.50 per person

Mothering Sunday

Give thanks once more on Mother's Day
For mothers everywhere,
For all their help and comfort
And all their loving care.

For mothers who are out of sight,
We think of them today.
The memories will bring them close;
They're never far away.

Give thanks today for Mother Earth
And all each day can bring,
The plants and flowers, fields and trees,
The wonder of the spring.

Give thanks once more for Mother Church
And all the hope we find,
For love and healing, friendship, too,
And quiet peace of mind.

And so rejoice, lift up your hearts,
Go bravely of life's way.
Remember love, remember joy –
Give thanks on Mother's Day!

Iris Hesselden

‘Recollections’ by Ian Baxter

Another Old Folk’s Treat.

The latest edition of ‘The Link’ was published in the last week in January and it reminded me that I needed something for the March edition. The following day we received an invitation to the Linthwaite Old Folks Treat, so I thought that an article about this great Linthwaite tradition might interest readers.

The Linthwaite Old Folks Treat was first held in 1895 and organised by the Young Men’s and Young Women’s Classes at Linthwaite Wesleyan Church. At first it was for anyone over 60 living in the village, but this was raised to 65, pensionable age, in the 1950’s.

There is a photograph, taken in 1928 which I copied and enlarged to display at the 100th Treat. It shows a group of old people sitting round a long table loaded with cakes in the Assembly Hall. The Ladies were all wearing hats and coats with fur collars and the Gentlemen formal suits. Standing round them are young people of my father’s generation, all wearing aprons, who would be in their late teens at the time.

I first became aware of the Treat in the mid 1940’s when my Great Aunt Harriet, enthused about it during a Sunday lunch. She had been a guest at the Treat the previous day and had been amused by the antics of an entertainer with a model aeroplane! Little Auntie, as she was called in the family would have been very involved with the Treat in earlier years as leader of the Young Ladies Class, and would be one of the Presidents, a tradition that is continued by her great niece, Margaret Moriarty at the present time. I joined the Young Men’s Class in 1952 and we were expected to collect for the Treat on Christmas Day morning, following carol singing around the village during the previous week. I enjoyed the carol singing and collecting which occupied my Christmas mornings for over forty years. Towards the end of that time I became the Treasurer which brought the additional responsibility of counting the collection after which Lesley drove me to Huddersfield to deposit it in a night safe. We were always late for the light lunch that Hilary Baxter provided for the collectors!

The Treat has been fortunate in having dedicated officers of which long time secretary Douglas Smith and his successor Mairi MacKay are the best. They have been well supported by a host of others who have buttered bread, washed lettuce, carved ham and made jelly, while others would wash-up between sittings. All of these tasks were undertaken by the same people every year and reluctantly relinquished, usually when that person became eligible to be a guest.

It is reassuring to know that there can be a Treat this year. Last year was only the second time since 1895 that a Treat did not take place, the other being in 1942 when wartime conditions prevented it happening. It even took place in 1991 when the Hall was roofless during refurbishment and the event was transferred to Colne Valley High School.

We have to thank the people of Linthwaite for their generosity for over 125 years which has made the Treat possible. Anyone who collected on Christmas morning will remember the willingness to contribute at most houses at which we called. We do not know how future Treats will be financed but have every confidence that the people of Linthwaite will keep this great tradition, which is the last of many similar Treats in the area, serving the ‘Old Folk’ of Linthwaite for many years yet.

Link Subscriptions

For those of you who still receive a printed copy of the Link, please note contributions towards the cost of printing and distributing the Link are now due. Could you please let your Linkman or the Link Treasurer, Maureen Stead, have your contribution as soon as possible – a suggested amount for the 10 copies received in the year is £2. For those who receive their Link by post, may we ask that you send £8 to cover the cost of postage and printing.

If you send your payment by post, Maureen’s address is
39 Gordon Street, Linthwaite, Huddersfield HD7 5LN Phone 01484843073

Cheques should be made payable to ‘Linthwaite Methodist Church

Just a reminder that the Link is now on the church website each month, www.linthwaitemc.co.uk. If you wish to use this method of reading the Link instead of having a copy delivered, please let us know. A reminder is sent when it is available on the website.

Thank you.

If anyone has any item they would like to be included in the next Link please e mail to me at

hirst.avondale@btinternet.com. or phone 654288

Thanks, Jennifer

