

With Linthwaite Methodist ChurchWebsite www.linthwaitemc.co.uk

Oct	7	9.30am	Mrs Liz Bishop
	14	9.30am	Mr Michael Early – Harvest Festival
	21	9.30am	Own Arrangement
	28	9.30am	Revd David Bidnell

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 sueburton@googlemail.com

Dear Friends

One of my favourite outings when I have a day off is to walk or cycle in the Derwent Valley. Recently Richard and I cycled around Ladybower, Derwent and Howden reservoirs. The water levels were even lower than on our previous visit six weeks earlier – so low in fact that we were able to make out the tops of some of the structures that were flooded to create the reservoir system. Yet I was reminded when we got back home and drank a well-earned cup of tea just how fortunate we are in this country to have water on tap, available just when we want it. In contrast, one in nine people in the world don't have access to clean water near their homes and three to four million people die each year from water-related diseases.

I'm reminded at this time of year, when churches are celebrating Harvest in late September or early October just how fragile life on our planet is for many and the responsibility we all have to care for the earth and to preserve its resources. And we know that water is one of our most precious resources on the planet. It really is the water of life, a physical resource vital for health and survival. But it's also a spiritual resource that renews and refreshes. Some of our best known Bible stories are centred around water: the Baptism of Jesus, his encounter with the woman at the well, the stilling of the storm...

Water can be cleansing, refreshing, soothing (think about a stroll along a riverbank or listening to waves lapping gently on to the shore on a still summer's day). It can also be powerful – the destructive force of a tsunami or of floods that sweep away everything in their path. Perhaps it's helpful to reflect on both these characteristics of water – its tranquillity and its power.

Tranquillity: 'As water to the thirsty...so is my Lord to me' (words at the start of a hymn by Timothy Dudley-Smith - StF 441) reflect that fountain of living water deep within, the life of God dwelling within us. A solace at those times when we feel low, drained physically, emotionally and spiritually. At times like this let's also remind ourselves of the words of Jesus in John 7 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me' (NRSV).

In contrast, think of the power of a waterfall, over half a million litres of water per second at Niagara Falls, for example. A reminder perhaps that the in-dwelling God challenges us, that being a disciple of Jesus is not always refreshing and soothing. That there are times in all of our lives when the in-dwelling Spirit disturbs and leads us into new ways of thinking and being.

God, may I be in touch with the well-spring of life deep inside my being and open to God's Spirit, source of challenge and of consolation.

Sue

Flower List

Oct	7	Margaret Bramley	21	Flower Fund
	14	Linda Marshall	28	Keith & Janine Fielding

Welcomers in Vestibule

Oct	7	Adrian & Jackie Calverley	21	Bernard Wilson & Pat Harling
	14	Jenny Sutherland & Charlotte	28	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard

Cleaning Rota

Oct	7	Jennifer Hirst & Janine Fielding	21	Margaret Moriarty & Maureen Stead
	14	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard	28	

Thursday Fellowship at 2.30pm

Oct	4	Stephen Bailey	Murgatroyds Christmas Club
	18	Calinda Stockill	Ken Dodd
Nov	1	Ian Baxter	Video Snapshots

Diary

Weds	Sept	26	Linthwaite Methodist Players AGM at 7.30pm
Thurs	Sept	27	Circuit Sunshine Bag Service at Cowcliffe Methodist Church at 2.00pm
Sun	Oct	7	Sue Haigh is celebrating her 65th birthday , and invites everyone to join her for lunch after the service. A list will be on the notice board shortly for names. Contributions for kitchen funds.
Tues	Oct	9	Who do you think you are? A Sabbatical Journey by David Bidnell. Holmfirth Methodist Church at 7.30pm. For more information see the latest 'In Touch' magazine
Sat	Sept	13	Messy Church , this month's topic 'Noah' There are also two baptisms – details below
Sun	Oct	14	Harvest Festival Service led by Michael Early at 9.30am
Sun	Oct	14	Open Day with tea and cake. At John Myers private collection of wagons tractors, tractors, commercial and agricultural machinery and items of interest from yesterdays. 2pm – 5pm. Tickets Adults £5 Children £3 from Mairi. Proceeds for kitchen and other building maintenance.

Linthwaite Methodist Young Players

The Young Players are presenting a musical again, but this time it is to be staged next year, on January 9th, 10th, 11th in the evening and a matinee on January 12th (Saturday). **Anyone who would like to be in the show, please come along to rehearsals on Mondays, after school.**

Messy Church Baptism

On October 13th our Messy Church will celebrate not one- but two baptisms when Eddie and Elsey are welcomed into God's family. Although Messy Church runs from 4pm to 6pm Church members are welcome to join us at any time during the afternoon. The first hour or so will be taken up with activities based on the theme of Noah. We plan to have our time of 'celebration' (Messy Church speak for worship) soon after 5pm and this will include the baptism.

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.

Thanks

Hilary sends her heartfelt thanks to everyone for their visits, good wishes, thoughts and prayers. To all those who have made meals, done shopping and helped in so many ways. She really appreciates it and sends her love to everyone.

Keith Hanson writes "Thank you very much for your kind thought in sending me some flowers to help me recover from my recent illness. I hope to be back to help Graham with the stage, even if it is only as the tea boy! Best wishes to you all".

Money Matters

Our Sunday collections for August amounted to £1107.60. These were for church funds and as usual include offerings paid directly into the bank.

Jenny Sutherland Church Treasurer

Methodist Women in Britain

Meet the new District MWiB President at West Wakefield Methodist Church on Thursday, October 4th from 11.30am, Service of Celebration begins at 2pm.

Advent Spiritual Preparation led by Revd Vicky Atkins at The Briery, Ilkley on Wednesday, December 5th 10.30am – 3pm.

See posters on Notice Board for more details.

Property Update September 2018

The Kitchen Refurbishment Project is now finished, bar for a little bit of snagging. It was used for the first time for the Luncheon Club on Thursday 13th September.

The work took longer than anticipated as the Contractor discovered that there was no damp-proof membrane in the old kitchen. Also more electrical and plumbing work was needed than anticipated. The refurbishment includes new flooring and wall tiles and all the units are of stainless steel. The Preparation Room (old Prayer Room) has also been completely renewed. If you get the chance, do have a look, as it is a fine job and all looks spick and span! As a consequence of the extra work the project ran slightly over budget, but I have no doubt that our superb team of Fundraisers will rise to the occasion!

Peter Stead Property Secretary

Did You Know? By Mike Shaw

Deer are once again roaming the hills around Linthwaite – after an absence of many centuries. Nobody seems to know where they have sprung from but sightings have been reported in several places. The slopes and moors in the area are a natural habitat for them, as indeed they were as far back as the Stone Age. Then they were here in large numbers and were among the main source of food for our ancient ancestors. Deer Hill, a favourite home for the deer and a much larger specimen, the Irish elk. Indeed, Deer Hill is said to have been so called after the discovery of a pair of Irish elk antlers which were found buried in the peat many years ago. Most of Colne Valley at that time was deeply forested and legend has it that a squirrel could travel from Marsden to Huddersfield without touching the ground. The valley is thought to have been inhabited by nomadic tribes who travelled extensively. Eventually, they were replaced by a new breed of people – the farmers.

Christmas Angels

Once upon a time – maybe four years ago – Angels appeared overnight in the town of Leatherhead.

About 5 inches high, the angels were discovered tied to railings and hanging from door handles.

Knitted in a variety of colours, they carried a label inviting residents to take one home as a gift from Churches Together in Leatherhead.

Originally the idea of a Methodist Minister in Edinburgh, the idea has grown each year and a knitting pattern is now available.

Our Church Council thought that this was a good idea and we now intend to launch our own Christmas Angels during Angel week commencing Sunday 25th November with a label promoting our two Christmas services – the Carol Service on Sunday 23 December (at 6.00pm) and our childrens' Christingle Service on Christmas Eve (also at 6.00pm).

There will be groups of Angels placed at various places throughout the building and every person who enters our building will be invited to take one, and perhaps another to give to a friend or neighbour, inviting them to one or both of our Christmas celebration Services.

If you can knit and would like to help, please ask me for a copy of the pattern. I have knitted quite a few – but the more the merrier.

Peter Stead has printed the invitations to tie round each angel's neck.

We hope our Angels will help us to tell the story of the First Christmas to more people who live in the village of Linthwaite.

Lesley Baxter

Please Turn Over

The 2018 Whitley Bay Expedition

What a pleasure it was to welcome the Linthwaite party last Sunday. Everyone arrived safely with no one lost en-route. The weather was behaving so our visitors saw the sea and the sand at its best. Our granddaughters were also behaving well to everyone's delight, amid a sea of new faces for them. Packed lunches and cups of tea were devoured and then it was time to get to the hotel on the sea front to check in.

We all re-assembled for our evening meal in the newly restored Spanish City, the restaurant is under the huge dome and feels very spacious and airy. Fish and chips seemed to be the order of the day with a few exceptions, served by a very cheery waitress used to handling large unruly parties! Afterwards the Manager came across doing his bit to ensure we might one day return. It was a lovely relaxed get together to catch up on news.

Monday dawned rather grey and cloudy, so the decision was to go by bus into Newcastle and see the river, the bridges and the Sage concert hall. A friendly bus driver sorted out our ticketing requirement, unknown to us laying the seeds of confusion on our return. However, we all made it to the Sage via the M&S café with the help of our Geordie guide Alice. The Sage is a vast building sited on the riverside close to the bridges, with two concert halls under its shiny metal roof and with a café of course where part of the group decided to stay for lunch. The others made their way along the river to the Baltic contemporary art gallery, another large riverside attraction and had their lunch there before crossing the river on the Millennium bridge and a bus trip back to Whitley Bay.

The first party discovered quite quickly that the bus tickets were not quite so universally accepted when we boarded a different bus in Newcastle for our return trip. However the driver was very good and turned a blind eye to those with incorrect tickets. The bridge walkers who had successfully made it back to Whitley Bay centre via another bus route then tried to board our bus for the last mile or so only to discover the ticket error. Poor bus driver, all of a sudden most of his passengers were travelling on invalid tickets! But he took it good naturedly and received many thanks when we finally got off.

After a reviving cup of tea and biscuits our, by then weary, travellers set off for the car ride home. We enjoyed seeing you all and hope you saw something of the lovely and very different area we now live in. Thanks to Linda for organising it, Linda M and Andrea for driving and Alice for local knowledge. Come again- next year!

Margaret and Henry



Edited and typed by Jennifer Hirst

Items for inclusion in the November 2018 edition of the Link to reach me by Sunday October 21st please
Phone 654288 or email hirst.avondale@btinternet.com