

With Linthwaite Methodist ChurchWebsite www.linthwaitemc.co.uk

March	3	9.30am	Revd Sue Burton – including Holy Communion
	10	9.30am	Mr David Brook
	17	9.30am	Mr Mike Richardson
	24	9.30am	Mr Michael Tolson
	31	9.30am	Own Arrangement

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
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Dear Friends

I'm writing this as I'm looking forward to a few days away with Richard, walking a bit more of the Thames long distance footpath. We started this time last year with a day walk from Woolwich into central London and have had two short holidays since, getting as far as Maidenhead in Berkshire. It's been a beautiful and very varied walk, from the wharves in Woolwich and the Thames Barrier, through central London and out into the countryside west of the capital, via Richmond and Windsor. We have seen derelict buildings, expensive modern flats, parks and gardens, the playing fields of Eton (where we tried to take a detour and got lost!) and the splendour of Windsor Castle. So far we have walked around 70 miles of the 184 miles to Lechlade in Gloucestershire. The walk seems manageable, walking it in stretches as we are doing; if I try to think ahead to the total distance we have to cover I feel a bit overwhelmed.

I think life can be a bit like that – looking ahead to all I shall be involved in over Lent it feels as if Holy Week and Easter (and my break after Easter) is a very long way off. Thinking about how busy I shall be over the next few weeks seems a bit overwhelming, but if I break it down into sections like the walk, then it becomes more manageable. Easter is about the latest it can be this year, with Easter Sunday on the 21st April, so hopefully good weather, although I remember the last time Easter was so late walking on Hadrian's Wall on Easter Monday in the snow, with the wind howling around us! This means that Ash Wednesday is in early March, on the 6th this year. This marks the beginning of the Lenten period, a time in the church of reflection and preparation.

We cannot appreciate the joy of Easter without first embarking on this journey that takes us through Lent. A journey we have experienced many times before. But life moves on and changes take place. Things have happened in our lives and in our world in the past twelve months, for better or for worse. We will all, to some extent I'm sure, have experienced both joy and sorrow during this time. But whatever has happened and whatever will happen over the 40 days of Lent this year we are led by the Spirit into this time. That same Spirit that was a part of Jesus's journey from Galilee into Jerusalem and all that happened in what we now call Holy Week.

I wish you a time of peaceful reflection and preparation over the next few weeks.

A prayer for Lent:

As we walk, God, be our way.

As we learn, God, be our truth.

As we grow, God, be our life.

Best wishes to you all

Sue

Lent conversation group

Revd. David Bidnell has kindly offered to lead a Lent group for us this year. There will be three sessions, all on a Tuesday lunchtime: 19th and 26th March, and 2nd April. The sessions will begin with soup, served at 1.00pm, after the Friendship Hour, and will finish by 2.15 at the latest.

All are very welcome to attend: you don't need to commit to all three sessions, but we'd love to see you there.

Sue

Flower List

Mar	3	Brian & Margaret Moriarty	24	Kathleen Earnshaw
	10	Ted & Dorothy Duggan	31	Catherine Davison
	17	Rosamonde Atkinson		

There are still days to fill on the rota, please put your name on your chosen day. Thank you

Welcomers in Vestibule

Mar	3	Jenny Sunderland & Sarah Walker	24	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard
	10	Bernard Wilson & Pat Harling	31	Catherine Davison & Mildred Walker
	17	Graham, Jennifer & Victoria Hirst		

Cleaning Rota

Mar	3	Jennifer Hirst & Janine Fielding	24	Margaret Moriarty & Maureen Stead
	10	Mairi MacKay & Sue Howard	31	
	17			

Thursday Fellowship at 2.30pm

Feb	21	Alan Marchington	Going to Pot (please note change from the original programme)
Mar	7	Dallas Cliff	Discovering Saxon Switzerland
	21	Margaret Laycock	My Music
Apr	4		AGM

Diary

Fri	Mar	1	Women's World Day of Prayer 'Come – Everything is ready' Prepared by the women of Slovenia. There is no service in the Colne Valley this year – the nearest services are at Huddersfield Mission at 10.30am and Holmfirth Methodist at 7.30pm
Sat	Mar	2	Old Folk's Treat Lunch will be served from 12.30pm. Helpers (must be aged 14 years or over) are requested to meet at the Church Centre at 11am.
Sat	Mar	9	Messy Church 4pm - 6pm. This month based on the story of 'The Prodigal Son' Everyone welcome
Tues	Apr	2	Church Council Meeting at 7.30pm

Thanks

Joan Wrigley writes "I would like to thank you for the flowers sent to Alan and myself and all your good wishes. Thank you, Joan."

Sarah Walker would like to say thank you for the beautiful flowers she received from church during her recent illness. They certainly helped to cheer her up.

Keith Hanson writes "Just a note to say thank you for the lovely flowers which Graham kindly brought to my home. Myself and Sonia were very pleased. I would like to offer my congratulations to all those involved in the children's show. I was disappointed that I could neither help or see it. I am hoping that as the months go on I might recover some health to be able to come again. Best wishes to you all."

Money Matters

Sunday collections for January amounted to £1393.50. This includes monies paid directly into the bank and as usual is for church funds.

Jenny Sutherland Church Treasurer

Property Report

The new boiler in the Church Centre is now fitted and up and running and according to the comments received appears to be well up to the job, maybe I might have to drop the temperature a bit? This has made a bit of a dent in the church funds, so please don't stop fundraising!

A Risk Assessment of the premises was carried out by Peter and Mo in January and no major hazards were identified, the only item of slight concern was housekeeping issues concerning leaving quantities of combustible materials in the boiler rooms and other areas where a fire could start. Also items should not be stored in such a way that may cause a trip hazard.

The issue of grass growing in the Graveyard does not go away and action will soon be required to keep the outside areas maintained.

Hopefully Hanging Baskets can be put on show again this year, so anyone wanting to help please make yourself known

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

News from former ministers of Linthwaite

Christmas is a time when we catch up on people that we have not seen for many years, usually by way of a 'Round Robin' letter. These are not liked, even ridiculed by some people but we look forward to receiving them, even though it means reading about the doings of many people that we do not know to hear about the current activities of the sender of the letter.

One letter which we receive every year is from the Revd Gerald Gardiner and Janet who were with us in the Colne Valley from 1970 to 1973. This brought the sad news that Janet had sadly passed away earlier in the year. We understand that she died suddenly due to failure of her Aortic Arch which caused a blood leak which stopped her heart. Janet will be remembered as a Minister's wife who was heavily involved with the Playgroup in its early days. We have sent our deepest sympathies to Gerald and the two boys in their sad and sudden loss.

We always receive a card from Revd Lavina Shoffner who was with us in the valley from September 2001 to 2003. Some of us have kept in touch and visited her at her home in North Kansas City, Missouri where she lives with her sister Charlotte. We try to speak to her by telephone every year on the 4th of July and at Thanksgiving when we always recall that wonderful Thanksgiving meal that she gave us in the Church Centre in November 2002. We were surprised to take a telephone call from her on Boxing Day when she told us about her 80th birthday at Strouds, a Steakhouse where she took Lesley and I for a meal during our visit in 2005. Lavina was expecting a small party of relatives who lived locally and Charlotte's son and family who were visiting from England. When she got there she was surprised to find 47 people waiting for her including relatives from other parts of the USA, friends from McMurrey United Methodist Church where she worships, former colleagues and members of the Fitness Club that she has spent much time at since she settled in North Kansas City. Lavina loves a party and I think she was overwhelmed by the love shown to her at this one.

Ian Baxter

Did You Know? By Mike Shaw

Linthwaite has its fair share of public footpaths among a network covering Colne Valley. Many were created during the Industrial Revolution by people living in the hills walking to work in the new textile factories down below. Some of these paths are no longer used, but – now that we attract ramblers and hikers from far afield – other rights of way deserve to be protected. The now defunct Colne Valley Society did a good job in this respect, setting up the Colne Valley Walk with an accompanying booklet outlining in detail the route to follow. The Society also fought, and won, an attempt to close the path which crosses the Crosland Hill airfield. This stretch of walking rights has a special significance because, linked to other paths, provides a route stretching from Golcar to South Crosland, a point noted by the inspector when ruling in the Society's favour at a public enquiry. Landowners seeking to obstruct or obliterate public rights of way have a variety of reasons for doing so. But, on closer inspection, many are found insufficient to justify the loss of a recreational asset. Public opinion, from inside and outside the area, can be a vital factor in keeping our footpaths network intact.

Link Subscriptions

Just a reminder 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 people 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 01484 843073

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.

Edited and typed by Jennifer Hirst

**Items for inclusion in the April 2019 edition of the Link to reach me by Sunday March 17th please
Phone 654288 or email hirst.avondale@btinternet.com**