



North Kirklees & Morley Circuit

November 2018

Dear friends,

As I write this we have the news of yet more shootings in America. The horror of a baby naming ceremony in Pittsburgh at the Tree of Life Synagogue being so brutally interrupted is already slipping out of the news barely 36hrs later. The helicopter crash in Leicester, the plane crash in Jakarta, the health of Glenn Hoddle and the stepping down of Angela Merkel are all stories vying for our attention not to mention the budget and Brexit and all that.

At the weekend I had the privilege of baptising little Maddie at Longcauseway in much happier circumstances but still in the wake of Pittsburgh. The lectionary for Sunday put us in the company of Job and his 'restored' position at the end of his story. Except it is not a restored position at all it is a renewed position. At the beginning of Job we are told how his 7 sons and 3 daughters love to party. Job knows this but seems incapable of doing anything about it except religiously make amends to placate their situation. We are told Job 'always did this'. It seems to me there is a hint that no matter how blameless Job is, he is either ineffective as a parent or incapable of encouraging his children to behave better. Job's life is not as perfect as it might first appear and he may have much that he regrets, as well as much to be thankful for because of all that he has been blessed with.

The renewal that comes at the end of Job sees a man with twice as much blessing and perfect children, everything replaced, but not as he had things before.

Sometimes we need to see what we need to let go of in order that we may be truly blessed. Job's story is I believe ultimately just that, a story, but one that is rooted in deep truth about us, our relationships and our relationship with God. One of those truths leads us to ask if, yet again, America needs to let go of its guns, just as Job 'always did this' in offering sacrifice for the deeds of his children. There will be things in our own lives which we may see as addictions, habits or repeated behaviour that we need to sort out or let go of in order to be renewed and restored. And there are things collectively as churches that we need to let go of in order to have the blessing that we would hope for and the blessing that we would hope to be for God and for the people he places us amongst.

The story of Job tells how in the very worst moments God never leaves Job although Job may feel that he does. The end of Job declares that the Lord of creation and re-creation seeks only to bless Job and in the same way bless us.

I wonder again, how are we prepared to let go and let God in order to release his blessing?

Tek Care



St. Andrews Liversedge: First Friday Film Night Friday 7th December 2018: "The Man who Invented Christmas" In 1843, Charles Dickens relies on his inspiration and imagination to bring the characters of "A Christmas Carol" to life, saving him from financial ruin. All films start at 7pm with free admission. Popcorn, ice creams etc as usual, with a donation towards refreshments if you are able. **New** - Saturday evening service starting on 6th October. The service will start at 6pm and will be held every fortnight. Dates: 17th November, 1st & 15th December

Thornhill: The next **Family Film** morning will be on Saturday 10th November 2018 at 10.30am, showing "Chicken Run" This is a free event, but donations towards refreshments would be appreciated. Children to be accompanied by an adult. *If using a SatNav to get to Thornhill Methodist Church, please use WF12 ORB (Rowlands Pharmacy). The car park and church is in the Savile Centre, behind the chemists, and is signposted from the main road.*

Batley Central: Christian Coffee Break: each month, 2nd Wednesday, at 10.30am, with coffee from 10am and a light lunch available afterwards, Weds 14th November 2018 Speaker, Rev'd Imran Malik. **Friday Coffee Morning** 9.30am-11.30am All welcome! **Fellowship Lunch:** 3rd Sunday of each month, 12.30pm £4 adults £2 children for a two-course meal. Phone Bev on 07733150203 to book a place.

Advent Study Groups: Starting on Friday 30th November 2018, then each Friday until 21st December 2018. Taking place in the Brimer Hall, with lunch at 12noon, followed by discussion from 1.30pm. Please bring a sandwich, tea/coffee provided.

Batley Churches Together presents "Oh Little Town of Batleyhem" Live Nativity. Saturday 22nd December 2018 at 4pm. Meet & greet donkeys, Carol singing. Refreshments served in Batley Methodist Church. All proceeds donated to Batley Care & Drop in and Forget Me Not Children's Hospice.

Westborough: Saturday 17th November 2018 Church Bazaar 10.30am – 2pm Everyone welcome.

Birstall: Community Coffee Morning: Thursdays 9.30-11am. **Cell Church group:** Meets on Monday evenings 7.30-9pm. Contact Pat Martin.

Baby Coffee and Play: Coffee morning for Mums, Dads, Grandparents and their babies/toddlers, 2nd, 16th & 30th November 2018, 9.30-11.30am, for more info contact Julie 01924-442324.

At the Circuit Resource Centre....

Our contact details:

The Circuit Resource Centre,
Batley Methodist Church
Commercial Street
Batley WF17 5DS
01924 442535



email address: admin@nkandmcircuit.org.uk

Our opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am – 1pm
Thursday 9am – 3pm, Friday 9am – 1pm

Christmas orders – we have a range of Christmas catalogues, including Traidcraft, Leprosy Mission and Embrace the Middle East – come in and have a browse! By ordering this way, we can often avoid postage costs, or at least can share them. Order early if possible, to allow for delivery times.

Traidcraft orders can be paid for when you collect your goods, but others must be paid for with your order.

Morley: Film Nights: Wednesday 21st November 2018, showing “Testament of Youth”. This film is a searing story of love, war and remembrance. Based on the First World War memoir by Vera Britain. Film starts at 7pm, refreshments available. Donations to be split equally between Church Funds and Parkinsons UK.

Messy Church Sunday 4th November 2018 at 3.30pm & Sunday 2nd December 2018 at 3.30pm.

Memorial Service, Saturday 1st December 2018 at 11am. Our Journal is seeking stories from families/members, of experiences in the First World War, please submit on or before 11th November 2018.

The Churches of Morley Nativity Trail begins on Friday 25th November 2018, until noon on 15th December 2018.

Hanging Heaton : Messy Church, Wednesday 14th November 2018 at 3.30pm.

Hanging Heaton Community Luncheon Club:

This club has provided a welcome service to the local community for 18 years. We are now in need of more volunteers. If you are able to spare a few hours every six weeks on Tuesday mornings to help, at St. Paul’s Church hall, Hanging Heaton, please contact Margaret Brooke 01924 454332 or Sandra Barnes 01924 401753. This is a joint venture organised by Ebenezer Methodist Church and St. Paul’s Anglican Church.

Birkenshaw & East Bierley: Coffee Morning

every Friday 10-12. **Ladies Link**, 1st Wednesday in every month. Meet at 10am. Planned meetings, 7th November 2018, visit to Tong Garden Centre

Longcauseway: “A Grand Night for Singing!”

Saturday 17th November 2018 at 7.30pm, an evening of light music to suit all tastes, featuring the massed choirs of Batley Central Methodist Church, Longcauseway Church, St. Andrew’s Methodist Church, Mirfield and Longcauseway Men’s Choir. Tickets £6 on the door. All proceeds for Kirkwood Hospice.

Dewsbury Concert Society present an evening of Seasonal Music, including Carols, at Longcauseway Church on Friday 14th December 2018 at 7.30pm. Tickets £5pp, including seasonal refreshments.

Drighlington: IT drop in centre every Thursday 10am-1pm. Call and have all your laptop, iPad, mobile phone questions and queries answered by experts “free of charge”. **Coffee Pot** - Every 2nd Friday of the Month 1.30pm – 3.30pm for people living with Dementia but all are welcome! Details from Trevor Martin, 01132854165 trevorjmartin@yahoo.com

Tingley: Christmas Market Saturday 10th November 2018. Local handmade crafts and hot lunches.

The Friends Café -Good company, good food, good fun Monthly café, open to everyone. Food and drinks are provided free of charge. However, if you feel able, we will be more than happy to accept a donation. All are welcome, please come and join us at our next café



West Ardsley : Messy church: Thursday 8th November and 13th December 2018 for young children & carers from 4 to 6 pm (doors open 3.30pm) for crafts, song and afternoon tea.

Prayer Breakfast on 2nd Saturday of each month, 8am. Next one is on 10th November and 8th December 2018 at 8am. All welcome. **Coffee Morning** 10-12 noon, after prayer meeting at 8am. **Christmas Fair** Saturday 24th November 2018 at 10am, crafts, gifts and refreshments.

Cleckheaton: Cleckheaton Choir are planning to present John Peterson’s cantata “Born a King” as part of their Christmas service on Sunday 23rd December 2018 at 6pm. Rehearsals will take place on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm from 1st November, any singers interested in taking part are welcome to come along. For more details contact alan.littlewood@tiscali.co.uk

Gildersome Church will hold a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 17th November, between 11am and 1pm. Stalls will include Cake, Fancy Goods and Gifts, Needlework, Books and Bric a Bac. Light lunches are available



Rev. Paul Martin presenting the cheque for £3838 from the circuit to the Happy Days project in Halifax outside one of their houses with Dave Fawcett and some of the residents.

Twiddle Muffs: Dewsbury Hospital are appealing for Twiddle Muffs for patients with Dementia. They find them comforting to hold and take them home when they are well enough. The hobbies and craft ladies and the ladies from the Pearls of Wisdom group (Westborough) have started to knit and assemble them. If anyone else in the Circuit would like to make some, a pattern will be available from the Resource Centre, or from Julie Haigh 07500955873. The hospital is also appealing for premature baby hats and cardigans.

Youth Fellowship: Charity Coffee Morning and Bake sale, Saturday 10th November 2018, 10-12, at West Ardsley Methodist Church. Youth Fellowship are hosting a coffee morning to support their chosen charity, St. George's Crypt. The charity works with the homeless, vulnerable and those suffering from addiction in Leeds. If you are able, please could you bring one of the following items with you: washing powder (top loader washers used at St. George's Crypt, 250-400 sets of bedding washed each month), men's spray deodorant, a pack of new men's boxer shorts, no briefs please!



Church events

November

2 nd	9.30-11.30am	Baby Coffee & Play	Birstall
4 th	3.30pm	Messy Church	Morley
7 th	11.45-12.45	Soup Lunch	Trinity
7 th	10am	Ladies Link	Birkenshaw & East Bierley
8 th	3.30pm	Messy Church	West Ardsley
10 th	10-12	Coffee Morning	West Ardsley
14 th	10am	Christian Coffee Break	Batley
14 th	3.30pm	Messy Church	Hanging Heaton
16 th	9.30-11.30am	Baby Coffee & Play	Birstall
21 st	11.45-12.45	Soup Lunch	Trinity
24 th	10am	Christmas Fair	West Ardsley
30 th	9.30-11.30am	Baby Coffee & Play	Birstall

December

2 nd	3.30pm	Messy Church	Morley
8 th	10-12	Coffee Morning	West Ardsley
13 th	3.30pm	Messy Church	West Ardsley

First Aid Training

The dates set for the training are:

- 17th November - St Andrew's Liversedge
- 16th March 2019 – Venue to be confirmed
- 4th May 2019 – Venue to be confirmed. For further details please contact: Rev Ray Borrett 07400353212 or email him on ray.borrett@outlook.com

The Circuit is looking to appoint a **Circuit Safeguarding Officer**
This is a volunteer post.
If you are interested in taking on this role, please write to the Circuit Resource Centre giving details of why you think you would be suitable – the gifts and experience that you would bring to this role.

Methodist Church 'Safer Recruiting' procedures will apply to this position.
Contact the Circuit Resource Centre for further information.

Staff days off:
Monday – Nigel Rodgers, Imran Malik, Andrew Halstead; Wednesday Ray Borrett; Thursday – Alison Crookes; Saturday - Paul Martin.
Rev'd Andy Halstead is on sabbatical from 26th December 2018- 25th March 2019.

The December/January edition of Connect will be in churches on Sunday 2nd December 2018.
Connect deadline 10am Friday 23rd November 2018 – please remember to include information about your Advent and Christmas Services and events.