



SUTTON, BRANSHOLME AND KINGSWOOD METHODIST CHURCHES

NEWSLETTER JULY AND AUGUST 2017

Dear Friends,

There's that wonderful message in Colossians 3: 15-17 that finishes by saying 'whatever we do, do it all in the name of Jesus'

WHATEVER WE DO

It seems to me that we're not just talking here about religious things, like praying or going to church, but everything we do whether it be washing up, singing, gardening, cooking, cleaning, whatever. I feel this is an important principle that we need to get fixed in our minds because it shows that God doesn't divide life's activity into neat little compartments but is interested in the whole of our life. If we think God is only interested in the churchy bits then we need to think again. His interest is in the whole person and he is involved in all we do. That division between sacred and secular is of our own making; it is not part of the New Testament teaching.

I'm reminded of Brother Lawrence a Carmelite Monk of the 17th century who once said:

"Is it not quicker and easier just to do our common business wholly for the love of him?"

and again

"...nor is it needful that we should have great things to do...We can do little things for God; I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of him, and that done, if there is nothing else to call me, I prostrate myself in worship before him, who has given me grace to work."

For Brother Lawrence the “common business”, no matter how mundane or routine, was the medium of God’s love. The issue was not sacredness or worldly status of the task but the motivation behind it.

DO IT IN THE NAME OF JESUS

I recently read a comment written by Cliff Richard on this sentence. He said, if ever you’re in doubt about the ‘rightness’ of any action, ask yourself whether you’re comfortable about doing it ‘in the name of Jesus’. A good thought for all of us to ponder on.

He went on to say:

“Can you imagine how improved our quality of life would be if we were motivated to do our work and play our games and build our relationships in the name of Jesus?”

The Christian way is maximum effort for a maximum sacrifice therefore in Jesus’ name nothing we do can be less than the very best.

So, whatever you plan to do this summer, enjoy and do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Peace and blessing to you all

Deacon Sue

PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please pray for the continuing recovery of those who have recently had falls, thinking particularly of Eric and Doreen Hunter,

Ron and Doreen Forth, Jennifer Dearing and Brenda Lewis;

For those who have recently spent time in hospital due to planned surgery or unexpected health issues, thinking especially of Angie Meadley, Phil Plumb, Geoff Beecroft and Brian Hampshire.

For those who are unable to come to worship due to ill health or mobility problems, remembering Jean Clark, Brenda Robson and Vanessa Hughes;

For those now living in residential homes, remembering Vera Hutchings and Ian Hodgson;

For Gwen Turner (living in Scotland) and Connor McKervey who both need our prayers.

ALSO PRAY FOR

The needs of the Circuit, praying for the Circuit Staff, Circuit Stewards and individual churches in the Circuit;

For our new Circuit Superintendent, Debbie Lucas, who will be leading us from the beginning of September;

For Deacon Denise Creed who has been appointed to work in our Circuit for the next four years, starting in September.

BAPTISM

Please pray for the Kipling and Johnson families whose baptisms are being planned for August and are to be led by Deacon Sue.

Please pray for all of the uniformed organisations during the summer break: for their safety and wellbeing; for learning, fun and fellowship during their summer camps

GUIDES

For their weekend camp on 22/23 July

SCOUTS EVENTS

1st July Garden party with church involvement plus all preparations in the run up

7th - 9th July Cubs camping plus volunteer involvement in cub Olympics on the Saturday

14th -16th July Scout explorer camp craft at Melton.

Hull International House

It was soon after our return from Scotland that I received a phone call from Stephen Rippon who is the secretary of Hull International House. The treasurer had recently resigned and he asked me if I would take on the role. I agreed to visit the house and meet with Stephen and the Warden, Kathryn Davis. I was shown around and told about the history and aims of the house. I had a subsequent meeting with the retiring treasurer and after that I agreed to taken on the role.

The house was opened in 1961 and has been providing reasonably priced accommodation for international students who were studying at Hull University. The house is owned by the York and Hull District of the Methodist Church and is situated in Westbourne Avenue. It is licenced to house 43 residents and is therefore a large and costly building to run.

Over the last few years the provision of student accommodation has increased and improved and as a result our ability to fill rooms was becoming more problematic. Finance had become a problem and the District had to support it financially especially when the boiler and hot water system failed. A report was written by the Bishop of Grimsby which was quite critical. The District Trustees were considering whether or not they could continue to support this venture, but they did agree to give the management committee 2 years to see if we could turn the situation around. Part of the turnaround was to revitalise and refresh the management committee.

A decision had been made, prior to my appointment, to change the client base. They decided to offer 23 rooms to students, 10 to asylum seekers and 10 to first steps residents. As a result, we have been able to increase our revenues by letting out more of our rooms. A 5 year business plan had been written and accepted which showed that it was possible to make steady progress to financial viability. This plan had assumed that we would let out on average 58% of our rooms in this financial year. We are actually letting out 75% and as a result our finances are improving rapidly. Having said that the property is large and there are major maintenance issues. The committee has complied with the regulations regarding Houses of Multiple Occupation as well as keeping the Heritage people onside as it is one of several properties designed by the renowned architect Gilbert Scott. We have however found it difficult to brighten the place up by decorating.

The management committee has been strengthened, Lansford and Sue have joined as Chaplains, two other ladies have joined with pastoral and counselling skills; one representing the Bishop of Hull. A builder friend of mine is also advising on property issues.

In my sheltered life I have not had many dealings with people who have had addiction problems and have been homeless. This is where our first steps programme comes in. We accept people who want to make major changes in their life and are showing a commitment to the Christian Faith. They are usually introduced to the House by Deacon Jill Taylor via her work at the Selby Street Mission or Street Angels. It has been a bumpy ride, people have come and gone but we are aiming to form an “Intentional Christian Community” at the House. Our first steppers have to agree with us to attend various courses, as well as attending church. We have recently started to run an in-house course on Christianity and addictions called “12 Steps”, this is led by Rev Paul Linley of RHM Recovery, attendance is mandatory for all first steps residents. We operate a tough love policy, they have to comply with the agreement they sign with us or the house is not for them.

Asylum seekers are channelled to us via the Open Doors Project which is run at Princes Avenue Methodist Church, they are financially supporting some of these residents; some are being supported by caring individuals and some by the House itself. There are people out there in our community who are classed as Destitute Refused Asylum Seekers (DRAS). If people’s asylum claims have been refused they are immediately evicted, as it is illegal to rent premises to people who are classed as DRAS, this does not apply to International House, and all state support is stopped. They are not allowed to work and cannot be deported until their appeals have been processed. We at the house have set up a fund to help some of these people who are in great need. We have called the fund The Matthew 25 Fund. Please read Matthew 25 especially verses 35 to the end. These refugees are our fellow human beings who have left despotic regimes to seek sanctuary; the ones I have met have been extremely scared and very grateful for the Christian love and support they have received. The purpose of the fund is to offer free accommodation wherever possible.

Sutton Methodist Church has donated a sum annually for the work of the House and as the treasurer can I offer my thanks. If anyone would like to visit the House or contribute to the Matthew 25 Fund please see me. I have held many treasury posts but this one is a real eye opener and it is an

experience that is valuable to me. It would be nice to think that the church could invite some of our first steppers to help with our worship. I know they have visited a number of churches to tell their story.

Phil Langdale

Annual Church Meeting June 2017

Notes from the discussion group were raised at the Annual Church Meeting.

Suggested questions:

What do you need for yourself in your church life?

What is missing from worship for you?

How can you be spiritually fed at church?

How can fellowship be strengthened at Sutton?

How can fellowship be strengthened with other churches in the circuit?

In general people were happy with their church life but there was concern over the lack of new people coming, particularly young people.

It was suggested that the church should have more contact with wedding and baptismal groups. In the past we have had wedding preparation classes. We have also offered church god-parents for children baptised in church.

It was mentioned that new-comers to church had difficulty joining church groups and that some groups seemed closed and were not willing to encourage new members to take on leadership or organisational roles.

One suggestion to encourage new members was that we should try to visit or leaflet houses in the neighbourhood although the sort of responses we got from Christian Aid collections indicated this might not get the required result.

There is a general lack of information about what is happening in church as well as in the circuit.

To feel wanted, welcomed

To feel part of a family or community

To be spiritually fed

To have sermons and services that uplift, feed, support, guide and nurture

Services that are relevant to living as a Christian today

Looking for leadership in our faith journey

Mid-week services (To give a mid-week buzz)

Invitation services

More teaching services

Different service styles

Fellowship – the feeling that you are wanted and people are pleased to see you.

Fellowship needs change as people get older.

When you go to church you want to feel at home – church should welcome people back if they have been away for a week or two.

Mixed age fellowship.

Messy Church – try to connect more with these families. Attendance at Messy Church activities can be good but Sunday following a club week is not so well attended.

Rousing Methodist hymns.

Interactive worship.

Conclusion of discussion was that we all like different styles of worship/hymns/songs and at times we have to respect other people's choices.

Church is a quiet time for thinking and reflecting, away from the busyness of life.

Time to think back on actions/conversations from the previous week.
It is important that each generation can relate to the theme/sermon.
Fed through the readings/prayers/sermon/words of the hymns and songs.

Return of house groups.

Social activities that build up fellowship and friendships.

Better lines of communication. Reinstate printed notices so that, for example, readings from the service can be studied and we can be mindful of activities that are taking place.

Sit closer together or sit in a different seat to mix people up more.

Question 1

Warm welcome

Prayer Group has been very supportive and helpful

Sense of belonging

Fellowship meeting has led to friendships, bringing people together, sense of community

We don't want the door to shut people out

More of a sense of serving the community, which we hope will come when we get our new minister, guidance and teaching, learning at the right level for children

Youth Club leaders to support the existing group

We feel we would like to see the uniformed organisations more – we don't want them to be a separate entity, we need to support their events and meetings and be more welcoming

More involvement of the choir and to promote music more

Question 2

More music generally

One member said it had been disastrous to stop giving out the printed notices at the door

Communication in general – between ourselves and outside – events and services – Hull Daily Mail

Children on a Sunday – we have to give families a sense of belonging whatever day they come

Bible Study/House Groups

Also important to support older young people + 15-50 age group

An evangelist – a bit of competition!

Closer links with other churches to give support as well as benefit from it

Question 3

Music is very uplifting

The people give love and support

We need to get people through the door, we are the workers

Monday Prayer Group + talking to other members

Newsletter needs a boost to liven it up

Information about events needs to be circulated and written down for people to take away

Need written information to give people to take away if they come to a wedding, baptism, etc

We used to send a 1st and 2nd Birthday card to children who had been baptised and include information about Mums & Tots/Toddlers etc.

Question 4

Why not have the last hymn in the back room every week as so many more people stayed for the discussion.

Jim Maslen

The Knitted Bible (33 knitted scenes)

Holderness Road Methodist Church (opposite Boyes)

Saturday 15 July 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Sunday 16 July 12 noon – 6.00 pm

Monday 17 July 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Refreshments on sale each day

Entry is free but donations for Butterflies (dementia charity) and SACTS (Send a Child to School in Sierra Leone and Malawi) and to cover costs will be welcomed.

Feeding 5000 An everyday Miracle

What a great day. A time of celebration and fellowship for all those who attended. Bishop Rev Alison White opened the proceedings at 10.30am. After a time of reflection there were various groups singing and dramas re-telling the fishy story throughout the day. There were various stalls including Fair Trade goods, Open Door where I met 4 Iranian young people who had fled troubles in their country. There was a fishery display where you could have a go at making a fishing net and a children's craft tent where you could make a paper plate fish and a origami fish. I had such fun. Many bible society volunteers where mingling with the crowds inviting you to choose a knitted fish which had been made with love and also you were given a cartoon leaflet telling the story of the feeding of the 5,000. Everyone was invited to partake in a fish sandwich, which were delicious. I was introduced to the Bishop of Hull Rev Alison White and during our discussion we talked about Messy Church and that our next topic was the feeding of the 5,000. Knitted fish and cartoon leaflets were donated for the session. On Thursday 22nd June we held messy church and explored the story of Feeding of the 5,000. We made various crafts, coloured and completed activity sheets. Keith Thomas carried out the service and re told the story with such enthusiasm and captured both the children and adult's attention. I was able to share my experience of

meeting the bishop and explained that the fish had been made with love and been given Rev Alison's blessing. Everyone who attended messy church, the children, adults and all the helpers were able to have a knitted fish and leaflet depicting the story.

Many thanks to Rev Alison White, Keith Thomas, Sue Langdale, Ann Borrill, Wendy Winfield, Brenda Lewis and Mabel Burrows and not least of all the families who attended for making a great session.

Julie Lloyd

Noah Mystery Play

The day started with a spectacular parade from Beverley gate to Trinity Square with Noah, the animals and all the characters of the story. The Bishop of Hull Rev Alison White got the event off to a flying start. During the day there were dramas depicting the story of Noah and the flood, both traditional and with a modern twist. There were various dances, Rhythm and stomp creations and puppetry. These sessions were repeated throughout the day. At lunch-time there was a surprise "Flash mob" made up of city of culture volunteers, the bible society all dressed in yellow who sang in Trinity square. There were lots of craft stalls where the holders were dressed in medieval costume to coincide with the origins of the medieval mystery plays. Alongside this event you had the opportunity to view the renovation work in Holy Trinity Church, Whoops sorry Hull Minster and a talk on the history of the Noah play. Both families from Messy Church and church members attended this event.

Julie Lloyd

On Thursday 22nd June the Ladies Fellowship had afternoon tea at Glenwood Close. Last year this event was held outside in the garden but unfortunately the weather was not so kind this year and it had to be an inside activity. However, it was still a very enjoyable afternoon for all who attended.

The Sutton Guides were invited to a barbecue on Monday 26th June which was a fine evening, if a little chilly. There were about 20 girls who enjoyed playing games followed by barbecue food a selection of sweet treats.

Julie Lloyd

EXPLORING CRAFT

Meets on the second Wednesday each month at Ings Library and on the second Thursday each month at Central Library, both 10am to 12 noon.

Also at Bransholme Methodist Church most Tuesday mornings during the Table Top sale/Coffee Morning. 9.30 to 11.30 am.

Contact Linda on 783527/07958385385 for more information.

KNITTING FOR DEMENTIA PATIENTS and THE BABY UNIT

Knitting continues to be needed; Twiddlemuffs for Dementia patients and jackets, bootees, mitts, hats and blankets. I have easy to make patterns for anyone who would like to join our wonderful knitters.

All of the knitted items are received with great pleasure and gratitude by the staff to use to help the people and babies who receive them.

Many thanks to all who continue to knit all the lovely things.

Linda Whitton

6000 PIPES! - TO BE PERFORMED BY THE HULL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, 24th February 2018, 7.30.pm

Organist Jonathan Scott; Written by Karl Jenkins specifically for the Hull City Hall organ, which as its title implies, has 6000 pipes.

This will be only the second performance of this new music, the first having been played to a near full house earlier this year,

and very enthusiastically received. You will need to book early if you want to hear it.

FORTY YEARS AGO – The Church Newsletter, July/August 1977

Rev Arnold Johnson wrote:-

I am writing this half way through the Methodist Conference in Hull which will be all over (with big sighs of relief for some!) by the time you read this. So, a big word of thanks seems appropriate to our own local people who have helped in any way- and many have – to stage this large event. To all who offered hospitality, provided and served eats, acted as stewards and drivers and contributed to our own Sunday Conference event - thank you very, very much. As a local church, I am sure that we played our full part.

We have one or two spaces in the rota. If you would like to have flowers in remembrance of someone, please speak to Pat or Ann who will be pleased to receive your donations



Sutton Flower Rota

2 July	Doreen Hampshire
9 July	Doreen Forth
16 July	Margaret Grant
23 July	Ruth Harker
30 July	Vacancy
6 Aug	Vacancy
13 Aug	Joyce Allison
20 Aug	Ann Houlton
27 Aug	Ann Borrill

We also have vacancies on 24 Sept and 22 Oct,

Coffee and Cakes As per rota





NEWSLETTER

JULY & AUGUST AT BRANSHOLME METHODIST CHURCH

Preachers at Bransholme Methodist Church during July and August:

2nd July:	Rev L Penn-Timity.
9th July:	Joining with Sutton
16th July:	Mrs D Parkes
23rd July:	Rev M Lloyd
30th July:	Dcn P Ogle
6 August:	Songs of Praise –East Park
2.30pm	
13th August:	Mrs S McDonald
20th August:	Mrs S Kemp
27th August:	Mr J Morrell

Lansford's Last Service at Bransholme as Minister

There will be a Baptism during the Service on Sunday 20th August, which will also be Lansford's last Service with us before he moves on to Holderness Road in September. We will be sorry to lose him but he isn't going far and he says he will come back to see us again. We send him and Grace with all our prayers and good wishes for the future.

Bransholme Summer Fair

We are having a Summer Fair on Saturday July 22nd from 10.30 am to 1.00 pm.

There will be the usual stalls except clothing. We will also be having a cake stall, so ladies (and gentlemen) please get baking.

The Prize Every Time would like donations.

Children's groups at Bransholme

Baby soft play is now on a Wednesday afternoon. The time remains 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm. Although the group is aimed at babies, toddlers are also welcome. Please come along with your little ones for the babies to play and for parents to socialise. We now have a breastfeeding peer support worker as part of the group if anyone needs advice or support with breastfeeding.

For those with children a little older, parents and toddlers runs from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursdays.

Messy Church is a great way to keep your child entertained while learning the gospel. Again, it is a chance for parents to get together and have a chat.

For all of these activities, please contact Julia Sheard for details.

Bransholme Weekly Diary

Church Activities

Tuesday 9.30am

1.45pm

monthly) Taking a summer break from July.

Table Top Sale

Women's Fellowship (twice

Wednesday

holidays)

**4.30pm -6.30pm
month)**

Thursday:

holidays)

1pm – 2.30pm

Baby Soft Play

(Closed during school

Messy Church (Once a

9.30 – 11.30am

Parent and Toddler Group

(closed during school

Dear friends,

As the famous song says its nearly time to say good bye.

However, not just yet! As you will all know by now Matt was accepted for training with the Methodist church to become a minister. So, this means that we will be moving to Queens College in Birmingham to start training in September. We will be living in college accommodation in a 2-bed flat. We will go and see the flat in a few weeks. I wanted to say a massive thank you for all the love, support and prayers that you have given us over the years I have worked with you. I also wanted to thank you for the way in which you have supported the work I have done as family worker.

We have been truly blessed by being part of the church family at Bransholme.

We will miss you but life goes on and you will have a new Julia soon bringing their own gifts and talents to the work serving you the church, the

community and most importantly God. We move on to a new chapter following Gods call to a life of ministry within the church. We will let you know of our progress of course and we ask for your continued prayer.

Once again thank you for all your support

Love

Julia (Matt, Bethany and Jacob)

Bransholme Women's Fellowship

Bransholme Women's Fellowship meets twice monthly on a Tuesday. Please contact Audrey Daniels for further information or if you are interested in speaking to the group or for details of the planned meetings. Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month and are from 1.45 – 2.45 pm. We always welcome new members.

Women's Fellowship is closed during July and August Re-open in September.

New Speakers always welcome, please ring Audrey Daniels on 01482 831986 for autumn meetings

Dine and View at Bransholme

Dine and View is closed until September. See the next newsletter for details of the autumn programme.

Send a Child to School

The circuit is supporting the send a Child to School Charity, details of which are on the circuit website. We are no longer collecting hymn books, Bibles or other books for Sierra Leone and Malawi. We are still collecting cash or cheque donations for school fees, stationary for school children, used computers, laptops, children's clothes, toys, shoes, school bags, stacking or folding chairs and tables, and any other school related stationary or furniture.

Many Thanks for your continued support to these poor and vulnerable children of Africa.

In His Service

Lansford Penn-Timothy

After the Feeding of the 5000!

Thanks to the people who knitted Fish for the “Feeding the 5000” event in Queens Gardens. We managed 42 between us. It was a very hot day so there was a good turn-out of people attending, and nearly 6000 fish were given out. I don’t know how many fish sandwiches were given away as it was surprising how many people don’t like fish. I thought I was the only one! I have had a suggestion that we knit a few more for Harvest Festival to make a different sort of display. Can we have your thoughts on this before we pick up our needles again please?

JEAN LUNN

Facebook

Bransholme Methodist Church has a face book page. Please surf the web and have a look at it. If you have no idea what I am talking about, this is a way of telling the world over the internet what is going on at Bransholme Methodist Church and also allows people to communicate directly with the Church. Please note that you must search for Bransholme Methodist Church Hull for the official site.

**Bransholme Table Top Sale EVERY TUESDAY, COFFEE MORNING AT
BRANSHOLME METHODIST CHURCH. 9.30 -11.30 am**

Nearly new clothes, books, bric-a-brac, refreshments. We are still in need of items for sale. Anything except furniture.

The table top sale and coffee morning will continue as normal throughout the summer.

Hallo everybody. Are you in good health and at peace with yourselves? I am sorry my church visits are less frequent. These letters help keep me in touch with you, my church friends in Christ.

My thoughts still go off at a tangent and are off beat. My first venture into seriously reading the bible was 40 years ago and I read it in desperation from the problems and responsibilities of single motherhood. This became my life support, even to this day.

My understanding grew, learning with “House Groups” from the Sunbury on Thames Methodist Church where I was a member. About 14 years ago my understanding of the bible had grown and I was reading both testaments from cover to cover a number of times.

I now take interest in wider areas, as the religious laws and regulations given after Moses had delivered the 10 commandments (I will do more learning before I talk of that). These rules for living were for healthy and lawful living as communities. Making sacrifices was particular and detailed; animals should have no blemish. The sacrifice must match the degree of thankfulness. Then who slaughters, where it is done and how, are very clearly states and allow few exceptions to these directives.

Christianity does not continue this practice in general, however, I have heard of North African area, sacrificing white lambs at Easter, but could not be sure of all my facts.

I wondered how we would control it in modern times, and the difficulties, rolled in, but doves were the only creature we could come anywhere near producing in quantity and even then would the council agree to process the waste disposal? Then there were the feathers. Perhaps Tesco or Aldi would have kosher or halal butchers?

I went to sleep still considering the enormous difference between the lives of the Israelites of Moses’ time to that of the greater body of Christians today, and still worrying about breeding sufficient doves for all occasions.

When I woke in the morning, I entered the bathroom and, in the centre of the window, still at a bottle of “Dove” hand wash. My cousin had left it as part of her “thank you” gift to me after a short stay.

My worry was lifted, it was time to laugh out loud (lol) and sing “morning has broken”, sure that if we watch and wait all will be revealed.

Until next time, God bless you. Ivy Gale