



SUTTON, BRANSHOLME AND KINGSWOOD METHODIST CHURCHES

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2017

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

Whenever I move to a new area, I always look forward to discovering how different communities mark and celebrate the seasons of the year. During November and December, we travel through significant times and seasons. As I write this letter, the darker nights are setting in and the autumn colours are fading, a sign for me that this hectic year is drawing to a close. But it is also a sign that the season of Advent with all its hope and promise, is not far away. The season of looking forward to the coming of Jesus past, present and future is nearly here.

Recently, I have been hearing how various places are marking the season of Remembrance that November highlights for us. My paternal grandfather served in the First World War and occasionally he would tell us tales of his experience – of the fears and of the comradeship he lived through as a young man. We can never forget the sacrifice and cost to life of those who have laboured for freedom and peace in years past and present. Our services of Remembrance seem to have found a fresh resonance in recent times. Also, this season helps us in a wider sense to reflect and give thanks for those who have shaped our lives by their good example and selfless acts of kindness and ‘for all the saints who from their labours rest’.

Advent falls at the beginning of December and what an exciting time it heralds. The adventure of the journey to the stable at Bethlehem starts to unfold culminating in the amazing news of the birth of the baby boy who is Saviour and King. It is a special season and I hope you can find ways of marking the joy and wonder it brings to young and old alike. There will be plenty of opportunities to get involved in church and community events as anticipation grows and celebrations are marked. Look out for the details of Advent and Christmas events and services and come along to share in the fun and friendship and deep meaning of this season of promise.

Memories of Carol Singing come to mind – in the open air in shopping precincts, often singing with members from other churches, clutching a Bethlehem Carol Sheet, or on a Christmas Eve joining with friends in different homes, sharing the joy and raising a bit of money for local projects, or in one of the Care Homes helping people to remember the words of peace and love about God who cares so much for each one of us. Then on Christmas morning, being able to sing the verse of a favourite carol with renewed hope and vision:

**Yea, Lord we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory given:
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!**

It may seem too early to do so, but I wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

Every blessing,

Rev Debbie

PASTORAL CONCERNS

We continue to pray for Ron and Doreen Forth. Doreen has been back in hospital and Ron is living in residential care again at Churchill House

**We pray for Shannon Gray, recovering from surgery,
and Lois Thomas, Brian Hampshire, Zem Rodaway, Barbara and Dave
Whelan.**

**We pray for those who are unable to come to worship due to ill health or
mobility problems, remembering Jean Clark, Vanessa Hughes, Brenda
Robson and Christine Clark;**

**Those living permanently in residential homes, especially Vera Hutchings
and Ian Hodgson;**

Alan Bays and Connor McKervey, both undergoing treatment.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE LIVES OF

**John Girling, Brian Turner, Pauline Cassanell and Gwen Turner and pray
for Rosemary Girling, Rita Turner and the families of Pauline and Gwen at
this difficult time.**

WE PRAY FOR

**Lesley and Darren who were married at Sutton Methodist Church on
October 14th.**

ALSO PRAY FOR

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

Our minister and Circuit Superintendent, Debbie Lucas.

United Service at Bransholme Methodist Church, November 5th 2017

**The theme of this service will be The Shoe Box Appeal. Donations of
completed shoe boxes or separate items for a shoe box will be gratefully
received. Lists of suggestions for items to be included or avoided have been
circulated recently. Please talk to a steward or Deacon Sue if you have not
received a list and you would like one.**

Remembrance Sunday, November 12th 2017.

**Reverend Colin Plenderleith has been planned to take the service at Sutton
and our MORNING WORSHIP WILL START AT 10.00am. There will be
a short break at 10.45 am to allow those who wish to the chance to leave in
order to walk to the open air Service at Sutton War Memorial. In our**

Church Rev Colin Plenderleith will continue his service with a short Act of Remembrance either side of 11.00am.

FUTURE EVENTS

CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair which will be held on Saturday 18th November. If you have any items suitable to sell, please could you either leave them on the stage or contact Robin or Helen on 712814 to have them collected. We find that people are often looking for Christmas gifts so if you have anything at the back of the cupboard that you got last Christmas and haven't used, perhaps now is a good time to pass it on. We will also be having a cake stall at this event. Once again, we would like help setting up before and selling on the day and more details will follow nearer the time.

Helen

Make Way for Christmas - THE GIFT

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH

No tickets or admission charge but donations for church funds would be appreciated

Our singers and guest instrumentalists will perform THE GIFT by Graham Kendrick. We have been rehearsing since the beginning of October and also making preparations in other ways. We are keen that we have a good congregation for this event in early Advent, so please make this the beginning of your Christmas and encourage others to come along too. The gathering will help us all to prepare ourselves spiritually for Christmas.

Annual Gift or Toy Service, Sunday December 3rd 2017

The Morning Worship will be a Parade Service.

Evening Worship will be a Circuit Advent Service at the Bilton Grange Worship Centre.

Visit to Cavendish School, Monday 4th December

Following on from a visit to the school in Advent last year, a group from Sutton will be taking part in a school assembly. Final plans are still being worked on, but the visit will probably include a short drama and some carols.

Martin House Carol Service, Thursday 7 December at 7.00pm

at Holderness Road Methodist Church.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER 10.00am to 4.00pm

and SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 12.00 noon to 4.00pm

the theme is

‘COMMUNITY at CHRISTMAS’

A Christmas Tree Festival will be held in our church on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December. Please put this date in your diaries too! This weekend has been chosen because it coincides with the annual Church Street Christmas Fair. The theme of our Christmas Tree Festival will be ‘The Church Community and Sutton Village Community’. Church groups and village enterprises will be invited to decorate a tree in a way that is representative of that group or enterprise.

Preparations are already underway for this event as there are various aspects to the planning that need to be established sooner rather than later. If you have a small artificial Christmas tree (4 foot high maximum) that you are able to loan to the church for the duration of the Christmas season then please let Robin or Helen or Wendy know.

If you have spare Christmas decorations these may also be useful for one of the groups or for general decoration around the church. Thank you.

Also, please let us know if you have a small artificial Christmas tree (4 foot high maximum) that you are able to loan to the church for the duration of the Christmas season, or if you have spare Christmas decorations which could be useful for one of the groups or for general decoration around the church. Thank you.

SHOEBOX APPEAL

We will be collecting shoeboxes for Real Aid again this year and would be grateful for either made up shoeboxes or items/money to make them up ourselves. For information on items please see www.realaid.org.uk or contact Helen Siddle on 712814. These are usually collected around the middle of November so we need to try and have them ready toward the beginning of November as there will be a service about this subject on Sunday 5th November.

MESSY CHURCH AND CRAFT CLUB

The group is into its 9th year and will shortly be starting up again after its summer break. More support and help is needed at our very popular sessions. Both messy church and craft club runs during school term on two Thursday afternoons per month between 4-6 pm. Any -one who is able to come along and have some fun whilst helping at these sessions would be made very welcome and their time would be very much appreciated. No experience is needed, just willingness to come along and meet and make the families from our community welcome. It doesn't matter if you are not crafty, it's just as important to mix and chat to the families. So I encourage you to write these dates in your diary and we'll look forward to seeing you.

Dates as follows;

Craft Club Thursday 9th November

Messy Church Thursday 23rd November

Craft Club Thursday 7th December

Christmas Craft Afternoon Sunday 17th December followed by Carol Service.

For any further information don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank You

Julie Lloyd

HELP NEEDED

Our Church website is currently very out of date and we need someone who has the knowledge/skills to regularly manage/update it. Would you be willing to keep the website updated with our various activities and information each month? If that person is you, or anyone you know please contact our Minister Debbie Lucas.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

What a brilliant ‘Harvest Festival’ weekend we had. From the barn dance on the Saturday with its live band and delicious supper to the enthusiastic parade service on the Sunday morning was simply amazing.

This year some 100 people were at the barn dance, from the Guides, who also had a sleep over in the church hall; neighbours living in close proximity to the church; friends from our sister church St. James and their minister, to others who saw it advertised on the notice board all swelling the numbers making it lively and great fun with lots of laughter. Everyone from teenagers to seniors joined in, partnering each other and making new friends they might never have met before. It was lovely to see Rev. Debbie tripping the light fantastic at her first Sutton barn dance.

Sunday morning was equally as enthusiastic with harvest hymns, prayers written by some of the Cubs and a sketch by the ‘Mr. Men’ in the guise of some of the young people and leaders. And we can’t leave out the rendition of the ever popular ‘Cauliflowers fluffy’ led by Messy Church and the Uniformed Organisations. This full-on harvest service led for the first time by Rev. Debbie was very much appreciated by all who came. And it was a joy to welcome our friends from Bransholme Methodist who joined us too.

Many thanks to everyone who were part of arranging both events including setting up and clearing away, and of course to our friend and Minister Debbie who didn’t really know what she was letting herself in for. Roll on 2018.

Roger Jones, Musical Man

Following the great evening with Roger Jones at the Acorn Centre, Bilton Grange, Jean Gray has had a letter from Roger saying how much he and

the team enjoyed their visit here in Hull. He wanted to thank everyone involved in presenting and presenting the evening, and those who attended.

EXPLORING CRAFT

Come and try a craft of your choice, to refresh your skills or learn something new.

Meetings are from February to November every second Wednesday each month at Ings Library, and every second Thursday each month at Central Library from 10 am to 12 noon.

Also at Bransholme Methodist Church every Tuesday 9.30am to 11.30 am.

Details from Linda Whitton in church or on tel. 783517.

KNITTING PROJECTS

Donations of knitting for the Baby Unit, and the Twiddlemuffs for patients with Dementia continue to be wanted. Every time I take bags of knitting in, the hospital, staff I hand them over to are so grateful and full of admiration of the items, and of the people who make them.

I am happy to take them in to the hospital, despite the waiting time to get in! so please do keep them coming.

Details of what to knit, and patterns can be supplied to anyone who wants to join our band of knitters.

Also, donations of knitted or crochet or stitched tree decorations, or other imaginative hand- made decorations, wanted for a Craft tree in the Church Christmas Tree Festival.

This is to showcase the wealth or talent quietly going on behind the scenes, by so many people of, or connected to people of this Church.

Thank you to those of you who have taken up this challenge so far.

Linda Whitton

CHURCH LIBRARY is open after the service every Sunday I am in church. Any one is welcome to borrow any of the books, just add your name and the date in the notebook, and the date it is returned.

Next to the library case on the cakes table, there are books and greetings cards, and often other things for sale, all to raise money to support the church.

A CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL will be part of our Christmas events this year, and I would like your help to make knitted, crotchet and stitched tree decorations. Baubles, stockings, candy canes, snowmen, stars, teddies. or any other idea you want to make, and help to create something different!

Linda Whitton Tel: 783517 or speak to me in Church.

WIVES and FRIENDS

meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings each month at 7.45pm in the Potterill Hall. There is a programme of speakers and group events. Any ladies are welcome to come along and see if this is a group you may like to join. Talk to Pat Dyson for more information.

THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER 40 YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 1977

Dear Friends

Two recent events have made me reflect this month on two national occasions of remembrance in November – November 5th, Guy Fawkes Day, and Remembrance Sunday.

The first recent event was when a plaque was placed in Westminster Abbey to “bury the hatchet” of past bitter religious conflict by recognising that both Catholic and Protestant martyrs such as Moore and Cranmer were equally Christian and right in what they stood for.

Yet in contrast to this happy recognition, coupled with a mutual confession of past sin and error, we will again “remember the 5th of November” traditionally kept denigrate the memory of Guy Fawkes and his fellow conspirators who were merely reflecting the same bitter religious and political conflict the Westminster ceremony was seeking to put to rest. So, although the historical reason for it is scarcely remembered, and apart from the fireworks argument, I think that November 5th should be completely scrapped and ignored altogether. If we want our firework

displays let's have them on some other occasion to celebrate something worthwhile!

The other recent event was the Nobel Peace Prize award to the N. Ireland Peace Movement Leaders. Last Sunday I watched a T.V. programme about the movement. This reminded me how these women, and other active supporters, are ready to risk their lives daily in their opposition to the people of violence. It reminded me also that any real peace and victory over evil can only be won at a high price of courage, faith and sacrifice.

Apart from any personal remembrance people have of loved ones lost in the past world wars, Remembrance Sunday is well worth keeping in so far as, nationally, we are reminded of the above facts.

The measure of peace most of us enjoy should not be taken for granted and we should acknowledge that the things which make for war such as injustice, poverty, superiority and pride, extremism and intolerance, are still very much with us in the world today and we who claim to be Christians should recognise them and work very seriously to help destroy and overcome them.

Your friend and minister,

Arnold S. Johnson

THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER 40 YEARS AGO DECEMBER 1977

Extract from Reverend Arnold Johnson's letter:

I am writing this letter whilst the front page news is all about President Sadat's visit to Israel. His historic speech in the Israeli Knesset had a strong religious tone. The day coincided with the festival commemorating the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac, (Gen. 22) and specific and appropriate reference was made in the speech. Listening to the T.V. recording, I was impressed by the religious sincerity of both the Muslim and the Jewish leaders in their belief in God and in His guidance and influence in this breakthrough which we hope will lead to Middle East peace. It made me realise that we Christians should not think that God only speaks and works through us.

However, that does not shake my conviction that, in a unique way, God did speak through Jesus Christ when, as John expressed it, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us", the great truth which we celebrate at

Christmas. So, although we Christians believe that God can only be fully known in and through Jesus, this is a good time to recognise that our non-Christian brothers and sisters can also be people of sincere good-will seeking the guidance of God in their own lives.

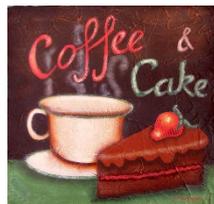
We have one or two spaces in the rota. If you would like to have flowers in remembrance of someone, please speak to Pat or Ann who will be pleased to receive your donations

Sutton Flower Rota



- 5 Nov A Borrill**
- 12 Nov The Kirby Family**
- 19 Nov L Thomas**
- 26 Nov J Wiles**

December Advent Flowers



- 5 Nov Siddles family**
- 12 Nov Andrea, Margaret, Marge**
- 19 Nov Brenda, Ruth, Shannon**
- 26 Nov Phil, Doreen, Andrew**
- 1 Dec Siddles family**
- 8 Dec Sue, Elaine, Ann**
- 15 Dec Andrea, Margaret, Ruth**

22 Dec Brenda, Marge, Shannon

29 Dec Phil, Doreen, Andrew

Cakes as per rota.



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NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2017 at BRANSHOLME

Bransholme Weekly Diary Church Activities

Tuesdays: 9.30 am Table Top Sale

Women's Fellowship 1.45 pm (twice monthly)

Wednesdays: 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm Baby Soft Play (closed during school holidays)

Messy Church 4.30 to 6.30 pm (once a month)

Thursday: 9.30 to 11.30 am Parent and Toddler Group (closed during school holidays)

Sunday Services at Bransholme

Nov 5 Deacon Sue Langdale, with Sutton joining us

Nov 12 Rev Debbie Lucas with Holy Communion

Nov 19 Withernsea Worship Group

Nov 26 Jean Gray

Dec 3 TBA

Dec 10 TBA

- Dec 17 Carol Service**
- Dec 24 No Morning service.**
- Dec 24 Candlelight Service. 2.30 pm Open to anyone**
- Dec 25 Christmas Day Service at Sutton 10.30 am**
- Dec 31 Joint Service with Sutton, at Bransholme.**

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 Hannah Edgar for details.

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. The dates and speakers for the next two months are:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Nov 14th | Linda Whitton |
| Nov 28th | Rev Mary Lloyd |
| Dec 12th | Rev Debbie Lucas |
- Then closed until the new year.**

New members and speakers always welcome, please ring Audrey Daniels on 01482 831986 for autumn meetings

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-Timity

Bransholme Table Top Sale/Coffee Morning

Every Tuesday 9.30 – 11.30am

EVERY TUESDAY, COFFEE MORNING AT BRANSHOLME METHODIST CHURCH.

Nearly new clothes, books, bric-a-brac, refreshments

We are still in need of items for sale. Anything except furniture.

Facebook!

Bransholme Methodist Church has a facebook 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.

Articles for the newsletter can be emailed to J Gay –

sonnyj@sonnyj.karoo.co.uk