



SUTTON AND BRANSHOLME METHODIST CHURCHES NEWSLETTER MAY & JUNE 2018

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From the Manse

Dear Friends,

These days, I am getting used to sitting in traffic jams! Waiting in a recent jam, my mind wandered forward to another festival we will be celebrating in a few weeks' time – Pentecost – mindful of the waiting that the followers of Jesus did before the Spirit came.

When Jesus ascended into heaven he promised them the gift of the Holy Spirit but told them to wait in Jerusalem until that gift came.

This interim period between Jesus leaving and the Spirit coming at Pentecost cannot have been an easy time for those disciples. They had no idea how long they would have to wait and we all know what that feels like.

There is the temptation to fret, to pester others or just to get on with it ourselves because of course, we know best anyway! I can't imagine that those are modern temptations brought on by our 'instant' society.

I suspect that impatience is simply a personality trait that has been around a very long time. Read the psalms and you will see what I

mean – “Listen to me, Lord”, “How much longer, O Lord” or “Answer me, Lord” are familiar cries coming from impatient hearts.

For all of us, in our personal lives, in our family situations in our life together as a church, there will inevitably be times of waiting – waiting for someone to make a decision, waiting for news, waiting for God to give a hint of what is coming next. And sometimes it can feel as if absolutely nothing is happening for ages.

You will have heard it said many times before that God's timing is perfect. You may even have experienced that for yourself. For others, it may feel like cold comfort if you are in the middle of a waiting period right now -but it is true!

Our God is an active God and even when it might seem to us as if nothing is happening, he will be quietly at work, preparing the way for what is to come. Our task is to use that waiting time well and grow in our understanding of God's timing.

Rather than fretting about the wait, the disciples used the time between the Ascension and Pentecost to pray together, to grow closer to God and to one another. And remember, the disciples got far more than they could ever have imagined when what they'd been promised finally arrived!

You may have heard about Thy Kingdom Come. It is a global prayer movement that began in the Church of England in 2016. The Methodist Church has become a partner in the initiative and we are sharing in it across the Circuit.

Various churches are setting time aside to pray -including Sutton in the regular Monday afternoon prayer meeting. Between the Ascension and Pentecost, from 10 – 20 May 2018, during the waiting time, the invitation is simply for people to pray whenever they can, with whoever they want to, and in whatever way they choose, that others might know Jesus Christ.

Perhaps this could be a focus of your prayers during the waiting time?

Rev Debbie

PASTORAL CONCERNS

We continue to pray for Laurie on the loss of Barbara, and Colin on the loss of Valerie.

We pray for Brenda who is recovering well,

Keith, Lois and Garry, Zem, Barbara and Dave, Christopher.

We pray for Shannon's recovery from surgery, Barbara's planned surgery and Aileen's daughter Judith awaiting test results.

We remember those living in residential homes, Ron and Doreen, Vera and Ian.

We pray for those who are unable to come to worship due to ill health or mobility problems, remembering Jean, Vanessa, Brenda and Christine.

We give thanks for the health that has been restored to many who suffered with the nasty winter bugs during February and March, and we give special thanks that both Connor and Alan have been given the 'all clear' after their treatment for cancer.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Mae Elizabeth Oakley baptised at Sutton on 4th March and Freya Isabelle Johnson baptised on 8th April, AND Danielle Bryant married to Ibrahim Oduntan on 24th March May they find peace and joy in the loving arms of Christ

ALSO PRAY FOR

Debbie, our Minister, the needs of the Circuit, the Circuit Staff, Circuit Stewards and individual churches in the Circuit.

Lent Bible Study

Many thanks to everyone who joined the Lent Studies this year and to Debbie for taking the lead. Our conversations based on Revd. Colin Plenderleith's book 'The Heart of Jesus' written during his Sabbatical followed the themes of: 'The Seriousness of Jesus', 'The Touch of Jesus', 'The Weeping Jesus', 'The Loneliness of Jesus' and 'The Suffering Jesus'.

These not only encouraged us to look deeper into the life of Christ but also into our own lives. They helped us to learn from him, to feel his compassion and understand better that because of all he endured he can reach out and touch us at our deepest point of need.

A fruitful time of discovery by all who were involved. If you didn't make it this year please make it a 'must do' for next year.

Why Methodist?

I assume if you are reading this newsletter that you are either a member of the Methodist Church or that you have a deep interest in it. Over the years I have taken on rolls within the Church which has broadened my horizons on how the church functions which as an ordinary Church member I had little understanding of.

At Sutton we belong to a collection of Churches that are known as a Circuit. Ministers are appointed to a Circuit and not to a particular Church or Churches. Ministers are usually given pastoral charge of a number of Churches within the Circuit.

One of the Ministers is appointed as the Superintendent Minister, and we are fortunate to have Debbie filling that role for our Circuit. The Circuit is governed by the Circuit Meeting. The idea of the Circuit is that there is a mutual support network for the individual Churches.

Circuit Stewards are elected to work alongside their Ministerial colleagues to advance the work of the Circuit and they meet together as a Circuit Leadership Team. If you have never been to a Circuit Meeting please take the opportunity to attend the one on 30th May when we are having an open meeting to follow up from the Circuit Vision Day on 12th May.

Our Circuit "The South Holderness Methodist Circuit" is part of the District known as "The Yorkshire North and East District". A District is supervised by District Chair, again we are fortunate in having Leslie Newton as our Chair.

Again, the District provides another level of support for Churches and Circuits. The representative body for the District is called Synod which is usually held twice a year. Anyone can attend Synod, however unless you are an elected member you cannot vote. If you have never been, go, there will always be someone to go with.

All Methodist Churches belong to The Connexion and we are all government by Conference where decisions are made that affect the Church in many ways. Ministers operate under the control and discipline of the Conference. The Church has a rule book called CPD and any amendments to this rule must be approved by Conference.

It is Conference that ordains Ministers. I have never been sent as a representative to Conference but I have attended and observed some sessions, the most memorable was when Sue was accepted into full connexion (ordained) at the Scarborough Conference in 2008.

The Church has a democratic structure which sometimes means that it can be seen as a little too slow to react; this is not always a bad thing.

Are you familiar with the 4 All's of Methodism and the Methodist Quadrilateral? I will have a go at trying to explain them next time.

Phil Langdale

Yorkshire North and East Methodist District

Spring Synod – Saturday 14 April 2018- Manor CE Academy York
SYNOD THEME “STEP UP TO GOD’S FUTURE TOGETHER”

Hi Everyone,

I am pleased to say that the Yorkshire North and East Representative Spring Synod appeared to be a success on Saturday 14 April at the Manor Academy York. We have had some really positive feedback, so thank you! Synod was well attended, with a good mix of people from each Circuit and members of Step Up joined us after lunch, with some washing cars and others enjoying the trampoline.

We also had a few non-voters with us too. Please encourage your congregations to think about attending Synod. It is good to share fellowship and meet up with friends from other circuits.

The hosting circuits were Poeldington & Market Weighton, Hull Centre & West, Beverley, and the Goole and Selby Circuit. Their support with music, opening worship, scrutineers, car parking, flowers, catering and the general domestics around Synod was very much appreciated.

The variety of cakes was outstanding! We also thank David Mitchell, our IT expert, who worked hard during the day to ensure sound and display ran smoothly. We also had a Synod Creche which worked very well too.

Our Chair, the Revd Leslie Newton, opened Synod. We remembered the conflict in Syria and a prayer from the President and Vice President of Conference was conveyed to Synod. Leslie announced the Ministers who would be moving on and those coming into the District.

During the morning we heard the general business reports from Finance, Property, Safeguarding, MWiB and the DMLN. Please see

other general reports on the District website. We remembered Local Preachers who had died during the year with a 2-minute silence, a prayer and a hymn, led by David Holden, the District's Local Preachers' Secretary.

Steven Leah presented and moved a Memorial to Conference encompassing the UK Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia. This was seconded and votes were 169 for and 1 against. This will now go to Conference in July 2018.

Leslie took us through the District Envisioning presentation which allowed responses from the various circuits. Synod agreed unanimously that the District should move forward to pursue Flourishing Missional Communities!

After lunch Victoria Etherington, our Youth Ministry Leader, informed Synod of the One Opportunity Programme and highlighted the initiatives relating to the 3 General Manifesto questions which then led to the suggestion of the 5 Synod afternoon Workshops:

- What does it really mean to be a worshipping people? (Fiona Fidgin DMLN)
- How can we really help to "save the planet"? (David Beattie)
- How can we really communicate well across the generations? (Victoria & Amy)
- How can everyone really have their voice heard in the church? (Alister McClure)
- How can we really make an impact in the world? (Lucy ZwolinskaJPIT)
- The workshops were evenly represented and we thank the speakers for their support. The feedback on all the workshops was very positive, both interesting & inspiring.

Closing worship was led by the Step Up group and a sum of over £700 was raised from the lunchtime collection and the car washes, so a huge thank you to those who did the work, but also to those who contributed. All proceeds will go to the Bolivia fund.

A big thank you to all those too who helped "behind the scenes". We look forward to seeing you on 8 September 2018 for the Autumn Representative Synod. Hosting circuits are: York, Ripon & Lower Dales, Tadcaster, Thirsk & Northallerton Circuits.

Blessings

Jackie, Synod Secretary (April 2018)

Easter At Sutton

This year we began our journey to the Cross at the beginning of March with Cavendish School coming to Sutton for an Easter Service. This was followed a week later by a group from Sutton taking the Easter story into Spring Cottage.

On both occasions the 'Easter Bunny' and friend made a special appearance adding that element of fun and laughter which the children will hopefully remember the Easter Story by.

On the Tuesday of 'Holy Week' the Circuit were invited to Withernsea Methodist for a service based on the Women who met Jesus on the Way to the Cross and the main men characters in the Easter Story, (which a number of our own members took part in).

Maundy Thursday brought an opportunity for anyone who wished to join Messy Church for an Easter Craft afternoon with an egg hunt and Worship.

On Good Friday morning there was a choice of an ecumenical walk of witness from Holderness Road Methodist Church to St. Columba, or for those unable to walk the distance a time of quiet meditation at the Methodist Church. In the afternoon at Sutton there was also a quiet time of meditation and reflection led by our own minister Debbie.

This was followed by an early communion on Easter Sunday morning, with the dressing of the Cross at the later Worship and a very joyful Circuit Praise in the evening at Hedon Methodist.

What a joy and a blessing this Easter has been whether you joined in everything or just one or two events the opportunity to partake in the Easter Story was there. And to share that journey with many more people both in the circuit and ecumenically was a wonderful experience not to be missed.

Christian Aid Sunday

Sunday 13th May 2018

We are planning a 'soup and bread roll' austerity lunch at the beginning of Christian Aid week on Sunday 13th May. This will remind us of the fact that many people in the world do not enjoy the same luxuries and quantities of food that most people in the Western World do.

Also it will give us the opportunity to make a thank offering towards the work of Christian Aid.

Christian Aid Week 13-19 May

We are holding our annual Garden Party at The Hornbeams, 373, Saltshouse Lane, Sutton, the home of the Laycock family, on Wednesday 16th May from 10.00 – 4.00 (£1 admission). We would be pleased of your support and to give you the opportunity to view the house and gardens.

Donations of cakes, bring and buy items, bric-a-brac and help and support on the day would be much appreciated.

I also need volunteers for the house to house collections: this is such a very important part of CA week so if you can spare a couple of hours please contact me.

Thank you,
Ruth Harker

Singing Practices

Thursday 10 May 7.30pm Pentecost Season Singing Practice, in the church

Thursday 17 May 7.30pm Pentecost Season Singing Practice, in the church

All who enjoy singing are invited to these times of fellowship. Hopefully we shall be able to sing on Pentecost Sunday. Also, we shall be looking ahead and starting to plan for later in the year, Christmas even!

Wives and Friends

This group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month, at 7.45pm in the Potterill Hall. There is a programme of invited speakers, entertainment and members activity evenings. Any ladies who would like to come and meet this group will be very welcome, and very welcome to join the group.

Ladies Fellowship meetings are on Thursdays at 2.00 pm.

The following programme has been arranged for May and June:

3 May	Speaker t.b.a
10 May	Poetry
17 May	Devotions
24 May	Outing with afternoon tea
31 May	Games afternoon
7 June	Speaker t.b.a
14 June	Flower arranging
21 June	Musical afternoon
28 June	June AGM

Messy Church

More helpers are needed at our very popular Messy Church and Children's Craft activities run during school term times, on two Thursday afternoons per month, 4pm to 6pm. Anyone able to come and have some fun whilst helping at these events would be very welcome.

No experience needed, just a willingness to help children and their families enjoy these fun sessions. Having more helpers would also mean more children could be welcomed into the sessions.

Any questions or queries please contact Angie at church, on our Facebook Page or using our contact form on the Messy Church Page.

The Greatest Story Ever Toured

HULL MINSTER: FRIDAY JUNE 22nd

An evening of laughs, learning and Leviticus. Join comedian Paul Kerensa and Dr. Andrew Ollerton to see how the big picture of the Bible unfolds.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW

Concert at Sutton Methodist

We will be holding a concert at Sutton Methodist on Saturday 23 June at 7.30. The Wedding Belles, a group of female singers, will be performing together with Answers On A Postcard, a group of male acappella singers.

This will be a chance to see both these brilliant groups performing together in a one off concert. The tickets are priced at £5 and are available from Helen Siddle.

Thank You

Connor and I would like to thank you for all the prayers, best wishes and support you gave us during last year. Connor has now returned to work on a part time basis and he has had the all clear for his cancer.

The Power of Prayer is so great.

The Daffodil Lady

I am going to tell you about a "true happening" which affected Frank and myself last year – 2017. It is completely different from anything we had ever experienced before – a really "Feel Good" story that I called "Our Good Fairy" alias "The Daffodil Lady".

Last year, Spring was early in our area after the mild winter and our display of daffodils in the borders of our front lawn were in bloom very early in March.

It was a Wednesday night and I was going out to our Ladies' group at Sutton Methodist Church. As I left the house, on the front doorstep was a bunch of daffodils from nearby Sainsburys.

In the letterbox was a floral card which read "I enjoy your daffodils as I go to the nearby shops and pass your house. I live in Howdale Road. Enjoy these daffodils. Best wishes from "The daffodil lady".

I couldn't think who it might be. A few weeks passed, the daffodils faded and in their place in April and May, we had a display of bluebells. Another card appeared – "The daffodils have gone but the bluebells look lovely, kind regards "the daffodil lady". Still no clues.

Then in June Frank put lots of begonias round the borders. One day in July, a young lady spoke to him when he was in the front garden. He asked her "are you the daffodil lady?" she said "yes". She came into the kitchen to meet me, I was amazed at how young she was.

She said "I'm not that young I'm, 51 years old" I said you are the same age as our son and daughter. The lady said she looks at people's gardens as she passes by. She is an attendant on Special School transport buses twice a day and she said we weren't the only people she has done acts of kindness for.

Her name is Lynne Hargraves and she lives off Howdale Road.

We had another card through last year saying "Hoping we had enjoyed our hols, also a few women's magazines left and a note saying, "read these and pass them on".

I rang David Burns' programme and told my story. I also wrote to the Hull Daily Mail and got quite a big spread, though the Mail compared her with the "Bee Lady".

I really don't think this compares with that little lady who raises lots of funds for Age UK.

Lyn has called once or twice for a cup of tea and a natter.

I think we have a new friend, so how many more people know about the Daffodil Lady?

This year won't be a year of mystery as 2017 was.

Jennifer Dearing

Exploring Craft

Meetings are held once a month at Ings Library and Central Library, both 10 am to 12 noon.

Also, at Bransholme Methodist Church every Tuesday during the Coffee Morning/Table Top Sale, 9.30 to 11.30am.

We can make things to order, do alterations and repairs on request. Please contact Linda Whitton for information.

The Church Library...

Will be open every Sunday I am in church, during coffee time after the Service.

Books can be borrowed; just put your name, book title and date in the notebook, and put the date in when you return the book(s).

Also available for sale are books, Greetings Cards, occasionally produce when available, and sometimes other goods.

Have a look when you are getting your drink and cake.

All money raised from these sales is for Sutton Church funds.

Knitters Wanted

Many thanks for those who have made Twiddle Muffs and passed them on to me. It would be good to have more people to knit the basic Twiddle Muffs for dementia patients as they are constantly wanted.

I am happy to stitch up and apply the twiddly bits if knitters prefer. Staff at HRI are very grateful to receive them. They are given to every patient with dementia that visit HRI clinics, wards etc.

To make one, cast on 40 sts in chunky wool or 2 strands of double knitting wool on 6.5 mm needles. Work in stocking stitch to 11 inches.

Change to double knitting wool of any colour and texture, stitch, stitch patterns, or use ribbon or lace or any type of knittable things you want to, with whatever variety you can.

Continue knitting to 23 inches. Cast off. At this point they can be passed on to me to finish. To finish yourself, with right side facing stitch long sides together. Turn right side out and fold first 11 ins inside and sew ends together.

Securely stitch things agitated fingers can twiddle, about 6 on outside and 4 on the inside. Twiddle bits can be anything you like, buttons, beads, lace, zips, even a little pocket on the outside to pop a hanky into.

Knitting for the Baby Unit

On taking the latest collection of knitting for the babies, I was asked if people would add "bonding squares" to the knitting repertoire.

These are pairs of small squares, one worn inside the mothers clothing, the other kept with the baby, for a week at a time.

They are then exchanged, mum's to baby and baby's to mum. They absorb the essence of each wearer, and help the mum and baby bonding process.

The can be knitted like blankets, DK yarn on size 8 (4mm) needles.

Cast on 35 sts, work until a square is formed then cast off. Or in the same way as the baby blanket, starting with one stitch, increase in 2nd stitch every row, up to 40 sts.

Knit 1 row then decrease, K2 st tog., each row down to 1 st and fasten off. They can be made in any colours.

Many thanks to all knitters, your contributions are very gratefully received, and a great help to the Unit.

Please contact Linda Whitton for more details.

THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER 40 YEARS AGO May 1978

Christian Aid

Collectors are again required by Mrs Barbara Berry for Christian Aid Week house to house collecting, week beginning 15th May. Also collectors are URGENTLY required in the City Centre on Saturday 13th May for an hour or so.

Please see the Minister if you can help. On Sunday 14th May we are having another Austerity Lunch for Christian Aid. Please come along.

(It was this mention of an Austerity Lunch, 40 years ago, that prompted the revival of this for Christian Aid week 2018.)

THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER 40 YEARS AGO June 1978

Sunday Picnic and Open Air Service There will be another chance to set together for a happy time on Sunday 18th June.

From 2.30 pm everyone is invited to come to Mr Guy Middleton's farm which is just this side of Wawne village.

There will be games for all ages, chance to chat with people and then to picnic (bring your own food). At about 6.00 pm shall have a service and you will be welcome to this even if you cannot come earlier on.

A difference from previous years will be that the other churches in the area are invited through our local Council of Churches and young people from our Circuit hope to join us too.

Sutton Flower Rota



6 May	vacancy
13 May	A Borrill
20 May	P Dyson
3 June	Wives & Friends
10 June	F Conman
17 June	D Forth
24 June	A Daniels



May 6th	Siddles family
May 13th	Ann, Brenda, Marge
May 20th	Margaret, Elaine, Dorren
May 27th	Andrew, Phil, Sue
June 3rd	Siddles family
June 10th	Elaine, Brenda, Marge
June 17th	Margaret, Andrea, Doreen
June 24th	Andrew, Ruth, Phil

Please set out the chairs and cups etc. before church and if you are unable to do the date allocated please arrange a swap

Cakes as per rota.



NEWSLETTER JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2018 at BRANSHOLME

Sunday Services at Bransholme

May 6th	Rev Debbie Lucas
May 13th	Mrs Susan McDonald
May 10th	Local Arrangement
May 27th	Mr Ian Grant

June services to be announced at the time of writing

Bransholme Weekly Diary Church Activities

Tuesday	9.30 am	Table Top Sale
Tuesday	1.45 pm	Women's Fellowship (twice monthly) Taking a summer break from July.
Wednesday	1pm - 2.30 pm	Baby soft play (Closed during school holidays)
Wednesday	4.30 pm - 6.30 pm	Messy Church (once a month)
Thursday	9.30 am - 11.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group (closed during school holidays)

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 Nicola Seager 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 for the next two months are:

May 8th & 22nd

June 12th & 26th

Details of speakers or activities are not available at the time of writing.

New members and speakers always welcome, please ring Audrey Daniels 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-Timothy

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.