

Notes for Aire and Calder Circuit Assembly re Clusters.

Seven bullet points arising from the three Cluster Meetings held in July.

- 1 To acknowledge the downside first, congregations are generally – but not universally – dwindling, and **church membership is ageing**.
- 2 Having acknowledged the state of affairs, the **meetings were all positive** in tone, forward-looking and encouraging.
- 3 It is clear that a **very wide range of activities** is being provided by Churches, both directly by the Churches themselves and by others using the premises. Churches are playing a significant role in their local communities, both as a focus for worship and in a very wide range of social activities for all age groups, ranging from coffee mornings and luncheon clubs to Weight Watchers and slimming clubs.
- 4 There is general concern that involving members of the community in church activities does **not lead to increased membership**, and the running of the Churches often falls to a **small number of overworked office holders**. The plus side is that members of the community are often prepared to help in running activities in a practical way. We need, therefore, to look at ways of coping with office-holding, and to think hard about the roles of churches in their communities.
- 5 In terms of **worship activities for children and young people**, the pattern is varied. There are successful junior churches, Messy Churches, Sunday Schools and so on in some parts, and very little or nothing in others. There is, therefore, perhaps an opportunity here to build on the successful examples and see whether they can be replicated.
- 6 **Local arrangements** have proved an opportunity to develop new forms of worship and they have been appreciated. Especially at a time when responsibility for worship is likely to fall more on lay people, the problem of finding people to take services has turned into a real positive.
- 7 Overall, therefore, there are a **lot of positives**, and there appear to be ways in which we can address the negatives. Although after only one meeting per Cluster it is too soon to jump to conclusions, there are the early hints that the **Cluster system could be both supportive and creative**.

David Lane 27 08 19

Tuesday 1 October: 7.30pm at **Lofthouse Methodist Church** - Women's Fellowship sees the start of the new session which will run fortnightly till Easter we have arranged a varied program of speakers and we start with our new minister the Revd Jacob Kaiga we will also have a lady from the charity shop and representatives of the RNLI and Wakefield Hospice Everyone welcome come and see old friends and make new ones.

Tuesday 1 October: 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. at **Walton Methodist Church** - Open Door Plus. Join us for board games, dominoes or just for a chat. Friendly environment. Dementia friendly. Soup & roll. No charge.

Wednesday 2 October: 3.30pm – 5.30pm at Horbury Methodist Church - Messy Church. Toddlers to teenagers with an adult welcome. Food, craft, stories and singing. Free to all.

Wednesday 2 October: (and every Wednesday) 10am to 12 Noon at **Sandal Methodist Church** - Open Door, Drop in for Coffee and Chat.

Wednesday 2 October: 2.00pm – 3.30pm at **Stanley Methodist Church** – Coffee, Cake and Chat in aid of Sick Children's Trust Big Chocolate Tea. All welcome.

Wednesday 2 October: 12 noon onwards at **Trinity Methodist Church, Netherton- LUNCH STOP** – lovely two course + trimmings meal; lovely friendships made & renewed; lovely time to meet each other and share good food together. £6 only – contact Carole Shaw (01924 275414) for more information & booking.

Thursday 3 October: 5.00pm to 6.30pm at **Methley Methodist Church** - Tea Time Thursdays – let's have tea together! Food and discussion for all ages together. (NOTE NO SESSION ON 17th)

Friday 4 October: 7pm at **Lindale Methodist Church** is holding an event as part of the Anniversary Weekend: - *An Evening with Charlie Green*. Charlie was a finalist on *Britain's Got Talent* in 2008. He has recently undertaken a tour of the USA with The Osmond's. His manager is Jimmy Osmond. His two-hour inspirational concert consists of a first half of suitable secular songs. After a short interval Charlie then continues with a second half of Gospel songs, plus an interview where he talks about his professional career and his Christian faith. He is a Salvationist at Droitwich Spa in the Midlands. Tickets are £8 each and are available from Keith Jones: 01924 366803, or email: k3ithjones@gmail.com Details are also on the Lindale section of the Aire & Calder website.

Saturday 5 October: 10-11.30am at **Central Methodist Church**, Pontefract - coffee morning. Everyone welcome.

Saturday 5 October: 10am-12noon at **Lofthouse Methodist Church** - Women's Fellowship Coffee morning. Various stalls and Bacon Butties. Admission £1 includes Tea/coffee and Biscuits.

Saturday 5 October: 7.00 pm at **The King's Way Church** there will be a concert by The King's Way Singers with songs old and new; refreshments will be served at the end of the concert.

As usual admission is free and there will be a retiring collection for the Kirkwood Hospice. We hope you will come along and support the charity and hopefully enjoy an evening of music and song.

Saturday 5 October: 10am - 11.30am at **West Wakefield Methodist Church** - COFFEE MORNING for Macmillan Cancer Support. Various stalls. All welcome.

Saturday 5 October: 7pm - 9pm at **West Wakefield Methodist Church** - Harvest Quiz £2 including tea and biscuits.

Sunday 6 October: 10.45am at **Methley Methodist Church - EasyChurch** – Church without rules. Worship for all in a modern world... “easy” like Sunday morning! Come along, join Kev and see for yourself.

Sunday 6 October: 10am at **St John's Methodist Church**, Ossett - Messy Church Harvest. The morning starts with bacon butties and ends with a short family service led by Rev Mike Jones. All donations of foods and collection will be donated to CAP Wakefield.

Sunday 6 October: 10.00am at **Sandal Methodist Church** - Harvest Festival Service led by Revd Neil Bishop followed by Tea/Coffee and cake.

Monday 7 October: 6.30-9.00 p.m. at **Walton Methodist Church**. After Tea Dance Group. Everyone welcome to join this friendly group. Admission £3 including refreshments.

Tuesday 8 October: 12 noon at **West Wakefield Methodist Church** - Memory Lunch for those living with dementia.

Tuesday 8 October: 7pm at **Methley Methodist Church - Methley Movies** – “Rocketman” – The film follows the fantastical journey of transformation from shy piano prodigy Reginald Dwight into international superstar Elton John. This inspirational story -- set to Elton John's most beloved songs and performed by star Taron Egerton -- tells the universally relatable story of how a small-town boy became one of the most iconic figures in pop culture. **WARNING:** the film is rated “15”. It contains: “*language throughout, some drug use and sexual content*”

Wednesday 9 October: 12.30 pm at **Central Methodist Church**, Pontefract - midweek communion.

Thursday 10 October: 7.30pm at **Woodsford Methodist Church** - Guild Meeting - a talk by Revd Jacob Kaiga – The Kenyan Project. This will be followed by a light supper. Why not come along and join us - a very warm welcome to all. We make a small charge of £1 per person which goes towards travelling costs for our speakers.

Saturday 12 October: 7.pm at **Horbury Methodist Church** – The Mastersingers. Tickets Adult £8, children £1 from Audrey on 01924 275042 or Derrick on 07752 585556.

SANDAL METHODIST CHURCH - CHOIR ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Saturday 12 October: 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. The Choir will be holding a Coffee Morning including a variety of stalls, Raffle and Tombola. Delicious hot sandwiches will be on sale, with Tea/Coffee and Biscuits included in the Entry Fee of £1. Tickets are available from Choir Members or pay at the Door. All proceeds donated to Wakefield Hospice.

Sunday 13 October: 10.30 a.m. - The Choir will present an Anniversary Service, to include Anthems, Readings and Hymns, led by Revd. Richard Oldroyd. They extend an invitation to everyone to join them and the congregation in their Celebration of Praise.

Sunday 13 October: 6pm at **Methley Methodist Church - BIG WORSHIP** - Worship that is...different, accessible, enriching, modern, multi-denominational, challenging... with Kev, Rob and Tim.

Sunday 13 October: from 9.45am at **Woodsford Methodist Church** - Messy Church, Crafts and fun for all the family followed by a short service at 11am led by Mike Dixon. A warm welcome to everyone... bacon butties and drinks available.

Tuesday 15 October: 7.30pm at **Horbury Methodist Church** - Horbury Methodist Ladies Group. Speaker - Anna and Friends from The Wakefield Street Kitchen. Contact Marian Taylor on 01924 271220 if you would like more information about this group.

Friday 18 October: 7.15 for 7.30pm at **Trinity Methodist Church, Netherton - FILM CLUB** – this month it's "Red Joan" starring Judi Dench, Tom Hughes, Ben Miles & Sophie Cookson. The story of Joan Miller, who was exposed as the KGB's longest serving British spy.; fair trade refreshments & ice cream; half time chat. Come and enjoy.

Saturday 19 October: 10.00 - 11.30 am at **Parkside Methodist Church** - Community Coffee morning in aid of RNLI. Coffee/tea £1.00 including free refill. Toasted teacakes 50p. Variety of stalls. Home baking, books, bric-a-brac. All welcome.

Saturday 19 October: 7.00 pm at **Parkside Methodist Church, Outwood** - we will be entertained by Leeds West Hunslet Salvation Army Band and Songsters. Tickets £5.00 including refreshments will be available from Betty or Rita 01924 827134/01924 378973. All welcome.

Saturday 19 October: 10-11.30 a.m. at **Walton Methodist Church**. Third Saturday Coffee Morning. Cakes, Homemade preserves, Craft, Book and good quality pre-loved clothes. Have a browse then relax with a cuppa. Tea/coffee & biscuits £1.

Monday 21 October: 6.30-9.00 p.m. at **Walton Methodist Church**. After Tea Dance Group. Everyone welcome to join this friendly group. Admission £3 including refreshments.

Tuesday 22 October: 2pm at **West Wakefield Methodist Church** - Memory Film Club.

Thursday 24 October: 7.30pm at **Woodsford Methodist Church** - Guild Meeting - Faye Cryer will talk about 'Marie Curie'. This will be followed by a light supper. Why not come along and join us - a very warm welcome to all. We make a small charge of £1 per person which goes towards travelling costs for our speakers.

Saturday 26 October: from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm at **The King's Way Church, Ossett** - we are having an evening of 'Nostalgia', looking back at some of our favourite sitcoms., programme not yet finalised. The cost is £5 which includes

refreshments and all proceeds are for the Community Awareness Programme in Wakefield. Please join us to exercise your 'chuckle muscles' and provide much needed funding for CAP, Wakefield.

Saturday 26 October: 10am – 12noon at **Trinity Methodist Church, Netherton** - **CHAPEL CAFE**, relax with a bacon buttie, fine coffee (or tea!), and friends.. Fair trade stall. All welcome.

Saturday 26 October: 10.00am - 12 noon at **Upton Methodist Church** - SHARE coffee morning. This month we support 'debra' - a charity supporting those with Epidermolysis Bullosa, a genetic skin condition that results in the blistering of the skin caused simply by minor trauma or friction.

Thursday 31 October: 5.00pm to 6.30pm at **Methley Methodist Church** - Tea Time Thursdays – let's have tea together! Food and discussion for all ages together.

Methodist Women in Britain



District Event:

Thursday, October 24th
at Haworth Road Methodist Church, Bradford BD9 6LH
District Forum from 10.30 a.m. for 11 a.m. open to all who are interested
12.30 Lunch. Please bring a packed lunch
1.30 p.m. Tim Baker from All We Can will speak about the money raised by MWiB through our District partnership

Connexional Event:

World Federation Day 2019
Water for Life, Water of Life
Saturday 26th October, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.
at Elm Ridge Methodist Church, Darlington
(Further details available and booking forms from Pam Turner).

Date for your Diary.

District Advent Preparation day, Friday, 22nd November
at Christ Church, Halton. from 10. 30 a.m.

Circuit Advent Lunch, followed by an Advent Meditation
At Lofthouse Methodist Church, Wednesday 4th December 12. for 12.30a.m.
(more details of these events later)

District Weekend Away 2020

Red Lea Hotel, Scarborough. October 2nd to 4th.

The Speaker will be the Connexional MWiB President, Mrs Hilary Evans and her theme for weekend will be:

"Sea Prayers and Sounds"

The cost for the weekend is £170.00

Further details and booking forms from Pam Turner

The District Project for 2019/2020

This year we will be supporting the partnership with "All We Can" to provide super spuds in Ethiopia to alleviate hunger.

Please encourage the Women in your Church to raise awareness for this cause.

Future dates for your diary

Friday 1 November: beginning at 7.00 p.m. at **Walton Methodist Church** - **QUIZ NIGHT**. Admission £3 including refreshments.

Saturday 2 November: opens 1.30pm at **Lakeside Methodist Church, Newmillerdam** - Autumn Fayre. Everyone welcome. Great opportunity to buy some Christmas gifts and eat cake!

Saturday 2 November: 10am - 11.30am at **West Wakefield Methodist Church** - COFFEE MORNING in aid of MHA. All welcome.

Sunday 3 November: from 12.30pm at **Upton Methodist Church** - Peter Finneran will share photos and tales from his and Betty's Summer El Camino Pilgrimage. All are welcome to join us in a 'Bring and Share' lunch.

Saturday 16 November: 7pm. at **Ackworth Methodist Church**, there will be a Concert by "One Voice" Male Voice Choir with Soloist. Refreshments during the interval, raffle. Tickets £7 Adults, Young people 16 and under free, available from Kath Wiles (01977 611521) and Iris Coop (01977 610405).

Saturday 23 November: 2.30pm at **Lofthouse Methodist Church** - Christmas Fayre. Various stalls. Buffet tea. Lofthouse 2000 band will entertain during the afternoon.

Sunday 24 November: 10.30am at **Lofthouse Methodist Church** - Church Anniversary led by Rev'd Barry Owen.

Friday 6 & Saturday 7 December: 10.00am to 4.00pm at **Sandal Methodist Church** - Christmas Tree Festival, all welcome.

Thursday 19 December: 11.30am - 1.0 pm (or any part of) Carol Singing **in the Ridings for Action for Children.**

Please join us.

Jen Young

Miscellaneous

Submissions - Keep circuit members informed about what is happening at your church. Submit notification of events and good news stories to Heather Turner, Circuit Administrator, **no later than Monday 21 October** for the November e-News. Please send emails to admin@aireandcaldercircuit.org.uk and they will be considered for inclusion in the next issue.

Distribution -If you have received this from someone else and would like to be added to the mailing list of e-news please email your full name and details to the above email address. Similarly send an email to the above address if you wish to be removed from the list.