



Lindley Methodist Church
Huddersfield
Summer 2023

Grapevine



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Charity Number: 1129166

DATES FOR DIARY: July/August 2023

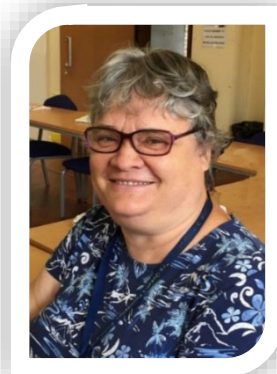
Coffee Stop		Thursdays	10:00
Saturday Marketplace		1 st Saturday	10:00
July			
2	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by Steve Bagshaw
9	11.30	F2F & Zoom	Open Air Service joint with St Stephens Led by Rev Sue Taylor
16	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by David Schofield
23	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Broadcast service from Honley Led by Rev Peter Catford
30	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by David Joyce
August			
6	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by David Schofield Action For Children Sunday
13	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service with Holy Communion Led by Rev Sue Taylor
20	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by David Schofield
27	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Baptism Grace Elizabeth Wilson Led by Rev Sue Taylor

Our services can be accessed from anywhere in the world and we would be delighted if you are able to join us - please contact media@lindleymethodist.org for Zoom invitation details and we look forward to you being with us.

LETTER FROM YOUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

I was reading an article in the Sunday Observer newspaper this week that said one of the international languages was food. As someone who likes her food that idea appealed to me! But when you think about the statement it does seem true. Food is something we all need and many of us enjoy trying food from different cultures either when we travel abroad, or when we visit different restaurants at home.



Food is also associated with places. Growing up on the other side of the Pennines we had Manchester Tart, a pudding that consisted of pastry covered in jam then custard and often coconut on the top. We also had Eccles cakes, currants in puff pastry and Chorley cakes, similar, but this time in shortcrust pastry. I don't know of anything associated with Huddersfield but we do of course have Yorkshire pudding!

Jesus recognised the importance of food. He often shared meals with people. He knew the importance of hospitality and valued the opportunity to get to know people better, even those who were shunned by society. When people had been following him, often in big crowds over long periods of time, he would insist that they were fed. He recognised that food was important when people were tired, hungry and needed sustenance. Let's not forget that sharing a meal together is also an important part of Christian worship. When we share in bread and wine in remembrance of Jesus as he did at the last supper with his disciples.

In our world today many people are going hungry because food items have become more expensive. Yet supermarkets are showing record-high profits and increased salaries for the top bosses. How can this be right? And what can we do about it?

We continue to do what we can by supporting the Welcome Centre with our donations of food and money but it is a crying shame that in today's world 'food poverty' is a phrase we know well and for many people there is the shame of having to ask for food parcels.

As a church, I wonder what more we could be doing to support people at this difficult time. How can we imitate the love care and compassion Jesus showed to the people he met?

Best wishes,
Sue

MITO MISSION

I began selling my scones at Coffee Stop on Thursdays and the Saturday Market for Emma's Mito Mission (powering research for mitochondrial disease) a West Yorkshire-based charity, last year, after attending Rajan Beadle's Coffee Morning for this charity at his company Gaggia UK.

What is Mitochondrial Disease? Mito for short

It's a genetic disorder affecting the mitochondrial (the battery packs in our cells). When they fail to produce enough energy, damage occurs, especially to the major organs.

In March, Rajan invited David and me to be his guests at an event entitled T'Yorkshire Ball at the Cedar Court Hotel on the 29th April hosted by My Mito Mission Patron, Actor and Entertainer Neil Hurst. During the Welcome Reception I presented Christine Beal with a cheque for £150 (please see below) small fry in comparison to the money raised on the night, but Christine said "every little helps".

Since David's stroke seven years ago, I have made scones for Stroke and over the time I have sent a lot of money to them. Not wanting to stop this completely. I am now doing one month for Emma's Mito Mission and then the next month Stroke.

Gillian Holmes



PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

I imagine that the day when Jesus came into Jerusalem was a joyful occasion. I can picture the scene – loads of people, families, maybe some street vendors selling food with delicious spicy smells wafting around. It would be noisy, people greeting each other and chatting, children running around shouting to each other at the top of their voices, most people in a good mood. There wouldn't be any sense of impending doom for most people, and even those who had listened carefully to all Jesus had said probably hadn't understood fully what would happen afterwards.

I think we created that a little bit at our Palm Sunday service. We sat in groups around tables, which created an expectation that something a bit different was happening, there were people greeting each other and chatting before we got started, there were things on the tables that made us wonder what we would be doing.

Some of the things were the same, we sung songs of praise and prayers. Our Lent theme for Palm Sunday was “living lightly” and Shona spoke movingly (via video) about making as little negative impact as possible and the challenges and difficulties of that in this modern world.

We were then asked to consider the following questions and to discuss amongst our group whilst at the same time making “palm branches” out of the materials on the table. All the materials were being reused. I'm not sure how much was discussion about the questions and how much was talking about the branches but there was a lot of noise, laughter and activity. Maybe in the quiet of your own homes you could contemplate the questions again.

When the crowd on the road to Jerusalem hailed Jesus and shouted ‘Hosanna!’, what do you think they imagined was happening?

What would it have felt like to be in the crowd?

Where do you think you would be in the crowd?

Why do you think they, apparently, changed their minds so quickly so that by the end of the week they were calling for Jesus to be crucified?

After welcoming the children back into church with their palm branches, we concluded the morning's worship with our own happy and joyful Palm Sunday conga singing Hallelujah Hosanna which left most of us breathless but with a smile on our faces.

Nicola Lee





GIVING IS A GIFT!

As Christians we believe that the blessings of life are a gift from God; being able to thank God for all we have by giving something back is a source of joy!

I am increasingly amazed at the generosity of people at our church in giving of time, talent, and treasure for the benefit of others. So much of what we do as a church is only possible because we give of ourselves to support our worship and mission.

We all realise that we must be good stewards of our resources. As a church we have less members than we used to have; and as a church we are facing the same cost-of-living pressures that we are experiencing in our homes. For instance, we expect our energy bills to cost over £8,000 more in 2023 than they did in the year before the pandemic. Our church council and resources team are focussed on managing our costs effectively. But whilst the finances of the church are currently healthy, regular donations are gradually declining whilst costs are going up, and that is not sustainable.

So, your church needs your help! Please can I encourage you take some time to reflect on your giving, thinking about the act of giving as something which should be done thankfully and cheerfully, in proportion to your means, and in a regular and committed way.

If you already give a regular amount but have not reviewed how much you give for some time, please take a moment to consider if you might be able to donate a little more. If you don't give regularly, please think about whether you would be able to commit to donating on a regular basis, whatever the amount. And if you would just like to know how to pay, then please speak to any of the stewards or to me and we will be happy to explain the different ways in which donations can be made to our church.

And whatever you can offer, whether that be by way of time, talent, or treasure, we are all thankful! Even the smallest contribution makes a difference to the kingdom of God!

Stuart Rudd, Treasurer



GARDENING WITH GEORGE

Plant lore from George Anderson, Retired Head of School of Horticulture at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, and presenter of BBC Scotland Beechgrove

We are now well into the warmer, frost-free weather that hails the start of summer.

The long-term weather trend is for late May and early June to be a dry sunny period. This is the time also when most of us plant up our pots and containers with hardy and half-hardy annuals to give us summer colour: geraniums, lobelia, petunias, verbenas, pansies and lots more.



Many of the plants used in our summer displays are descendants of species native to Australia, South Africa, Central America and the warm Mediterranean areas of the world. They are often plants which take only one season to grow, flower and seed

before they eventually die. Bedecked with myriads of brightly coloured flowers, their sole aim in life is to grow quickly and attract as many insect pollinators as possible so that they can set copious quantities of seed before the onset of winter.

In the wild, the seeds are shed and lie dormant in the soil until they are triggered into growth the following spring by rainfall and the onset of warmer temperatures. The magical flowerings of the Atacama, Australian and Namibian desert areas are classic examples. Plant

seeds are incredible in their ability to survive long periods of dormancy. Seeds of the Lotus *Nelumbo nucifera* found in the mud deposits of an ancient lake germinated and grew to produce perfect plants after having lain dormant for over 1000 years.



In the unheated glasshouse at home, the tomatoes have been planted. This year I am trying three varieties, San Marzano, Pink Tiger and Inca. I grew San Marzano last year but Inca and Pink Tiger are new to me so it will be interesting to see how they perform. At the allotment, potatoes, French beans, lettuce, spinach, onions, cabbage, carrots and parsnip are all sown or planted and doing well. I am growing Yacon once again, (an Andean relative of the dahlia, which produces large edible tubers) Ocha, the New Zealand Yam and for the first time I am trying Sweet

Potatoes. The plants have arrived already and are growing on in the glasshouse but will soon be planted out under a layer of horticultural fleece to keep them warm and humid. They are a crop from the warmer regions of the world and need a long growing season, so I hope for a long hot 'Indian Summer'.

This is a magical time of year, full of promise, hope and expectations. Wherever you garden and whatever the size of the plot you tend, enjoy the fresh air and don't forget to smell the roses.

Stay safe and happy gardening.

George Anderson

ACTION FOR CHILDREN UPDATE!

Thank you to everyone who donated to the "Count your Blessings" campaign during Lent. A fantastic total of £2,200 was raised!

Then in June there was the "Step Out" walk from Slaithwaite to Marsden and the total from this currently stands at a whopping £1,700!

Well done to everyone who has contributed in some way.

The Circuit Social Justice Group (CSJG) wanted to find out more about ways in which Action for Children can support local projects. However, there are none in Huddersfield itself so it has been decided to help Bradford Baby Steps. This is an antenatal programme seeking to help disadvantaged parents and those with additional needs e.g. the homeless, victims of domestic abuse, refugees, learning difficulties, substance misusers.

This works by providing Labour Bags for baby and mum.

For baby this requires:

- Sleep suit
- Vest
- Nappies
- Baby wipes
- Blanket

For mum:

- Maternity pads
- Underwear
- Nipple cream
- Toiletries
- Towel

Please note that good quality second hand sleep suits, vests and blankets are all welcome as well as new items.

The above items are some of the essentials needed by new mums and their babies all year round and the CSJG is challenging the Circuit to provide 24 Labour Bags, which is equivalent to one per Church.

Items will be collected at Action for Children Coffee Mornings (Saturday 15 July 10am to 12noon at Gledholt and Saturday 23 September 10am to 12 noon at Dalton) and also Lindley's Marketplace Saturdays, being the 1st Saturday of the month, until the end of September.

If anyone is unable to get along to the Coffee Mornings then please feel free to bring items along to Church or contact me on 07561 560753 and I will arrange collection.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to show our love and support for those struggling to give their children the start in life they would want to give if only they were able. Life with a new baby is never easy but by making this gesture I hope and pray these mothers feel less alone and can benefit from the love which has gone into our actions.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Ruth Schofield



CHANGING WORDS

Perhaps I need to get out more, but I do find it interesting when the words of hymns change over the course of time!

I am sure most would agree that Richard Gillard's relatively modern hymn "Brother, sister, let me serve you" is much more inclusive having been changed from its original words upon publication in 1977, which read "Brother let me be your servant".



Fanny Crosby's well-loved hymn "To God be the glory" was first published in 1875, and originally used words in verse two that proclaimed, "The vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives." These words were used in the 1935 Methodist Hymn Book and in Mission Praise, which was printed in 1990. By the time the Methodist Church published Hymns and Psalms in 1983 verse two had been moderated to read, "And every offender who truly believes..." I personally prefer the vivid language of the original and still find myself lapsing into those words when it is sung, although the meaning is clearly retained with the adaptation.

"In Christ Alone" by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty is one of our most popular modern hymns but I, among others, have never been comfortable with the words "And on the cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied;" and I do not sing this verse. The notion of God's wrath is recorded in various places throughout both Old and New Testaments, but the idea of "satisfaction" in relation to Jesus' death is a medieval idea (often attributed to Anselm of Canterbury in the eleventh century) rather than being rooted in the New Testament. The God I read about in the bible is one of love, and I see in the open arms of Jesus a welcome by a loving God who no longer counts our sin against us; it is from our sin and its consequences that Jesus' actions have saved us, rather than providing satisfaction for an angry God. On Palm Sunday I was privileged to attend a performance by Outlane Singers of "To The Cross", a contemporary work written for the choir by its conductor Suzanne Smelt, which finishes with this hymn, and I noticed

that the words of verse two had been changed; I personally look forward to singing these words from now on!

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died
the arms of God were opened wide,
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

What do you think?

Stuart Rudd

MOONLIGHT, SUMMER MOONLIGHT BY EMILY JANE BRONTË

'Tis moonlight, summer moonlight,
All soft and still and fair;
The solemn hour of midnight
Breathes sweet thoughts everywhere,

But most where trees are sending
Their breezy boughs on high,
Or stooping low are lending
A shelter from the sky.

And there in those wild bowers
A lovely form is laid;
Green grass and dew-steeped flowers
Wave gently round her head.

HAPPY EASTER; PÂQUES; OSTERN; PASHKËT; PÄÄSIÄINEN; نیستەر; ARANGA; ईस्टर; ПАСХА; ཧྐྱིམ་ཐོན་ལོ་རྒྱུ་

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord”!

Easter Sunday at Lindley Methodist was our opportunity to meet together and to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

Singing “See what a morning”, a hymn that speaks of the dawning of hope, something which is one of the great messages of Easter and which gave us a good start to our service of celebration.

A question: “what links scarves, chocolate, a cross, children, bread, wine, celebration, singing, teaching, prayer, worship, bible readings, outreach?” Well, this year it was our service led by Rev. Sue Taylor (I’m not sure how Sue managed to get all of that in!).

During Lent, the “Church Knitters” worked to produce an unknown scarf from a pattern which had been supplied and at the same time they looked at readings (possibly not at the same time). They had no picture and no idea what it would look like, until it was completed that is! Incredibly, whilst the images on the scarves were the same, each scarf was slightly different, not only in colour, but size. During the Service the scarves were brought to the front of Church and hung over the cross showing the similarities and differences – maybe like us as people!

Singing together “Christ is alive”, reminded us all what we celebrate on Easter Sunday – a gift, a promise, hope and an opportunity. It is the



chance to be reminded of our faith, of a Cross, of the love of God for humanity and for each of us as individuals, all different (a bit like the scarves!).

Others within the Church family met each week during Lent this year to consider the Women of the Easter story, which created interest, discussion, surprise and questions. It was surprising to realise how many women were mentioned and active within the whole Easter story, before Good Friday, on Good Friday and also after Jesus Crucifixion and post resurrection. Rev Sue guided our thoughts as we heard Mary's story read to us during the service, a description of what happened from her perspective which made us think not only about the women of the Easter Story, their thoughts, their contributions, their bravery, and their message, but also about everyone else who was there and the many reasons why they attended this crucifixion.

The children of the Church also shared their thoughts for the week, something they had done each Sunday throughout Lent and this contributed to a true feeling of family as we heard what they had been doing and the thoughts that they brought us following the challenges which they had been given.

Joining together to celebrate Holy Communion was a reminder of the Last Supper, when Jesus shared the bread and the wine with his disciples and we did the same as we remembered that meal and its importance to us all as Christians as we travel along through life.

We moved outside for our final hymn and brought flowers to the cross at the front of the church, decorating it with colour and a symbol of the new life that is there for everyone. As the flowers were added to the Cross, changing a bare cross of wood into a colourful celebration of resurrection, we sang together "Christ the Lord is risen today" one of so many hymns written by Charles Wesley. We were accompanied by the sound of two pianos played by Margaret and Stuart

Following a blessing from Sue, we all enjoyed some Chocolate with Tea and Coffee.

Children used to be told to be seen but not heard. Part of the Christian message is be seen and be heard! Easter Sunday 2023 was a chance to do exactly that.

Look out for more opportunities to share our message outside the walls of the Church!





THE WORD FOR TODAY

Feeling less alone

“Turn to me and have mercy, for I am alone and in deep distress”,
Psalm 25, 16.

When we feel alone, distancing ourselves from God doesn't make sense. If we get involved with some aspect of ministry, we'll get to know others and let them get to know us.

When we spend time around people who care for us, loneliness ceases to be such an issue.

Winston Churchill said, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Victory comes by reaching out to those in need; by giving of ourselves, praying for them, loving and serving them.

Isolating ourselves when we're hurt just leads to bitterness. Forgive, turn it over to God, let Him deal with things and just get on with your life.

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UPDATE FROM THE SWALLOW FAMILY

I completed my degree in Theology Mission and Ministry over the last three years at Emmanuel Theological College, studying in Liverpool on Monday mornings and at 7 residential weekends across the year. I studied the degree full time with three days a week of working for the local church in Lower Darwen where I was living until recently.

On Saturday the 1st of July I was ordained a Deacon by the Bishop of Blackburn at Blackburn Cathedral. I am now starting to serve my title post of curacy at Blackpool Church in the centre of Blackpool, where I will work for the next three years or so. I'm feeling really blessed this week after my ordination and even though I never saw myself ending up here, I'm excited to be sharing God's love by "searching out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world and making his love visible".

I'm thankful to the multitude of friends, family and colleagues who have supported me along this journey; and my wife, Eloise, who is my greatest supporter and friend always cheering me on and loving me no matter what. We'd appreciate your prayers for us as we settle into Blackpool and both prepare to start new things.

Tom Swallow

And a quick update from Jo and Adam Swallow:

Saturday 1st July was a very special day, as Tom's family, godparents, friends, and members of his last Church in Lower Darwen met at Blackburn Cathedral to support him and Eloise at his Ordination. It doesn't seem to be two minutes since Tom shared with us that he was considering his vocation to train for the Anglican clergy, yet his degree is now all but complete, and he has started his Curacy role at St. John's Church Blackpool. It is a big year for them both, getting married, moving to Blackpool, and both starting new roles, and we greatly value all the support and prayers that you offer them and us. We look forward to visiting their new Church once they have found their feet there.



GRAPEVINE MEETS SAM MCNEIL

Can you give a brief introduction to yourself – eg when you started coming to Lindley/why you still come/etc

I was born and grew up in Lindley and have stayed here apart from four years of University when I lived in Nottingham. I was originally brought to Church by my Grandma when I was four and have been coming since then. I find that the Church has helped me over the years to help me in following Christ.

What are you reading at the moment?

I've recently finished "This is going to hurt" by Adam Kay. This is a book consisting of the diaries of the author when he was working as a Junior Doctor in the NHS. It's a graphic depiction of all the difficulties including long hours, low pay and lack of recognition from higher-ups and senior management. There is a lot of humour and humanity in the interactions with patients but it's depressing reading that these are the people who we rely on to provide effective medical treatment.

Who is your favourite person from the bible?

I find the story of St Peter and the Apostles something to aspire to. They dropped their lives and careers as fishermen to follow Jesus and then work to grow to early church. We are called to exactly this in following Jesus and this is something that I struggle with. I hope personally that if the call comes, I'll be able to answer it.

What is your favourite hymn, and why?

I would have to say "How Great thou Art". It really expresses how beautiful creation is when you look around. I can only hope that we can maintain the Earth for future generations.

What is/was your job? In an alternative universe, what job might you have chosen?

I work as an analyst in Government ensuring that evidence is taken into account in decisions made within Government. It's interesting to see the workings of Government from the inside and play a small part in making changes for the better.

As for an alternate job, I think I would love to be an astronaut. I would love to be able to view Earth from orbit or experience zero gravity or perhaps walk on the Moon.

Where would you like to be right now?

I have to admit that being on a beach somewhere hot seems quite tempting right now with the warm temperatures that we've been having! I do find that I quite enjoy exploring new places and sampling different cultures.

What makes your heart sing?

I find that everything feels just right on a bright sunny day. Just being able to go outside and get some fresh air just makes everything that little bit better. We're so lucky to live in such a beautiful part of the world.

What do you do to relax?

I sing in a male voice choir where I find I can be part of something bigger. I find the sound that we can create as a collective is so much more. Also since moving into my own place I've found myself getting more creative in cooking my own meals! I find myself sitting in front of the TV too much when I have time to relax.

What luxury would take to a desert island?

I would want something like a pen and paper so I could document my experiences and my thoughts. I hope that if anyone ever found me that whatever writings they found would be useful. At any rate, I could use the paper to start a fire that could signal passing ships and planes.

Where would you go to in a time machine?

I really struggle with this question because civilisation really has gotten more technologically advanced as the years have progressed. Our descendants from 100 years ago would have been amazed at the idea that we could travel halfway around the world in a day or have all the information we could ever need in the palm of our hands.

EXTERNAL GROUPS @Lindley

Monday to Friday	
Lindley Pre-School	9:00am to 6:00pm 07905-725130 hello@lindleypreschool.co.uk
Lindley Out of School Club	7:30 to 9:00am; 3:30 to 6:00pm 07894587130 lindleyoutofschoolclub@googlemail.com
Monday	
Imperial Quilters	7:15 to 9:15pm monthly
Tuesday	
Baby Massage	9:30 to 10:30am
Pilates	6:30 to 7:30pm
Gledholt Male Voice Choir	7:30 to 9:30pm
Wednesday	
U3A Watercolour Society	10:00 to 12:00noon
Huddersfield Youth Choirs	5:45 to 8:00pm
Thursday	
Mini First Aid	6:30 to 8:30pm monthly
Marsh Ladies Choir	7:30 to 9:30pm
Friday	
Art Venturers	1:30 to 2:30pm

WHAT'S ON @Lindley

Sundays	
Morning Worship	10:45am
Minor Prophets (11+ Group)	7:00 to 9:00pm fortnightly
Monday	
Parent & Toddlers	9:30 to 11:30am
Guides	7:30 to 9:00pm
Tuesday	
Beavers	6:15 to 7:15pm
Open the Book	8:30 to 10:00am (monthly-ish)
Wednesday	
Wednesday Fellowship	1:30 to 4:30pm (1 st Weds in month)
Cubs	6:30 to 8:00pm
Thursday	
Coffee Stop	10:00am to 12:00noon
Armchair Keep Fit	10:30 to 11:30am
Scouts	7:30 to 9:00pm
Garden & Nature	7:00 to 8:00pm (1 st Thursday on Zoom)
Supper Club	6:30 to 8:30pm
Friday	
Brownies	6:15 to 7:30pm
Saturday	
Market Place	10:00am to 12:00noon (1 st Sat of month)
Walking Group	Monthly – see programme