

The

Messenger

March 2016

Saltaire United Reformed Church



Welcome to our church:
a place of worship and of
community.



Our services are children-friendly, with a **Sunday School** for very young children and their carers, which starts after the first 20 minutes of the service.

Coffee and Tea are served after each Sunday service in the downstairs rooms.
Please do join us.

If you wish to discuss a **wedding or christening**, please see one of the authorized persons at the front desk after a Sunday service.

My nearest and dearest have long known my interest in crosses, and that in recent years I have travelled the world and have not only visited hundreds of churches, but have found great peace in finding the cross of Christ in the expected, and in the many unexpected places.

As we journey through Lent this year, we are following the Lenten Cross liturgy which was originally written by the Methodist Church, and in the last twenty years has been adopted by many Christian denominations. The Lenten Cross marks each piece of Sunday worship, as week by week a symbol is taken to the cross to signify Jesus' life, ministry, and journey to the cross.

The Lenten Cross serves as a powerful reminder of the many ways in which Jesus endured mental, and physical torture, in sacrificing his life for all humanity. Over the years, I have written many resources for the local and national church, but there is something quite profound in writing a lenten liturgy, and experiencing the many diverse ways that different church communities engage with the gospel story of Christ's temptation in the wilderness, the passion, and the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour.

Since the late 1980s, it has been widely accepted that in the education of children and adults, we learn much more from visual stimulation. Perhaps it is no surprise then that the Lenten Cross allows us to experience the height and the depths of the drama of the gospel narrative that unfolds as we move through Lent. There is the sadness that we feel for Judas, as the bag containing the thirty pieces of silver is brought to the cross that speak of his betrayal, and as the robe and crown of thorns are placed on the cross we remember the humiliation that Jesus was forced to bear, as the crowds of people mocked and jeered him.

I have never been able to sit through a Good Friday service and not imagine the pain that Christ accepted for us, and for our world, as the nails are hammered into the cross, but, equally, each Easter Sunday morning, I always feel the joy and the celebration, as the horror of the cross is magnificently transformed by flowers that symbolise the endless possibilities of new life in Christ through His resurrection.

The season of Lent allows Jesus' followers the time, and the space to reflect on so many things, and it gives to each of us an opportunity to assess the areas of our lives that we need to work on. Inviting God to fully be a part of our everyday lives, is a lifelong work in progress, and one that we all share.

May this season be a time that strengthens our walk with Jesus individually, and as a church family.

With every blessing,

Rev'd Caroline Andrews

Regular Church Activities

SUN	10.30am Service: 1pm-4pm	1 st – Communion 2 nd 3 rd 4 th & 5 th – Family Services Church & cafe open to the public (all year)
MON	1.30-3pm 7-8.30pm	Toddlers' Praise Time Bell ringing practice
TUE	7-7.30pm 7.30pm	Prayer meeting for the Church and Saltaire Elders' meeting (meets 1 st Tue in the month)
WED	10.30am 6-9pm	Informal Worship Service 5 th Shipley Scout Groups' meetings

The church is open to visitors 2pm-4pm Monday to Friday from April to September.

Please join in! New group members are assured a warm welcome.

Bell ringing contacts: Len Morris 01274 597894
 Robert Appleby 01274 223753
 Scout contact: Barbara Lawson 01274 591931
 Toddlers' group contact: Valerie Jenkins 01274 542510
 Helen O'Loan 01274 405847

Diary for March 2016

Date	Time	Event
Tue 1 st	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Thu 3 rd	7pm	Lenten Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke in the downstairs rooms.
Fri 4 th	7.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer at St Peter's Church, Shipley
Sun 6 th	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Communion Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews and the Worship Group. To include the baptism of Thomas Eduardo Ortiz Hewitt. Organist: Mr Geoff Popple.
Thu 10 th	7.30pm	Lenten Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke in the downstairs rooms.
Sun 13 th	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev Alan Evans. Organist: Mr John Chapman.
Thu 17 th	7pm	Lenten Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke in the downstairs rooms.
Sun 20 th	10.30am 12 noon	Palm Sunday Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr Robert Moorby. Church Meeting. Messenger deadline for April's edition.
Thu 24 th	6pm 7pm	Maundy Thursday meal. Tenebrae Service with Communion.
Fri 25 th	9.30am	Good Friday Service Ecumenical walk and Passion Play at St Paul's Church in Shipley.
Sat 26 th	2pm	Decorating the church for Easter.
Sun 27 th	10.30am	Easter Day Communion Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr Geoff Popple.

MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

Everyone is welcome to join in the Maundy Thursday meal at 6pm on 24th March, followed by a Tenebrae Service at 7pm, reflecting on the last week of Christ's life.

Following the Good Friday service at 9.30am, there will be ecumenical walk on 25th March, starting at St. Paul's Church, Shipley, as well as a performance of 'The Passion Play, directed by Rev. Caroline Andrews and James Taylor.

ANNUAL CHURCH FETE

This will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, 25th June at 12.30pm. Joyce and Janet would welcome any suggestions for entertainment, stalls etc. and offers of help would be much appreciated. Last year's Fete was a huge success - let's make this year's even better!

EASY FUNDRAISING FOR THE CHURCH

£18.90 has been raised for the church from people going through www.easyfundraising.org.uk when doing their shopping online. So far the organization has raised over £9 million for causes throughout the UK. We could raise much more if more people signed up. It's free and easy to do:

1. Start at easyfundraising.org.uk

Let's say you want to buy a pair of shoes from John Lewis. Instead of going to johnlewis.com directly, you first go to easyfundraising.org.uk.

2. Make a purchase

From the easyfundraising website, click through to John Lewis to make your purchase. This tells John Lewis you came from easyfundraising. The price of the shoes is exactly the same.

3. Get a donation

After you buy your shoes, John Lewis will give you a cash reward that you can turn into a donation for your good cause. easyfundraising collect this and send it on at no extra cost.

4. Get the easyfundraising Donation Reminder

You can skip steps 1 and 2 with the easyfundraising Donation Reminder. Just click the reminder when you shop to receive any eligible donations. You'll never forget a free donation again!

The church rooms are available to hire. For more information
please visit saltaireurc.org.uk



Fun at Children's Church, February 2016



5th Shipley Scout Group

Saltaire United Reformed Church

Meet on Wednesdays in the Church Rooms

Group Scout Leader: Linda Malloy

Beaver Scouts – age 6 to 8 years

6pm to 7pm. BSL: Linda Malloy

Cub Scouts – age 8 to 10½ years

6pm to 7.30pm. CSL: Jennifer Williamson

Scouts – age 10½ to 14 years

7.15pm to 9pm. SL: Neil Holmes

Explorer Scouts – age 14 to 18

8pm to 9.30pm. ESL: Zac Williamson

For further information contact

Barbara Lawson 01274 591931