

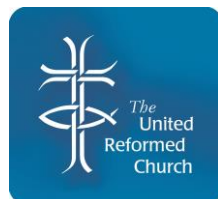
The
Messenger

May 2016

Saltaire United Reformed Church



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



Pilgrimages: Part One

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.

Over the years I have made many pilgrimages to places that are considered Holy and sacred to many of the world faith communities. I have made three pilgrimages to the Island of Iona, a small island in the inner Hebrides off the Ross of Mull on the western coast of Scotland. Iona was a centre for monasticism for four centuries, and was founded by the monk Columba in 563ad.

Although Iona is a relatively small island, it became known as a centre of great learning. Many important books, and documents celebrating and witnessing to the gospels from a Celtic Christianity perspective were written on the island of Iona, and in particular it is thought that during the 8th Century the first part of the writing of 'The Book Of Kells' also began from this small island.

The island of Iona offers the promise of great peace, and tranquility, and as an island it is surrounded by immense natural beauty. Each time I have left the island, I have had a strong sense that my spiritual self has been guided, nurtured, and has grown in the ways in which I have been open to hearing that still small voice of God, and I am acutely aware that I will find a way to return.

There are all kinds of reasons as to why people embark upon a pilgrimage, for some it will be the inner spiritual search for peace and tranquility, while for others in our world it will be a command that has been handed down within their religion and has become a tradition.

In our modern world, our lives have become so incredibly busy and we at times have organised ourselves within an inch of our lives. We are encouraged to be successful through various media outlets, and to reach for the dizzying heights in order to obtain all the trappings that come with what it means to be a success. We are often judged by the house we live in, the car that we drive, the clothes that we wear, and it goes on, and on. In an unconscious way, within society each of us are guilty about the ways in which we judge those around us. The pressure that we place on others and ourselves feeds into a melting pot of disillusion, with feelings of great failure of who and what we have become.

In the last ten years the numbers of people embarking on pilgrimages have grown considerably, and many have researched

this growing phenomenon. The vast studies on pilgrimage highlight the human desire to experience, albeit for a short time, an understanding of what it means to live a simple life. Instead of just being concerned about own lives, it would seem that perhaps we have an innate desire to feel responsible for those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

In all of the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, we read about the teachings of Christ, and how in so many ways we are to look to our God to discern how we should live out our days, the kind of person we should be, the service that we should offer to others. Jesus, within the gospel narrative, is encouraging us to ask, and to continue to ask, the big questions about our place in community, and indeed our world.

I strongly believe that God is intervening and encouraging each of us to take time out of our everyday lives and to reflect on how God's still small voice is calling to us. I would encourage us as a church family to grasp the opportunity to spend retreat days and church weekends away so that individually, and as a church family, together we can grasp and hold onto a vision and a way forward for our church community.

With every blessing,

Rev'd Caroline Andrews

Regular Church Activities

S U N	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)
M O N	1.30-3pm 7-8.30pm	Toddlers' Praise Time Bell ringing practice
T U E	7-7.30pm 7.30pm	Prayer meeting for the Church and Saltaire Elders' meeting (meets 1 st Tue in the month)
W E D	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.

Diary for May 2016

Date	Time	Event
Sun 1st	10.30am	Communion Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr John Chapman.
Tue 3 rd	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sat 7 th	1pm	Wedding of Keiran Dinsdale and Rebekah Mahoney.
Sun 8 th	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr Geoff Popple.
Sat 14 th	1.30pm	Wedding of .Matthew Jackson and Susanna Hall.
Sun 15 th	10.30am	Family Service for Christian Aid Week (15 th – 22 nd) led by Dr Pat Nicholls and Mr Marshall Wood. Organist: Mr Geoff Collins.
	2pm	Pentecost Celebration service held at Roberts Park Bandstand (or at church if the weather is bad).
Sun 22 nd	10.30am	Family Service for Trinity Sunday led by Rev. Caroline Andrews, to include the baptism of Tilly Destiny Green. Organist: Mr Geoff Popple.
	12 noon	Messenger deadline for June's edition.
Sat 28 th – 30 th		Saltaire Arts Trail weekend.
Sun 29 th	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews. Organist: Mr David Kirk.

Thanks & Notices

FRONT PAGE PHOTO

The photo was taken during the St George's Parade service led by Cadet Andrew Manley and 1st Shipley Scout Group. The singing was led by John Froud. As you can see, we had a full church... we even had to move the notice boards out of the back pew!

Helen O'Loan

SALTAIRE ANNUAL FETE

COME ONE, COME ALL!!

SALTAIRE FETE IS ON SATURDAY, 25TH JUNE, 12.30pm – 4pm, AND THE COMMITTEE NEED YOUR HELP!

CAN YOU BAKE? CAKES, BUNS ETC. PLEASE

CAN YOU HELP WITH CHILDREN'S GAMES? LET US KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO!

CAN YOU HELP WITH DECORATING THE DRIVE? PLEASE LET DAVID O'LOAN KNOW

CAN YOU DELIVER FLYERS AND POSTERS? PLEASE LET US KNOW

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE CHURCH STALL/RINGING THE BELLS/SHOWING VISITORS ROUND THE CHURCH?

IN FACT, ANYTHING YOU CAN THINK OF TO HELP BEFORE AND ON THE DAY !!

THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET IN THE CAFE.

THIS IS OUR BIGGEST FUND RAISER OF THE YEAR, LET'S GET TOGETHER TO MAKE IT THE BEST ONE YET !!

Joyce Poot and Janet Clark (Committee)

CHURCH SECRETARY

In accordance with the unanimous decision of the church meeting, Sue and Richard Longbottom will begin the joint role of that of Secretary of Saltaire United Reformed Church on 1st May. As a church, we pray that Sue and Richard will be greatly blessed in the joint service of secretary, and as a church family we will endeavour to support them in our thoughts and prayers.

Rev. Caroline Andrews

THANK YOU!

The impromptu bonfire and barbecue on Thursday 31 March was enjoyed by all who attended. A special thanks to Mike for once again displaying his excellent skills on the barbecue - tasty, tasty, very very tasty! Let's do it again sometime!

Janet and Dick Clark

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

This year Christian Aid week is 15th to 22nd May (please note there is a error on the poster at the gate).

Joyce Poot

WORLD HERITAGE WEEKEND

The World Heritage Weekend was well attended by visitors when the church was kept open with an exhibition downstairs mounted by Saltaire Stories. Our thanks to them and also the volunteers from church who manned the cafe and kept the church open for these two days. Many thanks to all who rallied round to help.

Janet and Dick Clark

BIRTH CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Rebecca and Robert Kendall on the birth of their son. Edward Hamish Kendall was born 21 February 2016, weighing 7lbs 8oz. (Rebecca is the granddaughter of the late Bert and Sheila Thornton).

Pauline Sleight

Sunday Funday

Beware of these contagious diseases in church:

Frontophobia: A morbid fear of the front pews in church. The sufferer is struck by an attack just inside the front door, and collapses in the nearest back pew.

Ear Frequency Destruction: Caused by sitting near the loudspeaker when the minister is singing full volume, off-key, etc., into the microphone.

Sermonic Throat: A dreaded choking caused by the start of a sermon. The sufferer unwraps a sweet very slowly and noisily, which seems to effect a complete cure.

Double Auricular Clearance: A condition due to the simultaneous opening of both ear ducts, which allows the sound to enter one ear and leave the other without any absorption thereof. Condition is acute during Bible reading and sermon.

Accelerate Vocal Response: A condition that causes the sufferer to sing faster than the organ.

Retarded Vocal Response: A condition that causes the sufferer to sing slower than the organ.

Theexits: A condition where the sufferer rushes for the exit before the minister gets there.

Church Meeting Paralysis: This can strike suddenly, when a post in the church needs filling. A good dose of enthusiasm works wonders with this sad affliction.

Thanks to Sheila Bruce



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

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