

The
Messenger

February/March 2018

Saltaire United Reformed Church



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



Notes from the Manse...

Our services are children-friendly, with a **Junior Church** 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.

Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter to you all on a very cold January morning. The snow has fallen during the night and from the manse kitchen window, I can see that the garden is covered in a beautiful unspoilt blanket of thick snow. I imagine that within a few hours our corner of the world will have returned to normal, as the snow will no doubt soon begin to thaw and melt.

I have always found the month of January to be a month that heralds the dawn of a brand-new year, a fresh start, and a new beginning that lies ahead for us, but no sooner have we embarked upon this month, that we find that time has moved on and January has come to an end for another year.

The Lenten season is almost upon us and this year there will be a morning service on Ash Wednesday at Saltire URC to mark the beginning of Lent. The Ash Wednesday service draws on the ancient Biblical tradition of covering the head with ashes and the wearing of sackcloth material as a sign of penitence and mortality. Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches throughout our world have long gathered palm crosses from members of the church community from the previous Palm Sunday, and as the sun rises the crosses are burned and during the service churchgoers are marked on the forehead with the sign of the cross. Some churches request the worshippers to leave the church with the mark of the ash cross to remain on the forehead so that they carry the sign of the cross into the community. At other churches the service ends with the ashes being washed off as a sign that the people have been cleansed of their sins and that they move forward into the season of Lent with a fresh new beginning.

By observing the forty days of Lent, Christians replicate Our Lord Jesus Christ's sacrifice and his withdrawal into the desert. Lent is a time that is marked by prayer, reflection, fasting and penance. A small number of people today fast for the whole of Lent season, although there is still a great number of Christians in the world who fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Whatever the sacrifice it is a reflection of Jesus' deprivation in the wilderness

and a test of self – discipline.

I pray that this coming season of Lent will be a time when we grow closer to God and to one another as the family of God in this place.

With every blessing,

Rev. Caroline Andrews.

Shipleigh Churches Together – Wednesday Lenten Prayers & Soup.

It is a tradition to try to do something ecumenical during Lent. This has alternated in recent years between one-year house/bible studies of mixed denominational groups (2015,2017). The alternate year is a weekly, single gathered event. In 2016 this was a series of Saturday breakfasts at Saltaire Canteen.

During Lent this year there will be a gathering together for a light meal and prayer that will be held in a different venue and hosted by two churches.

The content will include the sharing of a meal, a reflection and prayers for a sponsored SCT mission.

21st February – Shipleigh Baptist & Northcliffe LEP (The work of the Bible stall & The Bread Project).

28th February – St. Paul's Church & St. Walburga's (The work of the Bradford North Food Bank).

7th March – Saltaire URC & Saltaire Methodist (The work of Cuppacare & Saltaire Canteen).

14th March – St. Peter's & The Salvation Army (The work of Cristian Aid/ Mission agencies)

21st March – Christ Church Windhill & St. Margaret's Frizinghall (The work of Zephaniah Trust & Open the book).

Diary for February & March 2018

Date	Time	Event
Sun 4 th Feb	10.30am	Communion Service led by Dr. Pat Nicholls Organist: Mr. Geoff Collins
Sun 11 th Feb	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews Organist: tbc
Wed 14 th Feb	11.00am	Family Service for Ash Wednesday led by Rev. Caroline Andrews Organist: Mr. Richard Niczyperowicz
Sun 18 th Feb	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Alan Evans Organist: Mr. Howard Hutchinson
Sun 25 th Feb	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews Organist: Mr. Richard Niczyperowicz
Sun 4 th March	10.30am	Communion Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews Organist: tbc
Sun 11 th March	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews Organist: tbc
Sun 18 th March	10.30 am	Family Service led by Dr. Pat Nicholls Organist: Mr. Geoff Collins
Sun 25 th March	10.30am	Family Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews Organist: Mr. Richard Niczyperowicz
Thur 29 th March	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service of Shadows led by Rev. Caroline Andrews
Fri 30 th March	10.00am	Good Friday Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews
Sun 1 st April	10.30am	Easter Sunday & Communion Service led by Rev. Caroline Andrews.

Please note as we went to print the Easter Service times are still to be confirmed.

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 (1 st Sunday of month)
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	6-9pm	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

From the Editor.

Many thanks to everyone for the terrific response which enable a December issue of The Messenger – a truly bumper issue for Christmas.

Items for The Messenger going forward can be placed in the plastic pocket on the notice board downstairs or emailed to myself at lindamalloy82@yahoo.com. The Messenger is now bi-monthly unless otherwise requested. If you have signed up for an electronic addition please do not take a printed version as I have now cut down on the amount of printed copies.

If you email items, please small items in the main body of an email or attachments in word. Also note the size of items as the messenger is only A5! An A4 item goes over 2 pages.

The Messenger is what you as a church make it! Any feedback or comments please pass on.

Items for the next Messenger by Sunday 18th March for April – May.

Linda

Thanks & Notices

HELP NEEDED.

As I have taken over the bookings for the church, I would appreciate any offers of help to open/close the building when required. I am hoping to compile a list of available helpers so please could you let me know if you are willing.

My email is lainey.wilson@yahoo.co.uk and my phone number is 01274 816900, mobile 07799 508889.

Thank you

Tony Wilson.

Thank you to Pauline Sleight

Within any church family there are many unsung heroes and our thanks go out to anyone who works behind the scenes to make the church function and people feel loved. This month we have been asked by an anonymous person to give a special thank you to Pauline Sleight for all the work she does and that you may not know about.

As well as organising a rota for the flower arrangers to ensure there are flowers in church each week she also keeps a record of all the outreach events that take place. Pauline is our archivist and a fount of knowledge on where to find records and minutes that may need to be referred to. She has also planted hyacinth bulbs to give out to those who are elderly or ill so they have a beautifully scented gift to look forward to and maintains the Cradle Roll for children who are baptised during the year.

For all that you do for the church we give you thanks Pauline (and we know that you will be highly embarrassed by this article).

The Secretaries

Post-Christmas Meal at Oakwood Hall.

As has become the tradition over many years, 23 church family members along with some of their family and friends went to Oakwood Hall to have a meal together to celebrate the start of another year of love and fellowship. On a cold day the venue was lovely and warm and the choice of food meant that everyone could select something they liked. We were even treated to a free glass of wine as a thank you for another year of loyalty to the hotel. There was a lot of chatter on the different tables as everyone got to know each other a little better and many people were winners in the free prize draw of goodies.

Thanks go to Sheila for her 21st year of organising the event along with Joyce and Janet who were her helpers this year. I'm sure we will be doing something similar in 2019 so it would be really lovely if more people were able to go along and enjoy good food and even better fellowship.

Sue Longbottom

ROLL UP! ROLL UP! SEE THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH!

Well, that is a bit of an exaggeration but it will be the greatest show in Saltaire on SATURDAY, 30TH JUNE when we shall be holding our Annual Fete in the Church grounds from 12.30pm to 4pm on a beautiful sunny day.

Janet and I have handed the Baton over to Tony Wilson who has agreed to be in charge of events but we need everyone to rally round and give him as much help as possible.

A meeting will be arranged shortly for people to offer their services before the event and suggestions for a Theme will be gratefully received.

The Band has already been booked so suggestions for other entertainments need to be in hand as soon as possible.

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE! Sounds a bit 60s but you know what I mean!

Joyce Poot.

Articles

Snowflakes ❄️ □

In 1855 an American farmer turned photographer, called Wilson Alwyn Bentley, managed to capture images of snowflakes on black velvet just before they melted. He went on to photograph over 5,000 of them and not one was the same as any other. Each was beautiful in its own way. He called them "tiny miracles of beauty".

So, how can we ever say we are bored? If there is such wondrous variety in something as ephemeral as a snowflake, then where could we not look and be fascinated, if we look close enough?

The Festive Period at Saltaire U.R.C.

A good start to the season was The Rotary Carol Service. It was a very enjoyable event with the Otley Brass Band and items by the Baildon Ladies Choir, who were in excellent form. It was one of the best attended concerts in the 50 years that it has been held in our church.

The Candlelight Carol Service of 9 Lessons and Carols was an excellent service with Christingles being brought into the church by the children to the singing of Once in Royal David's City.

The Christmas Eve morning service was enhanced by the procession of children in nativity costumes, which made it rather special. (Photo on the front cover).

Many thanks to Jenn Williamson for once again producing a beautiful Advent Window which was much admired by all visitors and passers-by.

Also, thanks to all those who helped decorate the church and the Christmas tree. This year the decorations were enhanced with lights on the trees and in the window sills, thanks to Mike.

The Editor – Who is she?

For those of you who do not know me – and for Pauline's archives!!

My name is Linda Malloy – nee Broomhead – daughter of Mollie and Hilton.

I was born at home in Windhill but at the age of 2 moved to Moorhead where I lived until I got married. All of my childhood revolved around the church and the village. I attended Albert Road School and Salts Grammar. Both sets of Grandparents lived in the village and of course I worshipped with my family at Saltaire Congregational Church. There I also attended Sunday School (originally in the old building on Caroline Street) and Brownies, Guides and Scouts as well as witnessing and taking part in many events over the years!

At 18 I went to work at the local chemist, Norman Best, where I trained to be a dispenser and worked there for many years.

I am married to Chris, we celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary last year, and have three boys – Robert, Richard and William.

My main connection with the church is that I run the Scout Group on a Wednesday night. Scouting has been my life since I was 13 when I volunteered to help the Cub pack. I am currently also the Chair of the Trustees of West Yorkshire Scouts.

Prayer Matters

The prayer meeting still takes place **each Tuesday at 7pm. Everybody is welcome**, no experience is needed. You can come and listen to the music, the quiet and the spoken prayers of others – no pressure to pray aloud!

If you can't make the meeting, you can join us in your own space and time. Some recent and ongoing items for **thanks and prayer** include:

JAMES DUNCAN

It is with sadness that we record the tragic death of our old and well-loved friend James Duncan.

James was a member here at Saltaire for many many years and conducted many Services for us with wisdom and wry good humour. We shall have a lasting memory of his wonderful basso profundo voice - no wonder he was asked to play the part of God in one of our church productions!

We shall never forget him dressing up as Elvis Presley to welcome people at the Gate at one of our Annual Fetes.

He will be sorely missed - may he find Peace now.



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

Cub Scouts – age 8 to 10 years

Scouts – age 10 to 14 years

For more information contact Linda Malloy 01274 400771