



ST JOHN'S NEWS AND VIEWS

Number 18
August 2nd, 2021

Worship



We are now meeting in church at 10.30 a.m. every Sunday, but we would like to continue to meet in as safe a way as possible. To that end we continue to recommend that we should observe social distancing, as we have over the past few weeks, and we also recommend the continued wearing of masks. We are now allowing the congregational singing of hymns, but in order to help everyone feel safe we would prefer this to be done with masks on. The service will also be relayed into the coffee lounge for anyone who would prefer to sit slightly outside the main church (with or without a mask) but still participate in the service.

Our preachers for the next few weeks will be
1st August Margery Dowling
8th August Wendy Holt
15th August Revd. Tim Broughton (with Holy Communion - infection rates permitting!)
22nd August Jane Mansergh
29th August Revd. Stephen Caddy
For those of you who do not yet feel ready to come to church, online services (morning and evening) will continue on our Facebook page and on YouTube.



Coffee Pot

Don't forget our 'virtual' Coffee Pot 10.30 -11.30 a.m. every Tuesday. Full details are posted on

our Facebook page.

Circuit Time of Prayer - 8th @ 8

You are invited to join in a Circuit Prayer Meeting at 8.00 p.m. on 8th August. Online details will be available on our Facebook page. If you are unable to join online, you are still invited to spend a few minutes praying for our churches and for the needs of the wider world, in the knowledge that others will be doing so at the same time.

Hymns You Have Probably Never Sung

This "gem", shortened, is from a Primitive Methodist publication dated 1820 and entitled a "A Collection of Hymns and Spiritual Songs fro Camp Meetings, Revivals, etc., etc.." It pre-dates the ecumenical movement!

HYMN 33

L.M.

- 1 The Saviour's name I'll gladly sing.
He is my Saviour and my king!
Where'er I go his name I'll bless,
And shout amongst the Methodists
- 2 T' th' Devil's camp, I'll bid adieu,
And Zion's peaceful ways pursue:
Ye sons of men come turn and list,
And fight like valiant Methodists.
- 3 It is religion makes the man,
The world may try to prove it vain,
But I will give the world for this,
To be in heart a Methodist.
- 4 Come sinners turn unto the Lord,
And closely search his precious word,
And when you do his truth possess,
You may become a Methodist.
- 5 Come now with me and you shall know
What a great Saviour can bestow;
His love to me I can't express,
Although I'm called a Methodist.
- 6 I am a soldier of the cross,
All earthly things I count but loss,
My soul is bound for endless bliss,
To praise thee with the Methodist.
- 7 They preach and pray and sing their
best,
They labour much for endless rest;
I hope the lord will them increase,
And turn the world to Methodists.

Jane Mansergh

(ed - if you are moved to sing this hymn in the square on Market Day, it fits very well to the tune for "Fight the Good Fight")

Methodist Prayer Handbook

Prayers for every day of the year are available in the 2021/2022 edition of the **Methodist Prayer Handbook**, the theme of which is 'A Place for All'. A daily lectionary (a suggested bible reading, psalm and hymn for each day) is also included. The Handbook is described as the "flagship and essential prayer resource for the Methodist Church".

If you would like to see a copy of the 2020/2021 handbook and/or place an order (£4.50 with a possible reduction if we order 10 copies or more), please speak to Wendy (825163) before 15th August.

World Church

Just recently I've had the doubtful pleasure of receiving what turned out to be £172 for the World Church.....all in cash! It arrived, by arrangement I hasten to add, in a holdall containing nearly 50 plastic bags of all shapes and sizes. The contents were equally diverse and it took some time to sort into denominations, and bag it into 38 money bags for the bank.

A significant feature of the donations was their sheer weight, over 12kg (26lb), far too heavy to take to the bank in one go!

An amusing feature was the inclusion of several foreign coins:-

A Canadian 10c piece

An old half penny piece

A Swiss 10c piece

An old six penny piece

A Spanish 2(euro)cent piece

A Swedish krona

An American dime (10c)

An American 5c piece

A Bailiwick of Guernsey 10p piece

An Isle of Man 5p piece

though these last 2 are legal tender.

A serious side to such a collection is that if people reduce their use of cash and use card payments for the smallest sums, as reported that many are doing, then charity collections of all kinds will miss out from the monies in all the small change collection boxes we see on shop counters.

A final statistic - there were 2590 coins to take to the bank!

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission.

Robin Corbett

Churches Together and Christian Aid

Christian Aid have launched an urgent Global Hunger Appeal, at a time when over 30 million people in 20 countries are teetering on the brink of famine. Covid-19, violent conflict and the climate crisis have combined to increase global hunger, meaning that people in South Sudan, Afghanistan, Burkina Faso and elsewhere are facing the threat of starvation. If you would like to make a donation, this can now be done through Churches Together in Settle and District.

This is the online link:

<https://giving.give-star.com/online/christian-aid/settle-and-district-churches-together-ca-group-354a4>

This is the QR code:



A Voiceless Preacher!

There was a preacher who lost his voice on a Saturday night, just after he had prepared the best sermon of his life. His assistant said, 'You sit at the bottom of the stairs and whisper words and I'll go into the pulpit and proclaim them.'

'Moses was an austere man.'

'Moses was an oyster man.'

'And he made an atonement for the sins of the people.'

'And he made some toe ointment for the shins of the people!'

'You silly fool, you've gone and spoilt it all.'

'Then the silly fool went and spilt it all!'

(From *A Box of Delights*, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books)

Dear God,

The village is buzzing with gossip about a possible new resident. There were rumours last year, signs of the area being checked out. Now it's looking more definite. For privacy reasons details have been kept under wraps to deter outsiders. But now it is openly being discussed – do we have an otter? There's been alleged sightings from various sources: one family describe in detail watching it playing at twilight. Others talk at being awed at being able to be so close to it. Others tell of signs of it passing: spraint has been found, trackways spotted in the reeds (an indication that otters move in mysterious ways), footprints noticed, unusual ripples and noises detected at evening. Hidden cameras have been set up, but so far there has been nothing conclusive. One woman swears that although she did not see it, her cat sensed something was moving in the water and became transfixed by it. Others declare it's a hoax perpetuated by the parish council to validate their claim of improved water quality now that they don't dredge the stream. Detractors scoff that it's just a dog that goes for a swim at evening (though no owner is present) and mock the gullible for wanting to believe otherwise. There's even a story that it may be a giant pike responsible for causing the odd water movements. Others rejoice that there is something positive and special happening. No doubt some holiday-cottage landlord will capitalise on it by re-naming their property "Otter Holt"? The quandary is whether to believe or not? Is it enough to take the word of others, to be convinced by signs of an unseen presence or is physical proof required, a personal encounter to quell all doubts. In short, is there an otter?

Yours, perplexed,
Old Lil Nongle.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this newsletter, which is now being produced monthly. Please send any material for inclusion to Philip or Wendy by the 1st of the month. Wendy will also provide weekly notice sheets as and when necessary; please let her have any urgent items by the previous Friday.



PeerTalk is a national charity that hosts volunteer facilitated peer support groups for people who struggle with depression, anxiety and similar emotional distress.

**PeerTalk in Settle is restarting this Autumn
and we are looking for new volunteer group Facilitators**

PeerTalk Facilitators do not give advice, offer counsel or opinions. The role is specific to facilitating the group to function well by way of using skills such as listening and reflecting. The prime purpose of the group is for those who attend the meetings to offer each other support, encouragement and share coping techniques. PeerTalk provides initial training for their Facilitators and then regular ongoing support.

**Come along to an 'Awareness' event
@ St John's Methodist Church**
Church St, Settle BD24 9JH

on Thursday 19th August at 11.00 a.m.
to find out more about PeerTalk, the role of the Volunteer Facilitators
and the issues that surround the causes of emotional distress.

Registered charity no. 1169830 www.peertalk.org.uk enquiries@peertalk.org.uk Tel: 07719 562617



Prayer for school holidays (from the Methodist website)

Gracious God, this has been a difficult year for our schools and communities. We are glad of the holidays, Lord, a time of rest and renewal for our children, our school staff, our families and communities. We pray for a time of restoration, of good care and good health. We hold before you all the ways in which people will enjoy the summer and all those who will find the summer difficult, knowing that in all this you are before us, beside us, within us.
Amen