



Faith works

It really does, throughout this circuit much is done to benefit the communities locally, nationally and internationally. This newsletter reflects some of the good things that we do to share the love of Christ with our families, friends and neighbours. It also highlights some imminent initiatives to help us pray, build our knowledge of the bible and grow our church communities. Be encouraged as you read through; as James 3:5 says "a great forest fire is set on fire by small spark". We are that small spark.

MWIB District Quiet Day

Monday 10th April Brompton on Swale Methodist at 10:00am for coffee and start at 10.30am until 2.30pm. You are invited to bring a packed lunch.

Methodist Women in Britain is a movement within the Methodist Church, led by a group of volunteers and funded by donations, which aims to connect women with an interest in creative spirituality and a passion for global social justice. We hold day conferences and residential events, produce printed and online resources and engage in social justice campaigns. MWiB is about more than Methodism, more than women and more than Britain — we have strong links with the World Church, and are part of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.

Mission updates

The **Easter Offering** in 2016 raised £925; the money went to Middlesbrough Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre and Samaritans in Darlington District. Marion Young passes on her thanks to all who contributed.

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a neurological condition which affects about 100,000 people in the UK. Most people are diagnosed between the ages of 20-40 and it can affect younger and older people too. Roughly three times as many women have MS as men.

The MMSCT was opened in 1985 by people with MS. It aims to serve people affected by MS in Tees Valley, North Yorkshire, County Durham, Tyne and Wear and into Northumbria. The centre provides a range of essential therapies aimed at limiting the challenges of MS. Currently the therapies are high dosage oxygen treatment, physiotherapy, yoga, therapeutic massage, reflexology, aromatherapy and counselling. MMSTC is an independent local charity that provides a unique service of therapies and support for MS sufferers, their carers and their families. They also provide support and therapy to stroke victims, ME sufferers and people with neurological disorders. MS is as yet incurable.

Action for Children: The circuit through boxes and special collections have raised the sum of £1964.82 Julie Pledge thanks everyone who has donated.

Home Missions: Eunice Page thanks those who contributed £216.22 through Home Missions boxes. Over Christmas 500 knitted angels were to distributed to Richmond School and to children and community groups in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. These all carried a message of love to the recipients .

World Missions: Anne Peters said that £2758.98 had been raised in 2015/16, which included fund-raising, 'Mission Possible' and the 'Revive' project for Brazil. She thanked everyone for their support.

Circuit Team

Superintendent: Rev Janet Park revjanetp@gmail.com - Leyburn, Harmby, Carlton, Middleham, Melmerby, Gayle (*inc Hawes*), Aysgarth, Bainbridge, Marsett, West Burton.

Rev Les Nevin lesnevin@icloud.com - Richmond, Barden, Brompton-on-Swale (*including Colburn*), Hunton, Scorton, Ravensworth, Reeth (*including Arkengarthdale*), Gunnerside .

Deacon Joy Sykes jascmc@aol.com - Catterick Garrison

Circuit Stewards: John Ridley, Angie Bailey, Graham Di Duca, *Vacancies*

Circuit Safeguarding Officer: Kathryn Stabler 07375813063

Circuit Treasurer: Pauline Beckett pal.wegber@outlook.com

Circuit Admin Asst : Kevin Pellatt, nydcpaperclip@gmail.com

We are always looking for stories and photographs about who we are and what we do. Publishing them on our website and in the newsletter is a great way to share our faith and reflect the love of Christ for the people around us. Contact: Kevin Pellatt on 01748 886963 or nydcpaperclip@gmail.com

Diary Dates for full listing see: www.nydalesmeth.org.uk/calendar.html

April

Wed 26th Local Preacher's Development Evening 'Crafting the Message', Marton Methodist Middlesbrough

Sat 29th District Synod, Shildon Circuit

May

Sun 7th 2.30pm Circuit Songs of Praise with Leyburn Band, Garden Rooms at Tennants

Tue 16th 7.30pm Circuit Property meeting

Thu 25th Circuit day of Prayer as part of 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

June

Every day Bible Month, a study of the letter of 'James'.

Sun 4th Pentecost Circuit service day

10.30am Richmond preaching service led by Rev Stephen Lindridge

6.30pm West Burton evening communion service- Rev Janet Park

Both services will include dedication of Easter Offering envelopes.

Thu 8th 7.30pm Circuit Leadership Team at Dove Cottage, Leyburn

Mon 19th 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Aysgarth

Tue 20th 10.00am 'Faithworks... James, a letter forever' creative workshop at Richmond.

Wed 21st 10.00am 'Faithworks... James, a letter forever' creative workshop at Richmond.

Sat 24th 10.00am 'Faithworks... James, a letter forever' creative workshop at Gunnerside.

August

Mon 5th until Fri 9th Kings Club Askrigg

Mon 21st 7.30pm Circuit Property Meeting

Wed 23rd 7.30pm Circuit Leadership Team at Dove Cottage, Leyburn

Sun 27th 10.30am Leyburn preaching service led by Rev Dr Roger L Walton

3pm Singing hymns on the green in Reeth, with Reeth band

3pm Semerwater open air service on the shore, with Hawes band

6.30pm Richmond evening communion service

8pm Marsett singalong

September and Beyond

Wed 13th Sep Circuit Meeting 7.30pm at Richmond

Mon 20th Nov Circuit Leadership Team 7.30pm at Dove Cottage, Leyburn

Mon 11th Dec Circuit Meeting 7.30pm at Leyburn

See www.nydalesmeth.org.uk for details of all forthcoming events in and around the circuit. If you want your event advertising send details to nydcpaperclip@gmail.com or by post to: Circuit Administrative Assistant, Angram Cottage, Angram, Richmond, DL11 6DT

220 Years and Counting...

Middleham Chapel Anniversary Weekend

12th, 13th and 14th May 2017

Middleham Chapel celebrates a special anniversary, the present 'new' Chapel building is 100 years old and records show that 220 years ago one of the first Methodist Chapels in the area was in Middleham.

We plan a special weekend with guest preacher Rev. David Wood, a Choir Concert with Leyburn Ladies Choir and there will also be a display to tell the story of Methodism in Middleham.

On Saturday the Chapel will be open until late afternoon showing the display. We shall serve coffee in the morning and light refreshments in the afternoon.

We are looking for HELP :

Have you any photos, posters, articles etc. relevant to the history of Methodism in Wensleydale, especially Middleham, for our exhibition?

(Please ensure your contact details are on the back of any display material so it can be returned)

All help will be appreciated. Please contact Rosemary (01969 623276), Linda (01969 625643), Enid (01969 622095) or any other Middleham Methodist people.

(Editor: Already this appeal through the circuit website has prompted someone from elsewhere in the country to contact Middleham offering a unique piece of local history. You will have to wait until May to find out what it is!)

The Great Methodist Bake Off

Blooming Marvellous

Richmond Methodist is having a Spring Fair on Monday 29th May, 10-1pm. There will be cakes, jams, handmade gifts and crafts, and rabbits! We're raising money for local charities. There will also be the Great Methodist Bake Off! Bring your Bake at 11am for the chance to be crowned Star Baker and win a fantastic prize! The theme is 'Blooming Marvellous!' All ages welcomes. Bake Off entry £2.

One Programme

An opportunity that could help your chapel grow.

Read on to find out how your chapel can benefit from this programme.

The ONE Programme has gone from strength to strength since it started in 2009. Around 80 young people have taken part as ONE Programme Participants (OPPs), taking 'a year on' and making a difference in a variety of projects around the country. Looking back over the past years of the innovative ONE Programme, **it is clear that both churches and individual lives have been changed.**

Being a ONE Programme Participant is a great opportunity for people aged 16-23 to be a part of a **local church project** in a year long, paid, training-provided, internship.

OPPs are employed for one year, on a part-time basis, with a local project to **help develop the mission and ministry** of the Church at a local, regional and national level. OPPs are paid a living wage to work an average of 15 hours a week - most of which is spent in their local project together with some national responsibilities, including training weekends.

The ONE Programme is more than just a job for the young person. The training and personal development in the programme is excellent and gives participants the skills for starting off, or carrying on in employment as well as developing leadership skills.

Here are some examples of their work in their own words.

"I am currently planning/writing the nativity at my church... we are hoping that this will build up interest in regular drama sessions... I am also looking to organise an Easter performance."

"I help at 'Explore Together' it takes place on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. I also support the delivery of 'Worship at Together' and help the café church."

"I help with the different Facebook groups for the churches and projects. I am also setting up a Twitter and Instagram account for the Methodists in the area."

"I help run kids church activities on Wednesday's from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. We try make it every Wednesday."

"My plan is to help out at my church with the youth club and also set up sports sessions..."

"We are re-designing the upstairs youth room and we are helping out with the fundraising events... and we will be helping bringing the community into the church, so we are going to create a newsletter with upcoming events etc. like Christingle."

"I'm doing messy church and the first one is on the psalm 23 ..."

"..to develop the following activities: family breakfasts; Costa prayer gatherings; beach art and labyrinths; to write one blog a month for the devotional for sunday@thepub and d-church."

"I do the breakfast club, street dance thing and toddlers sometimes that's about it."

So you can see the broad spectrum of quite straightforward ideas that can be implemented locally by a young person working with you to involve the local community. It's a win-win, you have an extra pair of hands to help grow your church, the young people are paid and gain experience.

You can make it happen for a young person and for your chapel; contact Janet Park, Les Nevin or Kevin Pellatt.

Run for Shelter

Revd. Dr. Martin Ramsden one of our District 'Discipleship, Ministries and Learning Network' (DMLN) workers, will be running the Manchester Marathon to raise money for Shelter on 2nd April.

Martin is passionate about making homelessness a thing of the past but is dismayed by the scale of the challenge. Homelessness in the UK has doubled since 2010 and has increased by 30% in the last year. Shelter estimate that 124,000 children have been homeless in the UK this winter. Shelter receives over 3,000 calls for help every week and, at present, only has the capacity to answer 56% of those calls. This really is an urgent need.

If you would like to sponsor Martin, then you can do so by going to this website:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com>; click on 'make a donation and enter 'Martin Ramsden' into the box.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me..." Matthew 25:35-36 NIV

Pledge 2 Pray...

Join a great wave of prayer #Thy Kingdom Come

You can pledge to pray as an individual, as a family, as a church.

Over 10 days (25th May-4th June), people around the world will be coming together to discover new ways of praying that their friends, family and neighbours come to know Jesus Christ.

Playing our Part

As part of the Darlington District response we as a circuit are undertaking 24 hours of prayer on 25 May, Ascension Day. We are asking people to promise to pray either as individuals or chapels for a period of time over that 24 hours so that for the whole time there is someone praying that family, friends and neighbours come to know the transforming love of Jesus.

There are resources available to help you pray as an individual, as a family or as a church.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/prayerresources>

If you do not have access to the internet then ask someone who has or contact Kevin Pellatt on 01748 886963.

Prayer spaces, prayer walking, prayer partners and labyrinths are just some of the ideas that we've found; can you find others?

Join in the global wave of prayer: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global>.

One chapel has organised a prayer evening let us know what you plan to do so we can share and encourage each other in this vital work. nydcpaperclip@gmail.com

The letter's in the post...

You should have it by June 2017

James has written a letter to all churches and chapels; it was written about 2000 years ago and is worth reading.

In June 2017 we are offering chapels in the circuit an opportunity to look at the letter of James. Some Local Preachers and Worship Leaders have attended training and are expecting to lead services and small groups on an exploration of this challenging letter. There will be during the last fortnight of June some creative workshops where people can respond to some of the challenges set by James. You can read more in the article below.

The roots of this initiative grew from the Bible Literacy Project that was piloted in this circuit and that project concluded that "...we need to re-engage the masses with their Bible, to return it to the people..." This month provides chapels with support to present the bible back to our families, friends and neighbours.

Chapels have been asked to notify Janet Park, Les Nevin or Kevin Pellatt of their desire to take part in this project through the usual quarterly planning process; requests need to be submitted by Sunday 2nd April please.

Faithworks... James, a letter forever

Creative workshops

This year the circuit is taking the opportunity to explore the letter of James as a part of Bible Month through three creative workshops. With themes like 'living the faith', 'justice', 'evil speech' 'caring' and 'conflict' James opens the door to many and various creative responses:

Meditative colouring, poetry and prose, songwriting, painting and drawing, sculpture and photography. The list is endless.

The workshops are aimed at you, your friends, family and neighbours. You can work individually or collaborate with others on a joint project, it will be what you make it to be. You are welcome to all workshops and stay all day or just for a few minutes. This is for all people, not just artists, and will be a non-threatening place to bring those you know who may want to discover more about the Christian faith.

Lewis Carroll is quoted "In the end... We only regret the chances we didn't take, the relationships we were afraid to have and the decisions we waited too long to make."

Materials and equipment will be provided; drinks will be available. You are invited to bring your own lunch.

All workshops start at 10am and close at 4pm.

Tue 20 June at Richmond

Wed 21 June at Richmond

Sat 24 June at Gunnerside

Contact Kevin Pellatt for more details.

James 5:13 (NIV UK) Is anyone of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.
