



Circuit Team

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Are You Sitting Comfortably?

Then we shall begin as this newsletter looks at some challenges that have been laid before us.

Steve Wild the President of the Conference in his inaugural address at the Conference challenged each Methodist church in Britain saying: "Let's take God seriously. I want to help us in the task of evangelism, to put mission on the agenda and give our churches an aim to win a person for Christ."

"We cannot sit back in complacency," he added. "We have a massive kingdom of God task. I'm wanting this year to challenge each church to bring one person to faith - to make one new member this next year, let's make bringing people to faith the main point, we don't do it alone. The unconditional love of Jesus is our motivation." For more see <http://www.methodist-presandvp.blogspot.co.uk/>

There was a further challenge given at Conference when Dr Jill Barber our Vice President questioned 'Where is the Methodist voice?' Jill suggested that through a renewed focus on the four 'P's of Prophecy, Prayer, Passion and Protest Methodism can find its voice, speak out to make a difference and speak more effectively whilst embracing its distinctiveness and diversity.

"Have we lost that passion for living out the gospel through social and political action? Is there a danger that we have privatised our faith, so that it makes us feel better as individuals, but we fail to relate it to wider community and global issues? I want to call on Methodists to get involved in local and national politics. To become a voice for change, challenging the politics of self-interest and upholding the politics of the common good." For more see <http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/>

Spread the Love

How do these challenges translate to local and individual action? We look at a couple of ideas, the first from Eunice Page, our Home Missions Secretary.

Today in our post Christian country support for Home Missions is essential. Professional Home Missioners still need our monetary help and the need to spread the Good News of God's love made known to us in Jesus requires our actions too.

As Methodists we pride ourselves on being a missionary movement, which I hope means we are all keen to act.

If physical Action is no longer for you why not ask for a **Home Mission's Collecting Box** in which to save so that you can enable the professionals and others to do the leg work; why not join the faithful savers in the circuit who between them last year saved over £150? The equivalent of a penny a day saves £3.65 a year; £1 a month is £12 a year- so just imagine the help we could give if we had 100 savers!

Keener on Action? Then singly, in groups, as individual chapels or as Cluster groups I'm calling you to join in and make a united effort to spread the love of God by being prepared to:

Make it, Buy it, Pray and Give it.

WHY? Because "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life". John 3:16 (NIV)

I assist in St Theresa's Hospice Shop in Leyburn. Last week a man left his grocery shopping with us to look after; the smell of homemade bread was tantalizing. This week he brought a roll of new bread and divided it between us. Yummy.

Having been on the receiving end my mission will be Making , Praying and Giving bread Barbara Glasson style. What are you going to do?

NYDC Home Missions Sec. Eunice Page 019169 663158 email: eunicepage@googlemail.com

Combatting Isolation and Loneliness

Through the Link Visiting organisation another type of challenge is offered and given the age profile of our circuit may be something you wish to consider.

Local churches provide unique opportunities to bring together people of all ages. So can your church answer a need for belonging and friendship in the community around it? The Build-A-Link Challenge can act as a prompt for your discussion and planning.

Link Visiting ask churches to think about the social groups they are already running. Are any of them suitable to invite isolated lonely people to? For example, a lunch club or a coffee morning. If you would like to know more you can visit their website, www.linkvisiting.org and request an introductory pack.

Arts and Heritage

'Arts and Heritage in the Chapel' in Gunnerside Methodist Chapel raised over £850 to help secure the future of this historic building. The exhibition of ceramics, photographs, textiles, jewellery and village history in the chapel drew in people from America, Australia and Germany as well as many local people. Filter coffee, tea and homemade cakes were served all day beneath the bright multi-coloured quilts hanging from the balcony creating a wonderful atmosphere in the chapel.

The display of local history and old photographs also proved popular as many identified their ancestors and relatives. The narrative provided a great insight into the village of Gunnerside.

Many people gave generously of their time to make sure the event took place and to keep it supplied with home made cakes. It is reassuring to find that the 'rocky road' is paved with marshmallow and chocolate. Thank you to all the organisers, contributors and volunteers.

Retreat to the borders

Several members of the Brompton on Swale Methodist Church have recently returned from an excellent weekend at the Whitcheater Christian Centre in Hawick, Scotland. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed a mixture of biblical exploration, fellowship and excellent food and accommodation. Such comments as "Lovely setting and warm and friendly atmosphere, thanks to our hosts" have been received.

Because the weekend was such a success another has been booked for next year at the same venue and some places may be available. If you're interested contact John and Anne Peters 01748818510.

Free Resources

We have brochures, study packs, postcards and posters available for use in our ongoing mission to share the love of Jesus. They are based on The 'Seeing is Believing' exhibition and can be used in many ways: Brochures and Study Packs make an excellent resource for discussion or study groups.

The posters (A4) and postcards featuring the feeding of 5000 are excellent visual aids and maybe you could even use the postcards to send greetings to people. Ask Kevin Pellatt asap if interested.

Singing the Faith Invitation

Over the weekend of 28 and 29 November at Richmond we have a music workshop on the Saturday and a Circuit service on the Sunday both led by Ian Worsfold and Paul Wood. Paul and Ian were members of the group responsible for music in *Singing the Faith* and they have continued their involvement with the publication and its offshoot projects since.

The workshop on Saturday is 10am till 4pm, with tea and coffee prior to start & during the event. Should you want lunch please bring your own. The workshop is open to everyone and will provide a fascinating insight into *Singing the Faith*. Local Preachers and Worship Leaders will find it particularly useful as part of their continuing development.

Autumn Services

Sunday 29th November—Circuit Service Day

10.30am Richmond- Rev Paul Wood & Rev Ian Worsfold

6.30pm Aysgarth Communion service led by Rev Janet Park

Diary Dates Please notify amendments to Kevin Pellatt.

Saturday 7 November 9.30am – 12.30pm at Elm Ridge Methodist Church Darlington. District Evangelism Forum. 'Win One for Christ' practical training led by Rev Bev Hollings.

Monday 16th November

7pm @ Dove Cottage, Chrestos training for all CLT members—please bring own computer if possible

7.30pm CLT meeting in Dove Cottage, Leyburn

Wednesday 2nd December 7.30pm Local Preacher Meeting in Richmond

Thursday 10th December 7.30pm- Circuit Meeting in Leyburn

Live on Air King's Club 2015 Mike Hirst reports...

This year was the 27th year of King's Club in Wensleydale. 109 children and young people attended each day between the two sites of Askrigg School and Low Mill outdoor centre. The young people at Low Mill were involved in a dynamic programme which was designed to engage them in things of God and give plenty opportunity for discussion and reflection. Through wacky and lively presentations and games they were drawn into a week of challenge and competition. The Low Mill instructors provided an afternoon programme of gill scrambling and high ropes.

The 6 -10 year old's programme took the theme 'Live on Air' and started each day with a presentation in a recording studio with two young presenters DJ BK and Jazzy J (alias Jess and Briony). The main guest appearing each day was 'Peter' – one of Jesus' disciples and a prominent leader in the 1st century church. He related powerful accounts of God working through his life including a healing of a lame man, a vision of God's love for the whole world and a miraculous escape from prison. Each day was filled with activity – lots of games, challenges, music and crafts as well as opportunity to explore further the stories about Jesus and his disciples.

The team working throughout the week was drawn from the churches and chapels in the dale as well as from Manchester, Sheffield, Coventry and Scotland. We have also received details of our 'international branch'(!). Jana and her family who visited us two years ago from the Czech Republic has now just helped with their third King's Club (Camp).

The BBQ this year was run on Friday evening at the end of the week. Over 100 people came and enjoyed good music and chat as well as a short presentation from the team, giving a flavour of the week's activities. The dark clouds which moved in from the west, held onto their rain as they passed over Askrigg and gave 'refreshment' to Worton instead – sorry!

Next year's King's Club dates are Monday 1st – Friday 5th August 2016

Reduce the Risk of Fraud

We have received a request to provide some guidance on reducing the risk of becoming a victim of fraud. Given our pastoral role and one of the priorities for the Methodist Church encourages us to support community development and action for justice we have included this advice.

'Action Fraud' is the national policing centre dealing with fraud and their website provides much good information on how to reduce the risk. <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

We all like to think we are intelligent enough to avoid becoming a victim and the more vulnerable of us might prefer not to let on that we have been fooled. So we have gleaned information from various sources to provide these free and simple tips to reduce the risk.

On the Phone:

If you have a phone that displays the callers number do not assume that it is genuine, the number you see can be manipulated by the caller.

Just because callers know your name and some of your details does not mean the call is genuine.

Do not respond to a text asking you to confirm personal or financial information.

Never use a link in a text message to log on to your bank.

On E Mail:

Do not reply or click on a link in the message to provide personal or financial information.

Do not log onto your bank through a link in an E Mail.

Always keep your anti-virus software up to date.

On Social Media:

Be careful what personal information you share on social media.

Ensure your privacy settings restrict access to only those who you wish to see it.

Useful Local Contacts

North Yorkshire Police from within North Yorkshire dial 101 (if it's an emergency dial 999)

Or from outside the force area, call 01904 618691.

They can be contacted by other means see their website for details: <http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk>

There is no need to live in fear of crime, be re-assured that by taking simple steps to protect ourselves we can reduce the risk of being a victim.

Biblical Crime Prevention

At a recent Bible Study I asked myself "Is this the first instance of crime prevention in history?" It would appear that even God had to take action to prevent crime in Genesis 3:22-23, when speaking of Adam:

"He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden.

Church about the Dale Mike Hirst reports

Recently a vision that has been developing for some time came to fruition with the purchase of a trailer as part of the Church about the Dale project. It has been painted with an image of a walker looking towards Penn Hill (Wensleydale) and the logo of the project. The mission statement says:



Church About the Dale is a new ecumenical project working in Wensleydale and the surrounding area to promote social inclusion and proclaim the Good News of God's love for all His creation. It is a missional outreach project of the Methodist and Anglican Churches in the Dale.

Shortly it will be fitted out with flexible displays to enable it to be a mobile information point, a place to lead worship from, a focal point for evangelism or simply another opportunity to make visible, the presence of

the church. It is hoped that it will be used at village fetes and shows around the Dale and be an inspiration for the church to run specific events as part of its outreach and support programmes in the area.

The project was launched in the week running up to August Bank Holiday with a tour of Wensleydale and including the area of the Wensley Deanery. 47 villages were visited and a short service of blessing led to encourage the local churches and proclaim God's love and blessing to the local communities. These were powerful opportunities to declare God's presence amongst his people.

The week concluded with a service and BBQ at the Jonas centre. Several church representatives took part including Rev. Ruth Gee, and Bishop James spoke to a group of over 100 people. A significant prayer throughout the week was that of the early church as recorded in Acts chapter 4:

"Now, Lord, enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

This project is an exciting opportunity for the church to open its doors to the needs of the local community and help in being a visual expression of God's Love to those living and working in the Dale.

Bible Study and Fellowship Groups

With summer drawing to a close we are warming to the winter programme of Bible Studies and House Groups; so if you would benefit from such a gathering this guide to what is happening around the circuit may help you find something that appeals.

Harmby; Autumn Discussion Group – Les Miserables. Each session will follow a character from 'Les Miserables' story. Sessions will include; clips from the film, Bible passages, lyrics of the songs, questions, discussion topics and prayers. Each session concludes with tea and biscuits. 7.30 pm alternate Tuesdays September 29th; October 13th, 27th; November 10th, 24th For more contact George on 01969 623402

West Burton; Bible Study 1.30pm Tuesday afternoons. The current topic is 'Know what we believe'. see www.westburtonchapel.com for more details

Swaledale; Ecumenical Bible Study at Low Row URC to which all are welcome; led by Rev S Collinson every first and third Thursday afternoon. For more contact Kevin on 01748 886963

Coverdale; Fellowship, Friday evenings, 7.30pm from 30 October, the venue rotates between Carlton, Middleham and Melmerby. Watch the circuit web site and chapel notices as the dates approach.

West Witton; Thursday evening 7.30 - 9.00pm Ecumenical Bible Study; second and fourth Thursday each month currently looking at John's Gospel. For more see www.westburtonchapel.com

Richmond have several groups; 'Beta' an informal house group on alternate Monday evenings, Fellowship every Tuesday afternoon; House Groups, one on alternate Tuesday evenings and another every Wednesday afternoon; and 'Search' a Bible Study on alternate Thursday evenings.

For up to date details visit their website www.richmondmethodistchurch.co.uk/nurture

Contact the Circuit Administrative Assistant should you want to advertise your fellowship or Bible Study.



David Joynes has passed this information to us. The Bible Society is offering free copies of a 64-page booklet re-telling Bible Stories for children, called 'Pass it on.'

They have invited five great storytellers to each choose a story from the Bible and each one has re-told their story in a different style. In this special collection you will find a short tale, a comic strip, a rhyme, a rap and a poem.

Readers may like to obtain a copy for a child/grandchild or chapel. You can order up to 5 booklets per household.

Go on line at biblesociety.org.uk/passiton