

# Stones Methodist Church

~ Newsletter November 2014 ~

Dear Friends,

I'd like to take this opportunity and behalf of Denise, myself and the children to say thank you for the invitation to continue in Ministry here for a further four years; we are deeply grateful and look forward to how God is calling us all to proclaim and live out the Gospel in our communities and the wider world. You may have recently seen on the Church noticeboard an invitation to be part of a Bible Study entitled; 'If you want to walk on the water you've got to get out of the boat'. The following is an extract from the author's website:

'In this six-session small group Bible study you'll learn how to move beyond fear to discover God's unique calling for your life!'

Peter may have been the first one out of the boat, but Jesus' invitation to walk on water is for you as well. But walk on water? What does that mean? If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat, helps you to respond to Christ's call to faith, power-filled deeds, and is a new way of knowing how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure, and trust God. Relating to the story in Matthew 14 to life today, teacher and bestselling author John Ortberg invites you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone.

There is a Participant's Guide and a DVD...filled with insights, questions for discussion, and applications that will hopefully help you connect a new way of thinking to actual deeds and a different approach to life. Out on the risky waters of faith, Jesus is waiting to meet you in ways that will change your forever, deepening your character and your trust in God.

Sessions include:

- What's Water Walking?
- The Tragedy of the Unopened Gift
- Find Your Calling and Get Your Feet Wet!
- Facing Our Challenges, Conquering Our Fears
- Good News for Cave Dwellers
- Learning to Wait on Our Big God'

John Travis and I hope to be leading and sharing the sessions and we'd really like it if you felt you might like to come along. The sheet in church asks you to note your name as an expression of interest and we will then be in touch to try and agree a day and time that is suitable and works for most folks. It seems sensible to begin this in the New Year now looking to early spring time 2015.

I'll end with a prayer for us from the Revd Dr Roger Walton, Chair of the West Yorkshire District:

Generous and self-giving God, we are doubly blessed to receive freely of your grace and mercy, and to be called to share in your work of renewing all things in love. Help us to delight in our service; to be cheerful in our giving; and even to rejoice in the challenge and cost to us, knowing that we are friends and partners in your loving enterprise. Amen.

Love Francis

## Readings

2 <sup>nd</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>
Micah 3:5-12	Amos 5:18-24	Zeph 1:7,12-18	Eze 34:11-16,20-24	Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalms 43	Psalms 70	Psalms 90:1-8(9-11)12	Psalms 59:1-7a	Psalms 80:1-7,17-19
1 Thes. 2:9-13	1 Thes. 4:13-18	1 Thes. 5:1-11	Ephes 1:15-23	1 Corin 1:3-9
Matthew 23:1-12	Matthew 25:1-13	Matthew 25:14-30	Matthew 25:31-46	Mark 13:24-37

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	November				
Date	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> (Remembrance)	16 <sup>th</sup> (Shoe Box)	23 <sup>rd</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup> (Comm)
Preacher	Rev Paul Welch	David Wilkinson	David Wilkinson	Julie Taylor	Rev Francis Neil
Steward	Jane Godfrey	Craig Brown	Irene Wilkinson	Craig Brown	Sue Rosborough
Reader	Gwen Smith	Jane Godfrey	Leon Parratt	Mark Travis	Fiona Hinchliff
Prayers	David Normanton	TBA	Maddy Teshola	Linda Ellis	Andrew Smith
Welcome	Caroline Smith	Roy Galloway	Ian Slim	Jacky Heyward	Jean Slim
Flowers	S Beverley	J&B Little	H Briggs	S&J Carson	L&J Travis
Coffee	Mike & Sue	Sue & Louise	Ian & Jean	Irene & Jenny	Caroline & Jacky

## November Diary

- 1<sup>st</sup> There will be Dance examinations downstairs in Church for Abigail 's Dance Class
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Examinations will continue from 12.30. Please can everyone do their best not to disturb the class as they demonstrate their abilities. We wish them well.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night – 7:30pm – Tickets to include a Pie and Peas supper can be obtained from Jean Little
- 8<sup>th</sup> Autumn Fayre – 11:00am – Please come and support our Church. We need your help.  
As you know we have a busy kitchen, serving refreshments from 11am to 2pm. We are always grateful for donations and help on the stalls. If you can help please speak to Linda or Irene and bring your friends and family on the day.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Service. There will be an opportunity in this service, for those who wish to come forward to light candles or offer other symbols of remembrance or hope, such as single flowers, poppies or crosses at the Church War Memorial.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Shoe Box Service – Please see separate notes
- 28<sup>th</sup> Friday afternoon Get Together – 2:30pm  
There will be a Presentation by The West Yorkshire Wood Carvers  
This will be followed by afternoon tea. Everyone welcome

While you will all have read the thanks from Revd Francis for our invitation to continue his Ministry here at Stones for a further four years, we feel it is important to put on record how glad we are that he has been able to accept that invitation. Our love goes to both him and his family. We are grateful to all who contributed time and thought to the invitation process.

## Christmas Cards

Once again we are hoping to deliver Church Christmas cards jointly with our friends at St Bartholomew's. Unfortunately both churches have a few people who are unable to help this year and we are short of people to help deliver the cards. We are hoping to deliver cards to about 1800 houses in Ripponden and Rishworth sometime between Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> of December but any time to suit you. If you can help in any way would you please have a word with Andrew Smith.

## Shoe Boxes

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2014

As before we are providing for young people aged between 16 and 18 years old who do not have the family support we take for granted here at Stones. We are sure that the filled shoe boxes will be very much appreciated and will be distributed in a proper manner. We would like to remind you that we only include new items in the boxes. Below you will find suggestions for the contents:

For young men – scarves, gloves, baseball caps, socks, T-shirts, underwear, shower gel, deodorant, shampoo, playing cards, torch, mug, chocolates, pen, birthday cards, photo frames, etc

For young ladies – opaque tights, scarves, gloves, underwear, makeup mirror, beads, bangles, earrings, make-up, bag, shampoo, hairspray, perfume, mug, chocolates, candles  
purse, pen, birthday cards, photo frames, etc

## Stones Church Property Committee

Matters arising from Meeting held on 13 October 2014

- The Tour de France Day was highly successful Thanks were expressed to all the team who worked so hard to make it possible. The Toy Box, Rishworth, Hilltops and Ripponden Pre-school were all presented with ride on toys and cash donations were made to Ravenscliffe, Yorks Air Ambulance and Overgate.
- A big thank you to Richard of R & M. Connect who carried out considerable emergency repairs to the electric fuse board at the side of the organ to enable us to use the church lights and projector and screen.
- Work on the walkway in the roof space is still awaited.
- A report from Methodist Insurance has now been received and they require (a) a Lone Working Policy. (b) a Working at Heights Policy. (c) a rail on the front of the balcony at 1.1m above floor level. .  
Basically anyone working in the building on their own has to be aware of the new requirements and must be in possession of a working mobile phone whilst in the building. Only suitably qualified persons are now allowed to work at height and this must be done in at least pairs.
- Rubbish Collection Sita have cleared only one bag of rubbish on each of the last three fortnightly collections. We need to encourage our members to re-cycle wherever they can and to help by taking rubbish home if possible.

P.A.Smith

## Sunday School History

Research into the origins of our Sunday School has begun in the archives of Calderdale library. I am told it has already begun to yield some gems of information about events in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Unfortunately it does not look as if we will be able to go back to the very beginning (ie the time of the Battle of Waterloo and Napoleon's departure to St Helena) because those records have either been lost or destroyed. Some later records are also mislaid and efforts are being made to trace them. On the basis that they will eventually turn up it is hoped to flesh them out with other material. I have been asked to put out a general request for help. We know that people at Stones have in some cases worshipped here for several generations and it may be that somewhere in an attic or old trunk there lurks some item of memorabilia from your Sunday School days. If so it will be much appreciated if you can dust it off and let us see it. If there is anything you feel may be of interest please contact Katharine Normanton or email Matthew at [matty-normy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:matty-normy@hotmail.co.uk)

## Autumn Fayre

Saturday 8th November 2014 – 11:00am-2:00pm

Everyone Welcome – Admission 50p (Children Free)

Stalls will Include:

Cakes, Books, Bric-A-Brac, Bring And Buy, Bottles, Tombola, Toys, Children's Games, Christmas Themed Items, Save The Children Charity Stall, Guess The Weight Of The Cake

Light Lunches will be Served

If You Can Help In Any Way Please Contact Us

Donations for the Stalls will be particularly welcome. They can be dropped off at church on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November between 3.30pm and 6.30pm or by 10.15am on the Saturday Morning of the Fayre.

Help to set up on the Friday night will be appreciated.