



BINGLEY METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS 2009/10

Presented to the Annual Meeting 11th April 2010

Sunday Club

Sunday Club meets each week, (except the second Sunday of the month), sharing in the service until after the second hymn. They then go upstairs for their own, more appropriate activities. We have a group of six children coming regularly - though not all every week! Their ages range from 3 - 12 years. Crèche facilities are always available for the under threes. The art work created by the children is often on display in Room 2. You are welcome to take a look. On the second Sunday - usually - we have Creative Worship or Liquid Church and on these occasions the children join with the rest of the congregation for the whole service. Child-friendly facilities are available in the Quiet Room should a parent/carer feel the need to take a child out of Church. They will still be able to hear the service.

Messy Church

Everyone that is involved with Messy Church is thrilled that it is still going so well. We have 35 children on our books and although they don't all come each month we are averaging 21 each time. Messy Church is aimed at school age children, although younger brothers and sisters are welcome, together with a parent or grandparent who is responsible for the child/children while they are with us. There is a section for the toddlers with toys so the parents can help the older children with the activities. As the children arrive they go straight on to craft activities, and then go into the Quiet Room for a story. While that is happening the parents with the toddlers enjoy a drink and chat to each other. When the story is finished some activities need to be completed and then, depending on what time we have before the whole family enjoy a nourishing meal together, we may have time for the children to tell us their news. After tea the afternoon closes with a summary of the story, told by the children (which shows that they have listened), and closing prayers.

World Mission

As you may know I took missions over from Rosalie in September last year with. Over Rosalie's last year 2008-2009 the church made £435.82 for world missions. I would like to thanks Rosalie for all her hard work with mission over the year. If you have a mission box the best way to give the box to me is to put it in my pigeon hole at church. Then I will but the box back in your pigeon hole when I have counted the money. The next big event for mission at Bingley is a talk on the 24th of April at church starting at 2.00pm and finishing at 3.30pm. The talk is from a lady called Glenda and is about Phakamisa. I have been told she is a great speaker and will be very interesting. if you can come along that will be great. Thanks again to all those who support mission in our church.

Becky Johnson

Doing things together

During 2009 Crag Road Church were having many activities to celebrate 150 years of worship which we all supported - a flower festival, an evening of song and many more. In June 2009 many of us joined with the Circuit in Breaking Bread at Baildon Church, either by being part of a choir or taking part in readings and sketches. Although we had decided not to have stalls at some of the Galas we did have a stall at Eldwick in June and met many old and new friends while selling our wares.

Silsden Methodist Church held a Flower Festival during July and we went to support them as they would be becoming part of our new Circuit in September. We had a big get-together in August as we were all invited to join Roy in celebrating his 85th birthday and what an enjoyable time we had. At the end of August we had our Flower Festival and in November our Christmas Fayre and as always we all joined in and pulled together to have a time of fun and fellowship.

In September we had our Inauguration Service for the Airedale Circuit and the Canal Walk from Bingley to Farnhill and we were blessed with a beautiful day for the walk. In October we held a Barn Dance and invited our friends from both old and new Circuits to join us.

We have visited churches in the Airedale Circuit who were having Christmas Fayres and Christmas Tree Festivals and Pantomimes and met many old friends from 'way back when'. All through the past year a small group have supported the Circuits 'Big Sing', visiting a different church each month. More recently we have enjoyed the First Airedale Circuit Quiz.

Children's Holiday Club.

August 2009 saw the children going on 'Starship Discovery' - the theme being really topical as it fitted with the anniversary of the Moon landing. We had a good number of children, and this year we had our own in 'house composer' so we added singing to the activities for the children. They continue to really enjoy the craft work and loved the Godly play stories. We followed this up in the Autumn with a Fun night and have another in April. The children are already asking when the next club will be - the dates are 2nd to the 6th August. I remain grateful for the help and enthusiasm that our leaders give to this valuable work.

Barbara Walls

Craft Group

We had a busy time during 2009 making gifts to sell at our Christmas Fayre in November. We have the usual items, such as tea towels, but do like to have a few 'specials' on our stall, and these sometimes take a lot of thought and time. We have not yet started meeting for 2010 but will be shortly so keep checking the News Sheet for the date and if you would like to join us please do.

Community Centre

The Community Centre started in 1984 with activities every day of the week except Friday and Sunday. Wednesday was the main day, open from 10 am to 4 pm when lunches were served at 12 noon. As I was still working I wasn't involved with the Centre until the year following, i.e. May 1985. One thing I can remember on a Wednesday lunchtime is just cooking 8 potatoes! Now it has grown and we do a larger selection of both hot and cold lunches and serve between 30 and 40 people between 12 noon and 1 o'clock. In December we make a full Christmas lunch for up to 50 customers which is very popular and apart from turkey and all the trimmings we serve crackers, mince pies, after dinner mints and a drink. We are a happy crowd every Wednesday, both customers and helpers. Everyone is welcome, not only church members. We also have a stall selling various things but mostly lemon cheese (home made and delicious marmalade (lemon and orange), books and jigsaws etc. At the moment we are selling chickens sitting (or laying) on a Cream Egg (these have been on sale every Easter since 1988). We did sell Greeting Cards from 1984 to 2004 but had to stop when there wasn't room for the card stand. In fact, as the lunches are getting more and more popular we will soon need a larger room!

Margaret Sharp

Badminton and Table Tennis

We are still meeting on a Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm for Badminton and occasionally Table Tennis. Numbers of attendees vary each week as some of the players do other things but there are usually between six and nine players each week. We have a break around 8.15 for a drink and a biscuit and chat and then it is back to play until 9.30 pm. We each pay £2 which goes to our church and we consider it a good night out, with exercise, good company and a bit of banter thrown in.

The Banner Group

The Banner Group now meet on a Monday afternoon and at the moment are making two new banners for the flower festival. We meet for fellowship and chat and make banners at the same time.

Pastoral Report

We currently have 80 members plus several others worshipping with us regularly. We also have one or two that we are hoping to bring into membership in the near future. I am pleased to say that our weekly attendance at worship has increased in recent weeks to 50. We have one or two members who are unable to get to church regularly, but they are remembered in prayer and by the flowers being taken to them from the Communion Table. We have 13 Pastoral Visitors who are visiting and generally looking after a group of people and they are able to contact our Minister if anyone is ill or has a specific need.

Joyce Dykes

Property Report

The Methodist Church in Britain requires each individual church to complete a property report form each year. This is to ensure that our buildings are run safely, are well maintained and insured. We have to note the work that has been carried out and our plans for future maintenance.

Each year we have our general maintenance contracts for the servicing of the lift, the fire extinguishers, the gas boilers and window cleaning. The installation of the pressurisation unit for the boilers last Spring has made all the difference to the proper functioning of the boiler. Most of the rooms, stairways and corridors have been decorated and more recently the floors of the two halls have had their surfaces refurbished. Damaged slates on the roof have been repaired.

In the next few months we are hoping to make further improvements. During the summer holidays we are planning to have both halls decorated. In order to save lights being left on we are planning on having 'push button' type switches particularly in the cupboard type rooms.

For the tidy appearance of the church and grounds we have many people to thank:- 'The deputy caretakers', the people who mow, litter pick, dust, vacuum, garden, decorate and clean the toilets.

Thank you to everyone for their cheerful help.

Ann Walls

House Group meetings

Bible study meetings are held alternate Wednesday Bible study meetings are held alternate Wednesday evenings at 6 Villa Grove Bingley led by Mr David Varley one of our Local Preachers. Meetings commence at 7.30 pm and last approximately 90 minutes or so, afterwards tea and biscuits are enjoyed.

The meeting starts and ends in prayer and during the time particular areas of the Bible are discussed both from the Old and New Testaments. Each person present is encouraged to make contributions to the meeting. Present studies are focussed on Pauls letters to Timothy from the New Testament.

Cradle Roll Report

The Cradle Roll welcomes children who are brought into our church family by baptism. We keep in touch with them until they are 5 years old by sending birthday cards, visiting, and sending invitations to special events which are for children & families. The main events are the annual summer Holiday Club, which is during the school summer holiday.

Once a month we have Messy church, held on a Tuesday from 4 to 6p.m. when fun & activities are provided for the children and a meal for all the family to share. We also extend an invitation to all the family to join us at the Christingle Service held in December From 5years old we encourage our children to come to our Junior church held each Sunday during our morning service. We hope to welcome more families into the life of Bingley Methodist Church when their children are brought to us through their baptism.

Barbara Beardmore

Treasurers Report

I was appointed as Bingley's Church Treasurer at the June 2009 Church Council, so this is my first Treasurer's Report.

For the year ending to 31 August 2009, our income was £46,862 and our expenditure was £33,365. Major items of expenditure last year included £2,465 for our boiler service and upgrade, and £634 for repairs to the sound system.

These figures mean the accounts show a surplus for the year of £13,497. But included in this surplus was our donation of £612 to MRDF (25% of the 2009 Flower Festival proceeds) and provision for our "Holiday at Home" scheme. Also, we've recently had the hall floors re-varnished and are due to have the church redecorated: both of these large items of property expenditure will show on next year's accounts.

Generally speaking, income from the collections pays our Circuit Share, and income from lettings goes towards the running costs of our church building.