

Bingley Methodist Church



Minister: Rev Rosemary Nash - Tel: 01274 568163

Annual Reports

Presented to the Annual General Meeting on 11 May 2016

Dear Friends

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1 v 3-6

Welcome to this year's presentation of our annual report in which we give thanks for the way that God has constantly been at work in the life of this church.

For the last 4 years I have had the privilege of serving you as your Minister but now there are changes on the horizon, and from September there will be a new face in the pulpit, but more of that in a moment.

The one constant thing in this life, and indeed on this journey of faith, is that things never stay the same. Jesus never said "Stay where you are" rather he said "Come, and follow me!" We are called to be a community which has at its heart the living God who continually calls us onwards and who leads us forwards into the future. Not that this is always easy – far

from it! During our time together we have had a few hurdles to get over – but we have and I hope that you share my optimism for the future.

God has not finished with Bingley Methodist Church yet! I am convinced that he has great plans for this church. So may I take this opportunity to say that it has been a real delight to share this time with you and I thank you for your faithfulness and your commitment to our Lord and to this church.

Now it is time to look forward with confidence and with faith. From September David McAloon will be joining you as your Minister. As a Probationer he will be looking for guidance, encouragement, the room to make mistakes and the support to grow and flourish in his ministry.

You are just the right people to help him develop and undertake his journey towards Ordination. So please, dear friends, be the wonderful people I know you can be, be David's partners in the gospel, be the very best you can be and embrace this new beginning with confidence and grace.

So here's to the coming year, may you be challenged and encouraged, surprised and delighted at the things God will show you. But above all may his abundant blessings flow in you and through you.

Here are some words from St Paul to encourage you:

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

In Christ – Rosemary X

Messy Church

Messy Church meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 3.15 pm to 5.15 pm. Although we are few in number we are committed to keeping going.

Everyone who comes - child or adult - has a good time.

Katherine Watson

Pastoral

We have 16 members who care for a number of people from our fellowship, or people known to members of this church. They offer support and encouragement by praying with or for individuals, visiting and talking with those on their list, sending cards and befriending newcomers.

We know that this is a calling to be taken seriously and it is wonderful that so many have taken up this vital role, and I am extremely humbled with the commitment offered, sometimes over many years, to this ministry.

Thank you all, you are very much appreciated.

Carol Lake

JMA

During the morning service of 15 November 2015, led by Rosemary, we presented our JMA Collectors with their badges and certificates. We collected a total of £325.66 during the year which included the JMA share of Bun money, Loose change and a share of the Clarinet Concert as well as the proceeds of the collecting boxes.

In February 2016 the Windstruments Clarinet group came once more and gave us a concert, the proceeds of which have been shared between the three missions so that has given us a good start for this year. We do thank them for giving up their time to do this for us. We are still collecting everyone's loose change which again is shared and we are still selling decorated buns.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting JMA with collecting boxes and for supporting the children in their fundraising efforts.

Pam Butterfield

Cradle Roll

Cradle Roll at present has nine children on it. Their ages range from one to four, as there are four children this year turning five. Thus next year there will be five children on the Cradle Roll.

Cards go out the week before their Birthday by second class stamp to make sure they are always on time.

Rachael Slater

Fun Nights and Holiday Club

We continue to make contact with new children through Fun Nights and Holiday Club.

Our Fun Nights continue once a term to fit in with Brownies and Rainbows and we have our next planned for Friday 27 May (half term) – help always appreciated as we never know who may turn up! We had a really good turn up for the February Fun Night but there were still hot dogs for all.

Holiday Club will be 25th – 29th July on a sporting theme to fit with the Olympics. Let Barbara know if you might be interested in helping.

Continued prayers and support of this work is appreciated.

I will would like to thank all the people who help in different way to enable this work to continue.

Barbara Walls

Sunday Club

Sunday Club meets every Sunday, leaving the service for their own activities after the second hymn or the collection. We have several children who come, sometimes ranging in age from 2 to 12 years.

Due to a shortage of leaders, one Sunday a quarter has become “bun Sunday” when the children decorate then sell buns. The money goes to Missions.

Many thanks to Susan and Rachel for helping out and also to our other dedicated leaders.

Katherine Watson

Badminton Club

Badminton Club continues to meet on Tuesday evenings 7.30 pm to 9.30pm with a break for tea.

We would welcome any one who would like to join us. Racquets are provided.

Ann Walls

Stewards

Carol Lake has stepped down as a steward, having completed her four year term. The remaining stewards were confirmed at the Annual Church Meeting in May but, unfortunately, due to ill health Barbara Beardmore has also had to step down. The stewards would like to thank both Carol and Barbara for all their work.

Stephen Wilkinson agreed to become a steward and this was confirmed at an extraordinary Annual Church meeting in September.

The stewards are: Joyce Dykes, Jean Varley, Pam Helyar and Stephen Wilkinson.

To support the stewards it was agreed that vestry helpers would be recruited. All members of the congregation were invited to put themselves forward and as a result we now have four vestry helpers who assist the stewards with their duties on Sunday mornings. This has enabled the steward's rota to be based on one steward on duty per week rather than two.

A start has been made on collecting information on the duties undertaken by various people on which the operation of the Church relies in case tasks need to be passed on to others (eg due to illness)

It was felt that it was important that whoever is leading services has a quiet space for at least 15 minutes prior to the service and a notice to this effect has been produced

At Rosemary's request, consideration is being given to improving the layout of the vestry and quiet room to create an appropriate space for private, sometimes difficult, conversations.

5th Sunday collections have been discontinued as it is now possible to respond quickly to emergencies. In future appeals for specific situations will be made.

An interesting series of bible studies led by Glenda Coogan took place during Summer 2015 and Spring 2016 and there have been two cycles of monthly services of quiet contemplation in Autumn 2015 and Spring 2016. A Quiet Day at Norwood took place in October 2015.

Pam Helyar

Action for Children

Just to let you know that I have taken over from Sheila Palmer as the Action for Children representative for our church.

I would like to thank Sheila for all she has done for Action for Children in our church over the years. I don't know how many years she has done the honours but it seems like forever.

Thank you Sheila.

Pam Butterfield

Community Centre

Our Community Centre continues to thrive, with one or two new people coming in during the last few weeks.

Each Wednesday morning we have a Coffee/Morning from 10 am and from 12 noon until 1 pm we serve light lunches, which include Soup, Jacket Potatoes, Sandwiches, Toasties, Salads etc and a dessert, all at reasonable prices.

Every Wednesday evening there is Sequence Dancing in the Church hall from 7.30 pm.

We also serve Coffee/Tea on a Saturday morning from 10 am to 12 noon.

Everyone is very welcome to all of these events – we will be pleased to see you. You can be sure of good company and a good chat!

Joyce Dykes

Home and World Missions

In the last financial year, Home and World Missions have further continued to raise a combined total of £554.75, broken down as: Home Missions £257.93, World Missions £296.82, plus an excellent sum of £143.60 was collected from the Easter Offering.

The two Missions, along with JMA, have supported each other in the following activities: afternoon tea/concert, children's biscuit and bun sales, together with the loose change box.

Thank you to everyone who has helped not only with the collecting boxes but in all the fundraising and various events.

Susan Atherton

Worship Leaders

By request of the Stewards, the Worship Leaders have accepted the responsibility of arranging or preparing an appropriate service for a Sunday morning which the Circuit has designated as a 'Local Arrangement'. Currently, "LAs" occur once per quarter for all churches in the Circuit. We are also available to assist any preachers who lead services in our church

At present, we have five Worship Leaders. When we take the service, it is usually based on the Revised Common Lectionary theme for the day. We meet together a few weeks beforehand for prayerful consideration and preparation.

We attend the Circuit Leaders of Worship and Preachers' meetings which take place every quarter.

Over the past three years, our Worship Leaders have been grateful for the kind comments and expressions of support from the congregation.

Lindsay Schofield

Property

Once again thanks to all those who help to keep the grounds and building in good order.

Regular servicing of the boilers, lift, ovens and the fire and intruder alarm systems has continued throughout the year. The gutters and gullies have been cleaned and the lead which blew off the roof has been fixed back on. New regulations about fire extinguishers have meant that we have had to increase their numbers.

Burglar Bill visited us on a number of occasions. We have a good description of him. Most of the rooms and cupboards are now locked when not in use. People have been reminded to be careful with their personal possessions. Items stolen have been replaced but remain under lock and key.

Some new keys are now in use and all the key holders have now signed the relevant forms.

Ann Walls

Finance

This is a summary of the accounts for September 2014 to August 2015:

Income		Expenditure	
Collections	£ 26,725	Circuit Share	£ 35,175
Lettings	£ 23,525	Utilities	£ 6,906
Fund Raising	£ 4,977	Repairs	£ 5,855
Community Centre	£ 2,000	Other	£ 1,383
Donations	£ 1,782	Donations	£ 800
Interest	£ 299	Total	£ 50,119
Other	£ 659		
Total	£ 59,967		

The full accounts are on the church notice board, and if you have any questions please come and see me.

Over the year we made a surplus of £9,848 which increased the amount in our reserves to £59,739.

The February Church Council voted to increase by 2% the amount we give to the Airedale Circuit. The meeting also agreed that for any future events, for example the Christmas Fayre and the Flower Festival, the proceeds will go to charity rather than to Church funds.

During the year, we also raised over £700 by donating the money given for tea and coffee after each Sunday's Worship, this was given to charities nominated by the congregation.

As usual, here's my "advertisement" for **Gift Aid** - if you pay Income Tax and aren't currently in the scheme (surely we must have "got" everyone by now!!), please consider letting the Church claim Gift Aid on your behalf. Just speak to either myself or Joan Wright to make the arrangements.

Anthony Butterfield