

**Steeton Methodist**

**Chapel** Saturday 1st December 2pm-4pm  
Nativity Fare by Youth Club and G.I.F.T fellowship. There will be a Cake Stall, Raffle and Crafts. Entrance £2 to include Coffee/Tea and Mince Pie. Proceeds for Chapel Funds. Everyone welcome.

**Concert by Silsden**

**Town Band** at St. Andrew's Cowling. Sat 1st December 7.30pm £7 For tickets tel. 01535 635101

**Christmas Tea** with entertainment at St Peter's Methodist Church, Cross Hills Sat 15th Dec 2-4pm All welcome.

**Tea, Toast & Toddler**

**Praise** A new event starting 18th Dec. at Steeton 9.15-10.15 then monthly on the third Tuesday. Contact Jo Dolman for more details.

**Lees Methodist Church - Meeting Point**

This fairly new group meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons. We meet at 1.45 for 2pm.  
11th December Ian Dewhirst on Old Fashioned Christmases.  
8th January Chris Bown from Salvation Army—'Meeting Society's Needs'. All very welcome.

**Dear Friends**

As I write this we are just about to step into Advent, that period of quiet expectation and waiting, so often lost as we race towards Christmas with all its carols and mince pies! I believe we lose Advent at a cost to ourselves and the church. Christmas is a great reminder that God stepped down into humanity, or as one Celtic writer puts it "Incarnation stepping from glory into a feeble form willingly". What a great celebration, but Advent reminds us the story is not complete, Jesus will return, that is what we are waiting for with baited breath. Will we be ready?

So receive Advent as a gift, and Christmas too. With family and friends or however you choose to remember, you are blessed.

This will be the last time Gerald produces the newsletter so thank you for all you have contributed Gerald. From January the newsletter will be produced from the Circuit Office so please send anything in to Penny as from now. Thanks.

*Ruth*

**The 260th Celebration at West Lane Methodist Church Haworth** went very well. Three lovely services were led by Rev Graham Kent, Rev David McAloon and Deacon Jackie Fowler who all gave good messages. About 80 people attended over the three services – some from the village and other churches.

Congratulation letters and phone calls came from people who could not attend including Rev Marc Pattern and Olive, Rev Ian Johnson and Virginia and Rev Alf Waite. It is good to know we are still remembered and prayed for by these people. More celebrations through the year – look out for details later.

*Hazel Bancroft*

**Diary Dates for December**

**7 Action for Children Store Collection** at Sainsbury's Keighley 9am-6pm. Please contact Judith or Maurice Baren to volunteer 01535 643100 or mauricebaren@gmail.com

**8 Who Let the Dads Out?** At Silsden 10-11.30am

**11 Toddler Praise** 9.15 at Silsden

**18 Circuit Carol Service** 7pm at Cullingworth

**22 Coffee and Carols** 10am at Cullingworth

**22 Angels Service** at Keighley Shared Church 3pm-5pm

**December Evening Advent "Names for the Messiah" Worship** at Silsden Methodist Church at 6pm  
2nd Wonderful Counsellor  
9th Everlasting Father  
16th Prince of Peace



**The Big Christmas Card Festival** is on display at Silsden Methodist Church. The theme is "Peace on Earth" - a great variety of cards tell of our hopes and dreams for peace-pop in over the Advent period and take a look.

On Saturday December 1st you can see the display during our Coffee, Cake & Camaraderie event 9.30-12.30 with a variety of stalls including arts and crafts.

### 3Generate Children & Youth Assembly Southport 2018

The theme this year was 'Courageous' and the youth overcame some difficult tasks, from rock climbing, tricky bikes course, caged football. But mostly coming out of their shells and meeting up with old and making new friends, over the weekend. Also realising that there are other youth across the UK not just in our circuit and district – In fact there were 1,200 8-23 year olds plus volunteers, speakers and leaders, including some Pontins staff.

This year our circuit took 5 Youth from GIFT our circuit youth fellowship - Matthew, Erin, Beth, Zoe and Sarah - who already have said they want to return next year.

Some comments from them said they had a great time, there was a lot to do but not enough to do, as some of the things were at the same time. But they enjoyed the welcome to 3gen, meeting the new youth presidents, and voting for them. The worship from Urban Praise on the Saturday and Sunday they thought was great, it was great to see them relax into the style they weren't used too – which even meant dancing!!

They enjoyed the workshops they attended, which were: the creative zone, talk on activism and terrorism, digital graffiti wall, knives down, big 3gen scrapbook, think tank, lightning talks. They had a go on the inflatables and in the disco, they chilled in the den, the big Bible in godly play style and the big Bible enquiry. You will have to ask the Youth about these for more details.

For the Sunday worship some went to Celebrate Christ where we are with Urban Praise and some went to Celebrate Christ in all we do with One-way uk Puppets and Bob Hartman.

That's just a small view on what went on, but they came back buzzing and tired and really want to go again next year.

For photos, please see our new Facebook page Airedale Youth. Also there are some on the Airedale Circuit Facebook page.

Thank you for this opportunity.

GIFT

Please send items for the January newsletter by Monday 17th December to Penny Moon, Circuit Administrator office@airedalemethodists.org or 01535 653842 or post to 88 Kirkgate, Silsden Keighley BD20 0PA. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email please send a request to Penny.

### The Eldwick Church Builds and Remembers

The Eldwick Church's 'Sponsor a Slate' scheme involves both church members and the local community in their building project. To date around 200 slates inscribed with the names of the loved ones, families and friends of the sponsors will be placed on the church roof as it is refurbished.



People were invited to come to a family service where the slates were blessed. Afterwards, they could write names on slates and take photographs. "It's been a great opportunity to get people involved and foster a sense of ownership of our Church," commented Rev Peter Mayo-Smith.

"However, we then realised that the Family Service fell on the Sunday after Remembrance Day, so we decided to use this opportunity to also commemorate the 21 local servicemen who gave their lives in two World Wars. Those men belonged to Eldwick Village. The Church would have been part of their daily environment and most likely many worshipped there on Sundays. By writing their names on slates we could express our respect and gratitude for the sacrifice that they made. Their memory will be part of the Church fabric as we go forward."

The building project will create a link between the Victorian Church and the newly built hall complex, allowing the church to be extended and completely refurbished – including ensuring that the roof is in good condition.

The Eldwick Church is a local ecumenical partnership, formed in January 2011 through a merger of Eldwick Methodist Church and St Lawrence Anglican Church.

