



Parkwood Herald

FEBRUARY
2017

NEWSLETTER OF PARKWOOD METHODIST CHURCH
PARKWOOD ROAD LONGWOOD HD3 4TT

It's In The 'Seeking First'

Matthew 6:33-34 (NRSV)

33 But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

34 "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

There is a fundamental truth in this scripture. How often do we try to take care of our needs in the area of finances, or try dealing with difficult circumstances before looking to God? We don't just do this as individuals but often as a church as well. We try to work out how we will get through the stresses and strains life sends our way. God says here to 'seek first His kingdom'.

It's in putting God first in everything and seeking His goodness and mission in the world, that all these other things in our lives will be taken care of.

I went to the funeral of a friend recently and I expected there to be a lot of other people there. I was astounded not only was the church packed upstairs and down but also the hall. There has never been so many people in that place. All there because of one person and the way she lived her life. She was only 38 years old - at least 500 people turned up to celebrate her life. Like everyone else in that place I had my own personal memories, our love for music as she played the Piano and Organ for the choir I used to sing in.

She prepared the whole content of the funeral and for me the most amazing witness of her faith was instilled in her

two daughters, both under 10 years old. The eldest played Amazing Grace on the piano while the younger daughter sang it. The beauty and love shared in that moment was magical because she knew the true value of letting go of the situation she had been in and everyone there could feel that through a simple act of worship.

There is always more to paying the bills and making sure the roof will stay up, making sure we have plans in place to deal with whatever we are often unsure of (though they are still important, they should not be the Most important) - it's by always putting God first, and giving into the kingdom of God. Through seeking his will we find our shared mission in this world.

Lord, I choose to put you first,
I give my struggles to you.
For by doing so you'll meet my needs
and you'll always pull me through.

Blessings

Jo

(Rev Joanna Brown)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st Barbara Rushforth.
4th Nora Beaumont
5th Betty Sykes,
10th Wendy Cowgill
11th Pat Gill
15th Graham Ivey

EASTER SUNDAY 16th April
9.30 Communion; followed by
'breakfast' then normal service at
10.45am.

'Seeking to be the People of Christ at the Heart of the Community'.

Dates of 'Breakfasts' 2017

**18th February
18th March
15th April**

For the Church Anniversary on 30th April we are hoping to arrange a Special weekend of activity. Get your thinking caps on and let a Steward know what you would like to see or preferably, do.



Again from the 2008 archive



Photo from the 2008 archive.

SORRY! No Drop in Lunches during February. WILL re-start in March

**Breakfast:- Open as usual!
(09.30am to noon)
See dates above**

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017

Saturday 4th L V G Coffee Morning@ Mechanics 10.00am-12noon
Sunday 5th 10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service led by Rev Jo Brown
Wednesday 8th Church Council Meeting 7.30pm @ Parkwood. DO TRY TO ATTEND.
Sunday 12th 10.45 Service led by Mr Keith Kitson
Saturday 18th Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30am – 12.00 noon
Sunday 19th 10.45 Communion Service led by Rev Jo Brown
Saturday 25th SPECIAL at The Drop By Cafe, Sycamore Ave: 09.30 - Noon !Pancakes!
Sunday 26th 10.45 Service led by Rev Richard Thompson

March

Saturday 4th L V G Coffee Morning@ Mechanics 10.00am-12noon
Sunday 5th 10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service
Wednesday 8th 1st of new session Drop in Lunch 12.30pm All Welcome
Saturday 11th Old Folks Party @ Parkwood time to be advised.
Sunday 12th 10.45 Communion Service led by Rev Jo Brown
Saturday 18th Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30am – 12.00 noon
Sunday 19th 10.45 Service led by Mr Terry Frost
Wednesday 22nd Drop in Lunch 12.30pm All Welcome
Sunday 26th 10.45 Mothering Sunday Service led by Rev Pam Ward