

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



Parkwood Herald

**JUNE
2016**

NEWSLETTER OF PARKWOOD METHODIST CHURCH
PARKWOOD ROAD LONGWOOD HD3 4TT

From the minister,
Looking back over this past month, May has been a very busy time for folk at Parkwood, a time of exploring new possibilities, as well as a time to stop and reflect. I say we've been exploring new possibilities because on the 3rd of May a number of people on the leadership team, as well as some friends from Providence Methodist, Rev. Sue Burton, Rev. David Bidnell and myself were able to meet up with a lady called Fiona Fidgen. Fiona works for the West Yorkshire District working as a Church and Community enabler, and she had been invited to meet with us, to see the church and local area, to hear our story and listen to our hopes and dreams for Parkwood in the hope that she might be able to accompany us on our journey of discovery and help us discern the next steps to take as we seek a new building and new mission opportunities. She was very excited by what she saw and heard, and was full of praise for our bravery to step out with God and look for new mission opportunities in a new location. She asked us where we felt our energy and potential lies, and what things we get excited about. She also asked us what it might mean to truly be the people of Christ at the heart of the community as our vision statement says. Both of these are important questions and ones we will as a church need to think about. Most importantly though, Fiona reminded us that it is only through making and building relationships with both others and with one another that we can move forward both in our discipleship in Christ and in sharing His love with our community, and that shared times of worship and prayer were a key part of this. As a result of this meeting Fiona and her team are offering to come back and spend time with us as a church to help us discern what our unique calling from God as a church is, who He is sending us to serve in His name, and help us work out the practical steps we need to take to achieve that. We also agreed that we would hold a special service in July where we would take the opportunity as a congregation to look at some of the options that are open to us and what they might mean for the future. This service will take place on 10th July and will be a great opportunity to explore where Christ is calling us to

go, so please do join us and share your thoughts that day. As a result of Fiona's comments about prayer, a special prayer meeting was held during the community breakfast on Saturday 21st May, and as we looked together at the 23rd Psalm, we explored how this is not a funeral Psalm but a Psalm of praise and thanks to God. God is our shepherd, the one who leads us and guides us, he makes our paths straight, and even when we face troubled times, times of worry or burden, stress or uncertainty he is there with us every step of the way. In fact God not only walks with us through the difficult times but He brings us out the other side triumphant. We are brought to a better place, a place of rest and of hope, a place where those who chose to doubt the wisdom of trusting God and putting our faith in Him are put to shame because what God provides for His people is that good. As a result of looking at this Psalm afresh we were able to thank God for our journey so far, give to Him our concerns and worries, ask for His guidance and thank Him that He has already gone ahead of us to prepare the way. Overall the prayer meeting was a very blessed time and something we hope to do again in the near future. Something else we will be doing in the near future is working together with our friends from Providence Methodist Golcar, to run a joint holiday club during the summer holidays. This will be on the theme of holidays, and will take place at Providence Methodist on 25th -26th July, from 10am to 12:30pm, registration from 9am onwards, and is for 2- 10 year olds. So please do let folk know who you think might like to come along or consider whether you too might like to help out at this event and let one of our stewards know. So you see much has been happening this last month and much more is yet to come. God promises that He has plans for us, a future and hope to offer us all, therefore, let us take heart, listen to His call upon our lives and our church and together keep stepping out in faith with Him. Every Blessing,

Rev. Debbie Hopkinson

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Sad News Obituary

I'm sorry to have to report the death of:
Mrs Linda Murray on the 12th May 2016.
After a long illness fought with dignity.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1st Andrew Hopkinson
5th Adrian Crossley
20th Elaine Oldham
25th Renee Wyatt

PLEASE NOTE!

Cheerful Chat and Drop in Lunches will take a break July and August. We need serious discussions for the way forward for Cheerful Chat. Also unless we have more volunteers especially for cooking, the Drop in Lunches will cease to be. 2 out of 3 cooks are retiring!

Dates of 'Breakfasts' 2016

18th June
16th July
20th August

DIARY FOR JUNE/JULY 2016

Sunday 5th	10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service Own Arrangement
Tuesday 7th	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to noon
Wednesday 8th	Drop in Lunch 12.30pm
Wednesday 8th	Worship Leaders and Preachers meeting 7.30pm @ Parkwood
Saturday 11th	St Marks Parish Centre Coffee morning 10.00am - Noon
Saturday 11th	Step out for Children sponsored walk from Marsden 1.00 p.m.
Sunday 12th	10.45 Service led by Mrs Wendy Blackburn
Tuesday 14th	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to noon
Saturday 18th	Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30 – 12.00
Saturday 18th	Wedding @ 1.30pm Parkwood Mark Rushworth & Alicen Robinson
Sunday 19th	10.45 Communion Service led by Rev David Bidnell
Sunday 19th	LP Recognition service Adrian Burton and Sue Taylor Netherton 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 21st	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to noon
Wednesday 22nd	Drop in Lunch 12.30pm
Saturday 25th	Gareth and Charmaine's Garden Party 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Sunday 26th	10.45 Service led by Mr Arthur Preston
Tuesday 28th	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to noon
Wednesday 29th	Strawberry Tea, Dalton 2.45pm-4.45pm MWiB event
Thursday 30th	Churches Together Lower Colne Valley meeting Parkwood 7.30pm



JULY

<u>Sunday 3rd</u>	<u>10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service with Rev Debbie, her last service at Parkwood followed by lunch.</u>
Saturday 9th	Coffee morning Lindley 10am - Noon MWiB event
Sunday 10th	10.45 Service led by TBA
Saturday 16th	Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30 – 12.00
Sunday 17th	10.45 Service led by TBA
Sunday 24th	10.45 Service led by TBA
Saturday 30th	Freda & Joe's Garden Party 11.00am - 2.00pm
Sunday 31st	10.45 Service led by TBA followed by Faith Lunch