



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

# Parkwood Methodist Church

## The Herald



2 Parkwood Road Longwood Huddersfield HD3 4TT

NOVEMBER 2018

October has been a strange month. For a start I have gone back to School! I have started the Germinate Leadership Course. The main aims are to identify what type of leadership skills I use and work on developing other leadership skills to enhance my skill set as a minister. There will be a significant amount of reflecting on how I have dealt with situations over the last few years, and exploring how I could have done things differently.

I felt this was an important thing to do, not just to grow in my ministry, but because next summer I will move to a new appointment. With new challenges, new people, a whole new context where no doubt I will make some of the same bad choices, but, I truly hope that all the experiences I have had here I can learn from and become more effective in my role as a minister.

It is important to reflect back, learn more about ourselves, to learn new and effective ways of working. Using the gifts and experiences I've had here so they can be a blessing to others.

I often wonder how much reflecting Jesus did on his travels. We know he often needed to take time out, away from the crowds to pray, but there's not much to say he reflected on the miracles he did. Did he sit with the disciples discussing how much of a drama they had been. Had Jesus gained the right amount of attention and reaction from people, or was it too much sometimes.

Life is a balancing act – sometimes we are well balanced, other times the scales can be tipped too far and we think we are going to fall off.

While I try to learn more about myself, I am also attempting to be patient – the stationing process as the Methodist Church calls it, last month seemed miles away, but

now as we move into the first stage, time seems to be going very slowly.

I am also aware of the things I'm doing for the last time in this circuit. I've taken my last harvest festival, in a couple of weeks my last Remembrance service will have taken place. Then looking ahead to Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter – so many things to look forward to, though I may not miss some of the meetings so much!

With the course and many changes going on around me this month I particularly want to ask for your prayers. As I continue to work at developing my ministry, but also as the stationing process takes place. Pray for all the ministers, circuits and the District Chairs who meet together over the next few months making what can be difficult decisions when trying to match the ministers with the available appointments. That as they match the gifts and skills of the ministers with the vision the circuits have for their available appointments, that no matter what, God's mission is at the heart of every decision.

Blessings

Rev Jo

### BIRTHDAYS for NOVEMBER

7<sup>th</sup> Joe Lloyd

18<sup>th</sup> Ken Rothery

23<sup>rd</sup> Sandra McSweeney

29<sup>th</sup> Gareth Beaumont

**Don't forget!**

**From the 11<sup>th</sup> November all worship services will be at**

**St. Mark's Parish Centre**

**53 Thornhill Road**

**Longwood**

**HD3 4UL**

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

**ALL other functions, lunches and Craft Fair etc.. will be at Parkwood. Breakfasts will continue as now at the Drop By Centre on Sycamore Avenue, Milnsbridge.**

## **CRAFT FAIR 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

We need :- Cakes and homemade preserves for the cake stall (Tables repaired now so no chance of a repeat disaster!). Chocolate for the Tombola. Most of all we need YOUR help on the day.

**PLEASE NOTE:- ALL CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER WILL BE AT ST. MARK'S PARISH CENTRE.  
ALL OTHER FUNCTIONS AND LUNCHES WILL BE AT PARKWOOD.**

**A huge THANK YOU to ALL the people who have put in an inordinate amount of personal time and effort to help us in these changing times.  
Do come along and help us make the Celebration Service a service to remember the past as we take up the challenge for the future.**

**There IS Messy Church in  
NOVEMBER  
@  
PARKWOOD CHURCH**

**Date to Note:- 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Concert/Service with Brass Band.  
Watch for further details.**

## **Diary for November correct at time of printing      December tentative 2018**

<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>L V G Coffee Morning @ Mechanics 10.00am-12noon</b>
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Family Service with MESSY CHURCH @ PARKWOOD</b>
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Drop in Lunch 12.30pm All Welcome @ PARKWOOD</b>
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Service led by Mrs Kimm Brook @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Parkwood Breakfast at the DROP BY CENTRE 9.30am - 11.45am</b>
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Service led by The Gideon's @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Craft Fair at Parkwood Church 10.00am - 3.00</b>
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Service led by Mr John Oldham @ St. Mark's</b>

**NEED A LIFT TO ATTEND? PLEASE ASK ANY STEWARD.  
IF ALL ELSE FAILS ASK JOE LLOYD.**

### **DECEMBER**

<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>L V G Coffee Morning @ Mechanics 10.00am-12noon</b>
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Family Service with MESSY CHURCH @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>2.00pm A Celebration Service @ Parkwood Do come and join us.</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Drop in Christmas Lunch 12.30pm All Welcome @ PARKWOOD</b>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Communion Service led by Rev Jo Brown @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Parkwood Breakfast at the DROP BY CENTRE 9.30am - 11.45am</b>
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Carol Concert/Service, with Band @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.45 Service led by Mrs Laura Tunnacliffe @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00 am Christmas Service led by Rev Jo Brown @ St. Mark's</b>
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30 am Service @ Golcar Providence Church No service @ St. Mark's</b>

**Sorry I have repeated venues, I don't want anybody wasting their time going to the wrong place.**

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

October saw the passing of two people associated with Parkwood over the years. Rev Debbie Hopkinson who was our Minister for a number of years before moving to Pastures New a couple of years ago. Such a sadness at so young an age.

Mr Ernest Coulson, husband of Enid, who predeceased Ernest. His funeral was commemorated at Parkwood on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

Our thoughts and condolence go to all the family and friends of both families, will be surely missed.

My Memories of Parkwood from an "Old Timer."

I came to Parkwood about 1968. I know that because I came to supervise the playgroup which was already up & running but without a qualified supervisor. It soon became the best playgroup in Huddersfield (no Kirklees in those days) and we had a long waiting list. I believe Freda arrived about the same time and we have been friends ever since. Not long after I arrived and on walking out day, Gareth and Jean Johnson asked me if I would become Sunday School Secretary and I did, later becoming a Sunday School teacher. I have wonderful memories of Anniversaries when people queued to get in and there were 3 services that day. For one of the Anniversaries we did Wizard of Oz, much of it written by Gill Ritchie and we were helped with scenery making by the cub leader, Richard Jackson who also took the part of the Wizard. We gave it 3 more times at the request of other churches. By which time the costumes no longer fitted the actors/actresses. Then there was the Eisteddfod when all the Sunday Schools in the circuit took part and we often won the music prize, greatly helped by Ken Rothery. We had amazing Sunday school parties and also took the money collected for national children's homes, later AfC to the town hall. This money was mainly collected by selling Sunny Smiles. The Sunday school teachers were a dedicated lot and Parkwood has good reason to be grateful for the dedication they showed. But in addition to the children's activities there were things for adults too. P W A. the choir. I was never a member of that for obvious reasons. But I always particularly enjoyed the

anthem. I started the lunches which were very different in the early days to how they are today. There were the Monday Night cleaning ladies but I wasn't a member of those either. A pantomime was performed every year and my first memory of that was of Janet Oakley, then Rothery, and Gareth in Aladdin. I remarked to a man on leaving "that young man has a wonderful voice" and he said "that young man is my son." I was talking to Stephen Beaumont.

In a 50 year membership there are bound to be moments of joy and moments of sadness. We mourn the passing of so many members who played a large part in forming the Parkwood we know today. Never underestimate the part they played.

Both my parents died while I was attending Parkwood and I remember Mary Rothery bringing me some beautiful lilies. My daughter was christened there as an adult by John and both my youngest children were married there.

But we had a lot of laughs along with way. Yes the Craft fair is hard work but also a lot of fun. Yes at the end of the day tempers are fraught but forgotten by the next day. I have the easy job. I sit on the door and extract £1 from everyone who comes through the door. Even the washing up is fun when shared with friends.

The fund raisers must have raised several thousands of pounds both for church and charities.

I shall never forget John's face at the first concert/service with the brass band, when people flooded in. He said "we don't have enough chairs" but he found some and we estimated more than 100 came to that service. Personally I am eternally grateful to Anne and Sandra. I couldn't do either of the jobs they do. I couldn't do Rene's job either. Flowers run and hide when I approach.

But all my memories make up Parkwood's history. I am sure other people have different memories to mine and they are just as precious. Why not share them?

I wish Parkwood well on their next journey. It will not be an easy journey but then being a Christian never was and nobody ever said it would be.

Barbara Rushforth

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

**Don't Forget**

**From 11<sup>th</sup> November our Worship Services will be at St. Mark's Parish Centre. Same time 10.45 am start. Everybody welcome to join us.**



**Our 'new' Church Worship Room awaiting to be organised for service. A very light, airy room that will be set out to our full advantage. There is also a large room for functions and if necessary Messy Church for December. So come along and sample for yourself.**

**All easy access from outside ramp.**



**Inside there are only four steps to negotiate**



**Even these can be avoided.**



**To finish off this edition a glimpse of the past.**

**Now is the time to move forward and think of the future.....How exciting...**