



NEWSLETTER OF PARKWOOD METHODIST CHURCH
PARKWOOD ROAD LONGWOOD HD3 4TT

The following should have preceded last month's headline:-

I often think that the vast majority of Methodist's miss what goes on at Conference each year.

This year's presidential address, the Revd Loraine N Mellor, the newly elected President of the Methodist Conference, asked: "How are we disturbing the present in the Church today?" as she shared her concerns with the current state of the Church and her vision for taking radical risks to change its culture.

A small section from her address...

Then followed by what was actually published last month.....



Apologies all round if it didn't make sense. Have pity on the poor editor!

St Paul' Bay

Since 2013 I've wanted to go down to St Paul's bay near Lindos in Rhodes. To visit a place mentioned in the bible – to imagine what it might have been like. Knowing how stormy the sea can get in good weather, it is hard to imagine just how severe the weather must have been for them to risk jumping overboard to swim to shore. It made me reflect on how often are we truly willing to jump out of the boat to risk something – whether it's trying something new, revamping something that is losing it's interest. From conference this year one of the questions that has come out of it is for us to annually ask – do we have a growth plan, or end of life plan? In other words are we willing to jump out of the boat or sink with it! St Paul's Bay is a lovely place with beautiful blue water in the bay, the traditional white



houses of Lindos and the Acropolis on the opposite side to St Paul's Chapel.

Paul on

his third missionary journey is travelling to Rome in Acts 27:-

The Shipwreck

39 In the morning they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned to run the ship ashore, if they could. 40 So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea. At the same time they loosened the ropes that tied the steering-oars; then hoisting the foresail to the wind, they made for the beach. 41 But striking a reef,[e] they ran the ship aground; the bow stuck and remained immovable, but the stern was being broken up by the force of the waves. 42 The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none might swim away and escape; 43 but the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land, 44 and the rest to follow, some on planks and others on pieces of the ship. And so it was that all were brought safely to land.

Last year we had a trip out to the island of Symi, it had a great reputation for the best boat builders in the area. During the short tour we were told after Paul's shipwreck it was the boat builders from Symi who made it sea worthy again.

This little chapel dates back to the 13th or 14th Century, built on the ruins of a previous church, which may have been built as early as the 6th century.

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

It is a popular place for a wedding being in such a beautiful setting. I'm not sure I would



want to walk to and from it every day though, you can drive down so far and then walk the rest of the way – certainly a good idea to walk it in decent foot ware as it's quite steep (as I found out!)

Once we got to the chapel, even though there were lots of people on the beach, people swimming and having scuba diving lessons it was such a peaceful place – well worth the visit.

Rev Jo Brown

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

18th John Oldham

Dates of 'Breakfasts' 2017

**September NO BREAKFAST
21ST October**

LUNCHES

NO LUNCHES IN SEPTEMBER

**There is a lunch planned for
Wednesday Oct 4th.**

**Watch this space for future
announcements.**

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

It is planned that John & Phil will be taking the Christmas Service - Monday 25th December.

Start time **10.00am**

Venue will probably be

Sure Start Centre;

WATCH THIS SPACE.

A training day for Action for Children supporters will be on Thursday Sept 28th at Penketh Methodist church, Warrington. A contingent will be going from Huddersfield if anybody wants to go from Parkwood. Lunch is provided. Always an informative day telling us how the money is raised and how it is spent. Ask Barbara for more details.

Feast of Flavours

Saturday 14th October

Tickets £7.00

Booking Essential

See Barbara for details

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

Saturday 2nd

Sunday 3rd

Sunday 10th

Sunday 17th

Sunday 24th

L V G Coffee Morning@ Mechanics 10.00am-12noon

10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service

10.45 Communion Service led by Rev Jo Brown

10.45 Service led by Mrs Elaine Nixon

10.45 Messy Church and Harvest Festival Service jointly led by

Mr John Oldham & Mr Iain Spencer

OCTOBER

Sunday 1st

Wednesday 4th

Saturday 7th

Sunday 8th

Wednesday 11th

Saturday 14th

Sunday 15th

Saturday 21st

Sunday 22nd

Sunday 29th

10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service

Drop in Lunch 12.30pm. All welcome.

L V G Coffee Morning@ Mechanics 10.00am-12noon

10.45 Service led by TBA

Parkwood Church Council Meeting 7.30pm Do try to attend.

Feast of Flavours Tickets £7 See Barbara for details

10.45 Service led by TBA

Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30am – 12.00 noon

10.45 Service led by TBA

10.45 Service led by TBA followed by Faith Lunch