

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



Parkwood Herald

**AUGUST
2016**

NEWSLETTER OF PARKWOOD METHODIST CHURCH
PARKWOOD ROAD LONGWOOD HD3 4TT

From the New Minister,

Hi I'm Jo.

I live in the Wooldale Manse at the southern end of the circuit with my partner Charlotte and our two dogs Cagney and Lacey. Yes we really did call them that! So if you know of any good areas in this part of the circuit to give them a walk I would love to hear from you.

My background is quite simple. I grew up in a small village in North Yorkshire called Brompton, just outside the market town of Northallerton. I am a born and bred Methodist. At the age of three I was going out with a worship group from my home church and we would go and take services at churches in remote places over the Yorkshire Dales and Moors – my training started early! This was the thing that kept me connected with church in my younger years 'singing'. I spent many wonderful hours singing with Northallerton Methodist Church Choir and a lot of other different circuit groups. Church has always been a big part of my life as I found when I told my closest friends when I started my local preacher training. The response was 'It's about time – you wouldn't be you without church and your faith!'

I was never going to be a great academic but I always enjoyed Art and creating things. When I left school I went to Art College and eventually ended up doing a Degree in Three Dimensional Design where I specialised in Fine Woodworking. Basically I designed and made furniture.

Unfortunately when I left university to look for work, I thought it would be easy with all the small furniture makers in Yorkshire. Unfortunately as I was female and had a degree, most places were not so keen to hire me. So I found what work I could and ended up working in a warehouse where on my first day was invited to try fork lift truck driving. I thought it could be fun and took a test the next day and passed with no penalties – something some of the lads didn't manage. I then trained on another two types of fork lift truck.

I worked at a picture framers after this for a few years, then headed to Ghana in West Africa to do some voluntary work for six months. This was a part of my searching for where God really wanted me to be. I came back feeling the need to know more about what I believed, so I headed to Cliff College for a couple of years to study. I then went back to fork lift truck driving and gained a few more fork lift licences, five in total. It was great fun, the lads were great to work with but I still felt I needed to keep searching and that led me to explore full time ministry. I look forward to sharing more with you all, as we get to know each other and walk this part of our path together.

Rev Jo Brown

NOTES for Your Diary!

**Cheerful Chat starts again on
Tuesday 6th September.
Drop in Lunch starts again
Wednesday 7th September.**

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

15th Gill Atkinson-Heck

23rd Janet Oakley

28th Jean Johnson

31st Anne Ivey

Dates of 'Breakfasts' 2016

20th August

17th September

15th October

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

You will all be aware that we are looking at Parkwood's future. This is a journey we have been on for several years now, and the most recent "big decision" we made was at the last Church Council where we voted on, and agreed the proposal:

"The building is no longer fit for purpose and is unsustainable. The leadership team recommend we no longer look to the renewal option and we search for a new location and mission opportunities".

At a special service on 10th July the Leadership Group were able to give an update on the progress since that decision. We have looked at several areas of Huddersfield where we think options will be available. These included:

- Longwood
- Milnsbridge
- Golcar
- Paddock

For each of these areas we reported on the pros and cons of both the area and the possible premises. We also discovered the possibility of working with the Aspire Co-operative Learning Trust - who are an umbrella organisation with responsibility for several of the schools in the local area. Most importantly for us, they are likely to be passed the Sure Start premises near Beech school (on the Trees estate in Golcar) when Kirklees stops their funding for it sometime next year. This is one of the locations the focus group identified as a possibility for the future.

The service was very well received – and many of the congregation were pleased to see the work that has been done, and the fact that several options are open to us puts us in a very positive position.

The day after the service the Leadership Group met again and further progress was made, as we discovered the option of "Church Planting". This needs further investigation, but may be a way of us remaining within the Methodist Church, but enabling us to be released from some of the property and funding burdens which constrict and worry us currently.

So – progress has been made, with more work to be done.

Two specific avenues of investigation are now underway.

The first is to understand what Church Planting means for us. What would we have to do? What would we lose? What would we gain?

The second is to further investigate what joining the Aspire Trust would mean. What would it cost us (in time & money)? What would we have to promise to the Trust in exchange for their support of us? What are the *real* chances of the Sure Start building being available and suitable for us? Will it bring other opportunities?

At the service on 10th July, we asked the congregation for their questions. Thankfully we were able to answer some of them, but others are still awaiting more information.

- We have a number of alternatives to consider for new venues – although we also appreciate our final destination may be somewhere we haven't considered yet.
- We are considering the uniformed organisations in every venue we look at. As part of our discussions with the Aspire Trust it has been mentioned that other buildings could be available for some of our current commitments (like our breakfasts, lunches and of course the uniformed organisations)
- While looking at venues we are also looking into storage space – we recognise we need some for us, as well as for those who currently use our buildings
- We may partner non-Christian organisations – like the Aspire Trust
- We recognise that we may have to change how we worship – but we have done this before
- We are a united leadership team – we don't all agree on everything but we work well together and understand that we are working with God's help, so we will get to the right place in the end.
- As yet we don't know when we will move and we don't know where we will be.
- Until we have done more investigation into Church Planting we don't fully know what options we have regarding the building or the graveyard.
- It is too early yet to understand whether we will move directly to new premises or whether we will move somewhere else temporarily first.

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We hope this update has been helpful and informative. The Leadership Group are very aware of the responsibility of the work we are undertaking, and would be delighted to hear your comments (both positive or negative) and we will also answer any questions you may have – if and when we can!

We hope to be able to give you regular updates in the future through The Herald.

The Leadership Group

(Gareth, Elaine, John, Joe, Freda, Anne, Sandra, Janet, Jane, Barbara and Rev Jo)



Drop in Lunch 2007



Jean & Nora @ Alpha Meeting



Theme Dress 2007

Cheerful Chat

In September we shall trial the revamped Cheerful Chat. The trial will run from Sept - Dec.

It has become apparent that people we have never met and people who don't come to Parkwood are not coming to Cheerful Chat. Therefore it is my intention to trial taking Cheerful Chat to the people. Young or old, living alone or not, sick or well. If you know of anyone who might like a visitor on Tuesday mornings please let anyone from Parkwood know. We will come, in twos, bring coffee and biscuits or not, and chat for 20-30 minutes. There will still be someone at Parkwood to make people some refreshments and to chat with people who call in.

We shall not be knocking on doors unannounced.

Please phone me tel 01484 651681 for more information or to ask for a visit or to pass on the name/s of someone who would like a visit.



Wesleyan Chapel (Shell Chapel)



Christmas 2005

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TODDLERS PROPERTY LAW

If I like it, it's mine.
If it's in my hand it's mine.
If I can take it from you it's mine.
If it's mine it must never appear in any way to be yours.
If I'm doing or building something, all the pieces are mine.
If it looks like mine it's mine.
If I saw it first it's mine.
If you are playing with it and you put it down, it automatically becomes mine.
If it's broken it's yours.

(The mark of a loving parent is the willingness to forgive.)

John Powell

Barbara has booked a table at Jack o' Mitre for September 10.
It is a music festival with stalls to look around at the intervals.
More details later.



Flower Festival 2007

DIARY FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016

Saturday 6th	LVG Coffee Morning 10.00am - Noon
Sunday 7th	10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service Deadline for items for In Touch
Saturday 13th	St Marks Parish Centre Coffee morning 10am -Noon
Sunday 14th	10.45 Service @ Lindley. <u>No service at Parkwood</u>
Saturday 20th	Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30am – 12.00 noon
Sunday 21st	10.45 Service led by Mr David Brook
Sunday 28th	10.45 Service led by Mr Robert Booth

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 3rd	LVG Coffee Morning 10.00am - Noon
Sunday 4th	10.45 Messy Church/All Age Worship Service
Sunday 4th	Welcome Service for Rev Joanna Brown Gledholt 3.00 p.m.
<u>Tuesday 6th</u>	<u>Cheerful Chat 10.00am to Noon All Welcome</u>
<u>Wednesday 7th</u>	Drop in Lunch 12.30pm All Welcome
Saturday 10th	Barbara's stall at Jack o Mitre. See above for more details.
Sunday 11th	10.45 Service led by Rev Colin Vere
Sunday 11th	Longwood Sing 2.00 p.m.
Tuesday 13th	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to Noon All Welcome
Saturday 17th	Parkwood Community Breakfast 9.30am – 12.00 noon
Sunday 18th	Joint 10.45 Communion Service @ Golcar Community Centre led by Rev Sue Burton and Rev Jo Brown. <u>NO service at Parkwood or Providence</u>
Tuesday 20th	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to Noon All Welcome
Wednesday 21st	Drop in Lunch 12.30pm All Welcome
Sunday 25th	10.45 Harvest Parade Service led by Mr John Oldham
Tuesday 27th	Cheerful Chat 10.00am to Noon All Welcome
Tuesday 27th	Thank you bags dedication Newsome 2.30 MWiB
Wednesday 28th	Focus group and Leadership team meeting John & Elaine's 7.30