



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

# Parkwood Methodist Church

## The Herald



MAY 2018

2 Parkwood Road Longwood Huddersfield HD3 4TT

Friends,

There once was a little boy who wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with Crisps and sweets and some juice cartons and started his journey.

When he had gone a few streets, he met an old woman. She was sitting in the park just staring at some pigeons.

The boy sat down next to her and opened his suitcase. He was about to have a carton of juice to drink when he noticed that the old lady looked hungry, so he offered her a packet of crisps. She gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a carton of juice. Once again she smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word. As it grew dark, the boy realised how tired he was, and he got up to leave but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever. When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God." But, before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face and he asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied, "I ate Crisps in the park with God." But, before her son responded, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Moral of our story is that God is everywhere.

We just need to share our happiness and make others smile to feel him.

There are days when life seems to throw everything it can at you and all you really need to know is that someone somewhere cares. With all the stories recently in the news about the troubles in Syria and other countries around the world. With the emergence of how badly some of the windrush generation has been treated in

our own country. Those stories in the media often overpower everything else.

There have been good, caring news stories. The story of the young boy who was too scared to ask the Pope a question. The pope encouraged him to go and whisper it to him rather than making him ask it in front of thousands of people. The young boy wanted to know if his atheist father who had died recently if he was in heaven. The Popes response was beautiful.

"If only we could all cry like Emmanuelle when we have an ache in our hearts like he has," the Pope told the children. "He was crying for his father and had the courage to do it in front of us because in his heart there is love for his father." Pope Francis said he had asked Emmanuelle if he could share the boy's question and the boy agreed. "A little while ago my father passed away. He was a nonbeliever, but he had all four of his children baptised. He was a good man. Is dad in heaven?"

"How beautiful to hear a son say of his father, 'He was good,'" the Pope told the children. "And what a beautiful witness of a son who inherited the strength of his father, who had the courage to cry in front of all of us. If that man was able to make his children like that, then it's true, he was a good man. He was a good man.

"That man did not have the gift of faith, he wasn't a believer, but he had his children baptised. He had a good heart," Pope Francis said.

"God is the one who says who goes to heaven," the Pope explained.

The next step in answering Emmanuelle's question, he said, would be to think about what God is like and, especially, what kind of heart God has. "What do you think? A father's heart. God has a dad's heart. And with a dad who was not a believer, but who baptised his children and gave them that bravura, do you think God would be able to leave him far from himself?" "Does God abandon his children?" the Pope asked. "Does God abandon his children when they are good?"

Whether you are the Pope or a stranger in the street, in our encounters we share our faith. In those special moments we become the voice or action of God to others - there is no greater gift that we can share through our love for Christ.

Rev Jo Brown

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## **BIRTHDAYS for May**

1st Helen McClintock  
5<sup>th</sup> Janette Lloyd  
14th Jenny Coupland  
19th Sheila Armitage

## **Golcar Lily Day(s)**

**@ Parkwood & Townend**  
**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Dancing Troupe 1.00 pm till 2.00 pm**

Featuring Renata Firth (FRENZ) stall with jewellery, bags etc. and clothes. Food...Irish stew and beef tea cakes. Help needed during day both at Parkwood and on Town End.

**Plea for cakes, help and soft toys.**

## **AT PARKWOOD**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**"Indoor Car Boot "**

**Table Top Sale**

**Bric a Brac, Computer, Photographic, Cards, Memorabilia, and other General sales.**

**No mains electrical.**

**10.00am to 3.00pm**

**See Joe for details.**

**Freda and Joe Thank everybody for their concern, cards, Love and prayers during her recent confinement.**

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> @ St. Mark's Centre**  
**Please ask if you need a lift**

**Sorry no photo's until further notice.**

## **Diary for May/June 2018**

**Wednesday 2nd**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Drop in Lunch 12.30pm @ PARKWOOD**

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

**10.45 Messy and All Age Worship**

**Golcar Lily Weekend. Golcar, Parkwood, Scapegoat Hill & Bolster Moor**

**10.45 Service led by Mrs Irene Brawn @ Parkwood**

**Golcar Lily Service @ St. John's Church**

**Drop in Lunch 12.30pm @ PARKWOOD**

**Parkwood Breakfast at the DROP BY CENTRE 9.30am - 11.45am**

**10.45 Communion Service led by Rev Jo Brown @ St. Mark's Centre**

**10.45 Service Own Arrangement**

**Drop in Lunch 12.30pm @ PARKWOOD**

## **JUNE**

**All services in June are at Parkwood.**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Indoor "Car Boot" Table Top Sale. Household, Computer, Plus Allsorts.**

**10.45 Messy and All Age Worship**

**10.45 Communion Service led by Rev Jo Brown**

**Drop in Lunch 12.30pm @ PARKWOOD**

**Parkwood Breakfast at the DROP BY CENTRE 9.30am - 11.45am**

**10.45 Service led by Mr Raymond Brook**

**10.45 Service led by Mr Terry Frost**

**Drop in Lunch 12.30pm @ PARKWOOD**