Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024

Letter from Rev. Tracy Birks:

Dear Friends

I can barely believe it is April, have we really been here seven months, the time has flown by.

When I was growing up, April the 1st was extra exciting as it was my Mum's (Averil) birthday, and most of our jokes and tricks were played on my poor mum.

Switching the sugar and salt, so, she put salt on her cereals, you know the sort of thing. We would giggle and think we were the king of jokes. I now realize of course that she knew and played along. As a child, I also looked forward to 'Newsround 'playing a joke on us. The panda laying a black and white egg at London Zoo was one, that, I thought was absolutely brilliant … my excuse is I was only about 10 at the time.

April has always had a feeling of excitement and expectation, the first days of Spring, buds starting to blossom, new life - eggs hatching and baby animals.

However, when I became a Christian, I realized there was a sense of expectation as we journeyed through Lent and the roller coaster of emotions in Holy Week. And for us to experience the joy of Easter, we had to go through the Winter of Lent. Then the Easter Story brings joy and hope through God and in the crucified and risen Christ. A new relationship was created. One in which we can repent and be forgiven because Jesus died for us.

As we celebrate new life and new relationships and hope we have the rest the of Easter season ahead of us. So, as we look forward to warmer and brighter months to come. Let's allow some time in the coming weeks to be reflective and review our lives with eyes of faith, listening for God's call, and being ready to respond as individuals and as a church community.

In case you didn't know, April the 2nd is Autism Awareness Day and April 22nd is National Jellybean Day! So, Let's be joyful and enjoy being surprised this April.

Love and Blessings this April.
Rev. Tracy

Pre-Loved opening times are Thursday - Saturday 11am - 2pm

For further details about the shop and Pre-Loved gatherings, or if you would like to volunteer in the shop, please contact Sarah for a chat. *(Shop Address: Royal Arcade, Keighley)*

Pre-Loved

Sarah McDonald-Howard
Gathering Pioneer & Shop Manager
Airedale Methodist Circuit
Call/text 07300 859 290
'We love because He first loved us' 1 John 4:19

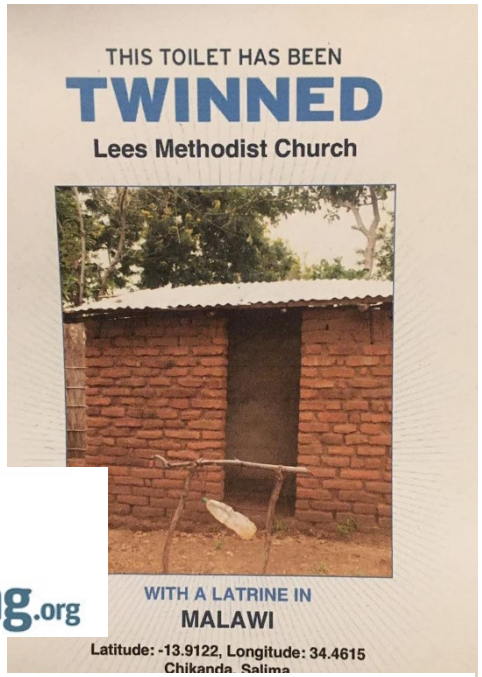


Congratulations to Lees Church on Twinning their toilet!

The Toilet Twinning website says:
"Without proper toilets, people get trapped in a vicious cycle.

They're likely to become sick through sanitation-related diseases. Illness keeps people from working, children miss school, parents have to pay for medicines or food and fall into debt.

Toilet Twinning funds hygiene education via community-led workshops and sourcing local materials for families and communities to build their own toilets." https://toilettwinning.org/



toilet twinning.org

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL?

All are welcome to gather for Communion at the New Place

Friday 3rd May

6pm starting with Fish and Chips

Donations welcome towards the cost

Please let Rev. Nel know if you're coming by leaving a message on the answerphone by Thursday 2nd April:
01274 568163

Messy Church

2nd Tuesday of the month:
Bingley Messy Church
3.45-5.30pm
Silsden Messy Church
3:30 – 5:30pm

2nd Thursday of the month:
Oakworth Messy Church
3:30 – 5:30pm

3rd Saturday of the month:
The Eldwick Church Messy Church
3:30 – 5:30pm

'Messy Church logo © Bible Reading Fellowship 2021. See messychurch.org.uk'



Opportunities to pray and worship together (outside of Sunday Mornings):

@ Steeton Methodist Chapel
on the first Thursday of the month
7pm to 8pm

@ Silsden Methodist Chapel
A Prayer gathering, first Monday in the month at 7pm.

@Silsden Methodist Chapel
Praise Service, fourth Sunday in the month, 6pm