Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024

This month's letter from Rev. Nel Shallow:

Agape

The Agape Meal or Love Feast is a wonderful Methodist tradition. This fellowship meal resonates with the many meals Jesus shared with His disciples and friends during His ministry. The Methodist Church website tells us that, 'The Love Feast, in common with other acts of worship includes prayer, praise, scripture, preaching and mutual fellowship and an offering, but in addition the Love Feast contains a time of Prepared Testimony and the sharing of the Love Feast cake and the Loving Cup'. There are some beautiful Loving Cups at Lees Methodist, a large two handled pottery cup used for sharing during an Agape meal.

In his journal John Wesley recalls on 8th August, 1737, 'After evening prayers, we joined with the Germans in one of their love–feasts. It was begun and ended with thanksgiving and prayer.' This meal took place in Savannah, and the Germans referred to are the Moravians who so greatly influenced John Wesley. The Love Feast quickly became a feature of the Evangelical Revival and a regular part of Methodist society meetings in Great Britain with John Wesley writing in 'Establishing Methodist Practice' in his 'Plain Account of the People called Methodists' (1748) ' In order to increase in (the societies) a sense of all God's mercies, I desired that we might together 'eat bread' as the ancient Christians did, 'with gladness and singleness of heart'. At these love-feasts (so we termed them, retaining the name as well as the thing which was in use from the beginning) our food is only a little plain cake and water. But we seldom return from them without being fed not only with 'the meat that perisheth', but with 'that which endureth to everlasting life.'

Agape is one of the Greek words within the New Testament for Love, an unconditional and selfless love; the love of Christ. During these Winter months you are invited to a simple on-line Agape meal. We won't be using a Loving Cup or eating a Love Feast cake, unless you bake one at home. Instead, we will meet via Zoom as we gather on-line for prayer, testimony, and the sharing of simple meal: a cup of tea and cake or a coffee and biscuit. Whatever food you may have to hand at home is perfect, water and a cracker is fine.

Our first on-line Agape with be an Advent gathering on Monday 9th December.

In January we will welcome the beginning of a new year by meeting on Monday 13th January. And in February we'll reflect on Candlemas and St. Brigid on Monday 10th February.

Each of these on-line gatherings will begin at 7pm for about 45 minutes. All are very welcome to attend. Please email me if you would like to receive the Zoom link: nel.shallow@airedalemethodists.org

Oakworth Methodist Lunch Club

We need a new cook to head up one of the fortnightly teams from January 2025.

Please get in touch for more information - or if you know anyone who may be willing to take on this voluntary role - or call in at Lunch Club any Tuesday. Thanks.

Please be aware that the Silsden Repair Café will be on 14th December – 1 week earlier than usual!

WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER?

The churches in Riddlesden present:

Barn Carol Service

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER

6PM- 7PM

EAST RIDDLESDEN HALL BARN

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE GIVEN TO MANORLANDS HOSPICE AND THE SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK





YULE LOGS AND MISTLETOE COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 7th December 2024

10.00—11.30 am

Christmas stalls

Books

Refreshments

Something for Everyone.

Lees Methodist Church
(directly opposite
Lees Primary School)

CIRCUIT BARN SERVICE

17th December, 6pm

Craghouse Farm, Fishbeck Lane, BD20 0NP

Repair Café

When?

Saturdays 9.30 - 12.00
at the Eldwick Church
21 September (no electrical repairs)
19 October
2 November
14 December

What?

Help, advice & assisted repairs from skilled volunteers. Refreshments available - free hot & cold drinks; Fairtrade stand.

What can I get repaired?

Clothes, fabric toys, knitted garments, electrical appliances (not computers), items requiring woodworking skills (and more.)

Cost?

A voluntary donation which will be used to cover Repair Cafe costs.

CULLINGWORTH METHODIST CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO OUR

CHRISTMAS FAIR

ON

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

BETWEEN 10 AND 12 NOON

Refreshments (including bacon sandwiches)
Raffle
Cake Stall
Festive Stalls
Children's Craft Activities

EVERYBODY WELCOME TO JOIN US

IN PERSON Advanced Safeguarding Training

Location: Cullingworth Methodist Church,
Date: 3rd December
Time: 10am-3.30pm
Please book with Esther, and bring a packed lunch
- refreshments are provided.

Please consult your Safeguarding Liaison / Church Safeguarding Officer if you are unsure if your training needs updating.
Thank you!

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
7PM
@ The New Place

MORE THAN SUNDAY

Fellowship group focussing on prayer, discipleship and growing together. Navigating life as part of the missing generation within the Methodist Church.

This group is specifically relevant to Adults between 25 and 65.

For more information please contact Pippa:
pippa.lupton@airedalemethodists.org
07904867829

ADVENT GROUP

JOY TO THE WORLD

Advent group run by Rev Emma and Pippa exploring how we talk about & share our faith with others, and equipping us to be able to share the good news especially in the Advent season.

EACH MONDAY IN ADVENT
2ND DEC
9TH DEC
16TH DEC
23RD DEC

7-9PM

FELLOWSHIP - LEARNING - DISCIPLESHIP

The Eldwick Church,
Otley Road,
BD16 3EQ

Little Stars

At Steeton Methodist Church
9.10 to 10.30am
Second Tuesday Of the Month
Sept 10th Oct 8th Nov 12th Dec 10th
Admission free
Bible stories, songs, and crafts for toddlers
Coffee & Catch up for the adults
Contact Joanne Stokes 07786087877
Or Audrey Wynn Or just turn up

Saturday Church

THE ELDWICK CHURCH

3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
1–2.30PM

Shared Lunch is 12-1 pm everyone is welcome, bring your own packed lunch or share our soup and sandwiches that are provided.

Everyone is welcome. Crafts, activities and worship is for the whole family

THE ELDWICK CHURCH

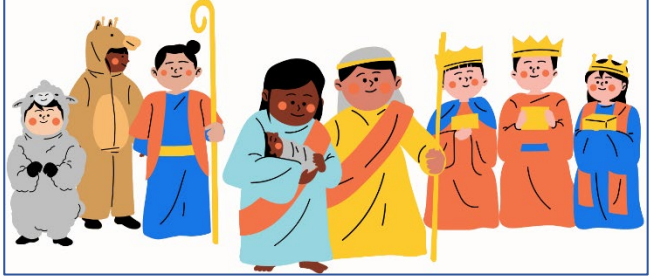
for more information please contact Pippa
07904867829

Nativity and Christingle Service

At Silsden Methodist Church

The service is open to all, there will be refreshments afterwards. If your child would like to take part in the Nativity please get in contact

4.30pm Sat 21st Dec



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AROUND THE CIRCUIT

JOY TO THE WORLD ADVENT COURSE:

EACH MONDAY IN DECEMBER,
7-9PM, THE ELDWICK CHURCH

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER:

4PM: WALKING NATIVITY, CROSS HILLS
6PM: RIDDLESDEN CHURCHES TOGETHER CAROL SERVICE, EAST RIDDLESDEN BARN

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER:

10AM-2PM: CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION, THE NEW PLACE

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER:

10.30AM: CAROL SERVICE, CULLINGWORTH
10.30AM: ALL-AGE CAROL SERVICE, OAKWORTH
3PM: CAROL SERVICE, LEES
3PM: CAROL SERVICE, LONG LEE
6PM: CAFE WORSHIP CAROL SERVICE, THE NEW PLACE

TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER:

6PM: CIRCUIT BARN SERVICE
(CIRCUIT CELEBRATION, CRAGHOUSE FARM BD20 0NP)

SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER:

10AM: CAROLS + COFFEE, CULLINGWORTH
4.30PM: NATVITY CHRISTINGLE, CULLINGWORTH

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AROUND THE CIRCUIT

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER:

10.30AM: AIRE VALLEY CHURCH CAROL SERVICE, BINGLEY

10.30AM: CAROL SERVICE, EASTBURN

10.30AM: CAROL SERVICE, STEETON

10.30AM: WORTH VALLEY CHURCH CAROL SERVICE + HOLY COMMUNION, OXENHOPE

2PM: CAROL SERVICE, MARSH

6PM: CAROL SERVICE, ILKLEY ROAD

6PM: CAROL SERVICE, SILSDEN

CHRISTMAS EVE:

3PM: CHRISTINGLE, THE ELDWICK CHURCH

9PM: COMMUNION, OAKWORTH

11.30PM: COMMUNION, THE ELDWICK CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY:

9.30AM: OXENHOPE

10AM: CULLINGWORTH

10AM: EASTBURN

10.30AM: SILSDEN

11.30PM: COMMUNION, THE ELDWICK CHURCH

Please keep this page!
If information needs to be updated, a new version will be sent out in a future

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

@ Steeton Methodist Church
Prayer and Praise on the first Thursday of the month, 7pm to 8pm

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Prayer gathering, first Monday in the month, 7pm

@ St Peter's Methodist Church, Cross Hills
Weekday Communion Service, first Wednesday in the week, 10 am
Prayer Service, St Peter's Cross Hills every Wednesday, 10 am
(followed by coffee at 10.30am)

@ Long Lee Methodist Church
Short reflective Communion, 2nd Monday each month, 7pm

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

@ Bingley Methodist Church
Communion, second Monday in the month, 1pm

@ The New Place
Methodist Way of Life Quiet Reflection, fourth Wednesday each month, 7pm
Evening Cafe Service, third Sunday each month, 6pm.

@ Lees Methodist Church
Café Worship, third Sunday in the month, 1pm

@ Cullingworth Methodist Church
second Wednesday in the month
9.30am Prayer
9.45am Communion

@ Silsden Methodist Church
'Born in Song', every Friday, 10.30-11am

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 – 4:30pm

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



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