Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024

This month's letter from Rev. Clare Stainsby:

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart. I want to see You. StF 451

I recently had my eyes tested, and was recommended to use varifocals all the time, as both my reading and distance sight had deceased since my lest test, So over recent months I've been getting used a new way of seeing. I think I've just about cracked it. Wearing glasses all the time is working. Though I realise that while wearing them, it's quite tricky to reverse the car in a straight line! I take them off! Eyesight is something most of us take for granted, and equally accept that it will decline as we get older. I am always in awe of those who live full and meaningful and exciting lives despite the limits of their non-functioning eyes. The Paralympics gave us an opportunity to see some spectacular performances from blind competitors.

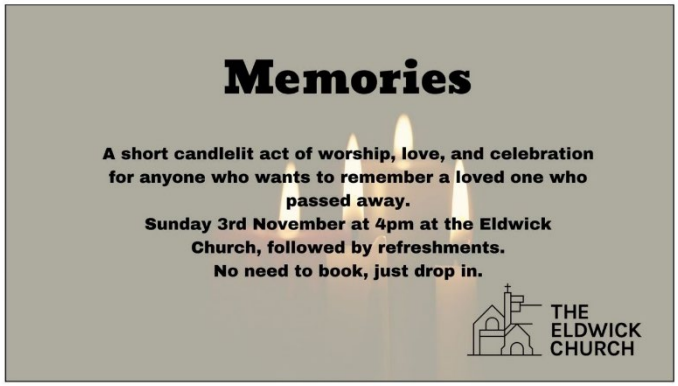
As we age, we accept and live with the challenges of depleting eyesight, but we still have our vision. We can still function much as we could before the need of glasses for everything. We can still enjoy the beauty of creation, and the faces of loved ones, and we can do pretty much everything we could always do, and will continue to do as long as possible, giving thanks for optical technology!

Seeing God does not require us to have 20-20 vision. Because seeing God is not a matter of physical vision. How often have we used the phrase " I see", meaning I understand - that makes sense. As we grow in our understanding of who God is, and how God is, we "see God" more clearly. Jesus living amongst us in the first century was about God showing us himself in a form we could fully understand, because Jesus was human just like us. Jesus showed wisdom, and care, and compassion, and understanding. And he called his disciples then, and now, to live in his way.

We can't look on the face of the living God, but we can and do look on the faces of those God loves with every single encounter in our daily human lives. I wonder if our relationships with one another and our dealings with one another could be more loving, compassionate and accepting, if we could see each other as God sees us.
Could we look upon one another always as someone loved by God - a beloved child of God, accepted by God? Could we see those among whom with live and move and have our being as people known and loved by God? And especially, can we look upon the faces of those who are part of our church family, always remembering that every person is loved, respected and accepted by God. I wonder if having that as our first thought in every conversation and situation could transform our dealings with each other: our willing to listen to each other's point of view, and our acceptance of one another in love? We are human. We all have our passions and our reactions.

And the church has always been imperfect. But God's love is absolutely at the heart of all we are, all we do and all we say. And God sees us through eyes of love. I pray that we too can show that love towards others always and I invite you to pray with me for us all to see others through the lens of God's unfailing love.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Waking and sleeping, thy presence my light. StF 545



WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER?

SILSDEN Repair Café

Bin it? No way!

WHEN

2024 SATURDAYS 9.30AM - 12NOON

20th January	20th July
17th February	17th August
16th March	21st September
20th April	19th October
18th May	16th November
15th June	14th December

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE:

Unfortunately, the arranged foundation level safeguarding sessions have had to be cancelled.
These will be rescheduled as soon as possible.

In-person advanced training is being arranged for the start of December. More details will be shared as soon as they're confirmed :)





'Sunshine and Showers'

Sunshine and Showers is a six-session course looking at six different prayer paradoxes.

Rather than seeking to find simplistic answers, the course encourages participants to find peace in the mystery of prayer; to be able to pray despite the confusion. We embrace our experiences of prayer, feel liberated and be reassured that there is good news in the mystery.

*Prayer as friendship
*Praying as rhythm
*Forms of prayer
*When prayer is hard
*Prayers for healing
*Answering prayers ourselves

The course will run for 6 sessions at
The New Place, Hive Street, Keighley BD22 6AA
from 7pm-8.30pm on Thursday evenings:

17th October, 24th October, 31st October, 7th November, 14th November and 21st November.

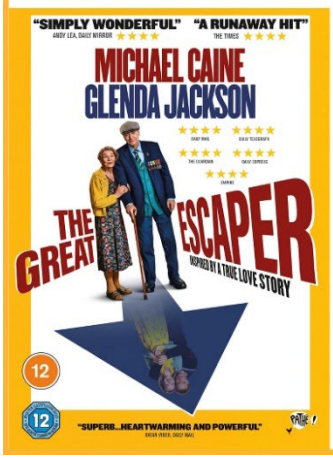
Mission Possible Film Evening

The Great Escaper (2023) (12)

Friday 1st November *6.30 pm*

on the giant screen
at Oakworth Methodist Church
with Fish & Chips in the Interval
All welcome - just turn up on the day

Donations welcome to cover cost of food and film



A 2023 biographical drama film starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson (based on the true story) of an 89-year-old British World War II Royal Navy veteran, Bernard Jordan, who "broke out" of his nursing home to attend the 70th anniversary D-Day commemorations in Normandy, France in June 2014. Along the way, he is aided by strangers, makes some new friends and says a heartfelt goodbye to a fallen friend, while news of his "escape" makes him an international sensation.

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.

Bingley Methodist Church
Herbert Street, off Mornington Road

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 23rd November
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hot lunches from 12 noon.
Refreshments throughout
Stalls to include:
Gifts & Crafts, Cakes & Jams,
Books & Jigsaws
Proceeds will be shared between
'Homeless not Hopeless' and Church Funds

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

STEETON METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Market

9TH NOVEMBER 2-4PM
£1 ENTRY CHILDREN FREE

LOTS OF LOCAL STALLS

ARTS I CRAFTS I REFRESHMENTS I GIFTS I
WOODWORK I BEAUTY I FLOWERS
POTTERY I JEWELLERY I TOMBOLA
RAFFLE

NHS Airedale NHS Foundation Trust

Connections

Bereavement Support Group

Takes place on the **first Wednesday** of each month, between **2-3:30pm**.

Come along to the Restaurant at Airedale General Hospital on the first Wednesday of the month to meet others and make connections over a tea or coffee.

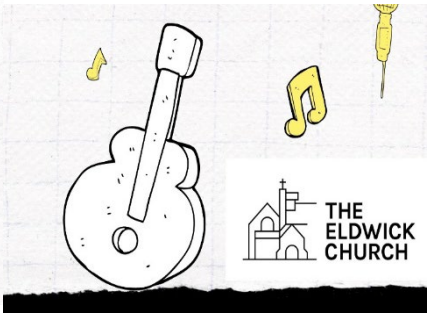


For more information, please contact Liz Maitland, Lead Chaplain
01535 294088 or
elizabeth.maitland@nhs.net

PRAISE SERVICES RETURN!

This Sunday 8 Sept, then
13 Oct & 10 Nov

Come & sing with the praise band. Starts 6.00 pm, refreshments from 5.30.



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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